

Croxley

Exercise Book
Skryfboek

J.D. 267

Name JOHN DAMINI INTERVIEW
Naam
Subject SIMELANE HISTORY AT
Vak
Place Ka-Gwegwe, Ka-Ntshingilo
Plek

BOOK 3

Feint Ruling with Margin
Dowwe Lineëring met Kantlyn

Footnotes

109 Nkungwini (variant: Nkhungwini): a place
in the southern part of Swaziland.

110 Lusaseni: according to Hilda Kuper it is the
embryonic ritual capital

MS Um - um
Um - um⁸

JD Bakuphi, lendzawo yabo kutsiwa jini?
 where are they, their place is called what?

MS kuse nkungwini
 It is at nkungwini¹⁰⁹

JD kuse nkhungwini
 It is at nkhungwini¹⁰⁹

MS Um - um
Um - um⁸

JD O
 Oh

[some background information not clear to hear]

JD Labaka Stamini enkhungwini anizange nike nicabane
 Those of Stamini at nkhungwini, have you ever quarrelled
 nabo noma kubangu' imincele nje?
 with them over the boundaries?

MS Bha. kucalile nje manje losesikhona nathi
 No. It has just started now after we were born
 sesigcume sibanengi thine lesihlala le elusaseni
 we have jumped and we are many, who stay at^{Lusaseni}

JD Seniyokwentani?
 What were you going to do?

MS Nabo sesibanqa nabo lemincele
 With them, we are quarrelling with them over boundaries

JD Batsini manje bona?
 What are they saying now?

MS Ba kunje bona kuge bakela, kwase kuphum'
 They, it is like this, the reason why they are here a
 intombi ba bathath' intombazane kulabaka Simelane

Footnotes

111 intombazana (variant: intombatana): young intombi, see intombi.

112 Ndabankulu: personal name

113 umphakathi: (variant: umphakatsi); see glossary.

intombani²¹, they tsatsa⁷²d an intombazana¹¹¹ from those of
bona, yathathwa ngundabankulu umfowabo mbayimbayi
Simelane, she was thathwa⁷²d by Ndabankulu¹¹² the brother
yakhona lapha - umphakathi¹¹³. Base bayaminyana ke
g mbayimbayi¹⁰⁵, he is this umphakathi¹¹³. Then they were
lenkungwini. Sowuyabuya ke ndabankulu uza la
crowded at Nkungwini. Then ndabankulu came back to
kaSimelane, uza ucelela lentombazana yakaSimelane
Simelane's place, to ask for this intombazana¹¹¹ g Simelane

JD E

E

MS indawo yokwakha

The place to build.

JD wo utayice utayikhontela?

wo², to khonta¹³ for her?

MS E-e wo sevele bayambeka ke mshiyalowalo-

Yes, wo² then they beka¹⁷d her across the river
mfula phansa lentaba, lembabala, ngaphesheya ke
below this mountain, this imbabala²⁵, 'across, they
bathi uza ulima lapha ke, akhe' la. Namuhla
said she will plough here and build here. Today they
ke se bathi bona yilizwe lakubo
say it is their lizwe²².

JD la lakwakhontelwa lentombatane khona

Where this intombatane¹¹¹ was khontelwa¹³d at

MS la kwakhongelwa lentombazane khona, sibanga

Where this intombazane¹¹¹ was khontelwa¹³d at, we are
kona nje. Namanje sise sesele kangwane nje
quarrelling over it. Even now we had been at
sikhuluma ngakho. Sekusho labazukulu labashana
kangwane¹² talking about it. It is this grandchildren,

Footnotes

114 bashana (singular - umshana) ; child one's sister ; the umshana can be a nephew (a male) and can be a niece a female)

ngobe ngabashana laba ba bamba bandabankulu
 these bashana because these Adabankulu¹¹² and company
 laka Simelane
 are bashana¹¹⁴ at Simelane's place.

JD lentfombatane beyitalwa ngubani laka Simelane?
 This intfombatane¹¹⁴ was born by whom at Simelane's place

MS Yayizalwa ngu Bhogongo
 She was born by Bhogongo⁵

JD Ngumntwana bhogongo
 It⁶ the child of bhogongo⁵

MS E-e
 Yes

JD O

Oh

MS Loku sekubhubhe lendlu leyaka Simelane sebathi ke
 After that the Simelane house has died, these
 labashana ngelabo lelizwe
bashana¹¹⁴ now say this lizwe⁸² is theirs

JD kani bona nabefika lapha bebatsela kubani,
 when they came here, to whom were paying taxes,
 bebatsela ngabani
 they paid through who?

