Montshiwa o abelana ka maoto Maguru gives out legs

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- **III** Level 3

(imageless edition)



Bogologolotala diphologolo tsotlhe di ne di sena maoto. Di ne di gagaba mo mmung.
Long time ago, no animal had legs. They all used to crawl on the ground.

Ke batho fela ba ba neng ba na le maoto gonne Montshiwa o ne a ba file maoto. •••
Only human beings had legs because Maguru had given legs to humans.

Ka letsatsi lengwe, Montshiwa o ne a swetsa gore o tla fa phologolo e nngwe le e nngwe maoto. O ne a tsamaya gotlhe mo motseng a bega tshwetso ya gagwe. O ne a batla gore diphologolo tsotlhe di tsamaye jaaka batho.

. . .

One day, Maguru decided to give legs to every animal. He walked round the village announcing from a loudspeaker. He wanted each animal to walk like a human being.

Diphologolo di ne di itumetse fa di utlwa gore di tlile go fiwa maoto. Phologolo e nngwe le e nngwe e ne e batla go nna le maoto gore e kgone go tsamaya le go taboga. Di ne tsa opela, tsa tshikinya megatla le go tsharolola diphuka tsa tsona.

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The animals were happy when they heard that they would be given legs. Each animal wanted to have legs so that it could walk and run. They sang, wagged their tails and flapped their wings.

Diphologolo di ne tsa kopana mme tsa bua ka moo go leng boima ka teng go gagaba. Mmu o gotlha mala a tsona. Maoto a tla thusa gore di bonele kgakala, fela jaaka batho.

. . .

Animals gathered and discussed how difficult it was to crawl. The ground scratched their bellies. Legs would also help them to stand and see far, like human beings did. Ka letsatsi leo, diphologolo di ne tsa gagabela kwa ntlong ya ga Montshiwa go fiwa maoto a tsona. Dithutlwa, ditau, ditlou, mebitlwa, bogopane le dinonyane di ne tsa ema mola mme tsa leta go fiwa maoto.

. . .

When the day came, many animals crawled to Maguru's house to get their legs. Giraffes, lions, elephants, rabbits, crocodiles, and birds queued and waited to be given legs.

Phologolo e nngwe le e nngwe e ne ya fiwa maoto a le mane. Nonyane e nngwe le e nngwe e ne ya fiwa maoto a mabedi.

. . .

Each animal was given four legs. Birds were given two legs each.

Ditebego tsa diphologolo di ne tsa fetoga morago ga go nna le maoto. Tse dingwe tsa bina ka ntlha ya boitumelo. Tse dingwe di ne sa kgone go tsamaya mme tsa wela mo fatshe.

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Animals looked different on legs. Some danced in joy. Others had difficulty walking and fell down.

Di ne tsa tsamaya mo motseng di bontsha batho maoto a tsona. Di ne tsa re, "Re ka se tlhole re gagaba."

. . .

They walked round the village showing off to human beings. All the animals said, "We will never crawl again."

Phologolo ya bofelo mo moleng e ne e le Sebokolodi. "A go nale mongwe gape mo morago ga gago?", Montshiwa a botsa. "Nnyaa, ke nna wa bofelo," Sebokolodi a araba.

. . .

The last animal in the queue was the millipede. Maguru asked, "Is there anyone else after you?" "No, I am the last one," Millipede answered. Montshiwa a akanya, "Fa ele wena wa bofelo, ke ya go dira eng ka maoto a a setseng a?" Montshiwa o ne a fa Sebokolodi maoto otlhe a a setseng.

. . .

Maguru thought, "If there is no one else, what will I do with the rest of the legs?" Maguru gave all the remaining legs to Millipede.

Sebokolodi o ne a tsamaya a itumetse gonne o ne a nale maoto a mantsi. "Ke tla kgona go tsamaya ka bonako go ba feta botlhe," a akanya.

. . .

Millipede went away very happy because he had many legs. "I will move faster than any of them," he thought. Erile fela Sebokolodi a fetsa go tsamaya, Noga a goroga kwa ntlong ya ga Montshiwa. "Montshiwa, le nna ke kopa maoto" ga rialo Noga.

• •

As soon as Millipede had left, the snake came to Maguru's house. "Maguru, please give me some legs," Snake begged.

"Ke abile maoto otlhe. O ne o le kae?" Montshiwa a botsa. "Ke ne ke gateletswe ke boroko," Noga a araba.

• •

"I have given out all the legs. Where were you?" Maguru asked. "I over-slept," Snake replied.

Montshiwa a lebelela gotlhe mo ntlong ya gagwe go bona gore a go na le maoto a a setseng Go ne go sena sepe.

...

Maguru checked in his house to see whether there were any legs remaining. But he did not find any.

Montshiwa o ne a tswela kwa ntle mme a re, "Ke maswabi, ga gona maoto a a setseng." Noga o ne a tshwanela ke go boela gae a gagaba. Go tloga ka letsatsi leo, Noga a tlogela go robala thata. O dula a emetse motlha o mogwe wa go fiwa maoto.

. . .

Maguru came out and said, "Sorry, Snake, there are no legs remaining." Snake had to crawl back home without legs. Since that day Snake does not sleep much. He is always waiting for the next chance to get legs.



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