

## **DEVELOPMENT IN MY PERCEPTION**

In this journey which starts today till the end of my pen, I will take you to a tour through which you will get the chance of surveying some of the views and ideas of the Great thinker. It is from this person's mind where I find my self and the strength to write what I have to write. The motive behind my scripts is the tears of innocent Tanzanians who are ignorant of the things which they are supposed to know. Through out this journey I will share with you my views and the way I understand the context of development and the things that we as Tanzanians we are suppose to do in order for us to reach the goals that we have always been singing about development. I admit that it not easy to cover the whole context of development that is why in this content I shall only discuss with you about my views.

This journey is not intended for you to create hard feelings toward me or to any other person but rather it is intended to give you challenges so that you may see the part that you have to play as a person who is legally living in Tanzania. So I hope that you will stick to your tour guide till the end.

There are no two countries which are identical, countries differs in culture, natural resources, geographical features social integrity, political stability, Education, and so many other aspects. All these differences between countries are the things which determine different levels of development through out the continents. For this reason each country must have at least one method of development which differs from the other. Even though copying styles from other countries is legal and some times works, but this should not be made to be the core approach of the other country. For a country to develop it must first understand pillars/ fundamentals of development. I know that economy has its own way of defining these pillars which is mainly based on what is invested (it can be time, money, manpower and others), but In my point of view development start from within, it starts with the desire and readiness of different groups of people within a country to develop. Being abstract, the fundamentals of development make the whole context of development hard to understand that's why most countries are still under developed. What are the pillars of Development? Development depends on what? These are the questions that I intend to answer in this journey.

I haven't lived long, but for the time that I have spent and the things that I have seen as a legal citizen of Tanzania, I think I have the right to pin point what I think is right without breaking the law.

Tanzania attained her Independence in 1961, this marks 2008 as the 47<sup>th</sup> year after independence. But in spite of all these years of our freedom we have failed to achieve what we had to achieve and still there are very few signs of

achieving great things. I admit that we have tried to reach some of our goals but all what we have achieved can not be seen in this sphere of problems which are created by some of those who lead our way. I don't have the time to speak about people who steal our rights and those who misuse our resources for their benefits, because it changes nothing to speak about people who have become slave of their own desires and steal our rights, while most of us we don't even know our rights and the wealth that our country possess. But I do have time to speak to the conscience of people who can listen and put into action what is right for the benefit of innocent Tanzanians.

Most people (including our leaders) think that development is based on Money. We have even heard some of the songs from our politicians that, "The government can not do this because we don't have enough money so, this has to wait while the government is doing all it can to get money for it". On the other hand some people think that money is what defines development, and other people think that with money and without anything else development can be attained. It is true that with money we can build schools, hospitals, and roads and improve other social services, but is money the actual pillar of development? Or it is just being used as the defending fact of us being poor? The answer to these two question lies on personal views about fundamentals of development.

I don't know the perception of our leaders on development; neither do I know other peoples' perception on development. But I see this time as the right time for us to share our views on this matter.

In my perception development is based on four main pillars, which are **Patriotism, Civilization, Visionary minds** and **Hardworking**. I define these four aspects as the fundamentals of development. But I also describe some of other factors such as money, political stability, natural resources and other aspects as the supporting factors which define the rate of development.

I will go through each aspect that I have mentioned under fundamentals of development so that you can get a clear picture about my perception on development. I know that some people might raise objections against what I think, but one thing which has to remain clear in that these are my views on this matter.

### **Patriotism**

A simple definition of patriotism is "loving your country and be ready to fight for it". As simple as is this definition but it is now costing our country. Being patriot doesn't mean being ready to commit suicide bombing and kill others, it doesn't mean being ready to form groups and fight for the resources. But it means being ready and willing to serve your country with loving hearts and care for other

country men. Tanzania is under developed because majority of her people have lost patriotism, even those who were there since 1961 and 1964, people who saw the Late Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere and Sheikh Abeid A. Karume and the way they fought for Tanganyika and Zanzibar, they have lost the patriotic spirits. Patriotism is the driving force for people to participate in all social economical activities for their country's sake. Loving your country means that loving all the people in that country. If people love their country they will protect all public properties, they will choose good leaders, they will stand for their country no matter what happens, they will help those in need with clean hearts and even patriot leaders they will never make deals out of public properties, leaders will be listening to their voters, patriot leaders never use their power to hurt innocent people for money.

