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**Cc:** exssa\_mal@yahoogroups.com; SakerClassof81@yahoogroups.com  
**Subject:** [SakerClassof81] FROM "NGÔKÔLÔ" TO "MBELLA"!! (JOURNEY FROM SNAIL TO EAGLE)

Wehda na because ma heart dey still burn me for inside as “moyen no be dey” for me for bring ma bundle NYAMANGORO from “MBOA”, due to space and weight constraints, oh??! Ah no know me; BUT for some odd reason, the NGÔKÔLÔ has been on my mind a lot lately! I guess part of my fascination with THE SNAIL stems from the fact that my ancestors hail from NSEBANGA-BESONGABANG, but that CANNOT be all there is to this mattah!

One of the passages that was read at my church this past Sunday was drawn from Colossians 3 and the verses which literally jumped right out of my Bible’s pages at me are verses 12-14 which read:

**<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. <sup>14</sup> And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.**

I will refrain from presuming or assuming anything, and just speak for myself: This is just the kind of passage that gives me acute beleh bite on a full stomach, and **night** sweats in broad **daylight**! What a **TALL** order – which would be tough for me to fill even if I were not just barely over 5 feet!! Ah look dat list of virtues sooooo! Ma heart make “GBIM” for inside-inside, especially when my eyes settled on the last one, which happens to be the one virtue that is so relegated to the background in this FAST-PACED, NOW-OR-NEVER, OVER-ACHIEVING world of ours: **PATIENCE**! In fact, for some, it has even ceased to be a virtue! It has instead become the mark of a **LOSER** or **MBUTUKU**!

Time to tie in de BEEF part of this whole “tori”, dragging in some SPORTS along the way! Let’s take a quick look at the names of just a handful of the SOCCER teams in our Country and Continent of origin:

- Cameroon has its LIONS
- Nigeria has its EAGLES
- Côte d’Ivoire has its ELEPHANTS
- Banganté has its PANTHER and
- Ebolowa has its HAWK (ÉPERVIER)!!

If you look trong-trong, sometime you fit even see some Quartier Team wey e name na “SOMBO”, “MBOMA” or even “MANAWA” seff! But I am willing to bet good money that you would be hard pressed to find a “NGOROs UNITED” or “THE TIE-HEART-DASSOH!/ONE DAY-ONE DAY NGÔKÔLÔs ” anywhere!! Not even in FRUKANGKANG! Crimplene Maxi go first cam back for fashion before dat “Slow and Steady Wins The Race” ting wan even try say e dey show e face!

As ah reach house so dat Sunday, ah put handbag for down, moof shoe and headtie, ah cam for dis computer cam really look up de word “PATIENCE”. Na de definition dis wey ah see:

**The ability to endure delay, trouble, pain or hardship.**

Me, ah neva fit handle juss common DELAY, then na de TROUBLE, PAIN or HARDSHIP ah go manage’am????!!! By the way, that “ENDURE” word dey so, ah no know me ma head dey! Ah dey suspect’am me!

Na de kind “ENDURE” wey e mean say ah no go make no “NWENG” de whole time wey de NDON dey show me pepper, OR, na de kind wey ah fit at least dey SHARPEN MA CUTLASS, dey GRUMBLE, dey COSH everybody in sight, as ah dey wait? And, ah be free for decide say ma own “WAITING & ENDURANCE” don do so, and proceed to “take matters into my own hands”? The STRAIGHT, BIBLICAL ANSWER IS: “JA-AH EH”! “KEM”! “NO”!

Remember, we are dealing with a SOVEREIGN GOD about whom the Apostle Peter said this:

But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, **and a thousand years are like a day.** (2Peter 3:8)

Thiafore, (according to ma own 'terpretation), as you don tell'am say make E send you Correck Massa or Bettah Pikin so; you fit wait you soteeeeeeeey all the OGAs you had your sights on turn into METHUSELAHs, and ya biological clock e battery die all-all, (as in not even the faintest "tick-tock" no leff), whereas OBASE dey E up yonder dey count ALL DAT TIME as only 30 minutes oh!!!

You no 'gree you? No make so you go hurry-hurry 'gree for marry some DUDE against your better judgment, and then you start dey wanda even before you wan finish moof de rice & confetti wey tight inside ya weave from de one wey dem troway'am for wuna head immediately following the nuptials oh!!

