

*Croxley*

**Exercise Book**  
**Skryf boek**

J.D. 267

Name  
Naam

*Simelane, Zablan*

Subject  
Vak

Place  
Plek

Feint Ruling with Margin  
Dowwe Lineëring met Kantlyn

*Interview 1 Book 1*

Interviewed at: Swaziland Breweries, Matsapha

Date: 11.09.85

Interviewers: John Dlamini (J.D.)  
Billy Masimbela (B.M.)

Informant: Sikhuluni Zablon Simelane (Z.S.)  
(marketing manager at Swaziland  
Breweries, and nephew of the current  
Simelane chief; approximately 45 years of age;  
attended Roma University)  
Mfanzana Mandlenkhosi Simelane (3)

1. Indvuna: see glossary

2. Ntshingila: Simelane chief who died c. 1929.

J.D. Indvawo yokini nje kutsi umuntu  
Your home area where, when wants you, where  
Natgabe uyawufuna khona angatshi uphila  
Could one find you?  
Kuphi

Z.S. WO, cha, ngingakutshela nje briefly  
Oh yes, I will tell you briefly, I am  
ngingukhuluni mine elinye  
Sikhuluni, another name is Zablon  
ngu Zablon Simelane  
Simelane

J.D. Indvuna yesibali?  
Your indvuna, my brother-in-law

Z.S. Indvuna  
Indvuna

J.D. Ntshingila  
Chief

Z.S. Shifu Sibandze Simelane, indvuna  
Chief Sibandze Simelane, the indvuna is  
ngu Mhambi Bhembe  
Mhambi Bhembe

B.M. Utalwa - ke ngubani gena lobani  
Born of whom, and who is born of whom  
atalwa ngubani, nelobani bani atalwa  
and who is born by whom [he wants the  
ngubani kanjalo nje kanjalo  
Sequence of the lineage]

Z.S. <sup>birth</sup> Mina Ngizalwa ngu Makwili Simelane  
I am born of Makwili Simelane  
u Makwili ozalwa ngu Ntshingila  
The son of Ntshingila.

3. Sibandze: the father of Samnjabse, wife of  
Ikhungonye and mother of Samlob; Sibandze  
is also the name of a later Simelane chief  
the son of Mtshungula.

Mtshungula Simelane

JD Lona abeyukhosi

The one who was a King

BS Lona abeyukhosi, Mtshungula

The one who was a King, Mtshungula had a large number  
abeteke in chumbi phela Mtshungula  
of wives, because Mtshungula had many

? abeteke - - - wabantu ngoko nje

persons that is why  
azala anchumbi yabantu

he begot many persons  
Umtshungula abezalwa ngu Bhozongo

Mtshungula was the son of Bhozongo  
njengalonga mtshela nje, uBhozongo

as I am telling you that, Bhozongo is the  
ozalwa ngu Mabhonya. U Mabhonya-ke

son of Mabhonya. Mabhonya is the one  
ngulona owafela lona baze besuke

who died there, as a result they left Zululand  
nje ka Zulu, kwase kufe lo Mabhonya.

Because of the death of Mabhonya.  
U Mabhonya - ke naye ozalwa ngu

Mabhonya is the son of Sibandze, as I  
Sibandze longithi nje nyalo

say he is my King, and he is also  
inkosi yami nyalo ngu Sibandze

no more alive, it is only the name  
Nayeke kakasekho sekusele nje

that has remained. [The present Sibandze  
igama

was named after the old one]

4 Mbuyisa

5 Mtshanini: area approximately 11 km south west of present-day Maloma, around the Mtshanini river

6 Sibiluthi (variant: Hluthi) small town in southern Swaziland, between Mhlosheni and Lavumisa

7 Ngwedde (variant: Ngwedze): tributary of the Ngwavuma river flowing the Mhlosheni area northwards roughly parallel to the Mhlosheni - Hlathikulu road

8 Ngwavuma river rises north of Nhlangano and flows due east draining much of southern Swaziland. It breaches the Lubombo mountains at Inqwavumaport and joins the Phuzgela R.

