

23.5.70, 26.5.70, 31.5.70

INFORMANT : MABOYA FAKUDE

AREA : LCBAMBA

REGIMENT :

INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM M:

25.5.70

QUESTION A.

Tell us about SOMHLOLO, everything you know.

We were told MSWATI was SOMHLOLO's son, and that his mother was ZWIDE's daughter. It is said that his birth was a source of great joy for the Swazi and his mother LA-ZIDZE. She sang a joyful song and called her escort MANZELWANDLE and others to at her in-laws place, and sent them to fetch water (sea water). Then the doctoring of the young king was carried out. LA-ZIDZE's relatives kept coming to visit her and to see their nephew, but also because they were escaping from attacks by Shaka. They felt quite secure and protected because of the new relationship which had developed as a result of the birth of MSWATI.

MSWATI sent his army to attack MAWEWE and MZILA, sons of LANGA - this was the first of his battles. Second was the attack on NJAJI-THOBELA, who threatened him. This army fought even beyond THOBELA's territory as far as TULWANE's territory, now called RUSTENBURG. These kings surrendered to MSWATI and gave him cattle, asking him to stay peacefully with them. He was a victorious being and the other tribes realized his military strength when he went on further to attack MABUKO and MAMBO.

BASHILE came to report to MSWATI that his (BATSHELE) mother was being ill-treated at MLAMBO. This infuriated MSWATI and this is why he sent his army on MLAMBO for ill-treating his (Mswati) sister. He sent his army in the cold month of May - there was snow. He sent his regiment - INYATHSI. This regiment froze on the way and was nearly wiped out by the enemy. This annoyed MSWATI even more and he sent another army with himself present this time. He plundered all the way as far as MPINGU land.

QUESTION B.

Why did he attack MADLINGA's people?

He did it because he said they were his father's good friends, but they prided themselves too much about this friendship, even to the extent of making him feel he was being threatened by them.

QUESTION C.

Why did MSWATI kill his brothers and pregnant wives of the King (Somhlolo)?

The other wives of SOMHLOLO were jealous of LA-ZIDZE on being made queen of Somhlolo. MSWATI therefore sent his warriors to kill these wives and their houses (sons and daughters).

QUESTION D.

There is a well known story here, and will you tell us about it; Why did MSWATI kill KHAMBI?

KHAMBI came back with the army when it returned from attacking MAWEWE and MZILA, and he was highly favoured by a king's wife. He then changed his surname to SIKHONDZE from DLAMINI - he was being mischievous. He was MSWATI's favourite - to the extent that he handled the king's food and all matters to the king were first reported to him. There came an induna from

MABOYA FAKUDE cont....

GUNDWINI viz. LOMBAMBO MHLABELA, and this man became KHAMBI's friend. Both were suspected of having an affair with the King's wife but denied it. The King thereupon ordered her death and she was killed at MHOHHO by warriors. KHAMBI was also killed outside the kraal for his mischief. Killed also was MHLATITWA's mother.

QUESTION E.

Why did MSWATI decide not to build at his father's royal kraal?

He feared Zulu attacks.

QUESTION F.

Who was MSWATI's personal messenger?

It was MHLABA MOTHA, and that of MBANDZENI was MBANGO MOTHA.

QUESTION G.

An army went out to attack after the death of MSWATI - do you know this?

This was the "Elephant's Battle". It started this way. There came one MATHSAFENI who shouted in the kraal that people shouldn't be sitting around but going to mourn. This was MATHSAFENI MDLULI. In reaction an army went out, but the Queen THANDILE refused to let it go. It went out against her will, and she therefore cursed it saying, "Would ~~ms~~ that not a single one of you come back alive". When MATHSAFENI came he had in fact already sent out an army to attack the BASOTHO (south Sotho), so that when everyone came to realise there already was fighting between the PEDI and BASOTHO and this army. The BASOTHO and PEDI were stronger; they surrounded the army, but NKAMANE escaped (he was a fast runner) This army was led by MNGAYI.

QUESTION H.

He was Somhlolo's son, but he was one of the hated ones (by the King). Because of this hatred these sons feared the King might attack them.

QUESTION I.

There was a quarrel between him and MSWATI, but who were the other people who were involved in this quarrel between FOKOTI and the King?

