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Weaving a Web of Words Around the Tree of Life

On the hot, dry Savannah of Africa stands the ancient and mysterious baobab. A tree of gargantuan proportions, it can measure up to 40 feet across and 60 feet high and can live more than a thousand years. The branches of this venerable giant look so much like gnarled roots, legend has it that the tree was originally planted upside down.

Leafless and bare for much of the year, the baobab might be mistaken for dead. But this remarkable tree, called “mother”, is a very much alive, providing shelter and food to an incredible variety of creatures and is a vital resource to indigenous African people.