

DESPITE the low turnout at the recent trade exhibition in Zanzibar, an herbalist, Mr Khamis Masoud Khamis from Pemba Islands expressed his happiness after a two-day exhibition of products and services from civil societies.

Khamis was happy with the exhibition because many people visited his pavilion and were thirsty for information on Arabic Magic therapy. He thanked the organisers of the event, 'Foundation for Civil Society (FCS)' and the customers who visited the exhibition held at the premises of Zanzibar House of Representatives.

"It was enough for us to be known to the people because not many hear about us and the Arabic treatment. People are welcome," said Khamis from the civil society named 'Pemba Herbalist Community (PEHECO)' which was among the 55 civil societies which registered for the 2014 exhibition in Zanzibar.

"Very unfortunate that among those who did not show up at the exhibition were members of the Zanzibar House of Representatives. It was a disappointment but may be they were very busy with the budget session," the herbalist said.

Khamis says: "we were able to explain the development of human being on religious perspective in reference to Holy Books and the prophet's lifestyle and what the prophet said (hadiths). God's commandments are reflected in the present science and technology which has been

simplifying people's work."

People liked our explanation on how our research on plants may be useful in treating different health problems and the relation between plants, what to eat, and how to eat for good health.

With so much in science and technology, why have diseases not responded to drugs? Herbalist Khamis argues that not enough work has been done in research in both science and traditional therapy.

"Tanzania is still lucky to have millions of plants species, which I believe can heal almost all diseases, but unfortunately the government and organisations have not invested enough in research. Many herbalists including those involved in Arabic magic have failed to research due to lack of funds," said Khamis.

He said an in-depth study of the origin and evolution of human being from Adam and Hawa, on religious perspectives, and plants and the environment, is important in solving many problems facing men and women.

Khamis said both Christian and Muslim clerics have been struggling to get solutions to different problems by making references to the holy books like bible and Quran literary formed from earlier books: Tawrat, Zabur, Injili, and Furkan.

But, he said, little knowledge has been a hindrance in achieving the intended goal of knowing which herbs is appropriate for specific problem and health problem. He also

talked about the role of the 25 prophets sent to people to preach or spread religion.

The prophets did their best in spreading religion and also treating people who had health problems in the past centuries. He said in this modern century, "it is relatively a shame to have diseases without cure, while the cure is available.

What is required is commitment in conducting proper research. The government like in Tanzania is spending little in research with traditional healers getting no funds."

Khamis thanked leaders including Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda, Zanzibar minister for Health Mr Juma Duni Haji and the retired president Ali Hassan Mwinyi for their visible efforts in promoting traditional medicines, and he appeals to researchers in the country to try Arabic magic therapy, which he claims may be a solution to many problems in the country.

Sheikh Khamis Masoud thinks people are missing the Arabic Magic therapy, asking the respective bodies to go into research, because not many people are aware of it even in the Arab world itself.

Masoud said people in Zanzibar, Middle East, and Asia now prefer Arabic magic for their problems, because they think Arabic magic is trusted and commonly used method of magic in both medieval and modern magic. It is based on reciting evocations consisting of prayers and a set of names and charges with

