

ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF CHICHEWA SONGS

COMPOSED BY DAVIE KAAMBANKADZANJA

1. **On the sand (pamchenga)**

Call: On the sand

Response: On the sand, this is how we play

Call: Who is this?

Response: A

Call: Who is this?

Response: E

Call: Who is this?

Response: I

Call: Who is this?

Response: O

Call: Who is this?

Response: U

Call: On the sand

Response: On the sand, this is how we play

Note: The responses are Chichewa vowels sounded this way: a as in ant, e as in elephant, I as in ink, o as in orange, u as in bull

2. **The Cock has crowed (Tambala walira)**

The Cock has crowded *kokoliriko*

Get up, rush to your work

Laziness is an enemy to national development

Let's emulate (white) ants' hard work:

A a a a whisper, whisper

Ee e e puff, puff

Your sweat has brought freedom

3. **Kadyakolo**

Kadyakolo

What a delicious fish!

It is tasty eh!

In the head region

In the middle

Eh! Ah!

So bitter Eh! Ah! Eh!

4. At the tree of life or At the life giving tree (Kumtengo wamoyo)

At the tree, at the tree, at the tree of life

Jesus is born

At the tree of life

5. Whose dog is this? Galuyu ngwandani?

Whose dog is this who has stolen *matemba*

Let's open the bowels, if he has eaten *matemba*

6. Kruck, kruck (Kwiyo kwiyo)

Kruck kruck

Catch it, no matter how small

Be it a chick,

Catch it, no matter how small

Be it a mouse

Catch it no matter how small

7. Turtle a shell on the back (Fulu chigoba pamsana)

Call: Turtle

Response: A shell on the back, shell

Ma- de

Li ya ya ma de li ya ya

8. Tap! Tap! Tap! We walk (Go! Go! Go!)

Tap! Tap! Tap! That's the way we go

In our walking shoes: Tap! Tap! Tap

9. A dambo land grass hopper (Kachiwala kamdambo)

A dambo land grasshopper, hops so proudly

It sings as it hops

10. Nzama

Call: Nzama nzama

Response: Yerererere nzama

Call: Nzama tastes good

Response: Yerererere nzama

Call: Nzama when salt is added

Response: Yerererere nzama

Call: Nzama let me taste it

Response: Yerererere nzama

11. Changa

Changa, Changa
Changa too is meat
When you add salt, change tastes good
More so with ground nut flour, it is so good!

12. Chameleon (Bilimankhwe)

Chameleon, why are your eyes so swollen
Too much death back home, don't make fun of it you children (little ones)
It is very empty, empty

I will leave this homestead
Although you build in this village
Look at my own home: It is empty, empty

13. Go to sleep baby (Gona mwana)

Go to sleep baby
Don't cry anymore
All the birds are asleep
In their tiny nests

14. Nankholowa

Call: Nankholowa depends on the cook, let me taste as it cooks
Response: Nankholowa depends on the cook, let me taste as it cooks
With my In-law
Let me taste as it cooks

Note: The meaning of the song is the “taste of nankholowa depends on the cook”

15. Let the moon shine (Mwezi uwale)

Let the moon shine, so we can play, we can sing
The teacher fell from a chair while reading a Chichewa book:
One: You have said it well
Two: A bag of salt
Three: free wheel
Four: Explain
Five: Rub it off
Six: Emphasize
Seven: Make a hoe handle

Eight: Look after cattle

Nine: Nylon

Ten: Teralyn

Eleven: Prepare sisal

Twelve: It is time

Note: In Chichewa the first sound of the explanation for the number rhymes with the number.