

# CULTURAL MIGRATION IN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

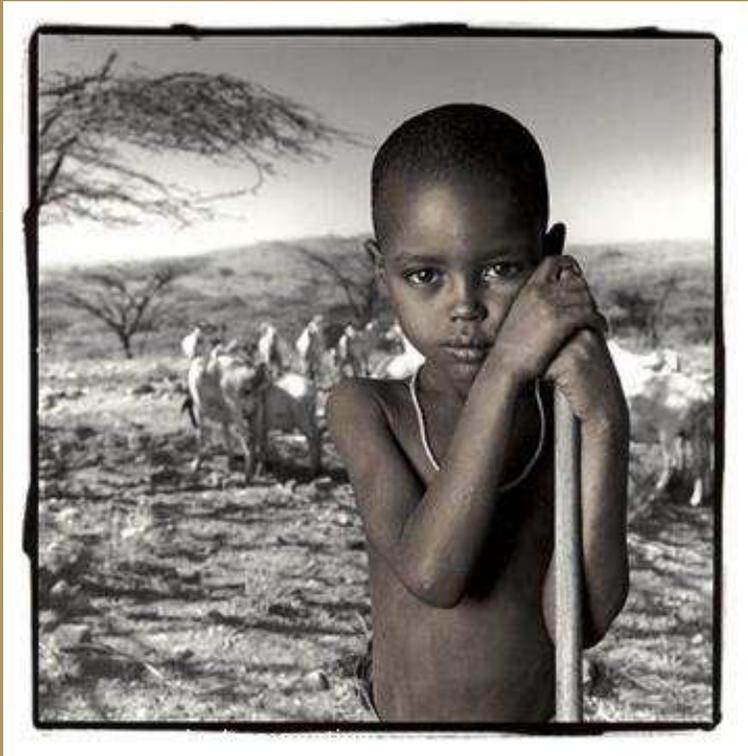


Education and Culture DG

Grundtvig Programme



CARLOS SANTOS' UNFINISHED  
AUTOBIOGRAPHY



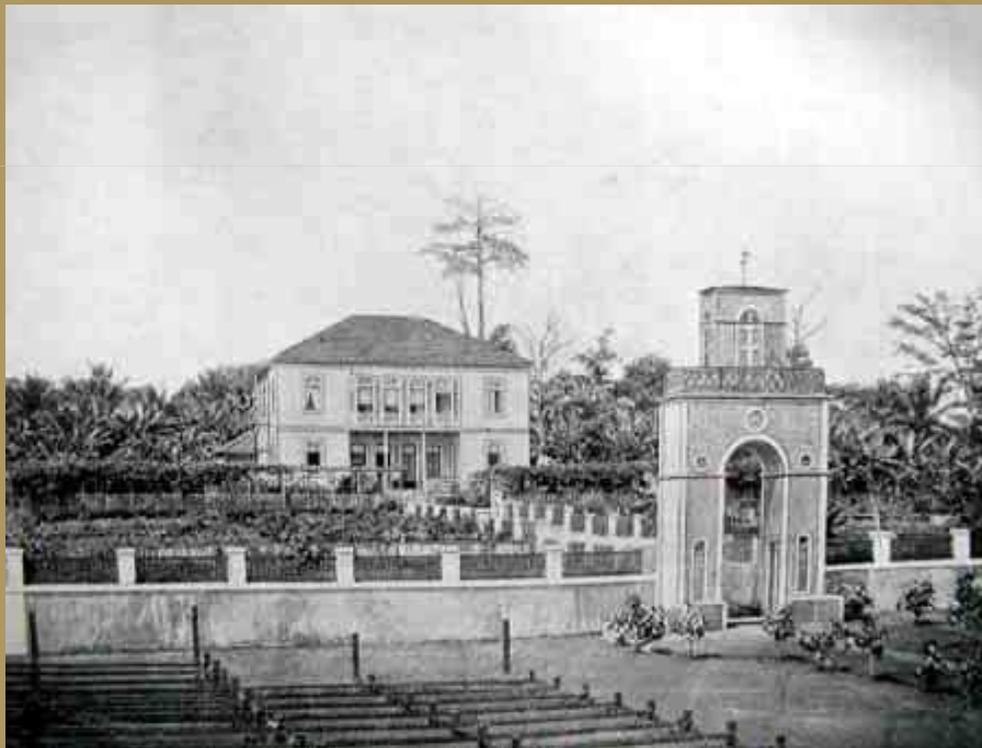
*This could be  
me, but it isn't.  
I have no pictures  
from my childhood.*



