

S.O.H.P. DIAMINI HISTORICAL MELANI DIAMINI 1/1

kwa Mswati?

early emakhosi⁶ before Mswati?

M.D. longaphambi kwa Mswati ngu Somhlolo

[The one] who is before Mswati is Somhlolo.

H.D. e- who is before Mswati is Somhlolo.

longaphambili kwa Mswati ngu Somhlolo

C.H. enke.

enhe⁵.

M.D. e ngale kwa Somhlolo ngu Ndvungunye

e- that side of Somhlolo, is Ndvungunye.

H.D. behind Somhlolo is Ndvungunya

ngemuva kwa Somhlolo, ngu Ndvungunya

C.H. ya, now, I, I have got all that, what I

ya, manje, ngi, ngikufolile konkhe loko; loku
want to know.

lengifuna kukwati - -

H.D. ukufolile konkhe loku.

she has got all this.

M.D. wen' wekunene

you, wekunene³

C.H. is there anything about Dwabasiluthuli?

[background noise: dogs are barking] (kukhona yini lokukhona²)

H.D. e-Sidwabasiluthuli kute? ngu Dwabasiluthuli?

e- there is nothing about (Sidwabasiluthuli)?

M.D. Sidwabasiluthuli ukhona

Sidwabasiluthuli⁹ is present

H.D. there is

ukhona.

M.D. Sidwabasiluthuli, e- nguye phela lotala

Sidwabasiluthuli is the one who begot

Dlamini lapha etubonjeni.

Dlamini there at etubonjeni

8 wekunene } — can be preceded by wena
plural; bekunene } and nine each, respectively.

1. This is an address phrase, commonly used in Swaziland, in which the addresser shows politeness towards the addressee or addressees. The literal meaning of this is, "You of the right hand." "wena" is you (singular); "nine" is you (plural).
Contexts.

9 Sidwabasituthuli } — said to have been the
variant: Dwabasituthuli } name of one of the Swazi
early kings.

M.D. Ngwane watala Ndvungunye
Ngwane begot Ndvungunye

H.D. Ngwane, his son is Ndvungunya
Ngwane, indvodzana yakhe ngu Ndvungunya.

C.H. enhe.
enbhe^s

M.M. Ndvungunye watala Somhlolo
Ndvungunye begot Somhlolo

H.D. Ndvungunya is father of Somhlolo
Ndvungunya nguyise wa Somhlolo

C.H. enhe.
enbhe.

M.D. Somhlolo watala Mswati
Somhlolo begot Mswati

H.D. Somhlolo is the son of -
Somhlolo yindvodzana ya -

C.H. I understand this thing, you don't have
Ngiy
to translate. Enhe. Chubeka

M.D. e. Mswati lotele Mbandzeni, Mbandzeni
e. [umy] Mswati begot Mbandzeni, Mbandzeni
lowatala Mahlokohla, Mahlokohla lowatala
begot Mahlokohla. Mahlokohla who begot
lenkhosi u Sobhuza lehambile.
the inkhosi⁶ Sobhuza who has gone.

C.H. enhe. Can he tell us anything about
enbhe^s. yini langasitjela kona,

the early kings, before Mswati?

ngalamakhosi aka dzeni, ngaphambili kwa Mswati?

H.D. Ungasitjela ngemakhosi aku gala, ngaphambili
Can you tell us [something] about the

C.H. What was his regiment?
 abebutfo lini?

H.D. alibutfo lini?
 being what libutfo?

M.D. iNgulube
 I Ngulube

H.D. I see. iNgulube

Nguyabona. An I Ngulube [background noise; someone is shouting]

C.H. enhe. Okay. Can you ask Dlamini to introduce
 enhhe⁵ kulungile. Ungamcela yini Dlamini kutsi
 himself now.

atisho kutsi yena ungubani nyalo.

H.D. Sowungatibeka ke, nkhosi, utisho
 you may now introduce yourself, nkhosi⁶.

