**-Location/site: Ambohimalaza, Ambiboangy**

**-Date: 27/08/2019**

**-Interviewer (initials): PRA 005**

**-Time: 16:59**

**-Length of interview: 00:41:03**

**-individual/multiple: individual**

**-Age: 57**

**-disability: no**

**-gender: male**

**-Specific circumstance/observations:**

I am a self-employee, I am a carpenter.

What part of the nature is the most important to you?

The most important is the nature itself, everything God created. God created everything: biodiversity, trees that made up the nature. The nature was better before, it gets worse with the evolution. Let me use the bible verse that says “till the end”. There will be no limit about this change but it will get wore with the evolution of the humanity.

When did it start?

I can’t tell you the right dat. I can affirm that it is getting worse and that we will never be able to restore it same ad from the beginning like God created it; because it is our mentality that has been degraded. The only one who can improve the nature is you and me to try our best to get joy and happiness from it, for you and your family, and legate this way of thinking to the next generations to get joy again. Our elderlies were happy with the nature. I mean by happiness a peaceful mind, the good health we get from it, which is how happiness is lived. We don’t have to go the doctor because the nature provides us pure air to be healthy.

People from the city come here to throw their garbage and contaminate our nature and our health. This kind of mentality is the worst. And that is why we have more people complaining about health issues these days. For example, my mother in law suffers from an unknown disease and is because of the degradation of the nature. We did all medicinal examination, analysis for 2 months but we got no results. That was an example.

What do you thing cause this change?

All God’s words will be accomplished. The change will be shortening. The nature will be destroyed anyway. It is me and you that that should enjoy it and get joy from it.

Which part of the nature provides you happiness?

The forest provides me joy. I went to Mantasoa last week. I got healthier just by walking in the wood, seeing how people are living, their agriculture without chemicals. I felt so good, people were happier, healthier. They live with more fresh air than we do. I had beef meat but it tasted very different, they don’t feed cattle with chemicals. I could see pigs living in the nature eating cassava, no chemicals.

We do have native forest in Ambohimalazabe. On the other side we have some unexplored forests; God’s nature which still intact. There is not much vegetation around here because people cut trees, burn it. The point is that we destroy ourselves. That is why I said it is you and me who could be possibly restore it. But we wouldn’t be able to restore it If look at the bible verses. We have to try to restore it as small as we can and happiness will gain us.

We have nice landscapes here and people enjoy it because the read is very close to here. We still have some trees for picnics. What we call forest is mainly eucalyptus and native trees like ampaly and tsy vakimbaratra.

The changes started with the roads. The roads are first reason why the nature is in danger here. This road was built in 2008 or 2009 and now people come here to throw their garbage around the village. The globalization also plays an important role. In the other hand we ne globalization and each country in earth is experiencing it.it is good because now we have electricity but also roads so that’s all good. The main reason is because of the number of the population that increases. People don’t respect the nature. For example you won’t see any plastic bag in the village. It is me and you that can prevent such thing from happening.

I should respect the nature, I don’t cut trees. You can see there are avocado and plume trees growing in my yard. It cleans the nature somehow.

The most important thing you get from nature is health. I am a carpenter but I don’t buy wood from here. I buy it in Andravoangy. What is destroying the nature is not really defined, maybe because people cut tree. The bible says everything will get worse at the end so maybe that is what happening now. I don’t know how intense the powerful countries are taking part on the destruction of the nature. What would happened in the city with we remove the trees in ambohijatovo and around the Institut Pasteur?

Do you still have some traditional practices in the village?

There is a Douany, some taboo like not urinate up hills; it is also prohibited to bring goat to the vllage, wild boar around the Rova in Ambohimalazabe. We had a Douany in Ambohimandry. It is a Douany because it has a natural source of water, directly from the mountains that flows from the rocks. That was in Ralambo’s kingdom; they were from the east and stopped here to look for water but didn’t find any; so the cracked the rocks water came out. You should investigate more about that.

I don’t pray at the Douany or ask for benediction there but I respect it. I don’t say anything bad about it because it is a part of the surrounding nature so I don’t touch it, I don’t destroy it. Some people urinate around but I wouldn’t do it. Everyone has its way of thinking.

I am happy to have the Douany here. When the Rova was on fire, I felt really sad. It was my child that first noticed the fire and even raised as a Christian he also felt sad. We don’t have any archives about it; we still don’t know who did that, maybe Christians. I really felt sad.

This is my family’s generation house and we try to embellish it. I love taking pictures so I constantly take a photo of it for memories. Nature plays an important role on the landscape. You see this palm in our yard. It was transplanted here from the east coast.

We have very old trees, the native ones like guava tree, tsivakimbaratra and many other medicinal plants. There was dingadingana and anjavidy that are now completely gone. The population of Anjavidy decreases because people use them to make brooms. They are excellent and last longer.

So what impact has that change on your well-being?

The change is negative. As I said it is you and me who can who can take responsibility to make it better. It makes me feel sad because the nature seem like destroys itself. It remains around 40 % of what I remembered of it. It lefts a single tree of Eugenia in the village, guava tree are decrease so we cannot harvest them like we did before. I don’t let people to harvest guava from my tree for selling it. Zamborizano and wild berry have disappeared. Do you the big house? And two next it, and other one in the west, one in north with blue roof, and finally two in front of it; those are the first houses of the village and our are part of them. That was 10 years ago before the village developed. My family founded this village.