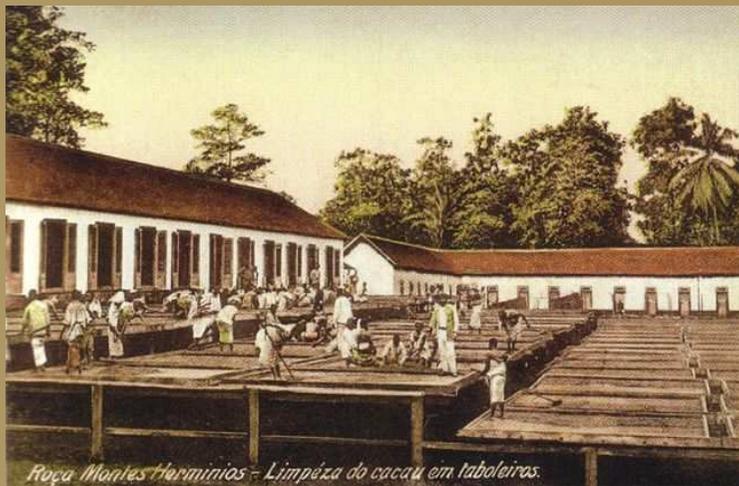
*I was born in  
S. Tomé and  
Príncipe.*



*District of  
Big Water,  
Central Hospital  
Dr. Ayres  
Menezes.*



*During the week we  
lived on the farm  
Claudino Farro,  
where my parents  
worked, far from the  
city.*



*My father was the  
foreman and this  
property had bush,  
planting of cocoa, coffee  
and bananas.*



*My mother was  
a simple worker  
in the bush.*



*The education system was a real massacre. If we had any questions, the teacher knocked us.*



*My brother made  
my first scooter with  
wood and bearings.*



*My father decided  
that my mother and  
I should live in the  
town,*

*But the house where we lived was five kilometers from the school and had no conditions.*



*When there rained, water flooded the whole room, it was a lot of mud in the house.*



*In the city, my  
mother used to sell  
at the market. She  
left home every  
morning and only  
returned at night.*



*My mother asked me to do all the domestic work, such as sweeping and cleaning, washing dishes and pans, bed making, cooking, washing cloths and even ironing.*

*As my mother sacrificed too much, I decided to make a wheelbarrow.*



*I took the products to the market, before going to school. By nightfall, I carried all the products that were not sold back home.*

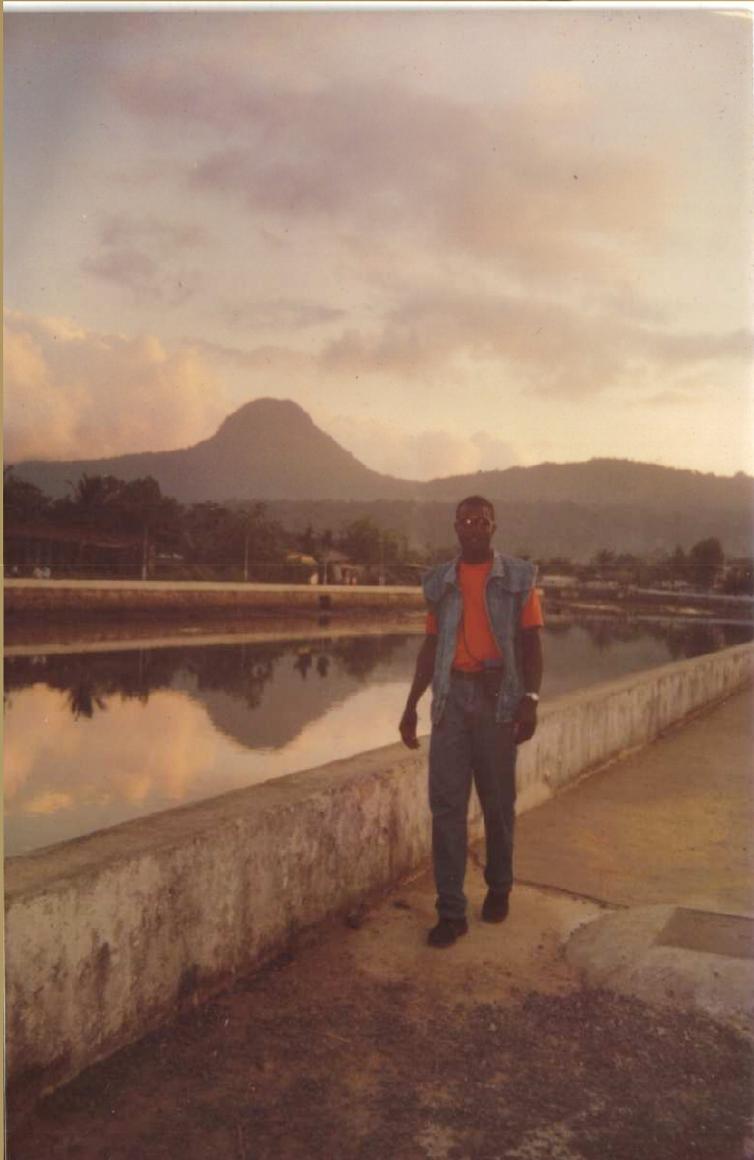


*On the Road, the way to school, I found damaged cars, sometimes with just one wire off.*