M.D. e- babe wangitjela kutsi tsine baka Nkhosi
 e- [my] father told me that we of Nkhosi⁶ [clan]
 sadzabuka kutudonga.

dzabuka⁷ from Ludonga

H.D. My father told me that we originated from
 babe wangitjela kutsi sadzabuka kutudonga.
 Ludonga

C.H. enhe.
 enhhe⁵

M.D. Ludonga watala Dlamini
 Ludonga begot Dlamini

H.D. Ludonga's son, his ^{son} is Dlamini
 indvodzana yakudonga ngu Dlamini

M.D. Dlamini watala Ngwane
 Dlamini begot Ngwane.

H.D. Dlamini, his son is Ngwane
 Dlamini, indvodzana yakhe ngu Ngwane.

5 enbhe
also: enhe

- 1. yes 2. that's it! 3. I see.
4. I agree.

6 Nkhosi

variants: Nkosi

Inkhosi

also: Inkosi

plural: emakhosi

variant: amakhosi

— "1. Generally this term means "ruler," but it often is used to mean more specifically King or sometimes, Chief. Its most frequent use is in reference to the King of Swaziland, the Ngwenyama, but it is also used for the Queen Mother, the Ndlwukazi, who is considered a twin ruler." [Grotper, p. 121.]
2. [Nkhosi II] one of the earlier rulers of the Dlamini branch of the Bembo-Nguni people, later known as Swazis. He succeeded Dlamini II and preceded Mavuso I, according to the most authoritative Swazi Royal Genealogical Table available." [Grotper, p. 121, 122.]
3. (Nkhosi Dlamini) "The ruling clan of Swaziland, the Royal House. The Sibongo or clan name Dlamini is actually the name of the clan which rules Swaziland. The prefix Nkosi is used as a royal Sibongo and is added as an acknowledgment that this clan produces royalty. Nkosi [Nkhosi] is also used as a sibongo by several other Swazi clans which are actually subdivisions

C.H. mfe... ?
mfe¹ ?

M.D. ...lani
lani⁴

C.H. Mfelani ?
Mfelani

M.D. yebo
yes.

C.H. Dlamini. And his libutfo²?
Dlamini. Libutfo lakhe ke' ?

H.D. ubutfo lini ke Ngwane ?
What libutfo² are you, Ngwane³

M.D. ngi S'khonyane
I am a S'khonyane⁴.

H.D. S'khonyane
S'khonyane

C.H. and who told him the history that he is
Ngubani lolowamtfjela lendzaba latasifjela
going to tell us?
yona ?

H.D. u -- lolotasifjela kona, ngubani lowakufundei
u -- this which you tell us, who taught you
sa ?
it ?

M.D. ngu Guja Dlamini
It's Guja Dlamini

H.D. I was taught by Guja Dlamini
Ngafundziswa ngu Guja Dlamini

C.H. Guja ?
Guja ?

H.D. Gujwa
Gujwa

- Footnotes

of the Dlamini clan. For example, the Nkosi Ginindza and the Nkosi Mamba, among others, were created in order to allow the king to marry a woman who otherwise would have been of his clan, a Dlamini." (Grotperer, P122.

H. also used as a sitanentelo for the Dlamini, among other clans.

? dzabuka/dz - see glossary

Variant: dabuka

dzabuka - is a verb.

ndzabuko - is a noun

C.H. mfe... ?
mfe² ?

M.D. ...lani
lani²

C.H. Mfelani ?
Mfelani

M.D. uebo
yes.

C.H. Dlamini. And his libutfo²?
Dlamini. Libutfo lakhe ke' ?

H.D. ubutfo linike Ngwane ?
What libutfo² are you, Ngwane³

M.D. ngi S'khonyane
I am a S'khonyane⁴.

H.D. S'khonyane
S'khonyane

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Ngubani lolowamtjela lendzaba latasitjela
going to tell us?
yona ?

H.D. u... lolotasitjela kona, ngubani lowakufunda-
u... this which you tell us, who taught you
sa ?
it ?

