

S.O.H.P. MDLULI, SWANA AND KUNENE HISTORY 3/3

kutsi langolotjeni utetfwete, make wenkhosi
royal king
yasebukhosi

CH So what was the name of the boy who the
ngako kwakunqubani Sibito latomfana
libandla did not want?
libandla belingamfani?

1 Count three boys
Bala bafana labatsatfu

2 He says now she is counting three boys,
Utsi nyalo ubala bafana labatsatfu,
she has counted three boys now
sowubale bafana labatsatfu nyalo.

3 Siyaye sitsi ke tsine nkhosi nalokuphaka-
We usually that nkhosi⁵⁹ even this high
miswa kwakhe bambona khonapho kutsi
position for him, they saw him there that
unencondvo, yase yamchubela ke live
he is clever, then the ^{king} cut the ^{live} for him
inkhosi imdzabulela lelive ngobe phela
he cut this ^{live} because indeed he did
wakwenta loko lakwentile kwalungu.
that which he had done and succeeded.

Wehlula emadvodza wehlula tindvuna,
He went against men, he went against ³⁹ tindvuna
naye waphuma ngelakhe live watsi
and he went out with his own word and said
benkhosi ake ningimele, ase nibuke,
you nkho⁵⁹s can you just wait for me, can you
awuzange wabuyela umuti emuva, ase
just look. The ¹⁰⁰ umuti has never returned, can

- 3 Kwakubolomwazi namalunge, kwakungulomwazi
 it was lomwazi¹⁰³ and malunge¹⁰⁴, it was lomwazi¹⁰³
 lomdzala Malunge angulomwazi
 the older one, and malunge¹⁰⁴ was the younger one
- † It was lomwazi and Malunge
 kwakungulomwazi namalunge
- 3 angitsi ke bebabatsi bebabatsatu
 It appears they said these children, these
 labantwana lababafana
 boys were three
- 1 There were three boys
 Bekubafana lababatsatu
- 3 manje ke wala ke lokutsi kungete kwasi
 Now then he refused that it cannot happen
 kamtsi abenetintombi fakhe fitinengi bese
 that when he had many girls and you become
 niphangisa senibeka laba, asenibuke nine
 very quick and appoint these, can you just see
 benkhosi. Ukhalala kutsi ase kubukwe,
 you of the king, He crying that they must watch
 bukani, aseningimele. Uyabonakala ke lo
 just see, can you just wait for me. This langolotjeni¹⁰²
 langolotjeni kutsi umatima
 had been recognised that she is heavy
- 1 E ngubani lolotsi ase kumwe
 E² who is saying that they must wait
- 3 ngu Mshengu
 It is Mshengu
- 1 Mshengu says hey wait until he discovered
 Mshengu utsi yefi manini kute kubonakale
 that langolotsheni is pregnant, the mother of the

kutsi ke lowo mfana wa, Sobhuza wantsatsa
 Sobhuza had taken ^{him} as the chief but the liband-
 kutsi abesikhulu, kodvwa ke libandla alivumanya
 la didn't agree to it and said no we better
 kuloku latsi cha kungcono sime sibuke,
 wait and see, try to find out from the elders
 sizanne kutfolal kulabadzala kutsi ngubani
 who could be the good one as the chief.
 longalunga kahle ekubeni sibe sikhulu.

- 3 Befika batemkhonta khona ke timdzabulele
 They then came to khonta⁷ him there and they cut
 lelive, ibone kutsi unengconduo impela,
 this live¹⁰¹ for him, he had seen that he is too clever,
 ngoba kwatsi lalokukhulumile kwacondzana
 because what he had said^{was} just directed towards
 naye nembala wakhuphuka magwadluka atsi
 uha indeed he climbed up magwadluka¹⁰⁵
 ngimeleni ngimeleni

Saying wait for me, wait for me

- CH Can you ask her the name of that boy that
 Ungambuta yini ligama laloya mfana libandla,
 the ^{libandla} didn't want to be the chief. Kenneth¹⁰⁴
 lalingamfuni kutsi ake sikhulu. Kenneth¹⁰⁶

can you ask her the name of the boy
 ungambuta yini ligama lalomfana libandla
 that the libandla didn't want to be a chief
 belingamfuni kutsi ake sikhulu

- 1 ligama lalomfana lowaliwa libandla
 What was the name of the boy that the
 kuba ngushifu abengubani?
 libandla¹⁰¹ didn't want to be a chief?