*The mechanic arrived,  
connected the wire, and  
there was the car running.  
It was fantastic!*



*So, I decided to  
become a mechanic.*



*In the same year I  
finished the 9th  
grade. I also finished  
an Auto Mechanics  
course,*



*I started working on  
a German  
construction company,  
that was the biggest  
one in S. Tomé.*



*I worked as a  
mechanic, doing  
repairs and  
maintenance of  
machines.*



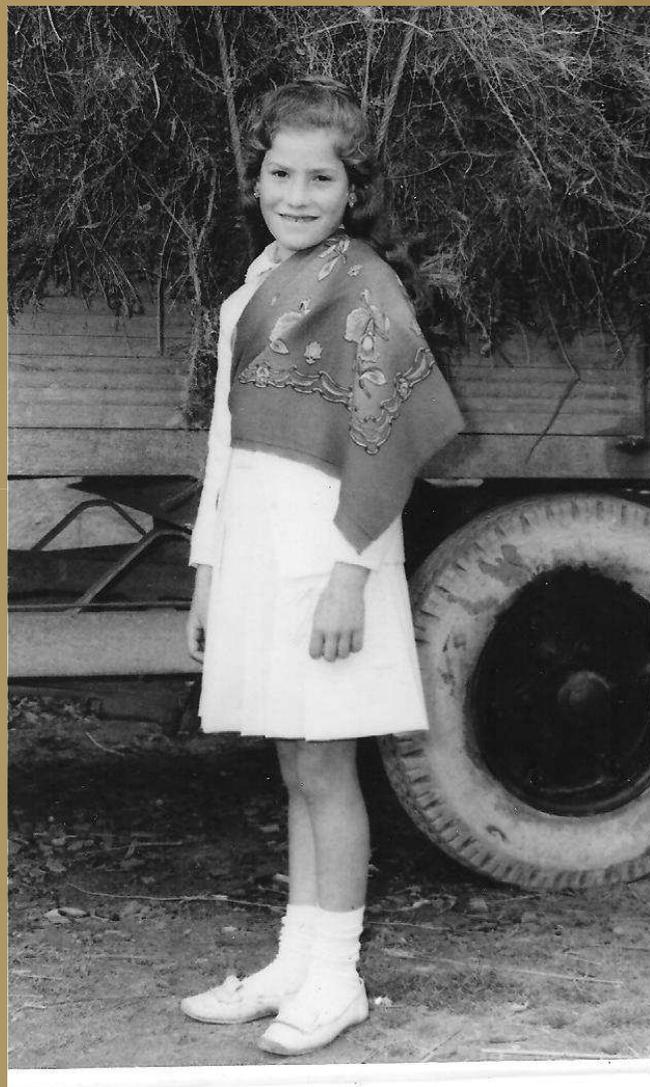
*And my life went on...  
(I'm still writing my biography)*



LAURINDA SILVA'S  
UNFINISHED AUTOBIOGRAPHY



*Since I was born, in 1963, I have  
always had a very complicated life.*



*But I was happy with  
all the things I had.*

*So, the years went on,  
until I went to school.  
The school was located  
about two kilometers from  
the house where I lived.*





*When I came home from school, I had to work and tend the cows. I was very small and fearful that someone might hurt me.*



*Everything was good  
to play! We made  
boats with pine trees  
barks, and a simple  
board was a car.*



*Sometimes my mother  
allowed me and my  
brother to go to school  
riding her motorcycle.  
We were so happy!*



*I grew up learning how to do everything. I always managed to find time, even when there wasn't any. I embroidered, I sewed...*



*I started to sing in a choir  
and danced in a folk group.  
In summer, all week-ends  
we were invited to dance at  
parties or parades of  
folklore groups.*



*I began dating a young man who went to Venezuela. At the end of 1982 he sent me a letter asking me to marry him in the following summer.*

*We married in  
September 1983 and  
began a life together,  
in Venezuela.*





*Puerto Cumarebo was my first place to live. People were very familiar and cheerful. They were always ready to help and shared the little they had, so that the others could feel well.*

*Then, I went to Puntó Fijo and I worked as a secretary in a mechanical workshop*





*In 1986, I came back to  
Portugal on holidays.*

*What wonderful  
memories! Being able to  
see my country and my  
people again!*



*When we returned, after  
a short time, I got  
pregnant and stopped  
working.*

*One day a friend invited  
us to see an autocross  
race.*





*Our friend registered me in the race. I ran his car and reached the final in 2nd place. Since then, they created a ladies' competition.*

*Thus began another era  
of my life - to run  
autocross in a national  
level.*



*In 1989, I won the  
third place in the  
national championship.*





*And my life went on...  
(I'm still writing my biography)*