M.D. ngu Guja Dlamini
It's Guja Dlamini

H.D. I was taught by Guja Dlamini
Ngafundzisawa ngu Guja Dlamini

C.H. Guja ?
Guja ?

H.D. Gujwa
Gujwa

Footnotes

1 This seems to be a name of a person not heard very well by the interviewer. Here, she appears to be trying to get the informant to say it again, hoping that this time she will get it; the informant does finish the 'unheard part.

2 libutfo } — see glossary-
variant: ibutho }

3 Ngwane — 1. an early 'Swazi' king from whom the KaNgwane and bakaNgwane come, meaning Ngwane's place, land, ibutho and Ngwane's people respectively.
2. If used to describe a person, it is meant to mean nationality e.g. a Ngwane person, as in this context.

4 Sikhonyane } — name of a libutfo of men
variant: Sikhonyane } formed by Sobhuza II. Members of this libutfo were born roughly between 1919 — 1924.
2. a member of this libutfo.

Hamilton Series : History Interviews

Tape Number: 37

SUBJECT/TOPIC: Dlamini History

PLACE of Interview: Mbilani

DATE of INTERVIEW: 15/9/83

INTERVIEWER(S) : Carolyn Hamilton = C.H.

INTERPRETER : (Hlabamehlo Dlamini = H.D.?)

INFORMANT(S) : Mfelani Dlamini = M.D.

ALSO PRESENT

PAGES
72
BLADSYE



Exercise Book Skryfboek

SIZE A4 (297 x 210mm) GROOTTE

Name Hamilton Series Tape 37
Naam

Subject Diamini History
Vak

Place PLACE
Plaas

DATE:

Felm Ruling with Margin
Dowwe Lineering met Kantlyn

Book 1

JD. 328

Section One

Dlamini History

Hanulka series

15.09.83

Mfeleni Dlamini

19 Lulakase — probably derived from lulaka:
meaning fierce temper; violent
anger, wrath, ire; rage; ferociousness,
wildness, as of a beast. Here,
this word has been put in a form that
suits poetry.

20 tsambetele —

21 Libhuza —

H.D. e- what I remember, I can say
e- lengikukhumbulako ngingakusho.

C.H. for which king — ?
kwayiphi inthosi — ?

H.D. ngumuphi ke, kutsi utawutsi lapha nje ngika-
then it's which one; that you may say. I will
wukhuluma ngabani ?
talk about so-and-so?

M.D. e- ngingamtsatsatsa Ndwungunye, na-
e- I can take Ndwungunye and Sobhuza [I]
Sobhuza Na Mswati
and Mswati, a little bit.

H.D. I can take the — of Ndwungunye and
ngingatsatsa i — ya Ndwungunye na Sobhuza
Sobhuza . . .

C.H. which Sobhuza ?
muphi Sobhuza ?

H.D. ngumuphi lo Sobhuza ?
which one is this Sobhuza ?

M.D. wokucala
the first one

H.D. that is, Sobhuza number one
loyo, ngu Sobhuza wokucala.

C.H. e- Can he do Ndwungunye and Sobhuza
e- angenta yini Ndwungunye na Sobhuza,
fir, Somhlolo, but we can miss Mswati,
Somhlolo, kephake singamyekeka Mswati,
Please.

fantasite

H.D. e- nawungasentela Somhlolo, bese ushiya
e- sum; if only you can do for us

C.H. enhe
enbhe⁵

M.D. na Dlamini e- wabekwa etubonjeni
and Dlamini e- [um] was put at etubonjeni

H.D. and also Dlamini was buried at etubonjeni
na Dlamini wangawatjela etubonjeni

M.D. na Dlwabasil, e na Dlwabasilutfuli wasala,
and Dlwabasil, e- [um] and Dlwabasilutfuli
etubonjeni.

remained at etubonjeni.

H.D. and Dlwabasilutfuli was buried at etubonjeni
na Dlwabasilutfuli wangawatjela etubonjeni

M.D. ngu Ngwane. Ngwane nguye lobekwe kule
it's Ngwane. Ngwane is the one who has
Mbilane lakubekwe khona Ndvungunye
been placed at the imbilane¹⁵, where
le Mbilane lelaphi e Zikhotheni at eZikhotheni.¹⁶
Ndvungunye was placed, the Mbilane¹⁵ which is,

H.D. e- Ngwane?
e- Ngwane?

