

# SwahiliWeb

ELECTRONIC DEPOSITORY AND RESOURCE ARCHIVE

[www.swahiliweb.net](http://www.swahiliweb.net)

Archive: Pat Caplan

Document: Siku ya Mwaka

File reference: SW/PC/I3035

This document has been downloaded from the SwahiliWeb archive on the understanding that it is copyright under the laws of the United Kingdom and the Berne Convention, and that no further copying, storage or distribution, in any form or by any means, including electronically, is permitted except under the provisions of fair dealing. Any use of this material must cite the author and the source.

Copyright of all materials deposited with SwahiliWeb remains with the copyright holder. Those seeking copyright and associated permissions will be referred to the copyright holder.

## TAARIFA YA MWAKA KOGWA KIJIJNI KANGA

22/7/02 SAWA NA MWEZI 11 MFUNGO NANE 14023H

**Na Mikidadi Juma Kichange, partial translation by Pat Caplan,  
digitised by Joseph Bwathondi.**

*Mikidadi Juma was a close friend – we called each other ‘younger brother’ and ‘older sister’. In 1966, when he was twelve, he mentioned the ceremony of Mwaka Kogwa in the diary he kept for me (qv) and again in 2002 when we worked together, he went to observe the Mwaka Kogwa in one part of Kanga village, while I went to another. This is the account which he recorded.*

### **UTANGULIZI**

Siku ya Mwaka Kogwa , ni siku maalum iliyochaguliwa na wataalam wa Kale (wa Nyota) kujua majira (\*miongo) ya mwaka mzima- hasa hasa kulenga wakati mzuri wa kilimo (mvua) ili kupata mavuno mengi. Asili ya jambo hili limetokana na Nyota (Nairuzi) nyita za \*Kilimia zinapoanguka na kurudi tena. Nyota hizi ni zile ndogo ndogo zizojikusanya pamoja (zinazoonekana hata leo) ambazo kila ikitimiapo mwezi 12 ya mwaka mzima huanguka (Hupotea)

*The day of the New Year is a special day which has been chosen by the experts of old (through astrology – stars) to be ? of the whole year. And especially to ?? a good time for cultivation (rain) so that they can get a big harvest. The origin of this came from stars (Nairuzi) which falls and then comes back again. These stars and those very small ones come together (they are visible even today) ???*

Wataalamu hao (wa kale) walikuwa wakiitazama siku hii ya mwaka siku nzima na kuweka kumbukumbu ya mambo mbalimbali yanayojitokeza, na hapo hali ndipo kimahesabu waliweza kutoa tafsiri ya hali ya hewa ya mwaka mzima itakavyokuwa.

*The experts of old used to seek on this day of the year the whole and put remembrances of different things which happen, and here the state is measured. They can forecast the state of the weather and how it will be for the whole year.*

Siku hii pia ilitumika kwa watu Kukoga Pwani ili kujisafisha (baharini) magonjwa na mabalaa yote yaliyowapata mwaka mzima unaomalizika (unaopita) kadhalika na kusherehekea mavuno waliyoyapata.

*On the second day the custom is for people to bath at the beach so clean themselves in the sea of all illnesses and troubles which they have got over the whole year which has passed and to rejoice for the harvest which they are getting.*

Siku hii ilikuwa ikisherehekewa kwa magoma , matambiko , kukoga Pwani, watu wote wa Rika tofauti wa jinsia zote, kula mikate pamoja Pwani, baada ya kukoga kuimba nyimbo wanaporudi majumbani kwao, vigelegele na hata michezo ya mapigano (vijigewa) ya kumtafuta shujaa wa mahali pale. Ilikuwa ni siku ya watoto kualishwa nguo mpya na ilikuwa ni siku ya sikukuu kubwa. Mpaka leo hii jamii nyingi za Kiafrika na hata za Kiarabu wanayo mambo haya na wanaendelea nayo.

*That day it used to be that there was rejoicing with drums, offerings made to the dead, bathing in the sea, everyone from different age groups of all kinds, would eat loaves together on the beach, after bathing they would sing songs as they returned to their houses, ululations and even games of beating each other and searching for warriors of the place (?). It used to be that on that day the children were dressed in new clothes and it was a really big day. To this day, many people in Africa and even Arabia have those customs and continue them.*

### **MWAKA KOGWA – KANGA**

Siku ya mwaka Kogwa hapa Kanga, mwaka huu ilikuwa tarehe 22/7/02 (sawa na Zanzibar). Mwaka ulikogwa majira ya saa 1.30 Asubuhi hadi saa 5 mchana, Rasini na Karibuni (**unknown words**)

On the day of the New Year here in Kanga, this year fell on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2002 (the same as Zanzibar). The year was bathed at 7.30 in the morning until 5 pm, at Rasini and Karibuni.