5D Lo Mabhonya lowachamuka ka Zulu  
The Mabanya who came from Ka-Zulu

3S Akachamukanga ka Zulu yena kwathi  
He didn't come from Ka-Zulu, after his death at Kube Kubhubhe yena ka Zulu Ka-Zulu, then the Simelane people split base bayahlephuka - ke labaka Simelane and came this side sibeza ngalepta - ke abanye babhaka and another group is this side at lababhaka khona, abanye ka-Zulu

bangala nye ngaka Zulu khona  
this side at ngalazokubo Mbuyisa

Mbuyisa, 5 place  
abanye base Mtshanini yeloku  
another group is at Mtshanini  
baka Simelane indlu eloku yinye  
they are all Simelane people, they are  
Abanye balengesheya nawubhaka Kubo  
still one family. Another group is across  
Sibiluthi uwela la eNgwedde ne  
towards Sibiluthi across Ngwedde and  
Ngwavuma bakhona baka Simelane  
Ngwavuma, there are Simelane people,  
abalapho bakambuyo iya  
there are the Mbuyo, yes they are  
ngeloku ngelabo bonke labantu  
all one family  
basephuka ngalesi kwathi kufe  
they split after the death of

9. Nkalaneni.

10 Phongola River: rises in the Drakenberg and flows eastwards almost parallel to the southern border between Swaziland and South Africa.

lo Mabhonya.

*Mabonya*

J.D. Upelaphi lo Mabhonya

*Where were they when Mabonya died?*

B.S. e Nkalaneni phela le ka Zulu

*at Nkalaneni out Ka-Zulu.*

J.D. le ka Zulu kuMandzawanaphi

*Where about is Nkalaneni at*

*e Nkalaneni*

*Ka-Zulu*

B.S. e Nkalaneni uwela uPhongolo uthi

*Nkalaneni, you cross the Phongolo and go*

*sekuse Nkalaneni newubheta le*

*this way and is Nkalaneni [pointy]*

J.D. kuyndzawo nje ?

*Is it just a place?*

B.S. Inlawo nje idigochi nje

*It is just a place, an area*

J.D. Lise ungatsi dvute nahphi

*Near which town across the Duphongo*

*holobha nase uwela Duphongo*

B.S. Ngeke ngazi-ke ngoba angiyazi kahle

*I wouldn't know because I don't know*

*nami lenlawo yaka Zulu*

*quite well the country of Zululand.*

J.D. Koolowa bakhona baka-Smelane

*Are there any Smelane people*

*labasala khona le*

*who are still there?*

B.S. Bakhona futhi abasala khona

*Yes there are Smelane people*

11 Nguni: a term used by Swazis to distinguish between themselves and the people of Kuzulu to the south; a catch-all term for the inhabitants of south-east Africa as distinct from the 'Sotho' peoples of the interior

12 Ndwandwe: formerly a large kingdom to the immediate south of Swaziland, which under its most famous king, Zwede, was defeated by the Zulu, and collapsed and fragmented

le hee  
who remained there  
Bukhona abasala le

J.D Laberguni njergalababaka Nohwadhwa  
the Ngunis such as the Nohwandwe people  
ngijje ngive nabo kutswa Berguni  
they are called Berguni are you related  
nhlobene yini nabo  
to them

J.S. As kahlobani, is Nguni nje  
we are not related, they are just the Ngunis  
angitsi labantu South of the  
because the people South of the Equator  
Equator bonke labantu aba  
all people who originated there even you,  
originaba lapho even you, you  
you are a Nguni type  
are a Nguni, Nguni Type.

Kwabe sekun- angithi abantu  
it was just because got their clan  
babe bongana ngalaboyise kadani  
names after their fathers in the ancient  
ungofica nje ukuthi loMnguni's  
time, you can find that Mnguni, then  
ukhona omunye abezalwa okuthwa  
was somebody called Mnguni.

NguMnguni. Sekuthi- ke leyo family  
then the family was called Mnguni  
Sekuthwa Mnguni sekuzo kuba  
then it was said Mnguni

13 Uthabazelo: address-name or clan praise  
(Zulu)

14 Zwede: king of the Ndwandwe people in the early nineteenth century.

15 Saseni: i. eduoseni, the new royal residence, built following the nomination of Makhoswe as the crown prince of Swaziland

nejithakazelo - ke ilandelane  
and the Uthabazelo in sequence.

ilandelane. Ungapila ukuthi  
*you can find that*  
initial Kwakungabantu labantu  
*initially, these were the names of people.*  
laba

J.D. Le kuyamvwa kulabaka Ndwandwe  
*somewhere behind, the Ndwandwe*  
benytsa si gqala ngabe laba  
*I think, we started with the Swelane*  
ka Swelane balwa nabo.  
*people fighting with them*

