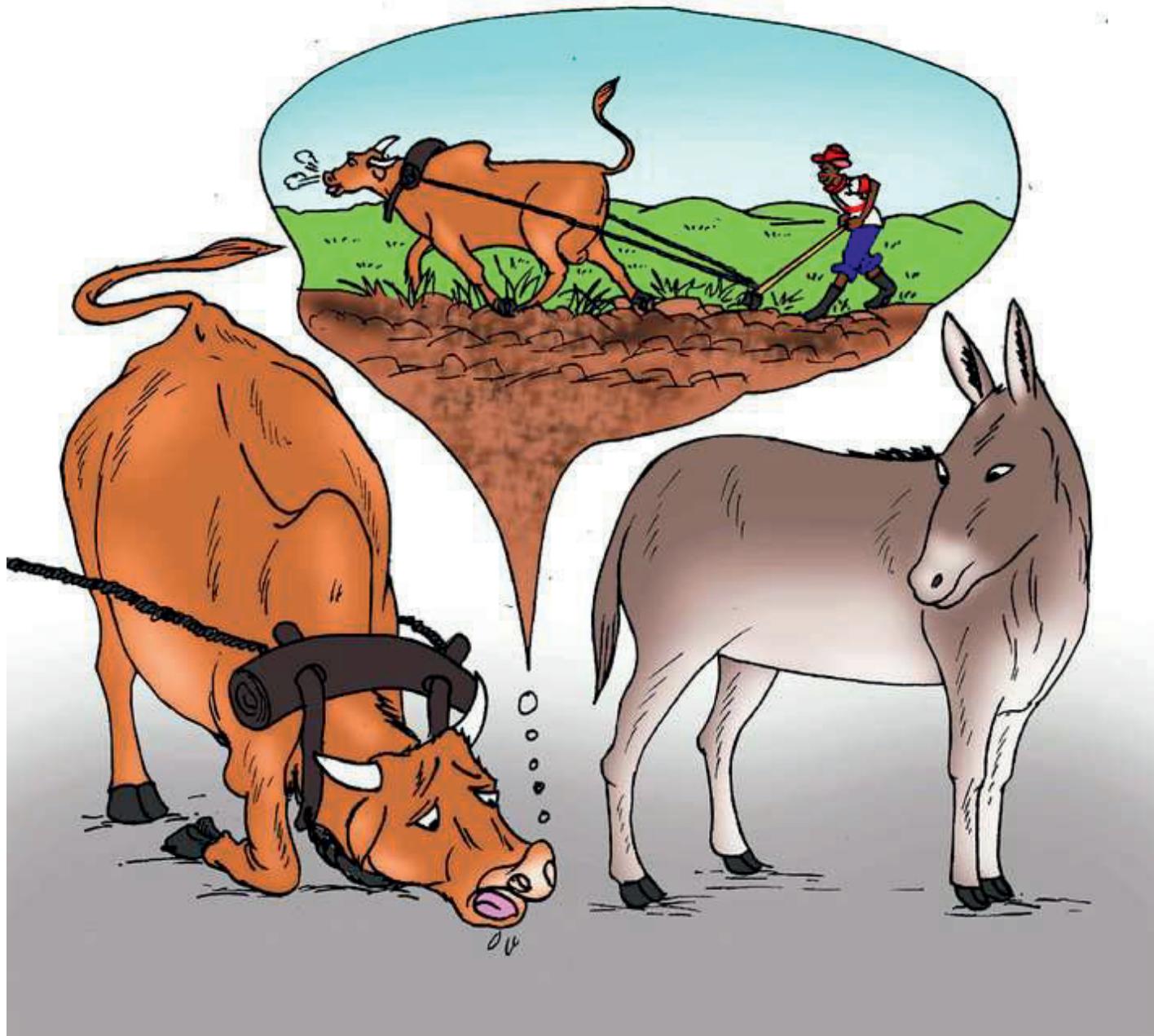


Zamani aliishi mkulima mmoja maskini aliyekuwa na Fahali mzee. Fahali huyo hakupenda kulima. Alipenda kubaki nyumbani akila nyasi, akinywa maji na kupumzika.