I don't know about FOKOTI. I know however that he supported JOJO. JOJO was father of MAKHAKLEKA, and he got drowned in the MKHONDO river when he tried to flee.

LANGANGENI KHUMALO was asked for (in order to be married to their son) by the Plaminis from her parents in Zululand. There were beautiful girls here at home viz. MSUKUSUKU Dlamini, Somhlolo's daughter, and others. The mother was LA-MGANGENI..... ?
LA-MGANGENI took over from LA-ZIDZE even while the latter was still alive.

LUDONGO - His mother was LA-MGANGENI KHUMALO. His name at birth was MACALENI, but he was given the name of LUDONGA later when he became designated 'King to be'. The Queen-mother (La-Zidze) made him king at the death of his father. One day during a war-dance LUDONGA fell down and the warriors and people took this to be a bad omen. The reason for his falling down is as follows:
Somebody from Swaziland had just returned with a gun from the Basuto people in Southern Sotho. LUDONGA took this gun in his hands and was admiring it during the dance. He brought the barrel too near his nose and inhaled the fumes of gun-powder, and later on the flesh of his nose began to inflame and he was very ill - he died of this.

MABOYA FAKUDE cont....

At this time his aunt had visited her in-laws, and there she found a young girl and liked her for LUDONGA. The aunt's fiance was LANGALIBALELE MTHINKHULU and her name was SOMDLALOSE. She asked the girl's parents to let her come home with the girl in order to show her her fiance (LUDONGA-). When SOMDLALOSE and the girl arrived home they found LUDONGA had died and people were mourning. This was on the third day of LUDONGA's death. The girl was then taken to NGUEDUMANE KRUMALO's kraal (SOMDLALOSE's in-laws) and kept there.

Prince MALUNGE went to the Queen -mother to express his sympathy, and to discuss with her what could be done next. The Queen-mother asked him to suggest who he thought could make the next King. MALUNGE regretted ~~that~~ that he had not been on good terms with the mother of PHITHO (who was one of the King's wives) so that he would therefore, if the Queen-mother and other concerned agreed, suggest that MBANDENI be made King, because he said MBANDENI was a "quiet puff-adder" (~~is~~ quiet but capable).

QUESTION J.

Where did LA-MGANGENI KRUMALO come from?

From MTANGA's area in Zululand ; in the NGNCOMA area.

QUESTION K.

Was she related to MZILIKAZI?

Yes they are relatives, most probably her brother because MZILIKAZI was son of MASHOBANE, and LA-MGANGENI's father was MZILIKAZI's brother.

QUESTION L.

How old was LUDONGA when he died?

At about the age of the regiment LINDIMPI that is approximately 25 years or less.

QUESTION M.

Who was regent while LUDONGA was under age?

I would say MALUNGE because he had the biggest say in any matter concerning kingship or LUDONGA. He lived at NYAKENI. The Queenmother merely looked after the young prince at the royal residence. But MSUKUSUKU and LUKHWABITHSI lived with and personally looked after LUDONGA at the royal kraal. These two made up his bed every morning, did milking, and brought milk in for him. Even now LUKHWABITHSI's and MSUKUSUKU's descendents are still at the NKAMINI royal kraal - they never left it.

NDWANDWE At HLUTI there was another residence of King MSWATI of which NDWANDWE my great grandfather and father of SICUMBILE, my grand-mother, was in charge in order to keep it going and not turn into ~~the~~ ruins.

QUESTION N.

How and why did NDWANDWE come to be in charge of this kraal?

It was because the kraal was like his home, he being a Ndwandwe and the King's wife also a Ndwandwe.

QUESTION O.

What became of NDWANDWE at this kraal?