M.D. Ngwane.
Ngwane

H.D. Ngwane was put at Zikhotheni, Mbilaneni
Ngwane wabekwa e Zikhotheni, e Mbilaneni

C.H. enhe. Can he bonga¹⁷ any of these kings.
enbhe⁵. Angayibonga yini noma yinye yalamathesi?

H.D. ungawabonga yini lamatangeneni?
Can you bonga¹⁷ these ematangeneni¹⁸

M.D. lamanye, Dlamini, lengisa kukhumbula nginga-
Some, Dlamini, those that I still remember, I
Kubonga.
Can bonga¹⁷

15 imbilane — noun. eMbilaneni is a hill in Southern Swaziland about 8 km south of modern-day Mhlangano, site of royal graves (also known as the Nzama royal graves). There is another royal grave site known by this name. This lies 3 km east of Mkhosheni in central southern Swaziland (also known as Mlokotfwu royal graves) S.W.O.H

16 eZikhotheni } — name of a place situated
variant: eYikhotheni } in South-central Swaziland,
about 14 km northward from
the southern border of Swaziland.

17 banga } — see glossary
ku-banga }

18 eMatangeni — 1. Swazi Currency
2. those of the Dlamini clan. 3. all those who trace their history to kanga, who is supposed to have lived in the Delagoa Bay Region some centuries back. 'Mlangeni' is an address of one. Matangeni is an address-name of many.

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2. those of the Dlamini clan. 3. all those who trace their history to banga, who is supposed to have lived in the Delagoa Bay Region some centuries back. 'Mlangeni' is an address of one Matangeni is an address-name of many.

C.H. enke. Chubeka, babe
 enkhe? Continue, father.

M.D. e- angitukwati kutsi ngitawuqhubeka ngisi-
 e- I won't know how I continue, because
 ni phela ngoba kufanele ungibute
 you are supposed to ask me what you
 longakuba kakle, njongoba ngiqalile nje
 don't understand well, as I have begun
 ngatsi, tsine sidzabuka kuLudonga.
 by saying that we dzabuka'd from Ludonga

H.D. e- we originated from Ludonga, I said.
 e- sadzabuka kuLudonga ngisho njeni.

C.H. Can he tell us any stories about Ludonga?
 Kukhona yini tizaba langasijela tona ngaludonga?

H.D. e- ngaludonga ke ungasicocela yini
 e- Can you tell us anything about Ludonga?
 ngaye?

M.D. akuyinkhosi Ludonga
 Ludonga was an inkhosi⁶

H.D. Ludonga was a king
 Ludonga abeyinkhosi.

M.D. e- ekudzabukeni kwematangeni, lapha
 e- sumi right when the ematangeni dzabuka'd⁷
 abusa lapha etubonjeni, laliphetfwe
 here, abusa⁴ here at etubonjeni, it was being
 nguludonga; ngulapha abekwa khona nje
 held by Ludonga; it is where he was put
 yena
 himself.

H.D. Ludonga was buried at etubonjeni
 Ludonga wangawatjelwa etubonjeni

14 abusa — N. umbusa meaning 1. an enjoying of life, 'fine times'; manner of enjoying one's life, as customary with any particular nation. 2. kingdom, reign, administration.
kubusa is 1. to govern, rule, reign 2. live comfortably.
abusa, that is he/she being in the state of kubusa.

Dlamini; Dlamini atale Ndvungunye; Ndvungunye begets Dlamini; Dlamini then begets Ndvungunye; nye atale u Somhlolo; Somhlolo atale Ndvungunye begets Somhlolo; Somhlolo begets Mswati; Mswati atale Mbandzeni; Mbandzeni begets Mswati; Mswati begets Mbandzeni; Mbandzeni atale Mahlokohla; Mahlokohla atale be Mahlokohla; Mahlokohla begets u Sobhuza.

