

Danger of abandoning a mother

John Nga'sike
English





There lived a man called
Lodipo.

He lived with his two wives,
Akai and Akitela.

Lodipo's first wife, Akai, was the only one who helped his blind mother.





One day, Lodipo's younger wife, Akitela, said, "Let us move away to a safer village."

The current place was constantly attacked by cattle raiders and Akitela felt unsafe.

Lodipo told Akitela that they could not leave his blind mother.

But Akitela insisted that they should move and leave the old woman alone.

“If you don’t move away from here, I will return to my parents,” Akitela cried to Lodipo.





Lodipo loved Akitela very much so he gave in to her demands and they prepared to leave.

The first wife, Akai, watched all these happenings with confusion.

Lodipo's blind mother sat on a goat skin under a tree.

She was unaware of what was going on.

"How can we leave her on her own?" Akai wondered.





Lodipo and his two wives loaded all their belongings on their two camels.

They left quietly without even saying goodbye to the old woman.

But Akai was crying because she was sad to leave her mother-in-law all alone.

The old woman was left alone in the manyatta.
She cried and sang this sad song:

“Awesita Lodipo Ngina Ekitae Ka ng'akinei,
Nakolong kedounio,
Nitonoma tani Akolong'a Awesiti ngina,
Awesiti a Lodipo ngina Eriamaros morua polonia.”

Immediately after Lodipo and his wives had left, raiders attacked the village.





The raiders asked the old woman to tell them where her son went.

The warriors told her that they would go after her son and kill him.

The old woman pleaded with them not to kill the first wife and her children.

She also told them to bring back her ram that Lodipo took with him.





The warriors followed Lodipo.

When he was just settling down in the new place, they caught up with him.

They killed him and his young wife.

The first wife, Akai, went back with the ram to live with the old woman.



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Writer: John Nga'sike

Illustration: Zablon Alex Nguku

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