MS A ngilapho kwabasita khona kwabadala ke bebavele
 that is where (it helped them) and made them, they
 bathela khona bayithelela bodwana
 were already paying there on their own

JD O...

Oh

MS Um - um

Um - um⁸

JD kusekudzeni kangakanani le

How far is there?

MS Kuseduze kabi noma ngisuka nyalo ngiya khona

It is very near even I can go there now I can
ngingaphinde ngibuye lingakashoni nje
come back before sun set

JD Sengisho lokwenteka kwalentfo mnguni, se sekuka

I mean the happening of this thing mnguni, how
dzeni kangakanani, lokukhonta kwale kwale
far, this kukhonta¹³ of this

MS lo lo londabankulu ekhongela lentombazane?

This ndabankulu¹¹² to khonta¹³ for this intombazane¹¹

JD E - e

Yes

MS Awu ngingathi nkosi sasingabafana thina, um kodwa

Awu³¹ I can say nkosi⁴² that we were still boys, um⁸
angikwazi kahle kodwa sasingabafana, sakhandu
be I do not know it quite well, but we were still boys, we

lentombazane seyakhile

found that this intombazane¹¹ had already built
[some background information not clear to hear]

JD Sisacela kubuta ke mkhulu kutsi wena u

can we ask them mkhulu⁷⁶ that what libutfo⁹¹

ubutfo lini, nokutsi nje imphilo yakho vele

are you, and that your life, were you staying

bewuhlala la wentani, nesikhundla sakho

here and doing what, and ^{what} your ^{particular} position is here

lesitsite sikhona yini emphakatsini, intfo lenjalo

at umphakatsi¹¹³, anything of that kind

nje

Footnotes

115 emMasotsheni (variant: emasotjeni): a libutfo founded by King Sobhuza II between 1914 and 1919

116 kaGwegwe: the umphakatsi of the Simelane people in the southern part of Swaziland, in the place called ko-ntshingila.

117 kuhtaleni: one of the ko-ntshingila imiphakatsi

118 kaGodloza: one of the ko-ntshingila imiphakatsi

MS Mine ngiwemasotsheni kuge isikhundla enginaso ngobe
 I am of Masotsheni¹¹⁵, I do not own any position,
 thina sibuswa kunaw, nawe sewubonile nje nakhu
 because we are ruled by, you yourself have seen across
 ngaphesheya nazi izindlu ezinkulu enkulu sikhanya-
 tse, those big houses brightening a bit below
 khanya ezans' esihlala esikhulu esimnyama
 that big black tree

JD E-e

Yes

MS kukhona ke emphakathini wakithi ke lowo kaGwegwe
 That is where our umphakathi¹¹³ is kaGwegwe¹¹⁶

JD Wo umphakatsi wakaGwegwe wawulapha?

Wo² the umphakatsi¹¹³ of kaGwegwe¹¹⁶ was there?

MS E-e ngiwo lowo

Yes that is the one

CH Is it kaGwegwe?

Ku kaGwegwe yini?

JD E-e. usekhona nanyalo

Yes, it is still there even now

MS Ukhona kodwa akuse akusenamuntu, sowabhubha.

It is still there but there is no one, it has died away

JD Mingakhi vele lemiphakatsi yako ntshingila

Actually
 How many are the imiphakatsi¹¹³ at ko-ntshingila?

MS Ingu four

They are four

JD Ingu four

They are four

MS E-e. kaGwegwe kusekuhlaleni, kaGodloza
 Yes. It is kaGwegwe¹¹⁶, kuhlaleni¹¹⁷, kaGodloza¹¹⁸
 kukwantshaba

Footnotes

119 kwantshaba : one of the ko-ntshingila
'imiphakatsi'.

and kwantshaba¹¹⁹

JD La lasikhona kukuphi ke

Where are we?

MS la?

Here

JD E-e kaGwegwe

Yes, is it kaGwegwe?

MS kukaGwegwe la

It is kaGwegwe here

JD kantshaba sekukuphi ke

Where is kantshaba now?

MS le lapho kuya lamabutho khona

there where the amabutho⁹¹ are going to

JD O

Oh

MS kula ngenhla e-e.

It is here above, yes

JD ekuhlaleni ke?

at kuhlaleni¹¹⁷?