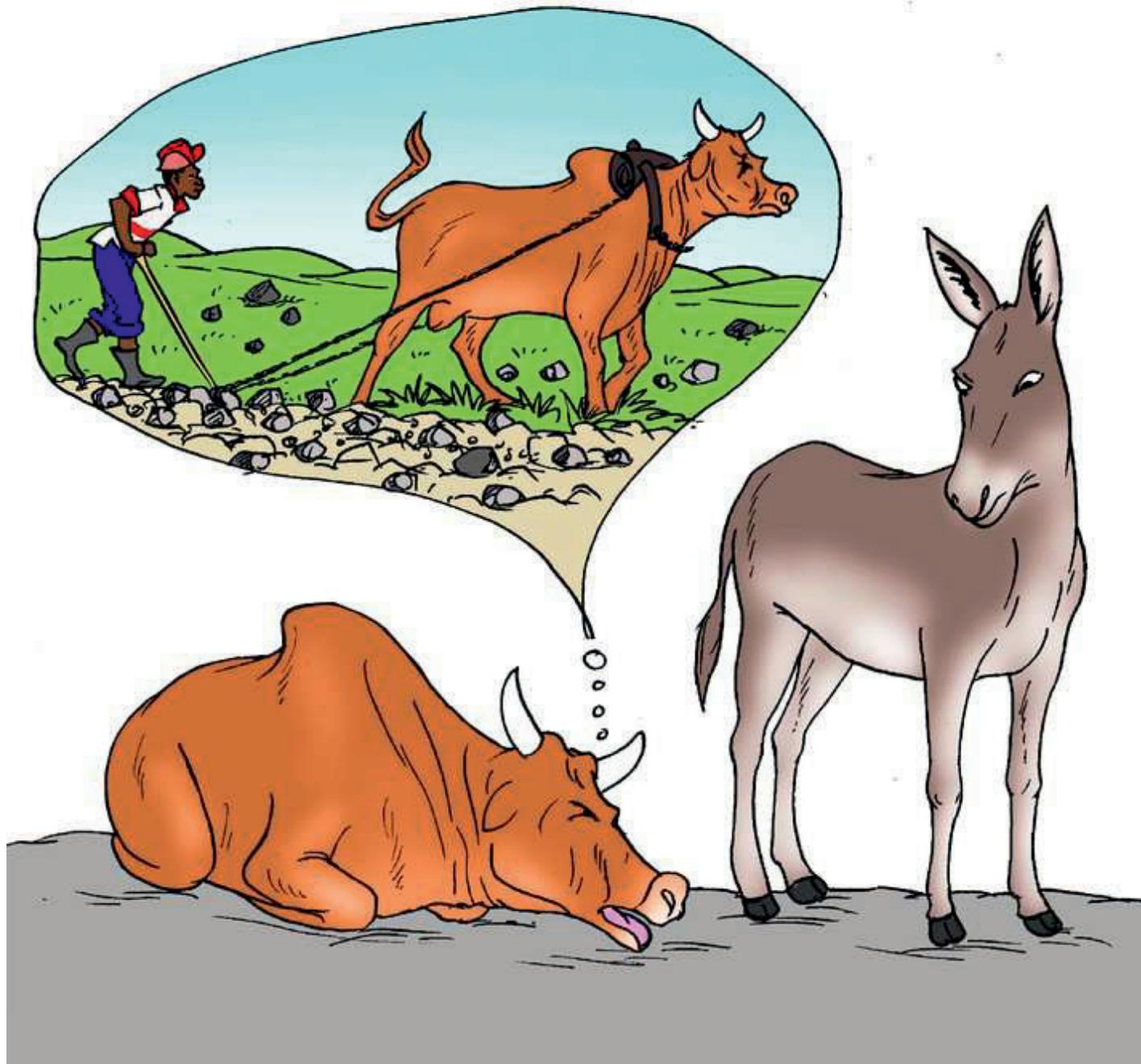


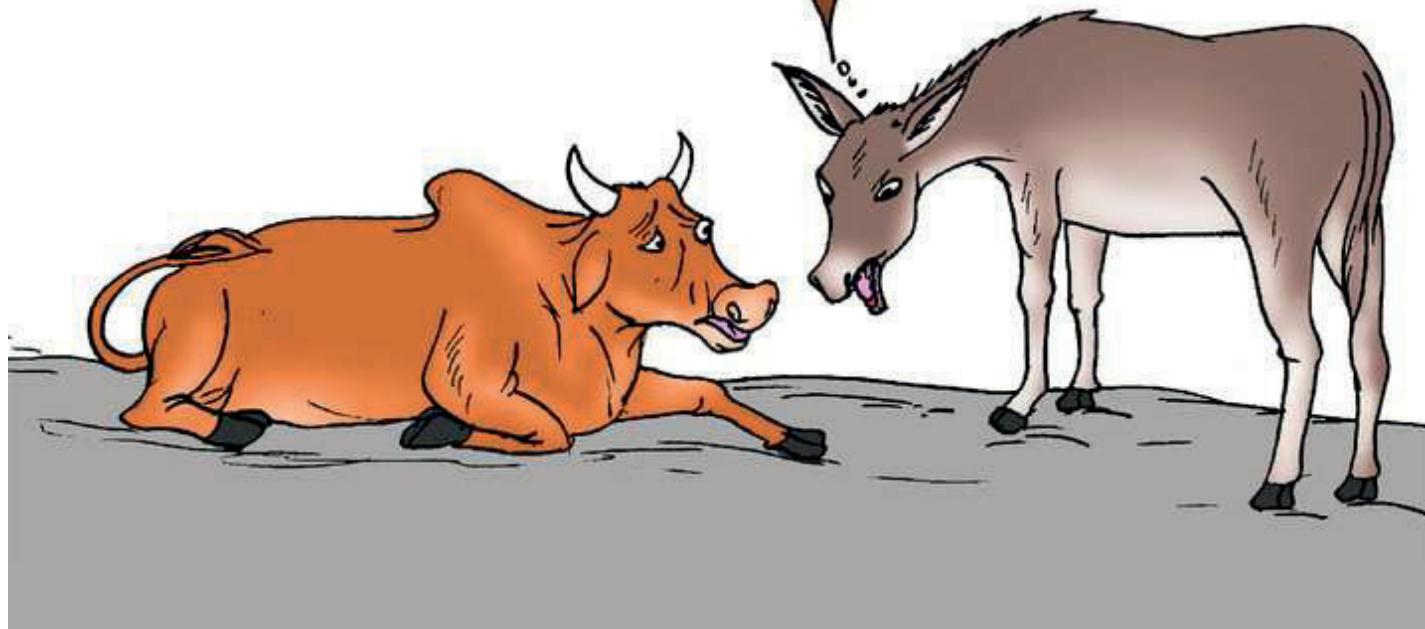
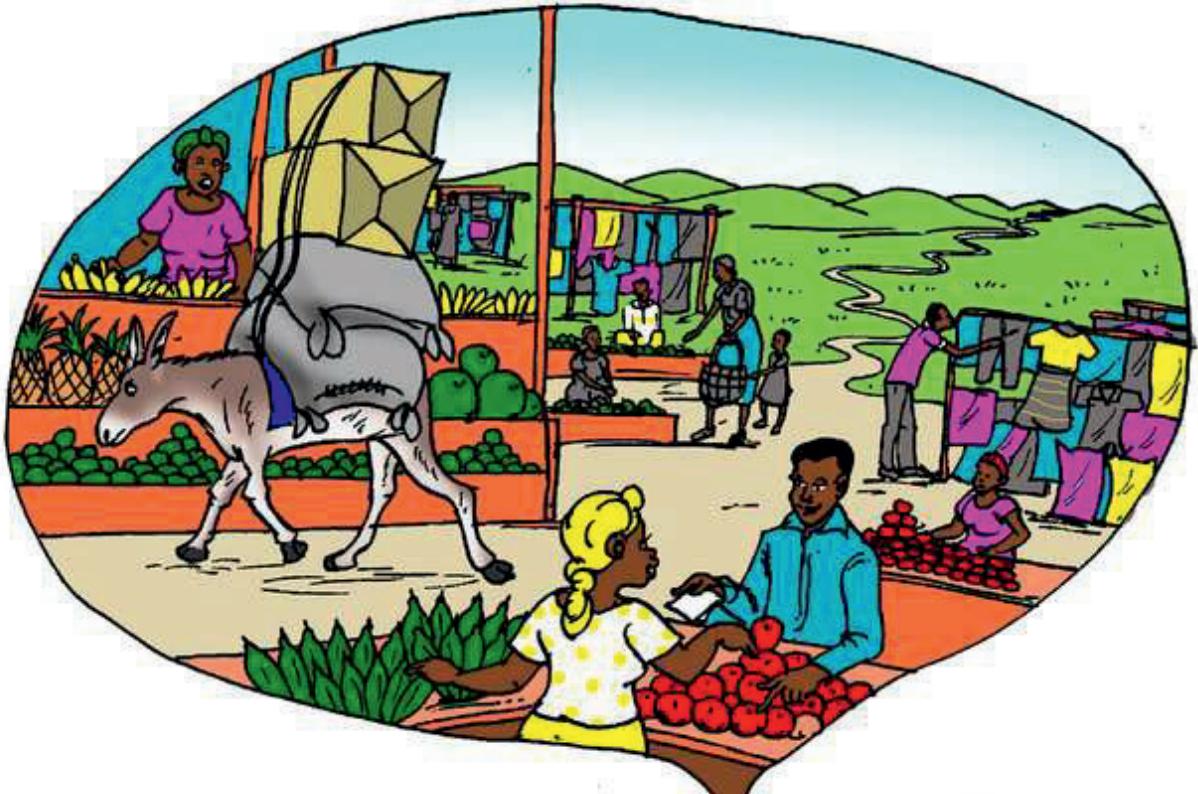
Mkulima huyo vilevile alikuwa na Punda. Punda na Fahali walikuwa marafiki. Mwisho wa siku, walipenda kuongea pamoja. Siku moja, Fahali alisema, "Nimechoka sana. Nimefanya kazi siku nzima. Jembe ni kubwa na zito. Naye mkulima haniruhusu kupumzika."



