

DATE : 7.4.70.

INFORMANT : GIJA MAHLALELA (1) MANDELA DLAMINI (2)

REGIMENT : SUKASAMBE (1)

AREA: LOMAHASHA

HEARD FROM:

Malombo begot
Sidloko
Makhuneni
Lomahasha
Mbudlula
Sidloko II (for whom I am a regent)

The only veteran of the ~~Mxx~~ Mshadza war I have seen is Manduluzane. The others I know are hero hunters who stabbed tigers (~~ix~~ leopards). In fact whne a leopard ~~ix~~ is killed a beast is ~~x~~ slaughtered for the hero and his helpers.

We Mahlalela people are said to have ~~remia~~ remained for an elephant. We were being beaten by the elephant's tusk, trying to extract it. We could not make it without a knife and then we got a knife from the Dlamini. Usually it ~~ix~~ is said "tongues out" to the Mahlalela and the Dlamini.

The Mahlalela found nobody here, nor did they fight anybody, but accepted refugees from many places.

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~~MSidloko~~ I died through a stab wound.

Ngwenwe Fulumane and Lomohasha were born of Makhuneni. Mbudula was born of Lomahasha, also known as Mashakana. Mandandeni is also the son of Lomahasha. First born of Lomahasha is Sandlane, father of Ngudvumane. Mbudula's sons are Gija, Maguda, the first born and Sidloko. Sidloko bore Mahlokomane and Majabimave only,

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Lomahasha was a king in his own right and he had his heroes who fell in the Mshadza war helping the Swazi king. There died heroes such as Ntandela and others from Lomahasha. Lomahasha also assisted in the war which helped Mawewe against Mzila with the Swazi king.

The land of Lomahasha was as far as Bomvane, Sinkwenta, including all of the Tsongax.

QUESTION A

Do you know of any wars between the Swazi or yourselves and the Shangane?

There was a war between ~~x~~ Mawewe and Mzila. The Swazi went to help Mawewe, and later asked the Mahlalela to protect and look after Mawewe, who had then to stay with them. This was caused by the relationship between Mawewe and the Swazi. The latter king had a ~~royal~~ royal woman from the Mkhonshwa people.

The Mahlalela poeple came here alone and on their arrival here they found a few clans. The relationship which exists between the Mahlalela~~x~~ and the Maziya is that they are born of one man of different mothers and they so not intermarry. The father was a polygamist and the two clans ~~emerged~~ emerged from amongst the same man's children.

The Maziya, Mahlalela and the Mathonjwa~~x~~ never fought or quarrelled. I cannot remember if there are any Mahlalela remains at Shiselweni.

Lomahasha was the longest living ruler. But the Mahlalela never held an incwala ceremony in their area. They were always content to go and join the

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royal celebrations at Lobamba. That happened despite the fact that the Swazi and Mahlalela king did not meet.

QUESTION B

Who is ~~xxx~~ the father of Majembani?

Majembani is the son of Mbandzamane.

QUESTION C

Who was the father of Mbandzamane?

We are all too young to know that, but it seems that there was once a girl who was brought to be a wife at Mahlalela's area.

QUESTION D

When did the ~~Mahlalela~~ ^{Mahlalela} fall under the Dlamini king?

The Mahlalela and the Dlamini are from one stream of people from southern Tongalans. When the Dlamini settled at Shiselweni and then migrated northwards, the Mahlalela went to Lomhasha. The main thing is that the Mahlalela king must not meet the Swazi king for the same reason that the kingdom should have been his. He missed it by a little amount of wisdom at the starting point. The starting point here is when these clans were on their migratory journey from their native area. Along the way the Mahlalela people killed an elephant, but they had no good tools with which to split its tusks and get the marrow from inside. The Dlamini came and brought a knife with them and then they managed to split the tusks and extract the marrow. Hence the downgrading of the Mahlalela and the adoption of their name 'Mahlalelundlovu' - meaning they waited for an elephant. Others say that the elephant was claving but I was told that it was killed. All the same we got our surname from the connection with the elephant - waiting for an elephant until they were overtaken and left behind, not only on their journey but also in their status in the kingdom. Consequently the Mahlalela have always been under the Dlamini king. They have retained their allegiance and at times they used to contribute whatever was accorded kings of the day to the Dlamini king.

QUESTION E

Did the Swazi ever fight with the Portuguese?

No.

QUESTION F

What is the status of the Mahlalela with the regard to the Swazi?

It is only that the kings do not meet.

QUESTION G

Did you ever fight with the Ngwane king?

No.

QUESTION H

When did you come here?

We came from the same place as the Dlamini. The first to arrive here was Mlambo.

MAHLALELA cont..

QUESTION I

Can you tell us about the graves of your own dead at Shiselweni?

Our people who died and were buried at Shiselweni are Ntsalela and Sibanis~~wa~~ avo. They were Mahlalela kings. ~~Mr~~ Ntsalela was the elder.

QUESTION J

Who came to Shiselweni first?

We came first but our status was lowered because of the incident of the elephant tusk.

From Shiselweni we moved along the Lubombo mountains to where we are today, our king being Mlambo. On the Dlamini side I can't remember the ~~kk~~ king. The reason for migrating was mere curiosity and adventure and to separate and look for new pasture. In fact we were great from the time we emigrated from our original land together with the present ^{Swazi}~~Swazi~~ kingdom