MS kulapha phambi kwalesikolo

It is there in front of that school

JD O

Oh

MS Um-um, no Godloza ukhona le useduze

Um-um⁸ and Godloza¹¹⁸ is also there near

nontshaba nje bahlalahlalene naye

ntshaba¹¹⁹, they are just next to each other

JD kaGodloza kulenhla nakhona?

Is Godloza¹¹⁸ also up there?

MS E-e kukhona lenhla la kuya amabutho ngakhona

Yes, it is also up there where the amabutho⁹¹ are going to

Footnotes

120 Taba: an ideology of experiencing some difficulties, or of making some excuses; it can also be personal name or name of a place.

121 Msingizane: a personal name

122 Makhosane: personal name

JD O
Oh

MS um - um

um - um⁸

[some background information not clear to hear]

JD Mnguni kukhona labakaSlamini, ngiyabona nginaba
Mnguni⁴¹ there are those of Slamini⁷¹, (I think it is those
lotsite baseMuweni ingatsi kutsiwa, labanye bababita
you have they are of Muweni^{6b}, seemingly they are called,
ngekutsi bakaTaba
some call them those of Taba¹²⁰

MS Ya ngabo labo ke

Yah those are the ones

JD E sekukhona lokutsiwa ngumSingizane, now
There is also the one who is called msingizane¹²¹,
kukhona yini longasicococela kona ngaye?
IS there anything you can tell us about him?

MS Awu kukhonyama nje engikuzwayo inkosi ngobe
Awu³¹ there is just a bit that I know nkosi⁴² because
loTaba, lokhokho wabo, wabulawa, babulalana
this Taba¹²⁰, their ancestor, was killed, they killed each other
nalabakaNgwane babanga lobukhosi, um, wabhubha
with those of kangwane¹² quarrelling over royalty, um⁸
ke uTaba, wasishiya ke uTaba, kwase kuphinde
then Taba¹²⁰ died, then Taba¹²⁰ left us. Then again
seku, sekuchamuka umakhasane kubo labakaTaba
appeared Makhasane¹²² among those of Taba¹²⁰

JD Um

Um⁸

MS Um sowuphinde naye uyaba uyabanga nalaba

Footnotes

123 Mswazi (variant: Mswati): Swazi king

124 Ha: 'interj. of amazement'

125 Ayinkhlole: a way of saying 'Oh my goodness!'

126 Mbuseni: a personal name

127 Mangqangqula: personal name

Umi³ again, he also quarrelled with those of kangwane, babangu bukholi, yena ke sewubulawa ngu kangwane¹², they quarrelled over royalty, then he was killed

Mswazi
by Mswazi¹²³

JD Sewubulawa ngumswati yena
Then he was killed by Mswati¹²³

MS E-e lomakhasane, loku ke sekuvel' umsingizane
Yes this makhasane¹²², then appeared msingizane¹²¹
indodana yakhe le egukluzelako ngala e efana
his son which is rumbling there wanting to
kubanga, seyibanga nebaka Simelane ke manje yona
quarrel, he is quarrelling with those Simelane now

JD Lomsingizane utalwa nguma
This msingizane¹²¹ is born by

MS Umsingizane uzalwa ngu
msingizane¹²¹ is born by

JD ngu makhasane
by makhasane¹²³

MS. U uyisi uyise wa msingizane ngu ha ayimhlolo
The father of msingizane¹²¹ is, ha ayimhlolo¹²⁴¹²⁵
ngumbuseni loyise mkhulu wabo
is mbuseeni, the great grandfather