Having money without having a patriotic society will never lead us to a developed nation (This is what is happening now), Tanzania is trying to invest a lot of money is building infrastructures, ward schools, adapting new changes in culture, life styles and technology which are all good things, but we are leaving behind one thing which is very important (PATRIOTISM). Without patriotism all these new investments won't benefit the country but rather they will benefit only few people (people who pretend to be patriots in what they speak and the way they act in public but not from the heart), these people will be stealing money from these investments (which is happening now) not for their stomachs because they have more than enough for them to eat and wear, but they steal for their master (SELFISHNESS), In turn we will never achieve what we intended to achieve as a nation. I can not distinguish a person who steals from his country and the shameless person who steals from his own house. A person who steals from his own house doesn't have morals.

Patriotism controls the conscience of citizens of any country and makes them to honor their country. It is this aspect which makes leaders to sign profitable contracts for the benefits of the country and not for their mortal selves. Patriotism is measured per person and not per group of people not even per political part. Patriotism is the measure of desire for country's development and not individual development.

I have these questions to ask, "How much does Tanzania invest in building patriotism to her children? Do leaders care about people being patriots or they just speak about it to make people see that they know something about being patriot? May be they have their own definition of patriotism. This I don't care about it, what matters to me is what I have to speak to the conscience of those whose can listen and read. I don't intend to prove that someone is wrong or to praise anyone who is right, but I want to share my views with patriots and those who want to be patriots but they don't know how.

Why should you love your country? Is it because you were born there or because you are treated well there? You can answer this question only if you have reasons for loving your mother (If you love her). Do you love your mother because she gave birth to you? Or is it because we have to love our mothers? or because you just feel that love for her? I can not use this time to speak about these issues and the reasons for loving your country, because they will start a new journey of exploring my views. What I intended to do within this content was to show you the importance of Patriotism as one of the key aspect for development. Which I have done within the context of my views.

If some leaders have lost patriotism will it be in some other people? Well this is judged per person. But what are we planning to inherit the future generations, is it patriotism or the dirty money which we had stolen from others. Let your true self answer this question for you.

### **Civilization**

I define civilization as the positive way of behaving (high moral standards). Even though civilization has got other meanings but the one I have briefed you with is the one I intend to share with you.

Civilization can be defined as development but it is not as wide as development is, enough to cover all aspects of development.

Having money without civilization is like building a mad house during the rain season. Being civilized is the responsibility of every citizen of this country. I know at this time I might be speaking to a civilized person, but are you helping others to become civilized? A civilized person will never urinate just any where (the thing which is done by most people in Tanzania), a civilized person will always keep his city clean, a civilized person is disciplined, a civilized person never misuses the public properties, and civilized people don't steal from their fellow citizens. In general, always civilized people limit them selves from doing things in the wrong ways.

Civilization is not measured from the cost of clothes and jewelries we wear, or the cars and the houses we possess, but it is measured from the things that we have and do with consideration about others. A person can be reach but not civilized but another person can be poor but civilized. The level of civilization in any society is the measure of readiness of that society in attaining development.

A country can have a lot of money, but if people are not civilized that money will only end up being used for fixing disorders caused by lack of civilization. I have few examples in this, let say, the government has spent billions in building a certain road which allows a maximum weight of 15Tonnes, but because some people are indiscipline you may find that a car carrying 20Tonnes or above passes through this road, this means after a very short period of time money will have to be used to repair this road. While if people would have been civilized

then the money for repairing this road would have been used for other social economical activities. But also even some of our leaders steal money out of these projects (which is lack of civilization) in turn this results in construction of poor quality roads which after few years money will have to be used again for repairing the road. Another simple example is this; a lot of money is used for paying people who clean our cities after they have been unnecessarily dirtied by people (in spite of having buckets for keeping our cities clean). This is a result of lack of civilization, which is costing us now.

With civilization students in schools and all workers in public sectors will protect and use wisely all the public properties so that they can be used for a long period of time without spending money for buying new ones. But because people are not civilized they think of them selves only and misuse their offices and facilities while forgetting that they will be used till tomorrow.

How much are we spending in making sure that, our society is transformed to a civilized society? I think instead of encouraging people to build ward schools; we should also encourage them to build centre for teaching civilization, because I think that Tanzanian people real need these centres. Can't we put this in our school syllabus so that even students in all schools can learn? Well I don't know, I just think of any thing which comes in my mind.