Then there came this death of the young king LUDONGA. The Swazi became suspicious about his falling down whilst dancing. Unfortunately someone or some people told lies about NDWANDWE to the Swazi, with the result that a regiment (NYATHSI) was sent to kill him at the royal kraal. Before this the Queen-mother LA-ZIDZE had sent a messenger, MAKHUNGWEZINTABA, to tell this regiment not to kill a young boy whom she said they would find keeping off birds from a corn ~~field~~ field at the kraal. His child must be protected. So the people ran away before the regiment arrived and

MABOYA FAKUDE cont....

went to the Transvaal, only to return later and name the kraal VELEZIZWENI (formerly MBIDLIMBIDLINI) which means returned from foreign land, Chief SIPUBA's father was consequently named MBOUISWA, "Sufferer of Destruction of massacre". He was the childwhom the regiment was instructed, by the Queen-mother, not to kill. There are still a lot of NDWANDWES in the Eastern Transvaal who are descended from those Ndwandwe who escaped death by the ~~x~~ regiment on that day.

QUESTION P.

What do you know about the battle of MAWELAWELA?

I don't know that one, but I know about the Battle of Elephants.

QUESTION Q.

What happened to LUDONGA's lady? Where is she buried?

She is buried at NSUKYMBILI that is at DLANGENI.

QUESTION R.

Why was LUDONGA not buried at the same place as his father?

I really don't know why they were too lazy to take him to MBILANENI.

QUESTION S.

What did the Swazi do then after the young king died?

MBANDENI, son of LA-NKA BULE, was nominated at a meeting of the royal family, the Queen-mother suggesting that he be made king. So he was brought from CUNDWINI and made King. Shortly after this the other princes, among them MBILINI, sent GHIJA to the royal kraal to request that their brother (MBANDENI) come down for them to see him, as if to congratulate him, and yet they had conspired to kill him. When MBANDENI arrived before his brothers there came a voice saying, "Why, what is it you want to do to him", and the brothers dispersed immediately and ran away, without doing him any harm. This voice was like, and was, that of MSWATI. Prince MBILINI actually called MBANDENI, jealous that MBANDENI was of another house at CUNDWINI, and not even at the big royal kraal. MBILINI actually attempted MBANDENI's life by going to the PONOLA to organise an army to attack his brother - when he had run away after hearing the voice. But he didn't attack MBANDENI for fear of his strong NYATHISI regiment. MABEDLA also had become jealous of MBANDENI at IHORHO. MBILINI left on his own. His mother's house was at BUTHSINI where MSWATI had built for her. He left because he intended to organise an army against MBANDENI. He made friends with the Zulus and never came back.

QUESTION T.

Where did MABEDLA go or what happened to him?

He heard that MBANDENI had sent regiment to kill him for plotting against him. He therefore tried to run away but was soon caught and killed. MBANDENI however scolded his men for killing him because he wanted them to bring him alive for a discussion and clarification of the matter, verbally only. The people who caught and killed him were MBOVANE, LOMADAKOLA, MGUNUNDVU and MBHOBOYI, at the time the army went to fight the Battle of MSADZA. These men were not actually tracking him but just happened to come across him as they went. They found him at a kraal, NTANDO, whilst aiming not at attacking him but a prince who had come to seek protection in the area.

QUESTION U.

Let's go back to the installation of MBANDZENI and the coming in of LANGALIBALELE ~~x~~ to the royal kraal.

After the installation, some liars reported to MBANDENI that there was a beautiful girl at LANGALIBALELE's place. MBANDENI thereupon requested to see her. This done the girl was taken to NGUDULMANE KHUMALO but she

MABOYA FAKUDE cont.....

never left the royal kraal again. Because of their meetings she gave birth to a child, but before the Queen knew about it there came one MAGUNCUBAYANE on horse back and carrying a bottle of milk. He got down from his horse and made the baby drink this milk. The baby was with her nanny whose name was MANDLAKAZI. The baby started crying and the maid took her to the old people, but the child died shortly. Everybody then started weeping, but there soon arrived NKW NDAWO SHONGWE to report that MBANDENI was being insulted by the Queen; that he had killed the baby, and that therefore an army was to invade the royal kraal from MBEKELWENI, before the next morning. SHONGWE reported this to the weeping Queen-mother and people. The Queen-mother then fled ~~in~~ the royal kraal at NDAWO's report. The induna, MBOVANE, tried to persuade the Queen-mother to stay and not escape, saying that NDAWO's report might not be true, but she persisted and fled. As the Queen-mother fled NDAWO went round to MBEKELWENI and told MBANDENI that his mother was fleeing with the rain-making charm. MBANDENI then sent for her to be got back for explanation. MBANDENI's messengers hurried round to NKABA and BOMVU MIDGE but unfortunately she had gone that way. She was fleeing with the whole family and regiments, except for MBOVANE, my grand-father who stayed behind and looked after the King's cattle at the royal kraal. Then a man, LONGCANGO, ~~from~~ from MBEKELWENI helped MBOVANE drive the cattle to MBEKELWENI. On arrival MBOVANE told the King that it was NDAWO whose report made the Queen flee. MBANDENI then thought that since his mother and TIKHUBA had left with the regiments she was probably waging a war against him. In fact the Queen-mother was now fighting her son.

