

Letter dated 16 June 1897

Archive: Killie Campbell Africana Library, Durban.
Letter reference: FUZE, Magera Magwaza Papers, KCM 90/13/1/6.
Letter date: 16 June 1897
From: Magera Magwaza. Francis Plain, St Helena.
To: Inkosazana. England.
Other details: Hand-written, in English
Transcriber's note(s): Inkosazana referred to, is the British linguist Miss Alice Werner, Harriette Colenso's friend. The referred to enclosed letter to be forwarded to Inkosazana (Harriette Colenso) is not part of this collection.
Letter contents: Magera Magwaza received and thanks Werner for the account of the Angoni tribe. He informs that one of the Zulu exiles' attendants, Mpofana, is seriously ill.

OFFENSIVE WORDS/TERMS: Nil

Francis Plain
St Helena
June 16th. 1897

Dear Inkosazana

Yours of the 19th May reached me safely with my great thankfulness. True, according to your hope, I am much better now, and could walk a little in a short distance – not far.

Thank you very much for relating to me the story of the Angoni = Zwide's tribe, and Ndabuko is so thankful and stated it is quite true in all its contents. Of course there is in Zululand a chief Makulumane kaSomapunga, the grandson of Zwide, who is an induna in Zululand – It is true also that they fought with Nqaba-ka-Mbekane who were driven by Tshaka. We have here Umbilimbili one captured from Nqaba's people. I asked him about this and he corroborated your statement. Zulu headrings too are made of usinga lwenkomo like those of the Angoni's, but are little differ [different] from what we see as being plaited like a basket.

I have not time as yet to spare to ask Ndabuko for Mpande's izibongo which I trust to write down next mail if we shall still [be] living here. We are well except Mpofana one of the attendants who is so seriously ill.

I am grieved to hear you had been hurted your knee, and very glad to hear you are all right again.

The Chiefs salute you, all of them, especially Ndabuko.
Please forward the enclosed to the Inkosazana.

Yours truly
Magera Magwaza

[*Excuse my bad writings I am afraid of missing the steamer-*

LEGEND:

[] notes/words by transcriber, not part of correspondence

[* *] marginalia

TRANSCRIBER:

Sizakele Gumede for FHYA, 2022.

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