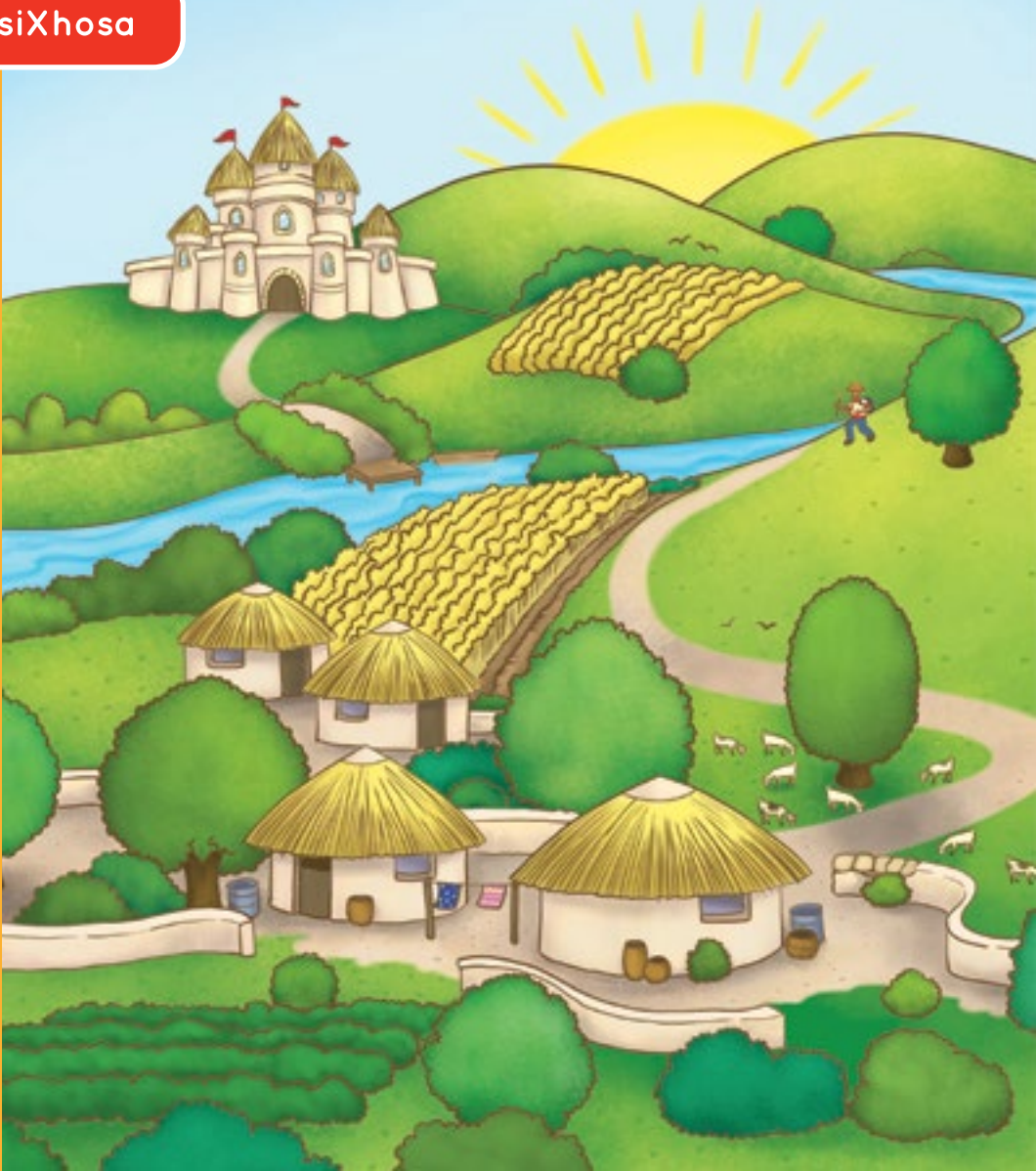




Iphi igolide?

Harold Gondwe

IsiXhosa



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Iguqulelwe nguNontsikelelo Ntusikazi

UMnumzana uBhunguza wayehlala nenkosikazi yakhe kunye nabantwana bakhe abane, iintombi ezimbini noonyana ababini. Usapho lwakhe lwalusebenza nzima, lwaluphila ngokusebenza entsimini yalo. Babeneebhokhwe ezimbalwa kunye neenkuku.

Abantwana bakhe babezimisele kakhulu kwimfundo kwaye babesiya rhoqo esikolweni.



Wayezimisele ukuphucula imeko yosapho lwakhe. Abantu baphela bembiza ngegama lakhe uMnumzana Bhunguza kuba wayesoloko ephethe ibhunguza, wayekhawuleza abe nomsindo futhi ekuthanda ukusoloko engxolisa abantu ngomsindo.

Xa abahlobo bakhe bathe bamcaphukisa, wayedla ngokuviwa esithi, "Ndakukuyichimfiza ngegqudu lam intloko yakho, awundazi kanene." Abahlobo bakhe babevele bamhleke kuba wayengazanga abethe mntu ngegqudu lakhe.