QUESTION V.

Who led this war of the Queen against her son?

MANCIANE (Prince) and MDZAPHU (Prince) ZIBUKWANA, MATINDA, MAGAGAJANE and MGABHI. Then MBANDENI's army took their weapons and tracked the army of the Queen down. They killed the Queen-mother, but this angered MBANDENI so much that he ordered the eleven men responsible to be killed also, for he said they might as well have killed him. ZIBUKWANA was among these men who although they were fleeing with the Queen mother turned round and killed her.

MABOYA FAKUDE cont.....

LANGENI HOUSE

We learnt that Langeni house is the house of Somhlolo. He arrived at this place from Zombodze. As you may remember even the very Zulwini village migrated from Shiselweni. Then when Somhlolo migrated from Ntondazi to Nokwane this village emerged as his house. He was very happy with all the different Sotho tribes. The Ngwane were very friendly with all the people on their migratory journey. They migrated from Hhohho up the Lubombo Ranges; then as far as Hlathikhulu (the Hlathikulu which is just above Golle) - that was when they were from Zibayabaga near Hhohho. Then they went to the place where the Simelane Ntungwa were, ~~above~~ near Maguda area in Zululand. There was a woman by the married name of LaSidvabapilutfuli. The Ngwane had the type of cattle known as Mfukwane which were herded by the Hlatshwayo people, who were well ~~used~~ doctored for this purpose.

There was a hard period during Dlamini's reign. One of the young men known as Zombodze tried to ask ~~for~~ ?..... from Dlamini but Dlamini refused. He was annoyed by then that the Zulu had captured the Mfukwane. Zombodze ?..... ~~despite~~ despite the reluctance of the Dlamini. He with other warriors formed a raiding party and chased the Zulu warriors who had captured the cattle. They overtook them when they had crossed the Pongola River, whence they engaged in skirmishes which they won. They retrieved the cattle which were already over the River Bivane in Zululand. Besides the Swazi pursuers the captured cattle ~~themselves~~ themselves rose against their capturers and furiously tramped upon them with diabolical roaring. The Zulu were shocked and cursed the Swazi. Zombodze returned with the cattle. The Swazi thenceforth trusted Ngwane more than Dlamini as the latter had been reluctant to go after the cattle.

Later LaDandolekana gave a noble stick to Ngwane - it was when Dlamini had been somewhere. This was his grandmother.

They migrated across the Pongola river, but that was not quite fitting and they returned to a place known as Shirelo. Then on their migration they left behind the hut of Lavumisa. When they ~~tried~~ tried to burn it it would not burn - only the minor hut around burnt. They then wondered and ~~said~~ said "Oh it is a Shirelo". The hut was looked after by the Mngomeffulo and the Ngqamplalala of Mshikashika. They moved from Zombodze which was Ngwane's house. Zombodze means to hitch-hike in ~~a~~ forest as the Dlamini are said to have roamed in the Lubombo forests.

Then Somhlolo started migrating from Mahlangatsha, where there is a ~~field~~ field even today which is no longer ploughed because of the law of 1907 - since we borrowed the money for Prince Malungo to go overseas, and Logcogco with Hosiah, and Mr. Gibson (Mbengeni).

Thence trouble began, even with those who came first in 1871- ~~they~~ they found Mbandzeni.....

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ZWIDE AND SOMHLOLO

It started long ago when a Swazi king married a Mnguni, who begot Dlamini and Ngwane. When we were next to Lourenco Marques there was another Ndwandwe wife of the king LaYanga. Indeed the mother of Ngwane was LaYanga. Then later the Swazi went for a daughter of Zwide which was to revive the relationship.

