CHARACTER: GALADIMA

AGE: Late 50s

3. INT. EMIR'S PALACE, KOWA - DAY

Kalifah walks in to the Audience/Council Room, seeing the Galadima and Waziri there. They both get up to greet him, with traditional greetings. He greets back and they all sit.

WAZIRI (clearing his throat) I hope you had a good journey, Wambai. It is good to have you back home

Kalifah gives a wry smile, relaxing into his chair

KALIFAH

I do not plan to stay too longonly to speak to my father on the issue of the removal of my campaign posters and the statements issued by the Palace on my behalf...

GALADIMA

I can assure you, Wambai, that your father did so only with your good name and character in mind

Kalifah appears mildly irritated

KALIFAH

Well then perhaps I ought to have been consulted before the decision regarding my 'good name and character' was made

WAZIRI

Wambai, please...as much as you may be offended by your father's decision please take care to remember that he is the Emir of Kowa

KALIFAH

Oh trust me, I know that all too well. I have never been allowed to forget

GALADIMA

I do agree with my colleague, Wambai. You must remember who you are and what is at stake

KALIFAH

Meaning?

GALADIMA (appearing to choose his words very carefully) While you may not be interested in the dealings of the Palace for now...there are those who would use a gap between you and your father to suit their own purposes

Waziri's eyes dart to Makama with suspicion and a hint of annoyance and Makama returns the gaze without changing his expression

> GALADIMA (CONT'D) You are still the Firstborn to His Royal Highness, and as such, a lot rests on your shoulders.

KALIFAH

(waving away) Ach, leave that. You make it sound like a web of intrigue when in reality, it isn't

Galadima gives Waziri a pointed look

GALADIMA You'd be surprised

Kalifah shrugs

KALIFAH

At any rate, I've made no secret that I am not really interested in Palace politics.

GALADIMA

Yes, Wambai. But there are those who are

KALIFAH Then let 'them' play their games. I'm running for bigger stakes

Waziri coughs and gets up

WAZIRI

Wambai...if I may- I shall go to see how your father is faring and let him know of your concerns. Don't worry, I will see to it that he understands in the most delicate way possible

He smiles at Kalifah, giving Galadima a curt nod as he leaves.

FADE OUT.

4. INT. CONFAM'S ROOM- INDETERMINATE TIME