

Micomyiza and Serugi

By TURACYAYISENGA

Once there was a family who had a child called Micomyiza, which means “merciful.” After a



long time, his mother died, thus his father decided to get married to another woman. They had cows, so when Micomyiza grew up he became a cowboy.

While he was keeping their cows, he made a new friend called Serugi. Serugi was poor, his clothes were rags, and he suffered from scabs all over his body. He lived in the forest eating fruits because he didn't have a family. The forest became his orphanage.

Some time later, Micomyiza became fond of him and decided to take him home, in secret because his step-mother was very cruel. In the evening, when they came back, he took Serugi in the second house located behind the main house in the yard.

Micomyiza took care of his friend, but in

secret, because he was afraid of his step-mother. His father had gone to see the kings. He hid Serugi most of the time.

One day, when Micomyiza was in the pasture keeping their cows, Micomyiza's stepmother entered the house where Serugi was hidden. She was surprised.

"How did you get in here?" she asked.

Serugi explained to her all the things that had happened to him.

"No, you are a thief. You have come to steal," replied the step-mother.

At once, she took a big stick and started beating him. Fortunately, Serugi escaped and got to his home in the forest. In the evening, when Micomyiza arrived, his stepmother was angry with him and asked how Serugi got into their house. Micomyiza gave her answers, but his stepmother beat him too. Micomyiza ran away crying. When he arrived in the forest, he called for his friend. Serugi answered Micomyiza's call. They were happy to be together. They explained what happened to each other with the stepmother. They prayed to God for protection. They stayed together

in the forest. Sometime later, Micomyiza's father came home and heard all the news about his son, so he went to look for him in the forest.

Finally, he joined both children in the forest before bringing them home. He blamed his wife for being so cruel. She apologized for her behavior, and they lived peacefully.