Footnotes

105 Maqwadluka : probably a hill or a mountain

106 Kenneth : personal name

lomwazi babuyel' emuva nalo Malunge, ^{lomalunge} ngohu, ¹⁰³
 lomwazi and others went back with this Malunge ¹⁰⁴
 angulomcane uhomwazi angulomdzala, wala ke
 because this malunge ¹⁰⁴ was younger and lomwazi ¹⁰³
 lokutsi awusubuyel' emuva umuti le,
 was older he then refused that the ¹⁰⁰ umuti could be
 [some ^{brought} ^{back} ^{there} whispering going on as the talk continues]

uyobekwa kulaba labadzala sekubukwe
 to be settled to those old ones and they had
 laphi embili kubantwabakhe, loloko ke
 been looking forward to her children. Even that
 bonkhosi bekufanele kutsi nikwati, lokwa
 you nkhozi's you were supposed to know that g,
 lokwa lomisa wamshengu kuge atowutfoli
 that g the son of mshengu, how he got this
 lelive angaka. kwakhanya kutsi urengondvo
 live while he is this old. It appeared that he was clever

CH We missed the first part _____ the tape
 asikayitfoli lenxemye yekucala _____ lomshini
 recorder so speak louder
 wekutsatsa, ngako khuluuma kakhulu
 2 [some background information not clear to hear]

CH So what did she say?
 Ngako utitani

2 She was trying to say that one g mshengu's
 Abegama kusho kutsi lomunye webafati bamshengu
 wives happened to be pregnant and then she
 wabese, yakhulelwa wase utala umfana, kwase
 gave birth to the boy then that boy was,

Footnotes

103 Lomvazi : prince, the son of Labotsibeni and Mbandzeni, the brother of King Bhunu and prince Malunge

104 Malunge : prince, the son of Labotsibeni and Mbandzeni, the brother of King Bhunu and prince Lomvazi

2 some are not quit show
ngake ke abati kahle

CH Umhu

Umhu⁴

7 Songabona nje¹⁰⁰ laba bantfwanyana bona lengangiku-
(They are the ones) these small children here which
fiela ke sowuyalalela ke loko labashilo ke. Futsi
I can tell you and you would listen to what they
ke kungete kwangena nje ke kitsi tsine tsine
had said, and that we cannot easily take
sive lesimnyama
we black sive⁹⁷

2 as a result we don't just take anything they tell
loko ke kwenta kutsi singatsatsi nje roma yini
us because we know that they are also young
labasifiela yona ngoba siyati kutsi bancane futsi
and ^{they are} ignorant
abati luto

[some irrelevant information going on for about a
minute]

3 _____ ngobe umuti sewubuyiswe emuva
_____ because the ¹⁰⁰umuti has been brought ^{back}
lapha kuGwamile. ^{base}Bayammela ke nembala¹
to Gwamile. Then they waited for him, and
base bayabukabuka ke kulo langolotjeni, Sowumati-
they watched at bit to langolotjeni¹⁰², she is now
ma sowamfala ke lomfana. Nembala ke se
heavy and she then base this boy. Indeed then
abonwa ke abonwa ke abonwa ke kwase bo
he was watched and watched and watched until

Footnotes

99 Sive : see glossary

100 unuti : see glossary

101 lwamite : also Labotsibeni ; daughter of
Mvelase mdluli and she was
principal wife of king Mbandzeni ; the
mother of king Bhumu and the
grandmother of king Sobhuza II. She
died four years later, to the month
after the installation of her grandson
in 1921.

102 Langolotjeni : lit. daughter of ngolotjeni. Ngolotjeni
Motsa was once Sobhuza's insila
an artificially created blood-brother,
in some respects closer to the king
than a prince by birth.

