

Mr and Mrs Malatji

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Back then, there was a small village in the Limpopo province called Ga-Molapo, under king Sello Kekana.

The village was so small that everyone in the village knew each other. Their houses were made of thatch and mud.



Mr and Mrs Malatji lived in the village.

Every day, Mr Malatji would fetch wood for the fire, and Mrs Malatji fetched water from the river.

Every day, they argued about their chores.



“I am tired of fetching wood,” said Mr Malatji.

“Well, I am tired of fetching water,” said Mrs Malatji.

“I am not going to fetch wood anymore!”
shouted Mr Malatji. He threw down the wood
and left the house.



Around that time, a fire broke out in the village, leaving many families homeless.

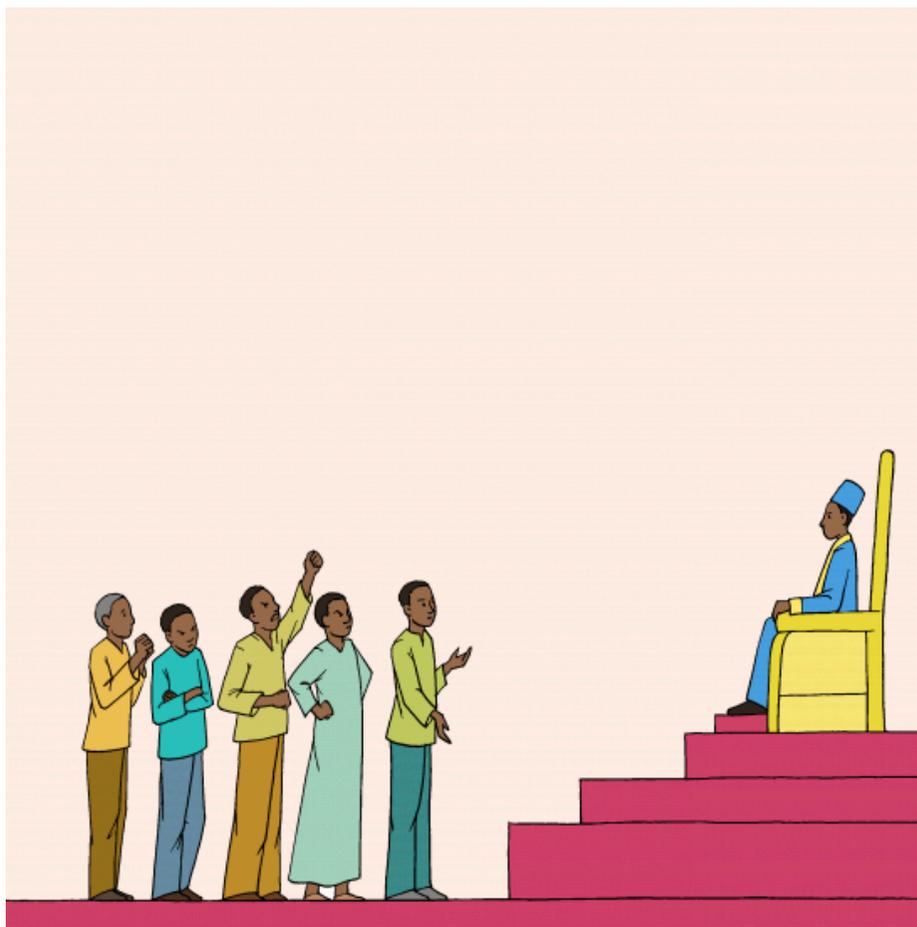
The fire started at the Malatjis' house and spread to other houses.



Mrs Malatji was very upset. She shouted for her husband to return.

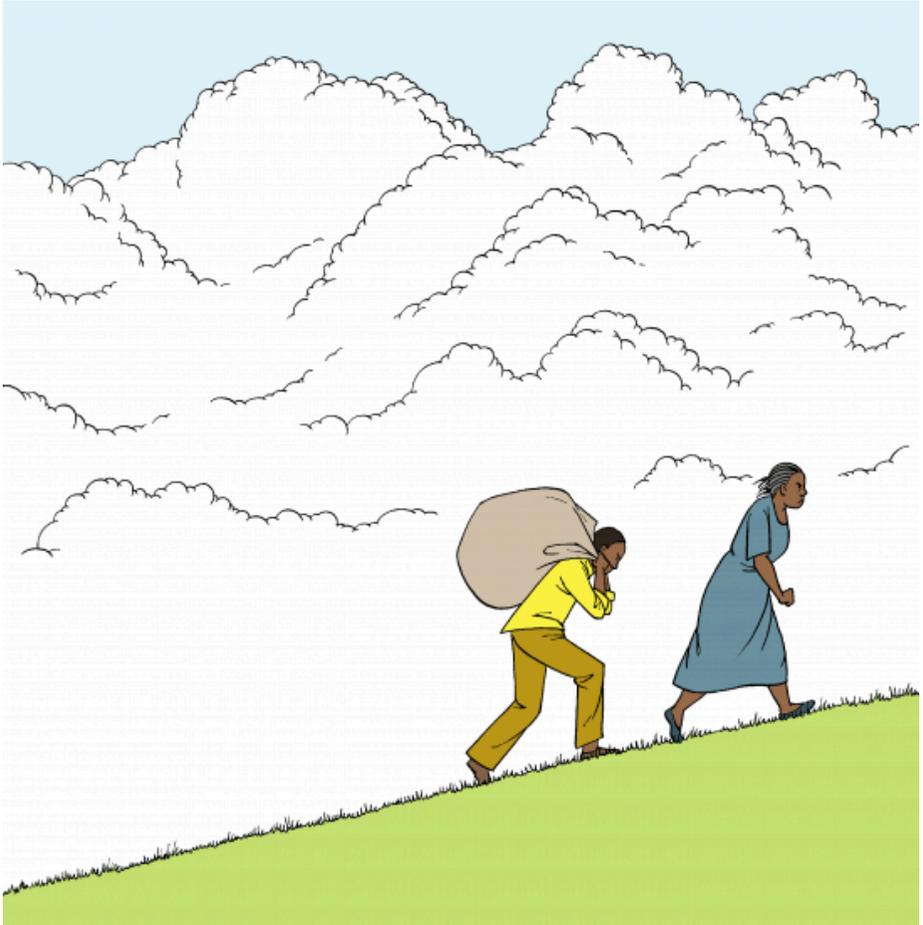
“Come back and help me to build a new house!” she cried.

