



TRANSCRIPT: Shona Artists' Video

“Hi, I’m Moses. I’m a stone carver.

“Thank you for supporting me and the whole of my family. Both from the diggers of these stones and the miners have got families and are supporting their families by giving us these stones. From there, they support their families. I also after carving these stones, selling to you, I’m supporting my family, and I am not the only carver. I’ve got about 8 or 5 carvers who are doing this job. So also they are supporting their families. Thank you very much.”

“Hi, my name is Judea. I’m a stone carver. I really appreciate doing business with you because you have been supporting us for quite a long time now. We have got some friends of ours who are also stone carvers. They are happy and appreciating your support. They have got their families and supporting their families through this business. There are some stone diggers, the miners who are supporting their families through this business. So I really appreciate the support. Thank you very much.

“From the miners, they have to look for the mines. We are from Kwe Kwe, then we go to Mashava. That’s where we find this stone of different color. So these people - they are living in rural areas. So we have to go from Mashava. From Mashava it is about 5 km(3 miles). We travel from there to the mines, and we gather stones and help them cut, cut through all the stones. After that we hire, there are no roads to come up to Mashava where we can find easy transport. So we use Kosikas (wagon). They have Kosikas to carry all these pieces, these pieces of stone up to Mashava, and in Mashava, that’s where we are based. And then we start to carve these pieces. And then we start with when we have got the stone. Then we have to carve to prune the stone first, up to the size and the shape you want. After doing all this the piece will come up to something like this. And after this we have to cut the base. We use this tool to cut the base. The first thing we do is, is cut the base. And then after cutting the base, the piece will be like this. And then we shape with some heads and after shaping with some heads, I give it to my par (partner).

“I have to open the piece now, starting for, for completion. This is the opening of the piece. All of the, the pieces that I have to do, I must do it nicely, because I mustn’t break the piece. I must do it nicely. For the sake of the bodies, I have to do the bodies. The bodies here. I have leave the body quite big for support, and this, this one, it will be like this now. That completes the, the opening of the bodies.

“And I have to use the rasper. That will be the final part of the piece. I have to use the rasper, after completing my piece. I rasper the body, but I must make sure I use the body, which the, an even body, a big body for support of the piece, so that it mustn’t break easy. So that when the piece is about to be completed, it will be like this, be like this. That is almost half complete when it is like this, we do the finishing touch.

“We are now doing the water paper and on the water paper we have got a grit, have got a grit of 120. Grit 120 is a little bit rough, so we start with it so the piece must be very smooth. And after 120 we can see it is still rough and then we go to, go to, to the fine. The fine will, the fine will then leave the piece shiny. It will remove all, all the lines which are left. And you can see now the parts which I have done. The piece is now shiny before it gets polished. After the piece is shining like this, we take it to the fire. At the fire there maybe we will be having some 20 pieces like this. And then we put it on the fire. When it is hot, we put a cobra wax and black polish and then we polish it. When it is hot we remove the polish. After we remove the polish, we put it outside, so that it cools down. When it cools down then we have to shine it with a cloth, so that whenever water goes into the piece, nothing will change, it will remain shiny and looking good.”

