

Letter dated 21 September 1889

Archive: Pietermaritzburg Archives Repository
Letter reference: A204 Colenso Collections, Magera Papers, vol. 104, Letters dispatched 1885-1889
Letter date: 21 September 1889
From: Magera Magwaza. Etshowe.
To: Nkosazana
Other details: Hand-written, in isiZulu
Transcriber's note(s): Etshowe is in Zululand. Nkosazana referred to is Harriette Colenso. The sister of Mahlatini's sons referred to in this letter is probably Nomdeni (details are in the letter from Magera Magwaza to Nkosazana, Harriette Colenso, dated 9 September 1889)
Letter contents: Magera Magwaza reports to Harriette Colenso that Mahlatini's sons have agreed to Zibhebhu's proposal to settle out of court the case of their sister he married away. Reports that Dinuzulu has started to refuse to take literacy lessons. Magera requests from Harriette Colenso £4 for buying food and also asks her to buy for him spectacles and a coat. Also tells Harriette Colenso about the rumour that suggest that Dinuzulu has lost his case (Dinuzulu's treason trial of 1889) in Britain.

OFFENSIVE WORDS/TERMS: Nil

Etshowe
21 Sept. 1889

Nkosazana

Incwadi yako yezifanekiso kuMubi Nondenisa siyamukele kahle kodwa soku buhlungu kiti ukuba singamukeli incwadi yako kanye neyodwa yabantu bakiti, asitokozi ngalokho. Impendulo kumadodana ka Mahlatini ngodadewabo owendiswa ngu Zibebu kutiwe enkantolo kuhle ayise leyoncwadi ku Mr Gordon kwa Ndwandwe lapo uZib. eng'owakona, lapo lotetwa kona icala. Kepa uZib usekona lapa. Amadodana ka Mahlatini ayile kuye uZib. amlandisa, wati uZib kuhle baye kuye uma eses'ekaya abalungisele gendaba yabo bangayi enkantolo. Bavume kuloko.

Ngidabukile kakulu ngoba uDinuzulu kasavumi impela ukufunda uthi akumsizi nga'luto loku engayikukwazi kahle, kupela uShingana oqinisileyo ngako. Ngilingile ukumluleka kepa kavumi ngiyabona ukuti loko kuya ngokwapuka kwenhliziyo yake engezwa luto ngokubotshwa kwabo. Noko ngiyaya mina imihla yonke ngalezo'nsuku ezintathu zesonto ezimisiweyo.

Ngicela ukuba inkosazana ingisize ngale'mali £4 ukuba ngizitengele ukudhla. Kepa imali seikulile impela lapa ngoba izwe lonke liyatsha indhlala, angazi impela ukuti kwoba yini kulaba bas'oSutu nabas'Emangweni asebeswele nenkomo yokuba batenge, ngicabanga ukuti kuzakufa abantu ngendhlala enje. NoMubi uyangituma kuyo inkosazana ukuba ngimbike ukuti impupu leyo ayipiwa ngu Brunner ipelile, inkosazana ayenze icebo lokuba apepe. Futi ngicela ukuba inkosazana ingisize ngama spectacles abe mabili angisabonisi kahle uma ngibuka incwadi, njengoba ngaka ngakuluma kuyo inkosazana. Kanye nejazi lami seligugile, ingaba nomusa inkosazana ingifunele e Natal, gendaba le yezimvula zalapa engapeliyo, ingaba ingisizile impela.

Kudumile ku'belungu balapa ukuti icala likaDzulu lisilahlile e England, kepa mina ngibapikisile sengibonile ku Newspaper wako amazwi ka Mr [T?] Ellis enduneni enkulu okuti icala alikangeni ngokungapeleli kwezincwadi ezinamazwi ecala, nokuti futi ziyautat'isikati kezicindezelwe. Angazi ukuti bawatatapi amazwi lawo abelungu balapa, noma emakanda abo, noma kumbe endabeni yesinyenyela.

Ngingajabula ukuba nisapilile njengati, Nkosazana. Magama

[*? paper having been sent[?] Having no stamps your child helped me for them.*]

LEGEND:

[?] incomplete, illegible word(s)

[* *] marginalia

TRANSCRIBER:

Sizakele Gumede for FHYA, 2022.

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