COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OF LITERACY PRACTICE

Orthography to Literacy: Rangi examples from Tanzania

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Regions in Tanzania



Mgeni ni kipofu 'A visitor is blind'

Rangi is an important Bantu language that is spoken in the Dodoma region of central Tanzania. 'Mgeni ni kipofu' is one of their favourite sayings.

- Culture
- World View
- Beliefs
- Attitudes
- Opinions



Kondoa town



Market scene



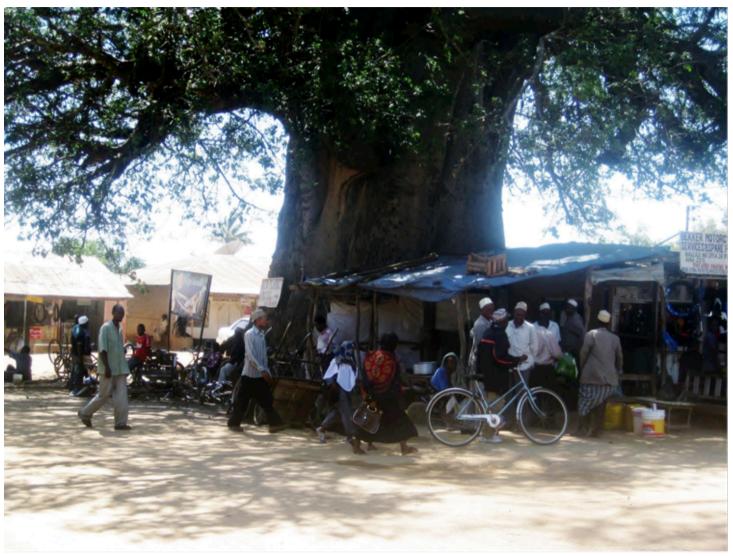
A café

Kondoa town



Market scene

Kondoa town



Our centre for distribution, partnership and training



A village mum with her children, outside her home



Traditional singing

Beginnings from 1999-2006

- Linguistic research
- Initial community interest and contributions
- Drafting of trial orthography
- Start on transitional literacy study guide
- Small group with initial interest
- Village transitional literacy, in cooperation with village governments and communicating with District Education Office.

Co-ordinators -

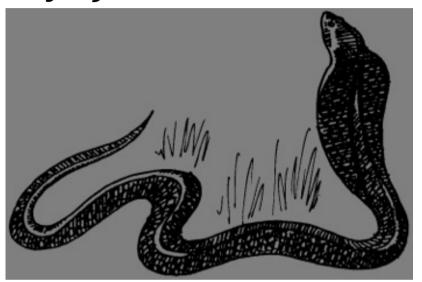
they take the lead on planning and they coordinate teaching in village settings



Initial group writing



Lusimo lwa njoka njiru The story of the black snake, in Rangi



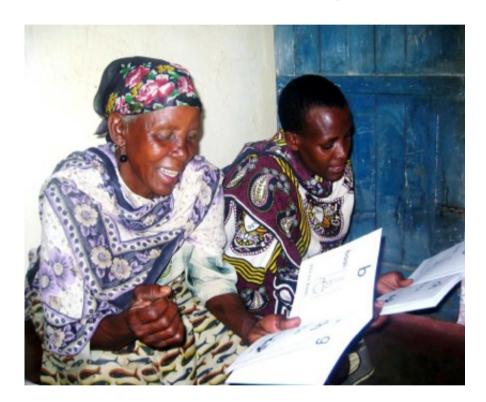
Njiru jamema maatuku siku iji.

There are a lot of black snakes about these days.

Hara niijo vatavana vanne valumirwé hara ilolwii ra baaba waavo. Only recently 4 youths killed them on their father's farm.

What is going well?

A variety of contexts for literacy: gender, age, sub-cultural diversity – there is even a Rangi Facebook group.



A reading group for foundations programme

What is going well?





Reading then talking at sales distribution on PR days

Challenges and Opportunities

- Open doors in many villages
- Network of writers, illustrators, reading group leaders/teachers
- Interesting links developing with "shule ya awali" (early school, or pre-school).

Challenges and Opportunities

- Logistics, distances, environment
- Government policies
- Schools: officially Swahili as medium of instruction at primary, and English at secondary.
- Capacity issues
- Fully establishing local ownership.