Na wiki moja kabla ya mwaka Kogwa, Akina mama walisafisha makaburi kama ilivyokuwa desturi ya hapo Zamani. Tunaendela kuipoteza desturi hii nyingine ya hapo Zamani ya kukubanja MAFURUNGU (mpunga, mtama na hata Pesa) kwenye koo zote jambo ambalo, linafika miaka 40 na zaidi, tangu liachwe kufanyika. Mengine ni kufagia majumba na kutupa taka njia panda na kuzima moto uliokuwepo na kuwasha mpya (KWAKUPEKECHA)

And one week before the bathing of the new year, the women cleaned the graves as has been the custom from ancient times. We are beginning to lose customs like this. Formerly,

### **KITUO CHA RASINI (JOGA WALI)**

Hiki ni kituo kikubwa cha Kukoga mwaka hapo Zamani. Lakini mwaka huu hili ilikuwa kama ifuatavyo:- (Idadi ya watu waliofika hapa Rasini kukoga mwaka tarehe 22/7/02 saa 1.30-5 mchana)

Wanawake (wakubwa) 5, Wasichana 44, Wavulana 23, Wavulana (wakubwa) 8

\*watu wengi walionekana wakienda kuvua na wengine kwenda kutafuta jongoo na ming'oko (aina ya jongoo). Katika kituo hiki (Rasini) walioleta mikate ni watu wawili tu (Akina Fatuma Shamsa). Na mikate hii ilikatwakatwa na kugaiwa wachache waliopata.

Baada ya vijana kuona hakuna mikate vijana wa kike walicheza REDE (mpira wa kutupiana) na wavulana kuendelea na shughuli zao. Nyimbo, vigelegele, kuelekea majumbani havikuwepo katika kituo hiki, kwa hiyo hata Ade za mwaka hazikuwepo pia (zawadi kupewa wanaoshinda nyimbo)

### **KITUO CHA KARIBUNI (MAWE UDONGO)**

Mwaka huu kituo hiki kilikuwa nawatu kidogo sana ukilinganisha na miaka iliyopita (inavyoelezewa) Walifika kukoga sehemu hii ni kama ifuatavyo

Wanawake (wakubwa) 4, Wasichana 9, Wavulana 6, Wanaume wakubwa 4

Kituo hiki watu wengi walileta mikate na baada ya kukoga ilikatwa katwa na kuliwa.

Baada ya hapo nyimbo zillimbwa wakati watu wkielekea majumbani kwao, na kupitia baadhi ya majumba yenye wazee. Kituo hiki watu wake walimtembelea bibi Arafa Hamisi (80yrs) ambae kwa furaha alitoa mpunga – zawadi (Ada ya mwaka). Na msafara wa waimbaji wa mwaka ukaishia hapo.

#### SHEREHE YA MWAKA KOGWA

Mwaka huu sherehe hazikufanyika siku tatu na ngoma hazikuwa nyingi kama zamani. Ngoma ilichezwa siku ya kwanza na siku piliilikuwa Kisengele peke yake na ilichezwa Kichuni kwa muda mfupi mfupi. Zile ngoma za zamani za kijiti hili kama vile Kidatu, Mkwaju, Sonondo hazikuchezwa. Na pale Chinge sehemu maarufu kwa kucheza ngoma siku ya mwaka , mwaka huu haikuchezwa ngoma. Lakini kulikuwa na Video show na mipira ya watoto wadogo sehemu kadhaa kijijini.

#### KWA UJUMLA

Inaonekana mambo mengi ya utamaduni wa kijiji hiki yuanafutika siku hadi siku, kuanzia mavazi, ngoma, lugha na desturi zimekuwa za kuiga zaidi badala ya zile za zamani. Na baya zaidi ni kule kukosekana kwa mamalaka inayoshughulikia mambo ya kale kama Zanzibar.

NB. Baadhi ya matukio yamechukuliwa kwa kupigwa picha.

#### UFUNGUO:

MIONGO – majira ya hali ya Hewa yanayopatikana kutokanana utofiti unaofanyika kutwa nzima siku mwaka (KWA MASAA) na au katika siku 10 za mwanzo wa mawka huo.

KILIMA – mkusanyiko wa nyota nyingi ndogondogo mbinguni (mawinguni)