labafana, ngumangqangqula¹²⁷
of these boys is mangqangqula

JD ngumangqangqula
It is mangqangqula¹²⁷

MS Um-um, loyise lozala umsingizane
Um-um⁸, the father who begets msingizane¹²¹

JD Ii. Lewusaghubeka
Yes you were still continuing nguni⁴¹ that now

- sekubanga bani sekubanga umntwana msingizane
 who quarrels, the child of msingizane¹²¹ now quarrels
- MS Sekubanga umntwana msingizane
 The child of msingizane¹²¹ now quarrels
- JA Utsini manje yena?
 What does he say now?
- MS Uthi ngelakubo lizwe elingula
 He says that lizwe⁸² over there is theirs
- JA Ubanga nalabakaSimelane
 Quarrelling with those of Simelane
- MS Sewubanga nalabakaSimelane. laba boyise babanga
 He is quarrelling with those Simelane. His fathers
 nalaba bakangwane bababulala ke laba bakangwane
 quarrelled with those of kangwane¹² and the latter killed them
- JA Ba kani laba bakaBlamini laba le baphansa bani
 Actually, those of Blamini who are there are under
 bona, 'abekho phans' alaba bakaTaba
 who, are they not under those of Tabo¹²⁰
- MS Baphansi kwakaSimelane
 They are under the Simelane'
- JA Baphansi kwakaSimelane
 They are under Simelane'
- MS I - i
 Yes
- JA Kepha lebabanga njani nebakangwane
 But how did they quarrel with those of kangwane¹²
- MS Babe bakesengakafiki baka Simelane la
 They had, those of Simelane had not yet arrived here
- JA O
 Oh
- MS E - e nkosi

Footnotes

128 Babe (Variant - Baba) : see glossary

Yes nkosi⁴²

JD nyalo sebaphans' ebakaSimelane
Now they are under those of Simelane

MS E-e

Yes

JD Sebatsi ke manje kulabakaSimelane natsi sitikhulu
Now they say to those of Simelane they are also chiefs

MS E-e batsi ngelabo elive, sekusho lendodana

Yes they say this live⁸² is their, this son of
yamSingizane

Msingizane¹²¹ says so

JD E-e

Yes

MS Um - um

Um - um⁸

[some background information not clear to hear]

JD Ubuta babe kutsi watalilwaphi wena mbamba mba
She is asking babe¹²⁸ that where were you born really,
kutsi kuyiphi indlu
that in which house

MS kunasisihlahla nasi kunawumuzi nasungapheskye
At that tree, in that umuzi³⁹ when you are across,
na nalikhaya nali wawulapho lomuzi
that home there. This umuzi³⁹ was there when I
nangizalwa mina lowakaGwegwe
was born, that of kaGwegwe¹¹⁶

JD E. Vele 'bowusol' ula^{7e} ko-ntshingila awuzange
Indeed, you had been here at ko-ntshingila¹⁰², you have
uke usuke uye kuleny' indzawo
never left and went to another place

MS Cha gildau ngiwakhona la kaGwegwe nje

Footnotes

129 Atshani'ni (variant: Atjan'ani); a place located about 27 km south east of Hattikuly

130 Kazandondo: possibly along the Mbuluzi area

NO B amw stull of here at ka¹¹⁶gwegwe and I was
ngazalelwa khona
born here

MS keyincwadi zakho githini?

What are books saying?

[some background information not clear to hear]

MS Wo

Wo²

JD Mebo kemkhulu

Yes then mkhulu⁷⁶

MS loku sowubuge basentshanini nje ngilaba ka
Now that you have asked those of Mtshanini, they are
bama²⁷weni laba bakithi. Abanye bale ka²⁷, baka
those of Maweni those of ours. Some are there, at
Zandondo
kaZandondo¹³⁰

JD kaZandondo

at kaZandondo¹³⁰

MS Um - um

Um - um⁸

JD kaZandondo kukuphi ke?

where is kaZandondo¹³⁰ now?

MS Angazi bakuphi nembuluzi

I don't where they are with the mbuluzi¹⁰⁸

JD O

Oh

MS Ngabakithi ke besuka, baphuma lapha ke bona.

They are of ours, they came, they came from here
Nobo baphuma khona laka Simelane

They also came from here at Simelane's

Footnotes

131 Gidga (variant: gidla) : see glossary

132 incwala : see glossary

133 Mambau : a common surname in Suggilano

134 uselwa : possibly the first fruit that is eaten during the incwala ceremony

JA O

OW

MS E-e. Usabathola sowuphambili kangwane kuthi bakaz
 Yes. You will throw ahead at kangwane¹² that those
 laba kazandondo kani baphumaphi, bawus baphuma
 g kazandondo¹³⁰ came from where, they came from
 ko-Ntshingila. E-e lamini
 ko-Ntshingila¹⁰². Yes lamini⁷

JA ngiyabonga

Thank you

MS ngiyabonga nami lamini

Thank you also lamini⁷

[some background information not clear to hear]

JA Temnguni nake nayigidza yini incwala nine
 You Mnguni^{r 41} have you¹⁰¹ ever¹³¹ gidza¹³¹ the incwala¹³² together with
 kanye neba^{ka} Mamba, sengisho kujihlanganyela
 those g Mamba¹³³, I mean in combination

