(1) Interviewed at eTibondzeni on 27/07/83

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You see, in this history its like this: we were born of Ludvonga()at Nkanini(). Ludvonga was born of Mswati at Ludzidzini(). You see, we separated here with one who born of the King-born of Ludvonga son of Mswati.

Then we separated: Ludvonga bore Hlubi;
Hlubi bore Ndlela; Ndlela bore Mshengu;
Mshengu bore Mkwekazi; Mkwekazi bore Mgwazepansi;
Mgwazepansi bore Gedlembane: Gedlembane bore me
(Simbimba).

X. Mkhulu(), explain to them how we became Ndlela ...
From where did it all start?

Now, he (Mbandzeni) took my father and made him his <u>insila</u>, and then he took Sinjalo, who bore Hodoba. Do you know Steki? Father of Steki. He is born of a girl of this house. Steki is born of Hodoba. Steki says its at his granny's here.

HD. Were you already with the Dlaminis?

Yes, very much so.

- HD. When this happened, who was King?
 - S The King who made us become Ndlela?- Its Mbandzeni.
- HD. Can you tell us the sinanatelo()of Ndlela?
- S <u>Sinanatelo</u> of Ndlela. They conjoin with those of the Malangeni(). You see, we say Ndlela of Hlubi, Hlubi of Ludvonga, Ludvonga of Mavuso of Ngwane, You who have scorged the Lubombo.

We start saying 'Nkosi, Ndlela of Hlubi, Hlubi of Ludvonga, Ludvongo of Mavuso, Mavusonof Ngwane.

X. <u>Babe(')</u>, may I interrupt: these people want the history. You should explain to them about '<u>ekuqaleni</u>'()
How did we separate from the Dlaminis; how did we separate at Ludvonga; why they say'Hlubi' to the Others. Because he a twin with Dlamini- rather, not twins

but they came one after another; also about this Ndlela; that they say 'Ndlela' and 'Dlamini'. How did that happen? When one was burnt, one of the children?

Dlamini, Hlubi son of laMkhwanazi() alias Lomakhetho

() Dlamini is of laMkhwanazi- his mother is Dzambile

Dzambile joined the older one, Lomakhetho, and it

happened that when Ludvonga died, and Hlubi was to be

installed, she made him take a hot coal in his hand.

Dzambile, the <u>inhlanti(</u>) of Lomakhetho.

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- HD. She didn't put the hand in porridge-hot porridge or sour porridge?
- S. No, she made him hold a hot coal.
- HD. So he turned out to be left-handed. So who was installed?
- S. He (Hlubi) became left handed and her (Dzambile's) child was installed. This one, his name from childhood is Dambuza, this Dlamini.
 - HD. Did Hlubi have younger brothers
 - S. I don't know I cannot explain for all that I know is that which I was told by old people.
 - X. Let me clarify here: the one who was made to hold a hot coal and who became left-haned was of the people of Ndlela. It was the people of Ndlela who were made to hold a hot coal. He was found to be left-handed.
 At left-handed person can not acceed to the Kingship in kaNgwane().
 - HD. This sibongo() of Ndlela, how was it obtained?
 - S. It was obtained in Mbandzeni's time, the grandfather of Bhuza().
 - C. Hlubi and Dlamini were brothers long before Mbandzeni's time.
 - X. Ludvonga I st.

- C. So is he wrong when he speaks of Mbandzeni.
- X. Yes, he is wrong. Ludvonga 1st
- C. So how did they get the name Ndlela?
- S. Truly, this name, this <u>sibongo</u>() was obtained when a lady, a paternal aunt was taken. She was taken by Mbandzeni and he then gave us the sibongo() Ndlela.
 - HD. What happened to Dlamini and Hlubi?
 - S. Hlubi then bore us.
 - HD. Where did Hlubi go?
 - S. Him, he is there at Mbilaneni(). He died here at that stream.
 - X. It is called Hlubi. He was buried at eMakhosini().
 - S. This Mbilaneni was first used to bury Hlubi.
 - HD. So here, when Hlubi and Dlamini separated, where did they
 - Mpolontsingile. There where there is Mahlungu. The place is now called Masimini. Its'Lozinduku'(nduku?) the umntfwanenkhosi()
 - HD. That where they quarrelled?
 - S. Ya. Down that way, around the Nyawo() area. Standing on this side, it can be pointed at across the Phongola ().
 - HD. Pointing across the Phongola, do you face the east or do you face that side?
 - S. As you can see, the Swazis moved. Mswati moved from Bhaqa(.). You see, the place is called Baqa because the maBaqa(people)hid away from Mswati and his <u>impi(</u>)
 - X. Mswati I.