We need to form a civilized society and not to keep on dreaming and planning what will happen in 2020. If people are taught how to be civilized then the spirits of individualism (selfishness), are automatically eliminated from people. Selfishness is the pandemic which is eating our country and it kills people more than HIV and Malaria because it is the step mother of the two. This country has to see this, and it should be known that we need civilization and all what we are going to plan shall be in phase with the goals that we are intending to achieve. Tanzanians are praised for being good speakers and planners, but they are not good at acting on what they speak and plan. How hard is it for us to aim and hit a specific sand particle in Mars with a bullet while we have even failed to hit an elephant five meters away from us with an orange? This is the same case which occurs in a country which lacks civilization because that country will be having so many uncivilized people to pull back all the efforts implemented by patriots in building the nation. We have to make it possible now so that we can achieve whatever plan we have for the year 2020.

### **Visionary minds**

My perception of the word vision under this content is that vision doesn't mean imagination, but it means right anticipation about the things which will take place in the future. While imagining means creating any pictures about anything in mind. For any society to develop it needs people (leaders) who can see the future status of the country and not to guess that future. This includes being

aware of tomorrow's consequence of whatever decision which is made today. Tanzania will be there till the end of universe no matter in what condition it will be meaning that whatever decision which is made, today determines the Tanzania of Tomorrow. Whether it will be a desert, or the least developed country. Or the richest country on planet earth it is all determined by the decisions we make today.

We should not expect that one day we might wake up in the morning and find that Dodoma is Like Texas, or Mwanza is like Toronto, and Mtwara is like Sidney. Well no, this will never happen because this needs time of preparation and proper planning plus good investment of time and efforts.

I don't know what picture of the future Tanzania is in the minds of my leaders and I don't want to guess that, only God knows that. Where will Tanzania be after Tomorrow, will she be the Land of peace as she used to be yesterday? Will she be proud of her gold and her tanzanite? Only God knows that. But people are stealing from their own house, they are forgetting that their nephews, aunts and their uncles their grandchildren and their great grandchildren will live under the same roof and the money which was stolen by their grandparents won't be enough to meet their needs at that time. Most of those who are stealing from us now, they are doing so, because they have power now, but will that power sustain till tomorrow? When every one will be struggling for surviving? Only God knows that.

Having visionary minds doesn't mean that you must do great things and discoveries, but it means being able to see the consequences of what you do now to the future. Considering this aspect at the national level then it concerns our leaders at most, because they are the direct drivers of the future of Tanzania. By saying this I mean that other civilians might be having good and workable ideas for our country to develop, but those ideas will only be put in action if they are accepted by the leaders (which is often times Impossible). It is like an angry backing dog in the cage, it won't do any thing unless the cage is opened.

How does the government involves its people in whatever decision it makes now? How does it value the views and ideas of it people? Who has the right to determine the future of Tanzania, is it the government or the people of Tanzania? Leaders who are wise can see the future. In whatever they do, they will be thinking of the future, because they are wise enough to see that future. Visionary minds enable a country to set permanent and beneficial plans for the future of the country. Visionary minds prevent leaders from signing bad contracts. The question is, did we have these people (leaders) in the past? If the answer is yes what has been happening for the past 46 years? Do we have these people now? I don't know and I can't speak on their behalf. The only person whom I see as an icon and the real patriot of Tanzania is the late Mwalimu Nyerere, he had a visionary mind and he was wise enough to predict what is happening to our

country now. The question that I have and which disturbs my mind is, what about the rest of his generation which exists until now and what about those who were taught by Mwalimu what feelings do they have in their hearts about Tanzania? Are they Patriots like how Mwalimu was?

### **Hardworking**

For any county to develop her people must work hard. A good example is China which is now catching up the momentum of the richest nations because of hardworking. The spirit of hardworking comes from within. How does the government support its people and how does it value the little time that people have invested in work? This is a question which has to be answered. In Tanzania we spend most of our time in recreation activities and resting, and not in working. To some extent this kind of life style is pulling us back. Can't we do something to change this? I don't know, but I think if we are going to do this, it will then force us to change our culture in some aspects the thing that other people (who enjoys the situation) won't like it.

Apart from all these aspects of development, there are other supporting factors which determine the rate of developing as a nation these being money, political stability, education level and others. I shall talk about these in another journey, but for today our tour ends here.

These are my views about development. I don't expect to be hated for this but rather to be logically challenged and corrected where I am wrong. I like to share ideas with people who have positive views about Tanzania and not with people who are selfish and don't care about their fellow human beings. I have started this journey so that people can share their ideas through me. I am the tour guide who will take you through this journey.

You can post your views and suggestions, or we can meet for discussions at my email and if you have any topic that you want it to be discussed in my own views then feel free to post the title at our meeting place.

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