If you really don't get my drift or see my point, THEN PLEASE TELL ME HOW MUCH TIME ELAPSED:

- Between the time when GOD promised PATRIARCH ABRAHAM that he would be the Father of a GREAT nation, and the time ISAAC, (his Chop Chair), was born?
- Between the time GOD told NOAH He would send the Flood, and when the deluge actually took place?
- Between the time JOSEPH had his dreams that he would rule over his 11 brothers, and the time he actually became Prime Minister of Egypt – with countless hélélés and wahalas in the mean time?
- Between MOSES' "Let My People Go" in front of Pharaoh, and the entrance of the said people into THE PROMISED LAND – with one whole generation of "grumblers" and "murmurers" NEVER making it in? (400 years)
- The time when ISAIAH and MICAH foretold the coming of a MESSIAH and the actual arrival of that MESSIAH in Bethlehem? (About 700 years) AND FINALLY,

- The time when JESUS promised, just before He was taken up into the clouds after His Resurrection, that HE would come back again and DIS NOW SO???????? (2,000 plus years!)

Unfortunately for some of us “HURRY-HURRY BROKE TROSSISes”, and contrary to what today’s “I’M GONNA GET MY BLESSING **RIGHT NOW**” preachers seem to teach, GOD does NOT at all seem to me, (based on the Bible *I* read), to be too much into the “KASZI-KASZI” (as in “QUICK-QUICK”) business oh! I get the impression that HE is more a “NAYÔ-NAYÔ/LOHKOH-LOHKOH” kind of Being me!

SURE! He is OMNIPOTENT and so He is CAPABLE of willing anything into existence **INSTANTLY; BUT**

- He **CHOSE** to take 6 days to create the Earth instead of just an instant!
- He **CHOSE** to institute a **SEED TIME** first, and a **HARVEST** many moons after it!
- HE has **CHOSEN**, for us Women, 9 MONTHS OF BELEH (Gestation) – complete with Calabar Chalk, Spitting in the ngong-ngong, Stretch Marks, “Elephantiasis” Foot, & Nose-Big-Pass-Ya-Faceness involved, instead of just a day! (Don’t you wish!!)

E TA MANDEM for fit cure Captain NAAMAN of e Leprosy in an instant! But NO OH! E make de man waka go sotey for Elisha FAR WAAAAAY, then Elisha too send “Mon Commandant” say make e go wash for deh River of JORDAN, 7 GOOD times, (not 2 or 3), before e skin wan clean!!!! (2Kings 5:1-19)

JESUS TOO; de same story!! He could, and did perform instant miracles, but many are the times when he **CHOSE** to “TARRY” first! We all know how MARTHA be wan “chop E raw” with “If you had come when we sent word, my brother (Lazarus) would not have died”, But that instance is by far NOT the only one where He “wasted time”! Remember de STAGES and STEPS wey E take for heal de Blind Man for John 11??!!

1. E first spit E for ground yah!
2. Then E make pôtô-pôtô!

3. Then E rub de pôô-pôô for de man e eye!

4. Then E send de man make e go for de Pool of Siloam go wash e eye for dey!

If na me so; by de time Poor YESU dey want even try sey e dey touch ma eye wit dat E pôô-pôô, ah don vex go me house! YEP! The MICROWAVE doesn't heat up my grub fast enough! No line at the Grocery Store is EVER short enough – even na onley 1 man dey for ma front! The AMBER traffic light NEVER sends a signal to my brain that it should tell my foot to shift from the accelerator to the brake pedal; Instead, the clear message my foot gets is “MASH'AM”!! In fact, if Church Membership at Hickory Grove Baptist Church were ever to decline, I am sure it would be because other drivers with whom I share the streets of Charlotte have seen the Church's LOGO on my Car Bumper and have absolutely NO wish to be members of Mammy Speedy Gonzales' Church!

Truth is: WHAT REALLY MATTERS IS THE FACT THAT GOD ALWAYS KEEPS/FULFILLS HIS PROMISES; NOT THE TIME FRAME IN WHICH HE CHOOSES TO DO SO!

There's a line in my “bestest” song “MUNTULA MOTO”, – by my “most bestest” artist RICHARD BONA, that quotes the following Douala Proverb:

**Ngôkôlô mô na : lôndô le nde idiba**

It is too early in the morning to wake Sita Ndedi or Sita Geneviève to ask for a proper translation so my own “put 2 and 2 togehda” translation will have to suffice, which is:

“Deh (nyama)Ngoro sayeth dat: Big waka dey start na for sharp-sharp morning”

I happen to think that the **Ngôkôlô** is very wise to understand that a worthwhile journey (which is what life is), ought to be started with enough time ahead to take it all in stride (“mollo-mollo”) and with Patience, to finish triumphantly, - with fewer scars than if we RUSH through it all!

In that case, it's probably really about time We and deh NGÔKÔLÔ “joined friend”, knowing that, with **PATIENCE** we will eventually, IN GOD'S GOOD TIME, morph into POWERFUL EAGLES! That, I believe, is the PROMISE that ISAIAH 40:31 holds:

**But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.**

God Bless,

Egbe Mbiwan Monjimbo