

Editor's Note. Please take time to read this a few times(a good story). Starfish will be publishing a fact file of issues raised in the story. It tells a lot about life in Malawi. Accompanying photos to follow.

IMPALA THE WISE MAN

In a certain community, there was a clever and wise man whose name was Impala. He got his name since he was the best hunter in the community. He could smell and know where animals were.

One day Impala was coming from hunting. He passed through a small village where people had quarrels. He did not hesitate but stop and listen.

From the explanation he came to understand that the quarrel came as a result of goats. Mr Phiri had a male goat while Mr Chinyama had a female goat. So Mr Chinyama asked Mr Phiri to borrow him his he goat for two years and promised to give him some goats afterwards. It was Mr Phiri who claimed that his he goat has given birth to all the twelve goats that were produced. However the time was not due for Mr Phiri to make claims.

Impala knew that Mr Phiri had ill-treated his friends on such matters. However Impala had to bravely mediate between the two.

He cleared his throat to speak. "Excuse me gentlemen, I have heard what your quarrel is all about. I don't want to spend much of my time to talk anything about your story. I am rushing to the hospital. My dad is pregnant and I have been told that he has given birth to baby twins"

"No way Impala, this is impossible" said Mr Phiri. Impala insisted saying that it was true. All people who were at the quarrel agreed with Mr Phiri that it was impossible for Impala's dad to give birth to twins.

"Well you have said it by yourself Mr Phiri that a dad does not give birth. Therefore it is true with your case that your goat is the dad of the goats and not the goat that has given birth. In this case, please do this in love. I encourage you and Mr Chinyama to solve this problem by giving Mr Phiri at least four goats and must include some she goats" it pleased all people who came to hear the quarrel.

The matter was resolved and from there onwards Mr Phiri learnt to be fair with anyone and cooperating with one another.