SOMHLOLO ARRIVES AT MDZIMBA

He first built at Nokwane i.e. Old Lobamba. He then sent a message to the Magagula chief of the area to ask for settlement. But the Magagula chief

MABOYA FAKUDE cont...

was angry and beat the messenger severely. On his return Somhlolo was angry on seeing the bruises. There was a skirmish in which the Magagula lost. At that time Somhlolo built Old Lobamba as the chief administrative village. Ncwala ceremonies were held there. From there he branched to establish Langeni village and his house. Somhlolo ~~lived~~ lived for a long time.

QUESTION W

Did Somhlolo ever visit Zwide?

I never heard of that.

INFABANTFU

This one here is the second one; the first remained at Mahlangatshe under Ntsintsibala's vigilance. He was of Ndvungunye. He is the father of Joa(?) and Ndialudzaka. We are not sure if the Zulu came to the second or the first.

NYAKENE HOUSE.

The mother of Malunge is LaMchalakatsa; he is half brother of Ndvungu, both being sons of Ngwane. Somhlolo was then the son of Malunge's brother. Malunge was of a high position in this house of Somhlolo's. To begin with he was at the confluence of the Mknondo and Ngwempisi where he first built his home. Then later he was moved to Mjakeni to act as a sentinel. Malunge was very high in the hearts of the Royals and was intelligent. He lived up until the reign of Mbandzeni. All the time his words were impressive. He is the one who nominated Mbovane to such a great post in indunaship. His son was Jokovu.

SOMHLOLO

King Somhlolo of ~~Malunge~~^{Ndvungunye} Zikodze of Ngwane, born of Sibandze of Dandahikanex's daughter, Sibandze who begot Mabonya; Mabonya who begot Bhozongo.

* The mother of Somhlolo was a Simelane - Nojiba Simelane. There were two sisters. The younger had brought food to her elder sister just before she went back. The Swazi admired her and took her to wife. When Nojiba conceived she had a miscarriage and we lost that son. Later the younger sister conceived and brought forth a baby boy for her sister. The boy was called Somhlolo. The foetus which was spoiled was to have been called Cebisa. During that time it was hard to get a boy. Somhlolo was born when all the wives had gone to the jugobean harvest. Somnjalose was alone at home. Somebody went to report it to Masenjane Sibandze of Khondlo, who was an induna. They took the child and hid him away. They used to send food to the baby privately. Elsewhere there ~~was~~ was another child who was also hidden and called "Liba" of Ngwane, and the two children were treated in exactly the same way - the child was of the brother of Ndvungunya.

Ndvungunya had lived long, so much so that he could not even walk, and a hide was used as a wheelchair to move him about.

One day when the baby boy Somhlolo was at his hiding place with his mother the king wanted to see him. So he was brought and put in the sacred enclosure in the homestead. The old king Ndvungunya came in to see him. As he saw him with his half-blind eyes he said, "I do see my child, but what prodigy is it that is next to him?". In this case the old king meant the mother of Somhlolo when he said "my child" - Somnjalose was young and the king was very old. But he saw the baby boy next to her and wondered who he was.

MABOYA FAKUDE cont...

Hence the name of Somhlolo - a prodigy. Thence forth she was made Queen-mother and she remained in the place of king Ndungunye when he died. But before he died he urged his counsellors to go and find out about his illness, but they turned a deaf ear to that. One day he told them that each time he slept he dreamed of a white tribe, who were as white as the pig whose hair is scraped off. They emerged from the water with something which spit smoke and hit afar. " If you do not care to go and find out about my ailment ~~w~~ you will remain in tribulation. You will try in vain to collect and to do something until it is the fourth generation that will suffer. There will arise from your household (the Royal household) those who will have their ears unpierced. For there will have come a book which the unpierced ear of the Royal household will remember from the beginning to the end, after being shown how to understand the events contained within it. He will know that book from the beginning to the end." That book was a bible. The nobles laughed and remarked that he did not know.

There was a controversy after the installation of Somhlolo as king. The Royals had endless questions amongst themselves; hence his paraise, Sobuta, which was simplified to Sobhuza- hence ~~xxx~~ his name Sobhuza I. This means 'interrogator'. But his main name by Royalty ~~xx~~ is 'Nkhosi' - King.