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- HD. Mswati the first.
- S. After he died there, he was buried at Entsheni kaNtunjambili().
- HD. Where is that?
- S. If you are at Nongoma(), you point to that end.
- HD. When you point southwards .
- S. Ya. Even his child, Ludvonga was buried that side.

 The first one not to be returned there was Dlamini.

 Dlamini, 'Bayede'()we each other, Bayede, Bayede.
- S. After it was apparent that Hlubi would not be installed, the son of the inhlanti() was taken. Thus Lozingile() said you will not rule the umuti(). You are not 'Bayede'(). 'Bayede' is (a salute for) Hlubi, whose mother burnt his hand deliberately.
 - X. The one whose hand was burnt.
 - HD. Of the Swazis; people of the place of Ngwane.
 - X. KwaZulu.
 - S. Now he fought after Mamba() left. Mamba was instructed to move up the Lusutfwu() river; to cross the Phongola() and to move up the Lusutfwu. Now, all of these are the sons of Ludvonga.
 - HD. They all come from Ludvonga.
 - X. They are brothers.
 - S. Now, Hlubi was told to go back and baqa(hide).After they went, Mamba went out; he was given people and he went. And Hlubi was given people and he went. Now when he was up here at eLubonjeni(), this of Vuma(). Then Ndlela was born. When Ndlela was born they moved awy from there and they crossed the Mkhuze(). When they were at Nkunzana, they were attacked by the Zulu. Yes, they were attacked and forced to recross the

- S. the Mkhuze, crossing emaGudu. So this made them lose the way they had been instructed to take to Baqa. Now they were driven all the way until they got to Hoba. But still, the spies were going on ahead, checking the places ahead.
- HD. Is it that the Ndlela s wanted a place to stay?
- X. Yes, they were looking for a place to stay.
- S. Yes, now until the spies crossed the Phongola...()
- HD. So which way did they go? Did they come to Swaziland or to that side.
- S. They were coming from this side. When they crossed the Phongola, when they arrived at Godlwako(), they found the Nkambules(), and the Sukatis() beSutfwu() They returned to Hlubi. So Hlubi said 'no' they would arrive at night at Godlwako(), So when the Nkhambules and the Sukatis woke up, they found themselves surrounded by an impi(). So they lifted up their hands, and said, No, we are not fighting, nine bekunene().

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- X. And then the Ndlela s attacked them.
- S. Then the spies went out again. They went all this way, going that side, until they encountered the Vilakati people(). And then they returned to Hlubi. Hlubi was at Nsikazi. Then he took this, of Ntsekulane, all this. That was how he got that.
- X. He appropriated it.
- S. So they all raised their hands and <u>khonta'd</u>()Hlubi, until Hlubi died.
- C. Can we ask who was with Hlubi? Nkambule, Sukati, Vilakati- anyone else?
- S. Also the Maseko() people, and the Duba people()
- X. They were all under Hlubi.

S. When he settled here, Dlamini- the one who remained behind- was attacked by Lozingili. Lozingili went to his mother's place, the Mtsetfwas at Manguzu.

He sent people to come and report that he was being attacked.

- HD. Was he up at Lubonjeni() or there on the other side side of Lubonjeni. This Hlubi, this Dlamini.
- S. Dlamini was down at Mavaneni()
- HD. On the other side of the Lubombo()
- X. Yes.

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- S. Then Hlubi started out fully armed; even Mamba came fully armed since they had also taken out an <u>impi()</u>. They found Dlamini at Butunywa, where he was surrounded by Lozingili.
- HD. Who was Lozingili?
- X. He was the brother of Dlamini and Hlubi. And Mamba. They were four brothers.
- S. Now when Hlubi's army arrived there, what they found there was that the Mamba people had already gone ahead. They destroyed the others (Lozingili's army) after Hlubi's army arrived. They took Dlamini back to Mavaneni. () He said 'My brothers, I can't stay. You can't leave me here. I am coming with you because, if you leave me here, they will attack me! So they took him, and left him up on the Lubombo, on Nyawo () territory.
- HD. Who did they take?
- S. They took Dlamini. They left him up on the Lubombo and that is where he died. He is at the hlatsi() that they call'Hlathikhulu'() He was buried there.
- HD. He left a child, Ngwane?