Shongwe⁹⁷, mtimandze⁸⁵, we don't know how they stand.
 CH Can you tell us how the Mdluli people and the
 Ungasijela yini kutsi bantfu bakamdluli
 Nkhonyane people related to each other

1 bahlolene banjani nebantfu bakankhonyane
 1 ase sowusitekele ke mhlezwumbe kutsi bakamdluli.
 May you tell us, may be how those of mdluli⁵⁴
 nebakankhonyane batihlobo muni, batihlobo yini,
 and those of nkhonyane⁹⁸ are related, are they^{relatives}.

7 Ngete ngamitshela lutfu ngoba angati ekudzabukeni
 I cannot tell you a thing because I don't know
 kwabo

from their kudzabuka⁹⁰

1 batihlobo bonca Radruwa

But they are relatives

7 angibati ekudzabukeni kwabo netindlu tabo

I don't know them from their kudzabuka⁹⁰ and
 kangikwati

I don't know their houses

5 ngeke ngikukhulume lutfu loko ngoba kangikwati

I cannot speak about that because I don't know it
 [some background information not clear to hear]

7 Sitimpetsa nje nasisobabili nje nawukhandza

We are just the last borns as we are together, when

you find sitimpetsa (kuke ukhona)

ntfuliso we are last borns, (if only

ntfuliso is here) sibe

we would properly take the

nawo

law and we would have it

Footnotes

98 Nkhomyane (variant: Nkhomyane) a sibongo commonly found in Swaziland. A significant proportion of the Nkhomyane people live amongst the Nibandze in southern Swaziland, around Lombodze (SWOHP, Ham, (Sam Mkhonta, 1) edit notes p 39.) According to Matsebula (History, p. 6) the Nkhomyane were conquered and absorbed by Ngwane II at the time of his settlement at Lombodze.

4 Ehhe umvamva
Yes the umvamva⁹⁶

CH what is it called
kubitwa ngekutsini

1 Umfuma welubi lowayingula nje
Umfuma⁹⁵ of the milk of the gourd

4 Um - um
Um - um⁴

1 lengula labetsa ingula

^{old} 2 Ointments or grease which was used with
ngemafutsa noma oyili lomdzala losentjetswa
the help of milk
kanye nelubisi

1 when they tanned it they use it all when
Nabashuka, bawasebentisa enkhe nabenta
they do the skirt
sidwaba

CH Umhu
Umhu⁴

1 Swazi skirt they used it when they made it from
Sidwaba, bawasebentisa nabenta wona
the milk
ngelubisi

CH Do they know anything about Shongwe
kukhona yini labakwazi ko nga Shongwe

1 Mhlambe ningati ngalaba bakashongwe⁹⁷
May be you know about those of Shongwe

3 A asatani nalutfo _____ bakashongwe
a we don't know a thing _____ those of
Mtimandze. Asati kutsi ba basima kanyani

Footnotes

97 Shongwe : Surname

1 Bebababani laba labafana lababili
 These ^{two} boys were for you, these ⁷⁷ bantfwabentkosi
 laba labantfwabentkosi, labatsatfu
 the three of them

3 Bebabamahlokokhla
 They were of mahlokokhla⁷⁰

1 They were Bhunu, were Bhunu's sons
 Bebababhunu, bebangemadvodzana a Bhunu

GH Umhu _____ ya I think we
 Umhu⁴ _____ yah ngiyabanga
 better stop these, I think that's enough
 kungcono sine lapho, ngiyacabanga sekwanle.

taken to school, he was sent to school and he
a'z'ubuya ke angacedza sikolwa

and then come back after he had finished ^{school}

2 there were three boys in all belonging to
Bekunebafana labatsatfu katalwa yinkhosi
the king and then people thought that one
ngako ke bantfu bacabanga kutsi lomunye
of them should become a king but msh.
wabo kufanele abe yinkhosi koduwa msh.