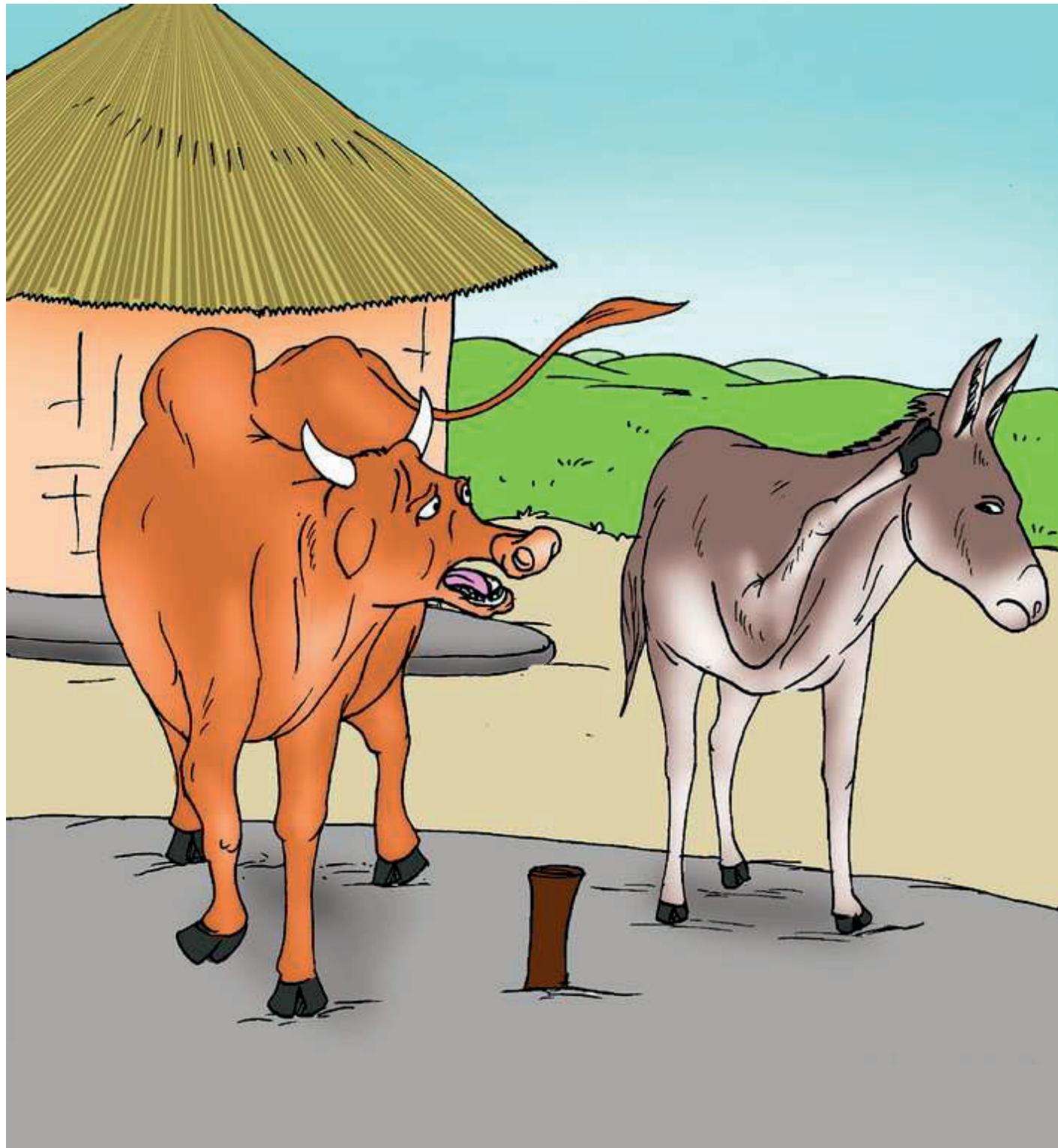
Punda alimtazama Fahali akawaza, "Bila shaka Fahali ni mvivu na hapendi kufanya kazi." Kisha akasema, "Unadhani kuwa jembe lako ni zito? Niamini, rafiki yangu, jembe ni jepesi! Mimi leo nimebeba gunia la ngano mgongoni. Nina hakika lilikuwa zito kuliko jembe lako."

Siku iliyofuata, walikutana
tena. Fahali akasema,
“Nimekuwa na siku mbaya
leo. Shamba la bwana
wangu liko mbali na limejaa
mawe. Nimefanya kazi
mchana kutwa. Sikupumzika
hata kidogo.”



