MOSAIC ACCELERATOR

Matriarch Money Stories

Long before banks served us, the women in our families were earning, saving, lending and giving. These cards help you ask them about it.

Choose an elder whose money story shaped yours: a mother, a grandmother, an auntie, or anyone who came before you.

Ten questions, one card at a time.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

How to ask

Make it tea, a walk or a phone call, not an interview. One or two cards is plenty for one sitting.

Any card can be skipped, for any reason. Some memories are hard ones.

Write down a few words afterwards, or record only if they say yes.

1 · THE FIRST MONEY

What was the first money you ever earned? What did you do with it?

Ask how old they were, and who they told.

2 · WHO DECIDED

When you were growing up, who earned the money in your home, and who decided how it was spent?

Did that change when you had a home of your own?

3 · WHERE IT WAS KEPT

Where did you keep your savings? In a bank, a tin, a mattress, with someone you trusted?

Who knew it was there?

4 · THE CIRCLE

Were you ever part of a group that pooled its money and took turns?

A tanda, susu, partner hand, hui, paluwagan, chit, gye, equb or tontine, or a name of its own. How did everyone trust each other?

5 · WHEN MONEY RAN SHORT

When you needed help, who did you turn to? What did it cost you, beyond the money?

And who turned to you?

6 · A CLOSED DOOR

Was there ever a bank, a job or a loan that was closed to you? What did you do instead?

Only if they want to go there.

7 · A RISK WORTH TAKING

What is the biggest risk you ever took with money? Would you take it again?

What did it teach you about yourself?

8 · GIVING

Who did you give to without being asked? Why them?

Time and food count too.

9 AND 10 · WHAT TO KEEP

What was your money rule, the one you would want me to keep?

If you were starting my business today, what would you do first?

AFTER

Keeping the story

The story belongs to the person who told it. Ask before you share any of it, even with family.

If you like, bring one line of it to our **Matriarch Money Stories circle**, on Zoom, **Tuesday, December 1, 7 to 8 PM Pacific**. Or keep it just for you. Both are perfect.

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