CH The Swazi king
Inkhosi yemaswati

2 Yes the chief
e-e sikhulu

CH Who were the boys the sons of, that's
labafana kebababari, nguloko 'nye
what I want to know

lingifuna kukuati

2 For the king
Benkhosi

1 for the king, for the inkhosi
Benkhosi, ke king

CH Sons of which king
Emadvodzana ayiphi inkhosi

1 E NO
E² 'cha

CH ask her
mbute

1 Bhunu
Bhunu⁷⁰

CH Can you ask her
Ungabuta

2 Kusho lokutsi labafana bobatsatu bekubantfwa
That means that these three boys were the
ba mshengu
children of mshengu

3 Kwakubantfwabenkhozi kangwane, bebangu-
They were ⁷⁷bantfwabenkhozi at Kangwane, they were
mbutto lekangwane seba⁶³butsekile, angitsi⁶⁵
the ⁶³umbutto at kangwane and they had ⁶⁵butseka's
sebangemadvodza ngoba sebganiwe.
they are ⁷⁷married men because they are now married.
Emsetfweni sebayabitwa sebayakhuluma
In laws they are now called to speak

2 There were three boys in all

Bekunebafana labatsatu sebatonkhe

3 Senguyena nguyena afike wabangoba
That is the one, the one who came and
bakangwane wabadzilila solo umuti bawubu-
conquered those of kangwane and brought them
yisele le emuva watsi cha awubuyele
down since the ¹⁰⁰umuti has they brought back, he
umuti emuva. Siyaye sitsi ke tsine
said no it is not going back we usually say
nakhabi sicabanga sitsi cha yabese
when we think we say no he then saw
iyambona kutsi unengcondvo ngobe kwaya
him that he is clever because it went
ngane, kwatsi nembala lomhfwana
According to him, it indeed happened that this
lamemitsile waba ngumfana, loka^{ke}atsatfwa
son who was not yet born was a boy, then he
ke afakwa esikoleni ahanyiswa esikoleni

ludzaba kahle

1 mdluli was, because of his honest he was
mdluli abe ngenxa yokwetsembeka kwakhe
straight talking to the libandla said no wait
abekhuluma lidiniso kullibandla watsi cha
CH Wait ^{ngeni} for what
Bamale iri

1 Wait for the what he meant because of
Bamale loko abekusinto ngobe landwa
the landwa. Langolotjeni who was pregnant
Langolotjeni abekafufwele

CH But why must they, but I mean I don't
koduwa bameleni, koduwa ngisho kutsi
understand at all.
angwa mbamba

2 There were three boys in all, so the lib
Bekukhona bafana labatsatfu sebabonkhe,
some other people
ngako lib labanye bantfu

CH Sons of Mshengu
emadvodzana Jamshengu

2 Yes, people
e-e, bantfu

1 No they are not sons of Mshengu, Malunge,
cha abasiwo emadvod ¹⁰⁴ a Mshengu, Malunge.
Lomwazi, lolominye ngubani
lomwazi ¹⁰³, who is the other one

3 lolowabhubha phela kwakungu Mloywa chief
The one who is dead was Mloywa ¹⁰⁷ chief

footnotes

107 mloywa : personal name

nibuke, Nembala inkhosi yamwema kwaya
you just see. Indeed the king was lucky and
ngaye.

It went according to him

1 And he said to the libandla let's wait
Wabese utsi kule libandla ase simeni

Look at it

Sikubuke

CH Mshengu

Mshengu

1 Mshengu he said wait and see what's

Mshengu watsi manini nibuke kutsi

going to go on, what's going to happen, and

kwentekani, kutsi kutakwentekani ngalayo

then the same way that he was advising

ndlela abebatjela ngayo kutsi abalindze

them to to wait and to look at it, it went

babuke kuahamba kahle, kaimnandzi

smooth, nicely _____ exactly what

_____ kona loko lakusho ugebo

he said so he was handed e for the big land

ngako ke wake unikwa e live lilikhulu

for, for him to stay _____ there

kutsi ahlale khona _____ loko

seem to be

kuabonakala

CH I don't understand a word of what you

angiva ngisho nalilincane ligama kilolokur

are saying here sorry, could you explain the

shoko kapha ngiyaxolisa, ungake ungichazele

story nicely to me please