As he was installed there were spies and scouts going out to look for greener pastures.

Again it was known throughout the land that he was a good ruler. Even Shaka the Zulu king heard of his virtues, and consequently there came messengers from Shaka to Somhlolo's royal residence. They came to invite Somhlolo to visit Shaka, so that Shaka could satisfy himself of his virtues, as he had heard of Somhlolo's admiration by other people. Some people did not favour the invitation, because they suspected that Shaka would murder their king. But Hlophe of Mahbongane favoured the invitation, confident that no harm would befall him. The Swazi then agreed to Hlphe's suggestion. Preparations were made and the king started for Zululand. When he neared Shaka's place there was an abrupt change in the weather - a thunderstorm was brewing. The Zulu call that ' the elephant rumbles'. During the period of the thunderstorm Somhlolo arrived at Shaka's ~~place~~ palace. Unfortunately Shaka had caught flu. After Maphokela and ~~another~~ another man had returned from Shaka after reporting the arrival of the king, Shaka sent his induna and mother to greet the son of Ndvungunye and assure him of safety, also saying that he would perhaps see him tomorrow. Shaka's warriors were full of malice, and they danced and cried out that Shaka should give the command to kill Somhlolo. But the guests were given ten head of cattle and were assigned to a nearby homestead for the night. Hitherto they had been in the cattle kraal, at the great palace of Shaka. They did as their host requested and went to a nearby homestead for lodging. Before they could undo the mats to prepare for sleep, Somhlolo told his escort that they should wait a moment. There was then a torrent in Zululand. Somhlolo asked his people to go out and look at the sky. On their return they told him that the king was fully clad. When Somhlolo asked his escort if they had seen the warriors dancing in their anxiety to kill him, and if they thought that they would see the next daylight. He ~~himself~~ himself suggested that they had rather depart then and there. They went out; the cattle were resting. They touched one of them, and then they went off into the night. All night long they went on their way. Just before dawn they were about to cross the Pongola River. It was still raining, but not on the Ngwane party, who were walking on dry land.. Across the Pongola they spotted a hillock with caves. They got there, slaughtered one beast and undid their sleeping mats. Some flayed the beast whilst others prepared for sleep. Just then they looked across the river in the direction which they had come and they saw a great army there.

MABOYA FAKUDE cont....

The Zulu could see the cattle but could not readily see the Swazi. Suddenly, in the overflowing river there floated a big tree which was ~~x~~ being washed down by the flood. While they were looking at the tree there came a horse which was also being washed down the stream. The anxious Zulu army began to throw assegai over the flooded river. All the assegai they threw did not cross the river but were washed away. Then there came another regiment of Zulu. The latter urged the first regiment to cross the flooded river. They decided to attempt it. This was the first heavy rain experienced on Zulu soil after six years of drought. Unfortunately their courage led them to their death- all were washed away ~~xx~~ down stream and drowned. None ~~manx~~ managed to reach the Swazi. Those who remained on the bank of the river remorsefully remarked that their fellow warriors were just chasing the Mhlengas (a term of abuse). All this was on of the primary reasons for Somhlolo's migration from the south to the north, because he had been highly frightened of the Zulu.

I took some time before the Ngwane people got their grandmother wife of the king. Then later it was decided that a man be sent to Zwide of Yanga to ask for a lady to be wife to Somhlolo. So Dzimile Nkambule, andinduna was sent to Zwide at Nongona, to ask for a young lady. Then on their arrival at the great village of ~~Zwide~~ ^{Zwide} (Ngwane was a grandchild ~~of~~ at that place), a great lady dance was summoned to entertain them and enable them to meet the ladies. Whilst the ladies danced the foreign induna went to the induna of the village and reported that he had laready seen the lady they were seeking for their king. After Zwide had been informed ~~ht~~ they were asked to point out this lady. They showed him Thandile, and Zwide was very happy about this. After the dance the Swazi ~~z~~ stayed for the night and the next morning departed. After that a royal wedding was arranged and Thandile was summoned and she came to marry the Swazi king according to the customs. Zwide was looking young at the time and so his elders had to perform the rites. Long after the wedding Thandile experienced a miscarriage, like the one which brought Cebisa - this one was Ndjmandze. However on her second conception she succeeded and brought forth a son who was named Mswati. He succeeded Somhlolo, when he was still young. Some boys were brought from Zwide, Makhasane Manyatsi, the father of Mkiphiso and others. They were young men who had come ~~wherx~~ with Lonzidze to Swaziland. One day she was in the bush praising and palying with the child. She sang to this child a son - the song which is usually started by Mandanda and us. You could note the groaning part of the song which signifies the crying child and Makhasane, the herald of Thandile. This the reserved strictly confidential song of the incwala ceremony.