UMnumzana Bhunguza wayevuka rhoqo kusasa, aye kusebenza entsimini yakhe. Entsimini yakhe wayetyale umbona, amandongomane nezinye iindidi zemifuno eluhlaza.

Into eyeyimhlupha yayiyimbalela, intsimi yakhe yayomile kwaye invula inganethi. Wayesoloko ecinga ngendlela anokufumana ngayo amanzi. Ngenye imini wazithethela wathi:



“Ukuba ndingomba umngxuma onzulu nophangaleleyo, mhlawumbi ndingakwazi ukuwafumana amanzi anokunkcenceshela intsimi yam,” watsho ethatha izixhobo zakhe zokwemba esiya kwindawo awayekholelwa ukuba uza kufumana kuyo amanzi.

Ekuseni, waqalisa ukomba umngxuma. Abantu abedlulayo babemjonga okomntu oshiywa zingqondo, babecinga ukuba inokuba ikhona into engalunganga kuMnu Bhunguza.



“Magwili, uyayibona le nto ndiyibonayo, ingaba uBhunguza uphambene, kutheni esomba umngxuma ehlathini kushushu kangaka,” wabuza uMayifathule, omnye wabahlobo bakaBhunguza.

“Nam ndiyacinga ukuba ikhona ingxaki engqondweni yomhlobo wethu,” wongeza uMagwili, batsho bahleka bobabini. UBhunguza wabeva bemhleka abahlobo bakhe, weva nokuba bathi uphambene.



Le nto yamenza wakhuthazeka, womba ngakumbi efuna ukufika kwindawo enamanzi.

Ngenye imini wathi esaxakekile esomba, weva ngathi ufika kwindawo enelitye elikhulu. Wakhe wema kancinci, ukuze ajonge eli litye.

Wagqiba ukuba kuza kuba ngcono xa engalibethi ngamandla eli litye, waze womba apha emacaleni kulo khonukuze alisuse kakuhle.

Wathi esaxakekile esebenza, “Ingaba yintoni ngoku le ndiyikhupha apha, luhlobo luni lwelitye eli?” wazibuza loo mibuzo ethe gqa amehlo ejonge kwelo litye.



“Yintoni na le, lilitye elinjani na eli?” wasebeza uBhunguza elaqaza, ejonga ukuba akukho mntu umjongileyo na.

Wagoba womba ngezandla zakhe eli litye lingummangaliso. Lalikhazimla, likhazimla kanye ngoku legqunywe ngumhlaba. Wathatha umhlakulo wemba walikhupha ngaphandle eli litye.



Nangona uBhunguza wayengazi ukuba ngumhlobo mni welitye lo, kodwa wayebona ukuba lilitye elinqabileyo.

Walifaka kubhaka wakhe. Wasuka woyika waziva engenawo amandla okuqhubeka nokomba.

Wagqiba ekubeni ahambe agoduke, ukuze azokukwazi ukufika ekhaya aqwalasele ngenyameko eli litye. Wahlala phantsi umzuzwana, wakhupha ukutya kwakhe kwesidlo sasemini, amarhewu wawasela.



Wathi esahleli apho, kwafika uMagwili wathi,
“Kwenzeka ntoni na mhlobo wam, ingaba udiniwe,
wenza ntoni ngoku kuba imvula ayide ine.
Ingaba eli dama lakho ulombayo liya kuzala nini
ngamanzi? Into endikucebisa yona mna kukuba
uyiyeke lento uyenzayo kuba abantu bathi
uphambene.”



“Ngoku sowulilibele igama lam Magwili? Ufuna ndikugqebhe ngebhunguza lam ngoku?” watsho ethatha ibhunguza lakhe.

“Asisenakuqhulana na mna nawe mhlobo wam, bendikuqhula mana,” watsho uMagwili ehamba.

UBhunguza waqonda ukuba makagoduke kuba wayengazukuqhubeka nokomba umngxuma.

Wathi akufika ekhaya uBhunguza, wazithulela akathetha namntu, waya kwigumbi lakhe, wavula ibhokisi yakhe yokufaka impahla waze wafihla kuyo ilitye lakhe.

Wakhwela ebhedini yakhe, wangqengqa, wacinga into afanele kukuyenza ngelitye lakhe. Zange afumane mpendulo waze wabiwa bubuthongo walala.

UBhunguza waxelela umfazi wakhe ngemfihlelo yakhe yelitye. Wayesele elihlambile ilitye lakhe ke ngoku, futhi sekucacile ukuba eli litye yigolide.

Wabona ukuba makayeke ukomba idama lamanzi kuba ngoku abahlobo bakhe babembiza ngokuba yindoda ephambeneyo.



Indaba zelitye legolide likaBhunguza zanwenwa okomlilo wedobo ngenxa yokuba inkosikazi yakhe yaxelela umhlobo wayo.