- S. Yes, he left a son, Ngwane. Ngwane was born of la-Mndzebele.()
- X. The one who is called Ndvungunye.
- HD. Ngwane, Ndvungunye?
- S. Ndvungunye is the same person(as Ngwane). Then, after the mourning period was over, the homestead was moved down. It was build entatsi() at the Mzimvubu () and at Ncontsane() in the area called Matsapha(). The rivers, they join in the area called Matsapha.
- HD. Was Hlubi still alive when Ngwane was king?
- S. Hlubi died at that time, Hlubi built here; he died here. The one who built over there was Ndlela. He was at 'sicokweni'() of Ngisana()
- X. Near Sicunusa.()
- HD. Kubo Ngazini ().

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- S. When they moved here, Nyamayenja() moved from here...
- HD. Nyamayenja, a person?
- S. A person with the Kingship over all the Ndlela s.
- HD. Where did he go?
- S. He went to Simakahla().
- HD. Who was the inkosi() at that time?
- S. It was Somhlolo. Somhlolo asked for a boy from Nyamayenja, thinking that there may be an umutsi() that when the King gidza incwala(), to wash with it. Somhlolo demanded a boy from Nyamayenja. He took out Mshengu. Mshengu came back and his home was built there, there where there is an msinsi() tree. Somhlolo built his home over there, on the ridge, in the area called 'eMapulazini! The place was called Nobamba(). From there it was moved up to the (new Lobamba ()) homestead.
- HD. Who moved? The inkosi who moved from here, going up?
- S. It was Somhlolo who moved.
- S. It is called Lobamba <u>lomdzala</u> ().
- HD. At the time when the Nobamba homestead was here, where were the Ndlelas? Over that hill.
- S. The Ndlela people were here, because those of the Langeni() are of Hlubi.
- HD. Of Langeni, the Magongo people. ()
- S. Ya

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- HD. Where is that?
- S. There.
- X. Across Mauzanaı(), over that bridge.
- S. The ruins of the Langeni are here, behind----.

- HD. At the time when Somhlolo was here, were were the Ndlela people?
- S. Others were here. But Nyamayenja() was there where his father Ndlela died. It was Nyamayenja who moved from here and went to Simakahla. He moved from there at Sicunusa () to Simakahla.
- HD. In the time of Somhlolo ?
- S. Ya.
- HD. Why did he move from here.
- S. They were giving room to each other.
- HD. Was Nyamayenja a sikhulu()?
- S. He was an <u>inkhosi(</u>) of a <u>yesive</u>().
- HD. This Nyamayenja?
- S. Ya.
- HD. In the time of Somhlolo, did the Ndlela people gidza()
 incwala()?
- S, With Somhlolo, they did gidza.
- HD. Did you gidza with Hlubi and Dlamini?
- Now when they gidvwa() incwala() with Mswati. It was then, after it was through, after Mswati wound up the incwala, then Fokota() arrived, with his emabutfo() at the incwala.
- C. I went to ask, what happened before, endvulo()?
- HD. She wants to know---- <u>ekuqaleni</u>,()<u>endvulo</u>()
 At the time of Dlamini and Hlubi.Did they <u>gidza</u>
 <u>incwala</u>?

- S. They did gidza it. They gidza'd incwala. Dlamini did.

 That is when Dlamini and Lozingili quarrelled. They
 quarrelled over the incwala. Lozingili said

 'You can't gidza incwala because your mother burnt the
 proprietor of the incwala, Hlubi.'
- HD. When Hlubi went away, coming here, did he gidza incwala?
- S. Here. he did gidza it
- HD. It means that in a year, the <u>incwala</u> was held in two places; one here, and the other with Dalmini.
- S. With Dlamini, when he gidvwa'd it, the quarrel began.
- HD. Where was it gidvwa'd?
- S. There at Mavaneni()
- HD. Did the brother Mamba fight with Dlamini?
- S. No, he never fought. It was they who fetched Dlamini, from there. He reported to them that he was under attack.
- HD. Who?

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- S. Lozingili.
- C. Why did Lozingili fight with Dlamini?
- X. He was fighting for Hlubi. He said that he could not dance the <u>incwala</u> because the <u>incwala</u> was the order of Hlubi.
- C. That Hlubi should be the one to gidza incwala.
- X. Yes.
- C. So some of them said that Hlubi should <u>gidza incwala</u>, and some said he should not.
- X. Yes.

Mamba was the <u>lisokancanti(</u>) In reality, as you know, the Mamba have their own ceremony. It has remained like that.