

Maasai Gospel Story

Narrator reads, while characters act out silently

Once upon a time, in a far away village, there was a great and powerful Chief. The Chief loved to sit and watch his people and he always made the wisest decisions. Although the chief loved his people deeply, he was always very strict and had rules that must be followed. He knew that these rules would protect His people but he also knew that once a rule was broken there must be a consequence.

One day, as the Chief was watching his village, a boy was playing in the field. Then, the boy picked up a rock and threw it. The rock hit one of the Chief's prized calves and the calf was hurt. The boy seeing his mistake ran away.

The next day, the chief called the boy to him. The boy was very scared, "Why would the chief want me?" he wondered... "Do you think he knows what I did? What will he do?"

The boy approached the chief very cautiously and fearfully. The chief called the boy to come closer... "En-kerai, woo!" (Child, Come!) The boy came with his head down. "En-kerai,"(Child) the Chief said, "How are the cows today?" The boy shrugged. "You know that I saw you in the field yesterday don't you?" The boy shrugged and nodded.

Next, the Chief summoned his servant to come. The servant came with a stick, for this stick would be used to beat the boy. To the Chief, even though he loved his people, no wrong action could go unpunished. When the boy saw the servant he was scared and immediately asked for the Chief's forgiveness. The Chief was filled with sympathy for the boy and turned to talk quietly to his servant.

Turning back to the boy, the Chief said, "Yes, you are forgiven, En-kerai, but the law is very strict. When someone breaks the law, there must be a consequence and in this case it is a severe beating." The boy was afraid and hid his face. Just then, the Chief called out his own son and pointed his son toward the boy. The son felt deep compassion on the boy and knew what he was to do.

The son walked over and wrapped his arms around the boy, while his red shuka (blanket) covered him completely. The chief turned, as he could not watch what was to happen next. Then, the king's servant came and beat the chief's son. The beating was so harsh that the son was very hurt until he fell down. Once the servant stopped beating the son, the servant walked away. Then, the boy stood up completely unharmed and turned to look at the Chief's son who

was still lying down. The boy started crying, realizing that the great and powerful Chief's son had taken his beating. The Chief and the son had sacrificed so that he may be forgiven of the wrong things he had done. The boy felt so much love and thankfulness for the Chief and his son.

While the boy was still looking on to the son, the Chief came and placed his hands on his son's back. The son began to move slowly showing some signs of life, and then he stood up. He faced his father the Chief and hugged him. Then the son faced the boy. The boy saw all his scars and was amazed.

"Now," the Chief said, "you are forgiven. And no longer will there need to be harsh and severe beatings for sin, for my son has already paid for you and for everyone in the village." At this the boy was humbled and thanked the chief. "And from now on," the Chief said, "you will also be called my child, En-kerai"