Mr Malatji was humble when he returned.



The residents of Ga-Molapo village decided to go to the king.

They told him everything that had been happening in the village. They complained about Mr and Mrs Malatji.



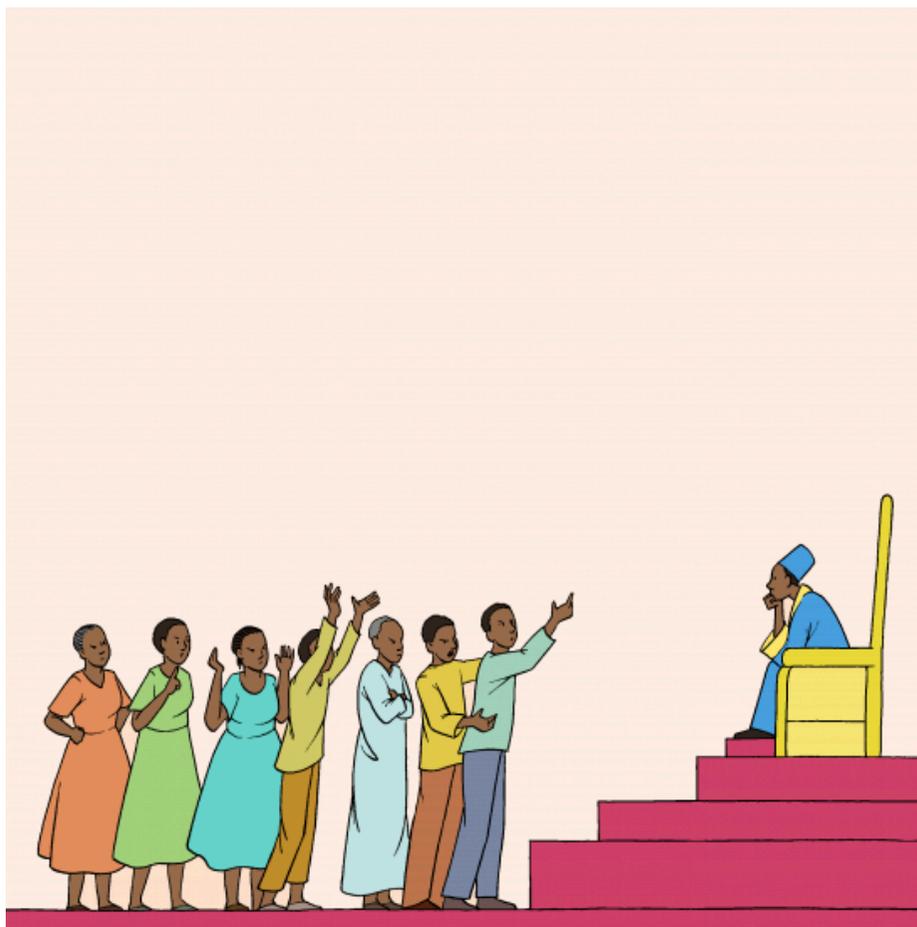
When the Malatjis heard about the complaints, they were furious.

They packed what was left of their belongings and left the village.



Around that time, there was a raging forest fire that spread to the village.

The fire burned houses in the village, leaving more community members homeless.



The villagers went to see the king again. “We have no food, no water, and nowhere to stay,” the people complained.

“There are always fires when Mr and Mrs Malatji have an argument!” cried the villagers.



This time, king Sello Kekana listened to the people's complaints.

He banned Mr and Mrs Malatji from the village of Ga-Molapo. He banned them from the province of Limpopo.

I wonder where the Malatjis went next?



Ulwazi Lwethu is a Zenex Foundation funded and initiated project to develop a series of graded and leisure African language readers and teacher support materials. This project is targeted at teaching and supporting learners in the Foundation Phase to improve their home language reading and understanding. The readers have been originated in nine African languages in collaboration with Molteno Institute for Language and Literacies, Nelson Mandela Institute for Education and Rural Development, Room to Read South Africa, and Saide. All resources are developed as Open Education Resources (OER).



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