Bathi bakumbuza ngegolide yakhe abahlobo bakhe, uBhunguza waphika yonke into, wathi yena akazi ukuba bathetha ngantoni.

Ngenye imini, amaphakathi eKumkani afika kwaBhunguza amxelela ukuba uKumkani uvile ukuba uBhunguza unegolide. Wathi uKumkani uza kwakhela uBhunguza indlu aze amnike nantoni ayifunayo nosapho lwakhe.

Waxelelwa ukuba ibhunga lasebukhosini laliza kulanda uBhunguza ukuze agqithise igolide kuKumkani kuba uyombe kumhlaba weKumkani.

Lo myalezo akazange awuthande uBhunguza. Ngelishwa, kwakungekho nto ingenye anokuyenza. Kwaqaliswa kwakhiwa kwikhaya likaBhunguza, kwafakwa ifanitshala entsha, amaphakathi eKumkani ahlala agada indlu kaBhunguza.

Bathengelwa iimpahla ezintsha, izinto zazihamba kakuhle kubomi bukaBhunguza nosapho lwakhe, umgangatho wempilo yabo waphucuka kakhulu.



Wonke umntu wayenqwenela ukuba lilungu losapho lwakwaBhunguza.

“Tata, ingaba uyayazi ukuba lithini ixabiso legolide yakho, into oyenzelwe nguKumkani incinci kakhulu,” watsho uLungelo, unyana kaBhunguza omdala.

“Nyana wam, usemncinci ke wena awazi nto, ucinga ukuba xa bendingayifumananga laa golide, ngesinazo ezi zinto sinazo apha ekhaya. Nangoku, andikazi ukuba ilitye elikhazimlayo lingenza ukuba uKumkani andithengele izinto ezininzi ngolu hlobo,” watsho uBhunguza.

“Kungcono ndihambe nawe tata, khonukuze ndibone into eza kuqhubeka.”

“Hayi mntwana wam, uKumkani akakhange athi ze ndize nomntu xa ndisiya kuye.”

Lwafika usuku lokulandwa kukaBhunguza, xa kuyiwa eBhotwe, kuyiwa ngephenyana kuba kuwelwa umlambo.

UBhunguza wakhathshwa ngamajoni asebukhosini. Wayephethe ibhegi awayefake kuyo igolide. Bathi xa bephakathi emlanjeni, uBunguza wakhupha igolide yakhe kuba wayefuna ukuyosula.

Wayonwabe kakhulu kuba wayephethe okomntu ohloniphekileyo. Namaphakathi kaKumkani ayenqwenela ukufana noBhunguza.



UBhunguza wadlala ngayo igolide yakhe emana ukuyiphosa phezulu aphinde ayibambe, kuba waye onwabe kakhulu engazi nokuba enzeni.

Ngokungalindelekanga, yaphuma phakathi kwezandla zakhe igolide waze wakhwaza, "Igolide yam!" dyumpu yatshona emanzini igolide.

Wathi UBhunguza, "Mqhubi, misa iphenyane ukuze ndikhangele igolide yam."

"Andizukuyenza loo nto, uyabona ukuba umlambo uzele kwaye kukho iingwenya kulo mlambo, asifuni kufa ke thina," watsho omnye wabaqhubi bephenyane.



Bathi njengokuba bethetha, baye besondela kwibhotwe likaKumkani. Babona ukuba uKumkani ulungise isidlo esikhulu elungiselela ukufika kukaBhunguza negolide.

Ngaloo mzuzu, uBhunguza woyika waze warhalela ukuziphosa emanzini. Lafika iphenyane eBhotwe baze behla bonke.

Iphakathi lambamba ngesandla uBhunguza lamsa kuKumkani kuba ngoku wayephethe ibhegi engenanto.



Amaphakathi nawo ayesoyika kuba ayeyazi into eyenzeke kwigolide. Amsa kwigumbi awayemlinde kulo uKumkani.

“Ndiyakwamkela eBhotwe, Mnumzana Bhunguza, ndikubizele apha khonukuze ndibone le golide uyombe kumhlaba wam. Ungayigqithisa kum igolide Mnumzana, ze emva koko sibhiyoze kunye nawe kulo msitho ndikulungiselele wona,” watsho evuya kakhulu uKumkani.



“Mnu. Bhunguza, iphi igolide?” wabuza uKumkani sele elule ingalo ekhongozelele ukufumana igolide. Amaphakathi ajonga phantsi, ayesoyika ecinga ukuba uBhunguza uza kubanjelwa ukulahla igolide.

UBhunguza wafaka isandla sakhe ebhegini, saphuma singaphethanga kwanto ze wakhohlela kancinci. “Kumkani wam endimthandayo, kwenzeke impazamo, igolide iwile yatshona emlanjeni,” watsho engcangcazela uBhunguza.

Wacaphuka kakhulu uKumkani, “Uzokwenza ntoni ke apha ungenayo igolide, andinaxesha lakho, ndifuna igolide qha.”

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