As he was born at Old Lobamba, then later there emerged Ludzidzini village from Old Lobamba. Mswati had other half brother - Rhobohhobo, Mgidla, Mabmbule, Msukusuke, Ndwandwe, Dlakadla and other. Mswati as king went as far as across the ~~Nkomazi~~ Nkomazi river, then rebuilt his village at Hhohho. He was intending to cross the uMgwenya river. Mswati was pugnacious; unless there was a battle he was not happy. Here are Mswati's regiments: Nyatsi, Lochegu, Diba, Ulhele (?), UMaku, Londolozu. The most prominent war ever fought by Mswati was the all-in war against Mzila, helping Mawewe against his brother, Mzila. The iNyatsi regiment fought to the last. They went to the extent of capturing the most important cattle of Mzila, far into the interior of Portuguese East Africa. They found the cattle herded by Mathendelekwane and ~~Lubibi~~ ^{Lubibi} - in fact these cattle were the most important of their kind in the kingdom of Mzila. But Mathendelekwane warned ~~th~~ Nyatsi not to capture those cattle because they were doctored, but the Nyatsi would not listen. They captured them Then they killed Mathendelekwane and Lubibi could not cope. One other war was against Majaji of Thobela, which was wiped off and only a few people returned. After the first people had returned Mswati died. There had come Matsofeni. In fact Mswati was helping the Boers against Majaji of Thobela.

MABOYA FAKUDE cont...

KING'S PRAISES by Maboya

1. SOBHUZA

USobhuza wamaSwazi
Sobhuza of the Swazi.

USobhuza Longumasibekela
Sobhuza as the cover.

Imanga enencane angayisibekela
Which can cover the small homesteads.

Uhambe kakhulu wayakufika kuMgilija wadonda kubeleka kubakaNgwane.
Thou had greatly travelled, even as far as Mgilija, but you loathed to
piggy back on Ngwane.

Mphana ukome inebele lenkomo isifuklawane Ngokumunyisa ishumi lamadodo
kwasala mive ngedwa youngete yongite munyisa leukisomo
Thou who gives a dairy an infinite cow, which suckles ten men, except me.

Tshani beNtabende obungadliwayizininikumo
Grass of high mountain which is never grazed.

Budliwa vgezimngana zaka Maphungwane
But grass by black cattle of Maphungwane.

Sisho kuNgwane othe abohle aveka abuke ikwezi nesilimela azi kuthe ikhunzi
liyasibikela libiskela uNgwane.
We say to you thou art advised by Ngwane to watch the ominous heavenly
signs, mark that the morning star brings tidings to Ngwane.

NSobhuza mgezeni izandla nezineyawo Ninjamboru ukuthe uMntwa uhame emalibeni
ebatholothi aboMkhize kanye noMabhoko.
Wash the feet of Sobhuza, for he has tramped on the wizard's graves of
Mkhize and Mabhoko.

Lusiba loSwesabekayo lwagojela nzivkalo zakaNgwane.
Thou awful quill feather which overwhelmed the land of Ngwane,

Sasizisila sethundangwe sasihamba sisikizela .
The tail of that bird which kept on wagging.

Wena wekunene.
You of Kunene.

2. NDVUNGUNYE

Ndvugunye waNgwane
Ndvugunye of Ngwane

Sihlangu sihumbaba nomginesangu Sihuknembanje sihumba nemhlambi yamadoda
kanje neymadodana.
The shield that slides down Mginsangu; as it slides it takes with it cattle
of man and sons.

Mniki wamphi kuMaLangeni
You who gives a signal for fight for the war amongst Langeni.

