



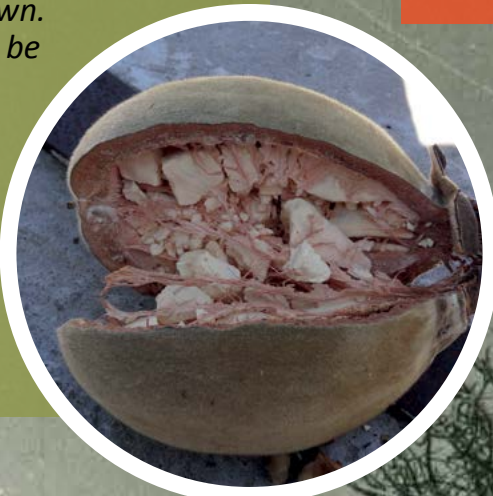
†'Òm BAOBAB (*Adansonia digitata*)

†'Òm !aihan sa gea Tjum!kui kaice o tci n!a'an n!a'an ko ju!hoansi khoea. †'Òm !xare gesin kaice !aea te cete g†ah te kxae hi !'aehasi !usi, n!ana "Dorslandboom" kota "Holboom". Hi xoana |xoa ko kurisa o rooo kana †hai... hi kaice g†ah!

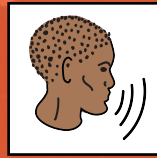
Baobab trees in Tsumkwe are important to the Ju!hoansi. Some baobabs are so big and old that they have their own names, like "Dorslandboom" (Thirsty-land tree) and "Holboom" (Hollow Tree). They can live for 1000 years or more... that is very old!

†'Òm-nlaisi okaa n!a'ng! E!a n!o'an !'an !aihn ko ku duse ko n†a'm n†hao ko †'om nlai. Da'abi!oa ku !'uin nlang ha nlai loa n†a'm ka l'ae ko !aihn sa taqm kota †'om nlai !ae. N!ausi hui ka !'uin da'abi!oa ll'a hi koqe ko ka to'a da'abi mh !aea ku n!o'an !aihn ko tca glaoh ko tca ha oo xoana, ka kahin si!a ku n†a'm taqm †'om nlai sa !aea.

Baobab fruit are delicious! We throw sticks up into the tree to try and knock the fruit down. Small children must be careful not to be hit on the head by the falling sticks and big fruit. Parents help to keep small children safe while the older children throw their sticks as strongly as they can, so that they can knock down the biggest fruit.



†'Òm kxae ko gosi sa !aea he !a'u he l'hom he llkua tca taq'in. Ka goa glu te !'ama ko glu tciasi koe g!omce-dhadhamasi, gloandinn!angsi kota ll'oredo'ado'asi.

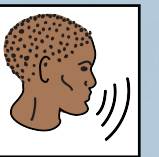
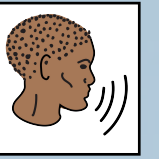


Baobabs produce beautiful big white **flowers** which smell sweet. They bloom at night and are fertilised by night creatures like **moths**, fruit bats and bushbabies.



ll'Ae gesin zo n†om ko hi zoll'haanjo ko !aihan o †'om. ll'Aea to'a hi zoll'haanjo g†a'ian he gllaoa !aihn, jul'hoan sa o tzisi lo g!hooa !aihn-mhi ko †'om ka hui ko llau ka †xuru ka †han ko zogaq'ana.

Sometimes bees make their hives in baobab trees. When their hives are high up in the tree, Ju!hoan villagers hammer **wooden pegs** into the tree to help each other carefully climb up to collect the precious **honey**.



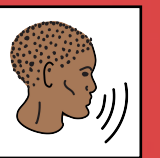
Te †'om-nlai ll'akaa nlo kaice glaoh te kxae glaoh. A †'aun n†a'm !hara l'xoa ka ko n!om kana a llau !'uin ko du !'oahn ka ko ka a kare ko dua hi nlai ko **glutan**. M!a tagesin koh n†ai llkoa dsuu n!usi kana †'om-nlaisi ko glutansi te ku gllaoa ka ko glo'o kota nlo ka kxae ka ka sesi l'hom te ce ku soan l'an ko !'oana.



The shell of the baobab fruit is very hard and strong. You can crack it open on a rock or you can carefully cut it open if you want to keep the shell as a **water container**. Our mothers use ostrich eggshells or baobab shells as water containers and decorate them with beads and leather so that they look beautiful and are easier to carry.



Ha koa !'aice ke kana ha nlo he o !aihn ga kota ha ll'hausi xoana ku n†ai llkoa ka l'aesi ko n†oqe coe ka ko llxai tchi n!ai. Te ka †'am sa to'a ku kaq'ana llkaellkae ka l'aesi te n†om ko !hui kana tau. Te !hui he ke n†ai llkoa ka l'ae ko kaq'ana !hui ka llxau tzama.



The outer fibre or bark of the tree and branches can also be scraped off with a sharp knife. This fibre can be twisted together to make string or rope. This **string** can be used to make a snare to trap small ground birds.



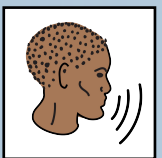
M!a cete l'ua hi ko mari ko l'an hi ko ta'm sa n!a'ng. Barah lama sa khui, m!a kaice are l'u l'xoa hi ko glu ka !'aua hi ko n!omada'a-g!ua kana ku ka !'aua hi ko n!omada'a-kua.



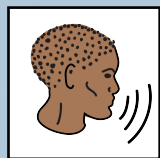
We also mix the fruit into porridge to give it a tasty flavour. On hot summer days, we like to mix the fruit with water and we call it **n!omada'a-g!ua** or with milk which is called **n!omada'a-kua**.



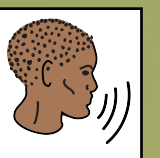
Ka a kaice 'm †'om nlaisi okaa a tzausi tchoa ka ku kxae ta'msi, m!a !'aua ta'm sa ke ko nlari. "†'Òm du nlàrì mi tzausi" !ai!ae koe nllae.



If you eat too much baobab fruit your teeth start to feel strange, we call this feeling **n!àrì**. "**Baobab fruit makes my teeth feel blunt**" says !ai!ae.



Hi n!ang, hi nlaisi !kau te glaoh. Ko ku 'm hi, a l'u hi mh gesin ko a tzi-n!ang ka kaq'm. Hi kua ta'm ka ka'ian a tzi-n!ang ka †'om ll'a'si sa ka †'u o kxae' u kua g!a ge. M!a n!auasi kaice are ka sau ko da'a tshii he khui, te ka !'aua ka l'aesi ko †'om-lo. Ko ka to'a he ka sau ka l'ae, si ll'hài ka l'ua ka ka ko g!ua khui ka du koce he !'aua ha l'ae ko †'om-lo koce.



Inside, the fruit is dry and hard. To eat it, you can put a piece in your mouth and suck it. Soon the tasty fruit will melt in your mouth and you will only have brown **baobab seeds** left. Our parents like to roast the seeds in hot ash, these are called †'òm-lo. Once the seeds are roasted, they are crushed and mixed with hot water to make coffee called †'òm-lo koce.