J.S. Kake Salwa Nabo ka Swelane  
*We did fight yes*

J.D. Kubangwani  
*What was the cause of the quarrel*

J.S. Na Zwicelo  
*With Zwicelo*

J.D. Na Zwicelo  
*With Zwicelo*

J.S. Kwakubangwa phela indawo nyoba  
*the quarrel was over the place, as people*  
kubangu abantu, nyobe kuhwa nje  
*use to conflict, they there is fighting even to-day*  
Nanyalo, angthi ikhulu nje lahra  
*as there are chiefs at Saseni are full, if at*  
o Saseni zigwele kweze nje  
*was in the ancient time*  
Kube kusengulokwa kugqala ngabe  
*they would be stabbing each other*

bayahlabana nabo Kodwa nyalo  
but now, people talk by mouth  
Sekukhulunywa ngomlomo kuthi

lababayasallela lababayasallela  
these people are depriving us of our right  
kwakubangwa leyonto leyo neyinkomo.  
and fighting over ownership of cattle

kuthi bafuyile laba abangala asambe  
that this clan has cattle/animals let us  
abemuke nyabona, kwakubwa  
go and deprive them, they were fighting over  
leyonto leyo nje  
such thing

5D Base bayesuka labaka Simelane  
then the Simelane people left and  
beta ngala  
come this side

5S Sebayesuka lababaka Simelane nabo  
the the Simelane people left after the  
kufe kufe lenkosi yabo beza  
death of their king and came this  
ngala  
side

5D Sekufa ajiphi inkhosi lo Mabonye  
Which King was it Mabonye?

5S Efeni kwakho lo Mabonye, wathi  
After the death of Mabonye, after Mabonye  
kufe afe lo Mabonye base  
had died, then they split [ the Simelane  
baya bholleka - ke  
clan split ]



J.D. Ngembili kwale Mabanya utate kuna  
Before Mabanya how does it stand, was it  
Sibanolze  
Sibanolze

J.S. Kwakungu Sibanolze  
It was Sibanolze<sup>3</sup>

J.D. Ngale kwakhe awati:  
Before Sibanolze, you don't know?

J.S. Angisazi - ke ngale kwakhe, kusho  
I don't know before Sibanolze, it could be  
ukuthi - ke sekunabanye o Ntshingla  
there were other Ntshinglas because these  
Mabobani, Ngoba lamagama  
people are named after old ones/  
Ayarephithana nabaselebona  
repeated

J.D. Manje ngisuke nga - - - [he leaves the office]  
I have just - - -

J.S. Baka Nohwanolwe asikahlobani nabo  
We are not related to the Nohwanolwe people  
Siyabateka nokubateka nje  
we marry them, because if we were  
Ngoba kube sihlobeni ngabe  
related we would not be marrying them  
asitekani, kumane kwa sitokazelo  
it was just the relationship of sitokazelo<sup>13</sup>  
nje siyabateka, konabola Nohwanolwe  
we marry them, we have Nohwanolwe  
nje - - -  
wives

J.D. Ngesikhatsi basele labaka Snelano  
Before the Snelane people came here.

Yesibali kwakutikhulu yini noma  
my brother in law were they chiefs or  
KwakungeMakhosi, Kwakutsiwa  
Kings, was it said they are Kings [at  
ngeMakhosi yini?

~~Nkalameni~~

5.5. Kwakutsiwa ngeMakhosi, njenganyalo  
they were called Kings as it is now, because  
nje ngoba nanyalo lababakasimelane  
even now the Simelane people are  
lapha abasiso isikhulu, they are  
not chiefs, they are slightly above  
slightly above isikhulu yini  
chiefs

5.D. Kusho kutai nje nabaselebona  
When they were still there before they came to  
bangakethi laka Ngwane yini nje  
here at Ka-Ngwane, what important thing they  
inthe lababacume ngayo le  
were known of at Ka-Zulu, at Nkalameni  
Ka Zulu, le Nkalameni njengonye  
like to say the Simelane people are  
kutai Mhlawumbi bakasimelane  
famous because of that and that  
babatwa ngokutai no kutai

ngoba (Sengr...) la ekutseini  
because I am -- at the point that  
bergitsi kugala aitsi kukhona  
there was a King's wife taken from  
inphosikati leyaytsathpo  
to Simelane

Ka Simelane, lokuze inkhosi yala  
why shot the King of Ka-Ngwane first to  
Kallwane tsatsa Ka Simelane  
take a wife from the Swelane people.  
Kwentwa yini?

