

ALINAFE AND HIS GRANDPARENTS



Alinafe lived with his grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Asiye in Muloza village. His parents had died in a road accident when he was just four years old. Alinafe's grandparents had a big farm where they grew crops such as beans, maize, pineapples and avocado pears. They also kept a lot of livestock.

Alinafe grew happily with his grandparents. He went to Kambewa School. However, when he was in standard 6 his grandmother became ill and died. Alinafe had to take care of his grandfather and at the same time go to school. He did both very well. He used to wake up early in the morning to prepare breakfast and heat the bathing water for his grandfather before going to school. After school, Alinafe had to cook food for his grandfather besides studying. Many people in Muloza village admired him. His grandfather was also proud of him. "If it were not for Alinafe, I don't know whether I would be alive now", his grandfather used to tell other people.

At school Alinafe worked hard too. His ambition was to become a Medical Doctor so that he could assist old and sick people in hospital. Alinafe's friends admired him at school. His teachers liked him because of his excellent behaviour and his hard working attitude in class.

Alinafe's grandfather grew very old. He could not walk without help and he could not see. Alinafe made sure that his grandfather lived in comfort. He made a fire for him whenever he was going away. He gave him good food to eat everyday. Sometimes

Alinafe helped him take a walk around the house. At night Alinafe told his grandfather about what had happened in school that day.

In the end when he was very old, Alinafe's grandfather died. It was time for Alinafe to leave school and he knew straight away what he must do. He did not go away to study at university. Instead he took over the farm.

Many people would have kept the farm exactly as it was but Alinafe had other ideas. He decided to plant an orchard and he grew a lot of fruit which he sold to a canning factory. Through his hard work after a few years Alinafe became very rich.

He used part of his wealth to develop his village by digging boreholes and constructing houses for old people. He also looked after many orphans in the village and paid their school fees. Therefore, although Alinafe did not become a doctor he helped many needy people in his village. He lived happily the rest of his life.

1. What three words would you use to describe Alinafe?
2. Why did Alinafe have to look after his grandfather? Do you think it is a good thing that a young person takes on responsibility for someone else?
3. If you asked Alinafe how he managed to become rich, what do you think he would say?
4. How did Alinafe help other people in his village?
5. Alinafe never became a doctor. Do you think he was disappointed? Do you think it would have been better for the village if he had been a doctor?
6. What do you think this story tells us about how we live our lives?