MS Cha

No

JA Noma kadzeni kangakanani

or as far as possible

MS Noma kadeni kangakanani

or as far as possible

JA Kodwa nyayigidza nine nake nayigidza nine
 but do you gidza¹³¹ it, have you ever gidza¹³¹
 ninodwa

it on your own alone

MS Asiyigidi thini 'incwala side' uselwa

We do not gidza¹³¹ the incwala¹³² but we eat the uselwa¹³⁰

JA Nidla luselwa nine

- MS You eat luselwa¹³¹
 um - um asisagidi sesidl' uselwa thina
 um - um⁸ we no more gidza¹³¹ but we now eat uselwa¹³⁴
- JD Kodwa anizange vele nike nyigidze?
 But have^{you} even gidza¹³¹ it
- MS Incwala?
 The incwala?
- JD I-i
 Yes
- MS Cha
 No
- JD Ingabe a
 I wonder
- MS Sidl' uselwa thina
 We eat uselwa¹³⁴
- JD Ingabe angasichazela atsini umnguni ngalokudla
 I wonder how Mnguni⁴¹ can explain to us about the
 luselwa, kutsi kuy kuba ngumsebenzi lonjani nje
 eating of uselwa¹³⁴ as to what kind of work is it?
- MS Kuba ngumsebenzi wokugini's ilizwe ngoba
 It is the work of strengthening the lizwe⁸² because
 kumbiwa imithi, laye mathini, nakuzawungena nje
 some medicines are dug in the bushes when new
 ukudl' okusha
 food is about to come
- JD Likwindla
 fresh / autumn crops
- MS Likwindla sekuyalu kuyalunywa ke
 fresh crops, then it is bitten
- JD E the
 E the²³

Footnotes

135 indlunkulu (variant: 'indlunkhulu): see
glossary

MS Um ningadi bangadi abant' ukudla kungakalunywa
 Um⁸ you do not eat, people do not eat food before it is
 endlunkulu

eaten at indlankulu¹³⁵

JD O. kuluma labadzala noma wonkh' umuntfu?
 Oh. Is^{it} only the old people who bite or everybody?

MS kulum' abadala nawonk' umuntu walelo lizwe⁸
 The old people bite together with every person ^{of that} lizwe

JD O

Oh

MS azothatha lomutlu lomutlu lona sowuphekiwe
 To take this medicine, this medicine which is cooked

JD E

E

MS E - e

Yes

JD akuhlatjwa luffo lokusilwane
 Is there any beast slaughtered?

MS awu cha akuhlatjwa
 Awu³¹ no it is not slaughtered

JD kuphekwa kona lokudla lokusha
 Only the fresh food is cooked

MS kuphekwa kuphekwa lokudla um. rawudle ukudla
 The food is only cooked, um⁸. If you eat food
 kungakalunywa uyahlawuliswa
 before it is bitten you are penalized.

JD Uyahlawuliswa

You are penalized

MS Um - um

Um - um⁸

JD Kepha nasekudliwa vele lomsebenti wentelwaphi

But when it is time to eat, where is work done,
 endlunkhulu noma esibayeni noma kukuphi?
 in the endlunkulu¹³⁵ or in the kraal or wherever?

MS Wenzelw' esibayeni endlunkulu esibayeni se
 It is done in the kraal at endlunkulu¹³⁵, in the kraal
 semphakathuni

JD of umphakathi¹¹³
 endlunkhulu
 at endlunkulu¹³⁵

MS Phakathi kuphekwa khona lomuthi

Inside is where the medicine is cooked

JD kube ngilaba basemphakatsini noma kubuye nje
 Only those of the umphakatsi¹¹³ or everyone is
 nebantfu labanye
 called

MS Lonke leligwe lakhona

The whole of this ligwe⁸²

JD kuhlatjelwe tingoma letinjani
 what type of songs are sung?

MS kuzo

nothing

JD akuhlatjelwa

There is no singing

MS akuhlatshelwa (bathath' umuti nje kuphela

There is no singing, they only take the medicine

JD O

Oh

MS kudliw' umuthi, um-um.

The medicine is taken, um-um⁸

JD ngiyabona Mnguni

I see Mnguni⁴¹

ms Cha se beŋgichaga ngebaka Zandondo
 FD, I was explaining about those of Zandondo¹³⁰

JD Wo Mnguni
Wo² Mnguni⁴¹ -

FN on JD calling Simebe
 "Mnguni" - Zekla Simebe offers
 his view on what it means on p5.
 (Sulohp, Ham, p5).