Z.S. Angazi phela wabona intombi  
I don't know, I think he saw a lady, he  
layithandayo, wabona intombi  
loved,  
layithandayo wabomake,  
and he proposed for love, she was  
abengakenaliswa, abeziganale nje  
not given to him as a wife by her parents.

J.D. Koolowa kusho kutsi nalaba  
But it means the Swelane people were  
bakallwane babesengale.  
still that Siolo

Z.S. Ngesikhathi bathatha, nje  
when they married, yes they were, on the way  
Nabo base basenoleleni, kusho  
that means they were also on the way  
ukuthi nje Nabo base basenoleleni  
[way to this place, Swaziland]  
nje, babasele ngoba kwathi  
they were still there because, they said  
Nakuthwa akubalekwe  
let us take away the child to Ka-Ngwane  
lomntwana kwathwa akabaleke  
to his aunt [Somplose]  
eze la Kallwane ku anti wakhe

16 Inthoskati: see glossary.

Akusho ukuthi laba bakatgwane  
that means the Nguni people left  
besuka kuzala uma ngabebatwana  
before, if they married while they  
bakakhilo bonke  
were all settled together

J.D. Lomnthwana ngu Bhozongo

Is the child Bhozongo

B.S. Ngu Bhozongo e-e

It is Bhozongo yes

J.D. Lenkoshkati yase itala bani la.

Who was the son of the inkhoskati

B.S. Yozala u Somhlolo phela

He begot Somhlolo

J.D. U Somhlolo

Somhlolo

Bakhona yini banakabo Somhlolo

Do you know other brothers to Somhlolo boni  
lowubatho labatalwa ngulenkoshkati  
of the inkhoskati [Somhlolo]

J.S. Angibazi, angibazi, bangazwa

I don't know them, the Nguni people can  
ngibakagwane. Kazi nje kuthi  
know them. I only know that there were  
e-answeni kwakwende 2

two (2) Simelane women who were married at  
baka Simelane, lona nje kuti  
Kangwane, this one was just the  
this one was a main one  
main one [Somhlolo]

J.D. Ngazi amantombazane nje ukuthi  
I know girls that they are three

17 A man with one brother from a common mother was not eligible to succeed to the kingship

18 The reference appears to be to the present crown prince Makosetive who has no brothers.

Mathathu, angboni inkosi phela [3], I don't think because the king does ayibi nemnakabo, aonkwazi not have a brother. loko,

B.M. 'angaba yochwa He could be the only one [from his mother]

J.S. Inkosi kambe, otherwise the king yes, otherwise he is not enthroned akabekwa, kuzi-nje inkosi there is no king with a brother, he must be enemnakabo, iba yochwa nomaga alone or with girls

kube ngamantombazana, nebo Even the girls in the ancient time they kaeleni babevame kubabulawa were killed, because the king is not ngalokuthi inkosi ayifanele supposed to come after and be followed by yelame munu akufanele yelanywe somebody in birth, he should be alone noyo futhi kufanele ibe yochwa there should be nobody who says kubeze umuntu obuye aphi mnakethu my brother.

uyabona. Nangu nje lomfana you can see, here is this boy he has no akanamuntu nguye nje person he is alone

J.D. Lapla kulabontfu labachanuka these people who come this side [South]

19. Mantungwa; see glossary

20. Sbongo; see glossary

21. Sinanatelo; see glossary

22. impembe: possibly a reed or bone whistle/panpipe (Zulu);  
or perhaps impempe, porcupine quill (Zulu)

23. Lokothwayo; sbongo of people resident in Swaziland;  
(lit: lokotha means do have a presentiment; entetan  
a remembrance, as of doing something prohibited - dare  
to)

ngalapha kuvame kutsiwa nge Mantungwa  
are usually called Mantungwa, are you  
nine kuyashwo yiri kutsi  
also called Mantungwa?  
Mnge Mantungwa?

J.S. chya

J.D. <sup>yes</sup> Kusho kutsini loko

What does this mean?

J.S. Awuzange ngawo ka Simelane

You have never fallen in love with a Simelane girl?

J.D. Noma nyake ngaganwa mane angatanga  
Even if I had but I don't know.