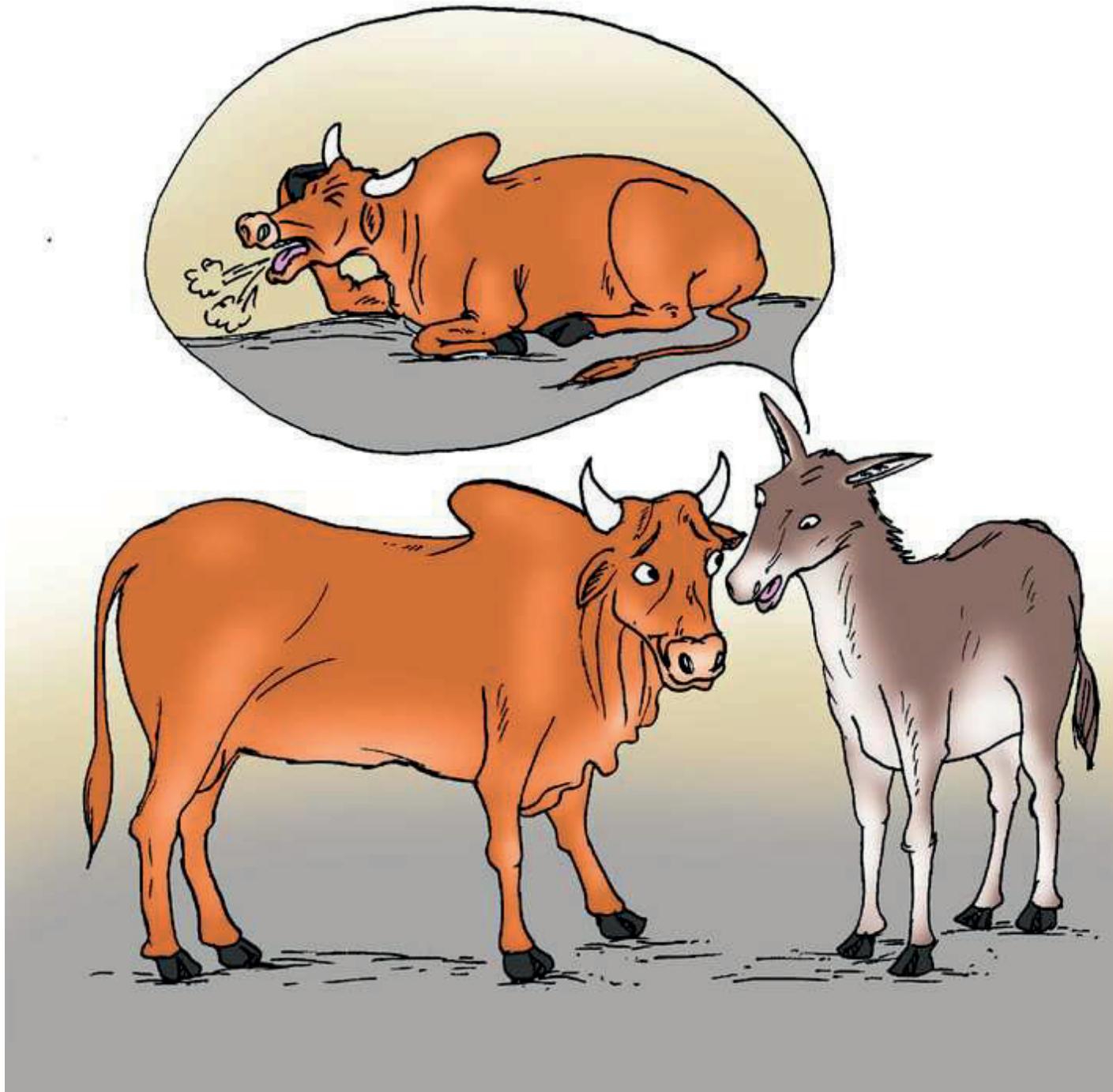


"Eti ulifanya kazi ngumu?"
Punda alimwuliza. "Mimi leo
nilikwenda sokoni mjini,
kilomita nyingi kutoka hapa.
Nina hakika nimefanya kazi
ngumu kuliko wewe."



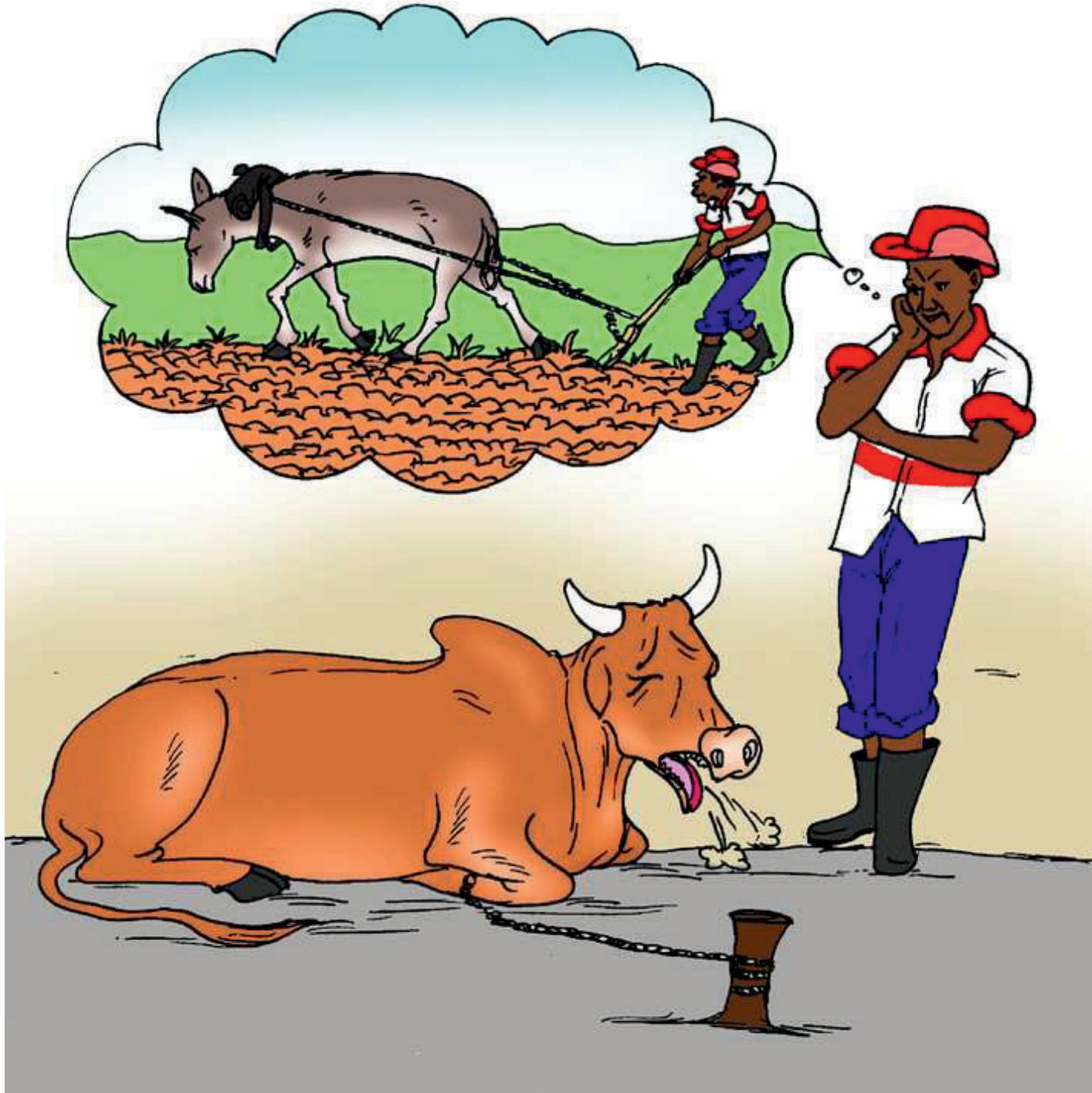
Siku iliyofuata, Fahali alirudi nyumbani akiwa amechelewa tena. Alimwambia Punda, "Ah! Rafiki! Leo ilikuwa siku mbaya kwangu."

