

Letter dated 9 September 1889

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Letter reference: A204 Colenso Collections, Magera Papers, vol. 104, Letters dispatched 1885-1889
Letter date: 9 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
Letter contents: Magera Magwaza reports to Harriette that he has been granted permission to start giving literacy lessons to Dinuzulu, for half an hour for three days a week. He also reports that he submitted to the authorities a letter reporting that Zibhebhu gave away a girl named Nomdeni, daughter of Gudhla. The authorities questioned Zibhebhu about Nomdeni, and Zibhebhu's defence was that Nomdeni was a full grown woman, not a young girl.

OFFENSIVE WORDS/TERMS: Nil

Etshowe
Sept. 9. 1889

Nkosazana

Ngiyile emakosini ngacela ukuba ngivunyelwe ukukumbuza uDinuzulu izifundo zake njengokukala kwake. Inkosi uMr Koch waba nomusa wangivumela 3 days in [a] week, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays for half an hour, between the hours of 10 to 12, ngingakulumi 'luto naye olunye kupela ukufunda. Ngiyakuqala ngomuso kusasa ngo 10 o'clock.

Inkosi ikulumile nami ngenchwadi yami ngo Zibebu yangibonga ngokuloba incwadi leyo, yati kodwa ngokwayo yaitanda [about 4 words cut off] ngoba uZibebu ngumuntu ozakumuka aye kwa Ndwandwe akusiye owalapa. Pezu kwaloko iyabonga ngokuyibikela kwami. Kepa ngizwile kwomunye wamapolisa otembekayo uNomabithi ukuti kute emva kwokusuka kwami enkantolo – loku pela noZibebu ubengaphandhle kwenkantolo ekukulumeni kwami nenkosi - yamshela inkosi uZibebu yati yamukele incwadi kuMagera ngendaba yentombazana kaGudhla uNomdeni – yabuza yati uyayazi yini intombazana leyo na. Wavuma uZibebu. Kwabuzwa ukuti yaingakanani intombazana leyo na? Wati uZib. kwasoku [intombazane?] endala, seingumfazi omdala okade'enda, noma amakosi etumela umuntu azauzibonela nawo. Kwatiwa, angapindi ukwenza umkuba onjalo. Wapendula uZib. wati, wenzile loko ngoba epindisela amantombazana akwake naye apangiweyo kuye 'endiswa ng'aba uSutu. [Watsho?] ukuti indaba leyo iyautetwa kwaNdwandwe.

Ngizwile ukuti uZib lowo ube eyile enkantolo ngendaba kaMazizi lowo, nokuti bapambene kakulu emazwini noMazizi, ngoba uZib eti zikona izinkomo ezifihliweyo nguMazizi – kepa uMaz. eti aziko, kupela lezo 40 okutiwa azicazwe pakati [uZib?] atole 20, noMaz. 20. Kepa uZib uti ezake izinkomo zi 40 kanye nalezi 20 ampileyo zona uMaz. ngoba engumuntu wake. UMaz. ufungile wati aziko, uZib wati zikona, ati amakosi ayakumbeka icala uMaz. uma zifunyanisiwe. Kwatunywa ipolisa kanye nabaka Zib ukuba bazikombe lapo zifihlwe kona – abakabuyi, basahambile.

Kunjalo-ke, Nkosazana, uZ. ngumuntu wamanga uqobo, uqinisa ngokuti uNomdeni wabe intombi endala, kanti ngizwile uqobo kumka'Mzanywa owab'ehlezi noNomdeni ukuti wabe intombazanyana nje encane, wabanjwa wahanjiswa engatandi. Ngibonga kakulu umusa kaMr Koch no Mr [Bark?][some words cut off] kimi. Magma Magwaza

LEGEND:

[?] incomplete, illegible word(s)

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

TRANSCRIBER:

Sizakele Gumede for FHYA, 2022.

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