

vines : つる

Land diving is a very old and important tradition for the people of Vanuatu, a beautiful island in the Pacific Ocean. This tradition is like the grandfather of what many people around the world know today as bungee jumping. But instead of jumping off a bridge with a stretchy cord tied to their feet, young men climb up to the top of tall wooden towers. These towers can be as tall as a building with many floors. The young men tie vines around their ankles and jump off. They aim to brush the ground with their heads or shoulders. This act is not just for thrill but has deep meanings. It marks a young boy's journey into adulthood. It's a sign that he has grown up and is brave.

The people of Vanuatu believe that this ceremony does more than just mark the passage into adulthood. They think it brings good luck for growing yams, which are very important for their food. It is also believed to bring fertility and health to their community. This shows how traditions can have important meanings that affect different aspects of life, including courage, personal development, eating habits, and health.

However, land diving is not without its dangers. The vines tied to the ankles are not like the bungee cords people use today. They don't stretch in the same way. So, there is a real risk that if the vine is too long, the diver might hit the ground too hard. This can cause very serious injuries or even lead to death. Over the years, some accidents have happened during these ceremonies.

Despite these dangers, the ceremony is a key part of the culture in Vanuatu. It is a way for the community to come together, celebrate their traditions, and pass on important values and beliefs to the next generation. It also demonstrates a profound connection with nature, as it uses natural vines and builds the diving tower by hand.

In conclusion, land diving is a tradition that carries deep meanings for the people of Vanuatu. It's about bravery, becoming an adult, and bringing good fortune to the community. While it is dangerous, it is also a beautiful example of how traditions can help keep a community's culture alive. It reminds us of the importance of respecting nature and the ways of life that have been passed down through generations.

バヌアツの人々にとって、ランド・ダイビングは非常に古くて重要な伝統です。太平洋に位置する美しい島です。この伝統は、世界中の多くの人々が今日知っているバンジージャンプの先祖のようなものです。しかし、彼らは足に伸縮性のあるコードを結んで橋から飛び降りるのではなく、若い男性は高い木製の塔の上に登ります。これらの塔は、多くの階を持つビルと同じくらいの高さになることがあります。若い男性は足首につるを結び、飛び降ります。彼らの目標は、地面を頭や肩で軽く触れることです。この行為は単なるスリルではなく、深い意味を持っています。これは若者の成人への旅路を示すものです。彼が成長し、勇敢であることの印です。

バヌアツの人々は、この儀式が成人への移行を単に記念するだけでなく、彼らの食料にとって非常に重要なヤムの成長に幸運をもたらすと信じています。また、それは彼らの共同体に豊かさと健康をもたらすと信じられています。これは、伝統が勇気、個人の成長、食習慣、そして健康を含む異なる側面に重要な意味を持つことを示しています。

しかし、ランド・ダイビングには危険が伴います。足首に結ばれたつるは、今日の人々が使用するバンジーコードのようなものではありません。同じように伸び縮みしません。したがって、つるが長すぎると、ダイバーが地面に強くぶつかるリスクがあります。これは非常に重篤な怪我を引き起こしたり、死に至る可能性があります。これらの儀式中にいくつかの事故が起こったことがあります。

これらの危険にもかかわらず、この儀式はバヌアツの文化における重要な一部です。それは、共同体が一堂に集まり、伝統を祝い、重要な価値観や信念を次世代に伝える手段です。また、天然のつるを使用し、ダイビングタワーを手作業で構築するなど、自然との深いつながりを示しています。