Lakini, Punda hakutaka kumsikiliza Fahali zaidi.



Punda alimwambia, "Wewe huchoka kila wakati na kila siku ni mbaya kwako. Mkulima atakapokuja kesho, lala na ufumbe macho yako useme, 'Moo! Moo!' Mkulima akifikiri wewe ni mgonjwa, atakuruhusu upumzike."

Fahali alilipenda wazo hilo akasema, "Asante mpenzi Punda. Wazo zuri sana."

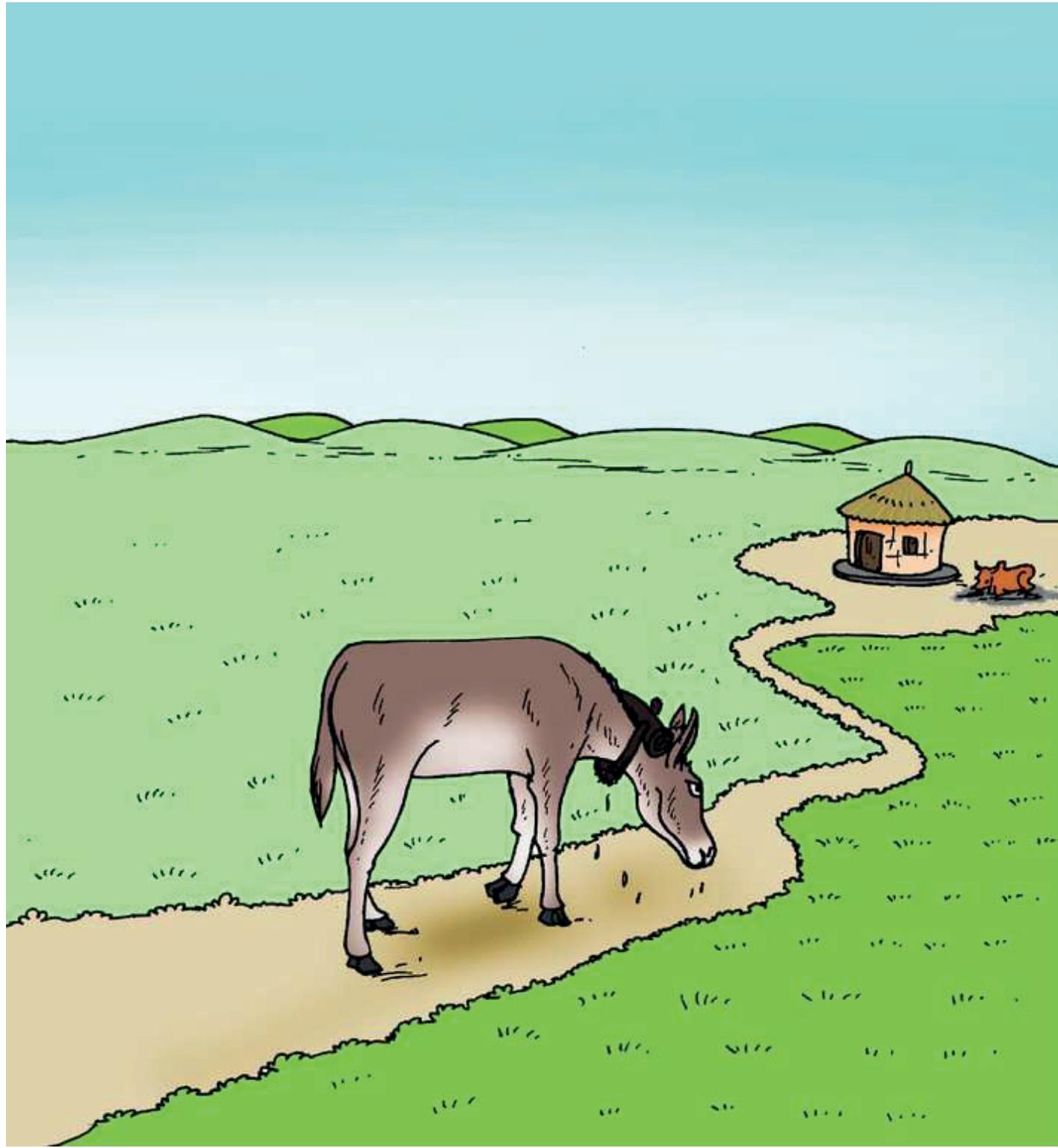


Asubuhi iliyofuata, Fahali alilala na mkulima alipofika, aliyafumba macho yake akalia, "Moo! Moo!" Mkulima alimtazama akawaza, "Maskini Fahali wangu ni mgonjwa.

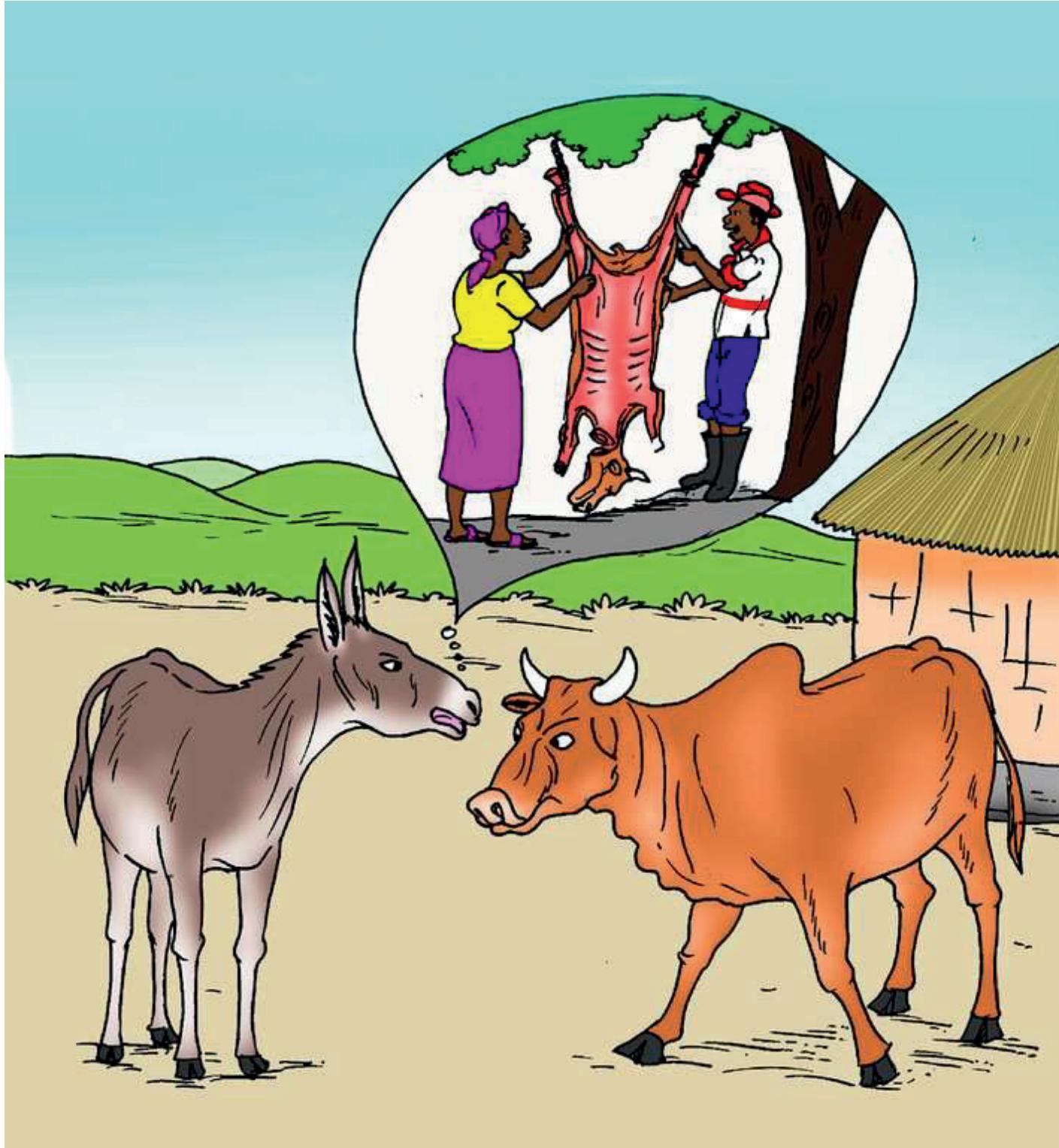
Lakini, ni lazima nililime shamba langu. Ni nani atakayenisaidia? Haidhuru, kuna Punda! Atalivuta jembe leo."



