

DATE :

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INFORMANT : MANDLABOVU FAKUDZE (1) : MGUDWA MASANGE (2)

REGIMENT : ~~NDLEZINI~~ (1) GAVU (2) NDLEZINI

AREA : MACETSHENI

CHIEF : MANDLABOU FAKUDZE

INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM : (1) MKHANDO OF NYATSI
(2) GENDALIFUKULA OF NGALUBE.

The Swazi found us at Tembe, with our king Somatani. The man who took us took us in the same way Jesus Christ used to recruit his disciples along the sea shores of Gallilee. We can no longer remember the name of the Swazi king who first recruited us that side of the Lubombo. They took us ~~xxx~~ and went off with us along the Lubombo Ranges ~~ixxixix~~ until they settled at Magude Ranges in Zululand. Then later they migrated with us back to what is now known as Swaziland.

At Shiselweni the Fakudze clan used to occupy an area at the foothills of Ngudzeni. Together with the Fakudze clan were other minor clans, who joined them as they migrated from the southern Tongaland - clans such as Nkambule and others.

THE MIGRATION OF THE SWAZI KINGDOM FROM SHISELWENI TO MDZIMBA MOUNTAINS.

They were just pushed by the impetuous Zulu king whose nmae was Shaka. The Swazi established a relationship during the days of Somhlolo, who was once invited by Zwide to visit him, and returned home ~~a~~ safely. Other kings Zwide used to kill.

Macetsheni area was given to the Fakudze clan by the king. But in that area they found Thabedze chiefs by the name of Maphishole, the father of Sihlose. Then later the Thabedze ~~xxxx~~ clan was killed. The cause of this was internal dipute, which grew so much that one of them went to the king to ask for refuge because he felt he was nowhere amongst his people - it was during the chieftainship of Sihlase. The king was irritated by the words of this refugee. He reported that when he started ~~fx~~ from his own people and ~~xx~~ rushed to the king, he had remarked that it was too much for him and that he was going to dash for the king for refuge. Sihlase had feebly remarked that, "a goat can't fight with a cow". Then the Thabedze fled to Zululand, after some of them were killed. But later the Thabedze people returned to ask for refuge at Macetsheni, form the Fakudze clan.

To begin with the Gamedze clan was also one of the minor clans amongst the Fakudze. In fact there was a Gamedze chief across the Suthu River at Madlenya. All these events took place during Mswati's reign. Mbongoza Dlamini stayed with the Gamedze people as his mother's family. But he was a prominent chief because of his nobility.

To begin with the Macotsheni people's village was known as Ndabeni, the area was known as Mhlongamvala. This Fakudze waa once ruled by the Thabedze clan which was killed, whose land extended as far as Balungu, Nkillongo, Thulwane. In fact the Gamedze clan was under the Thabedze clan as chieftains.

HOW THE MACETSHENI VILLAGE CAME INTO EXISTENCE.

There were two brothers who were warriors. One of them died in a skirmish. It was later necessary that heroes be given land to stay. But when the matter was put to the king the despised him as a dishonest man who rose against his brother. So he called him 'a deceitful hero'. Hence the name Macetsheni - a deceit - just because the king suspected one of these heroes.

MANDLABOVE FAKUDZE cont...

The Macetsheni village is the headquarters of the Fakudze chiefs. In fact the main ~~x~~ village of this clan is at Old ~~Lobamba~~ Lobamba.

The Shongwe clan once came and settled at Timbutini under the Fakudze chief. But later the Shongwe ~~clan~~ which had come here under the leadership of Tikhuni, left for Mahobeni at Hhohho. Then under the leadership of Matsofeni begot Matsamo. Here at Macetsheni is one Royal Homestead, which ~~was~~ built during the time of Somhlolo. At that time the Fakudze clan were under Myingi, because Shayane had gone. In fact the presence of the Royal Homestead at Macetshane means that we are under the king. The intermarriage between the Royal families is common.

The lineage of the Fakudze chiefs is as follows:-

Shayani
Baleni (his brother)
Mjingi
Mphosi
Mandlabovu (present chief)

The Fakudze neighbours are; Mandlenya whom they found there ; Mbongoza who ~~came~~ came together with them; Timbutini; Mafutseni under Madlinkemo Mabuzax, these came after the Fakudze clan ; Malindza who is long here ; Mkhweli who came together with the Fakudze; ~~x~~ Nqukane Masango who left long ago.

* THE MASANGO CLAN

When King Mswati ~~was~~ at Hhohho after the Sihlase peoples had been killed, it appeared that the Masango people were also suspected. Then the Masango preferred to return to Zululand safely rather than to stay and be murdered. But a few remained, such as myself, because our grandfather was one of the Nyatsi regiment which was at war at the time. Our chief village was at Mganyaneni, known as Mpholonjeni. Mpukane was our king. Our nationality appears to be Zulu. The main reason for the migration of the Masango was the killing of the Thabedze clan. Already the remains of the Thabedze clan had fled to Zululand. Just before the Swazi came here the Masango were here, so they are forefounders.

The Thwala clan appeared later. They were from Ludzidzini and came to Mpholonjeni. The Dube people followed the Thwala people to Dhukunya, who was in charge of the king's cattle ranch of Mpholonjeni. An incident occurred. The Thwala people planted a lot of sorghum ~~on stalks~~. This was menaced by rats who devoured the sorghum on stalks after harvest. In fact the rats were an epidemic like those which menaced the ancient town of Hamlin.

The first chief of the Fakudze clan to perform the incwala ritual was Mngayi.
