Cultural Keystone Species

A case study of the Inclusive Conservation Initiative in northern Kenya



Skin used to tie the branches of oloirien (olea Africana) in ceremonies



Skin used in ceremonies (cowry shells of age knit into hide)



Appear in many sayings and songs, such as:

"keripo olmaalo edaa" (a kudu is ever alert when feeding)

"namanira ai olmaalo kisomitaki kenya kikuti" (my carved one of the lesser kudu, you have been tormented ever since being blown)

(LESSER KUDU)

OLMAALO

Help to regulate woody plant cover – due to feeding preferences, height, etc. – more effectively than other species