Mkulima alimpeleka Punda
shambani akamfunga
jembe na kuanza
kumcharaza, "Nenda!
Haraka! Vuta!"
Alimshurutisha Punda.

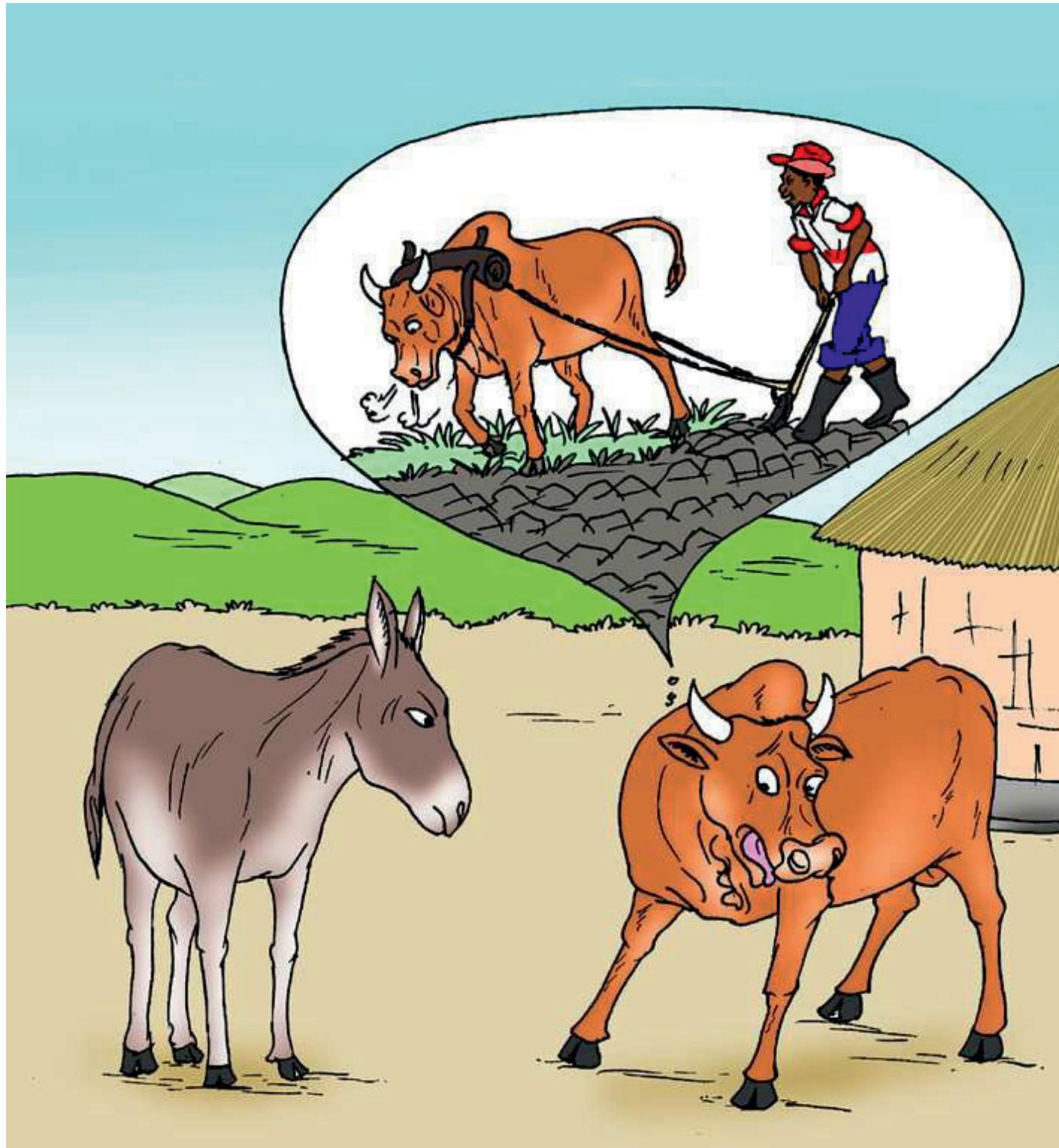


Punda alifanya kazi siku nzima. Jioni alikuwa amechoka sana. Alitembea polepole kwenda nyumbani. Fahali alimsubiri na alipomwona, alisema, "Mpendwa Punda, nilikuwa na siku nzuri leo. Nilikula nyasi, nikanywa maji na nikapumzika chini ya mti mkubwa. Nataka kupumzika tena kesho. Je, nifanyeje? Nipe wazo jingine."



Punda alimtazama Fahali, akawaza, "Kazi yake ni mbaya kuliko yangu. Sitaki kuifanya tena kesho." Hatimaye, Punda akasema, "Rafiki yangu, kuwa makini.

Leo nimemsikia mkulima akimwambia hivi mkewe, 'Fahali wangu ni mchovu kila wakati na sasa ni mgonjwa. Asipopata nafuu kesho, nitamchinja tule nyama.'"



Fahali aliogopa sana akalia
akisema, "Eti nini? Alisema
hivyo? Kesho, nitafanya kazi
yangu. Nimepata nafuu sasa
na wala si mchovu tena!"