J.S. Awesazi le sbongo

You don't know the sbongo [Simelane]

J.D. e e

J.S. <sup>wo</sup> Angati kushwo ngani kochwa nje  
Oh I don't know why, but it is said

kuyashwo kutsi Mungwa, Simelane  
Mungwa, Simelane

Nabokwane Mungwa

you of Ngwane, Mungwa,

J.D. Sinanatelo sakini nje sicala

The Sinanatelo of the Simelane people start  
ngokutsi -

by saying -

J.S. Simelane, Nabokwane, Mungwa

Simelane, you of Ngwane, Mungwa

Mpembe khulu, Nabokothwayo  
big mpembe, of the Lokothwayo

14. Nambungwa: see glossary

24. Silulu: a large, rounded grain basket woven out of grass.

25.

Ngiko nji upila ukuthi ngibaka Simelane  
That is why you find that they are of Simelane  
Vele  
clan.

J.D. Baka lokothwayo  
the lokothwayo people

J.S. e...e  
yes

J.D. Kodowa abakwath kukuchaza  
But the old people are unable to explain  
lebaotzala kutsi. Mmembe kwasho  
that what is meant by Mmembe  
Ngani

J.S. Kutsi kwashiwo ngani  
that why are we called Mmembe

J.D. e...e  
yes

J.S. Angkwazi, nya Wukuthola  
I don't know, you will get it if you ask old  
nasembuzo kulabaotzala, mni  
people, I don't know [at home]  
angkwazi.

J.D. Kukhona-ke labanye bantfu sibali  
there are other people my brother-in-law, who are  
kutsiwe beta la kaNgwane beta  
said to have come at kaNgwane by Silulu, what  
ngesilulu, ingabe laba kaSimelane  
about the Simelane people, did they also  
kubo kukhona yini loko  
came by Silulu

J.S.

J.S. Ngithi labo, ngithi labo  
that is us, that is us [who came in Salulu]

B.M. Ngini  
is you

J.S. e e  
yes

J.D. Kusho kutsini kuta ngesilulu  
what is meant by coming by salulu

J.S. Kusho kuta sagibela ifulemesheni  
I means we rode a flying machine  
sebamano bayacho nje kutei seta  
they are just joking to to say we came in  
ngesilulu  
salulu

J.D. Nagibela ifulemesheni  
you rode an aeroplane?

J.S. e - e -  
yes

J.D. Njani  
how

J.S. Kahle  
properly

J.D. Niyitsatsaphi  
where did you get it. [aeroplane]

J.S. Sasiyakha, e - - angazi kahle jona  
we were making it, I don't know well, jona  
konjwa kushwo kutei vele kutei  
but it is said to us that we came in  
zega ngesilulu, sagiquka ngesilulu  
Salulu, we were rolling in the salulu  
Kochwa nakubuzo loko kusho  
but if we question that it means



25. Mgoollo: ditsoa, a roughly woven grass <sup>holdably</sup> cylindrical in shape which is carried on the back; metaphorically the term can refer to a load, the contents of which a person does not easily reveal.

16  
ukuthi nyoba ngishulo sekucala as I have said before, that they were kings ngathi babengamakhosi labantu these people, it means they were ngamakhosi. kusho ukuthi ikhona <sup>carrying something</sup> into ababetshe. Ngenabantwana

<sup>like the children of</sup> baka Israel nabahamba bababetho Israel, they had the <sup>covenant</sup> umphongolo. kusho ukuthi malaba <sup>It means, that the Simelane people also,</sup> baka Simelane - ke ngesikhathi <sup>when going they carried something</sup> nabahamba ikhona into ababeyphethe <sup>which a had to be carried</sup> iyaphethe ukuthi iphathwe kakhulu <sup>carefully and it was then said they were</sup> Rekuthiwa - ke bahamba ngayo luto <sup>going</sup> in it or the thing was in <sup>nomma - ke yayiseSilwini nomna yayi</sup> the Silulu, or it was in the Mgoollo <sup>25</sup> <sup>reMgooleni, nyengoba nemi nje</sup> as it is also said to you that it was <sup>in the Mgoollo, it is also not explain</sup> kuthiwa yayiseMgooleni, nani <sup>akushwo lokuthi yini, kusho</sup> even in your case what it was, that means <sup>thero was something you carried in the</sup> kuthi ikhona into <sup>ngalomgoolo, kusho loko nje</sup> Mgoollo that is what it means [Dumini Clan]

A2760

A27.2.5.1

Simelane

p.3 Who is Mbuyisa: where is his place?

p.3 Who are the Mshuyd

p.4 More on Nkalaneni



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