C.H. enhe. Did his father ever tell him any enbhe. Uyise wakhe wake wam tjela yini stories about Dlamini the first? nge Dlamini wekuzala?

H.D. e wase waku cocela yini nge Dlamini e- did he ever tell you about Dlamini the wekuzala? lolomdzala? first? The old one?

M.D. e-e wangicocela, angitjela yes, he did narrate it to me, telling me.

H.D. ^{yes} He told me yebo wangitjela

C.H. What did he say? watsini?

H.D. watsini? what did he say?

M.D. angitjela ngemakhosi endzabuko yakitsi, [he was] telling me about the emakhosi of our indzabuko⁷

H.D. he was telling me about our custom abengitjela ngemasiko etikhosi takitsi kings

the royal Dlamini?
baka Dlamini?

H.D. lapha, nawu tekelwa ngulomuriffu lomkela.
Here, when you were told by this old person
Kutsi, lapha kwabe sekuyehlukanwa, kwakwe.
that there was a separation; what caused
hlukaniswa yini?
the separation?

M.D. bobanike?
who?

H.D. laba bo. bolwanyana, bo Dlamini?
these bo, bo¹², Dlamini?

M.D. kwehlukana niani ke nkhosi?
separating how, nkhosi⁶?

H.D. angitsi abekbuluma nga Dlamini?
he was talking about Dlamini, was it he?

M.D. e.e.
yes¹³

H.D. e- ngaphezukwaloko, wati kuphike lokunye?
e- above that, what else do you know?

M.D. e- ngitse Dlamini, utala Nduungunye
e- I said Dlamini begets Nduungunye.

H.D. Dlamini nguyise wa Nduungunye?
Dlamini is the father of Nduungunye?

M.D. e.e. utala Nduungunye Dlamini.
yes, Dlamini begets Nduungunye.

H.D. e.e.
yes

M.D. ngibeka nje nkhosi, niyangiphambatise,
as I am putting forward this, nkhosi⁶, you are
Ngwane. Ngitsite Dwabasilutfuli e utala
confusing me, Ngwane³. I said Dwabasilutfuli

12 be — a prefix usually put before proper nouns. It can change the sense of nouns into 1. be-make (for example), meaning mother and company. 2. my mother as constituting a category of persons, but is singled out as an individual.

13 i.e. he was talking about Dlamini.

H.D. S'dwubasilutfuli is the father of Dlamini
S'dwubasilutfuli nguyise wa Dlamini

C.H. does he have another name?

unalo yini lelinye ligama

H.D. kukhona lelinye ligama lanalo?

does he have another name?

M.D. 'Dwabasilutfuli?

'Dwabasilutfuli?

H.D. e-e-

yes

M.D. awu, ngu Mavuso

awu¹⁰ it's Mavuso

H.D. lelinye ligama?

another name?

M.D. e-e-

yes

H.D. the other name is Mavuso

leli lelinye ligama ngu Mavuso

C.H. nkn. Does he know who Hlubi was?

nkn", Uyati yini kutsi Hlubi abengubani?

H.D. Hlubi niyamati yini?

Do you know Hlubi?

M.D. Cha, Nkhosi

No, Nkhosi⁶.

H.D. no

Chake.

C.H. How does, e- when his father told him

kwenteka, e- uma uyise amjela lokutsi

they came from Ludonga, how did that,

badzabuka kutudonga, watsi labake bona

this section go, keep, break away from

behluka kanjani, badzabuka kanjani kubaba

10 awu
variants: ewu
owu

} - 1. (interjection) of sudden surprise
2. of surprised interrogation
3. in some contexts this morpheme
is non-influencing.

"nhn - (interjection) 1. Is that so? Really?
2. Yes! (I understand or agree).

G.H. enke. Okay.
^{END}enbhe^S - kutungile.

emashumi lamabili nesihlanu.
he finished twenty five

H.D. eminyaka?
of years?

M.D. wen'wekunene!
you wekunene!

H.D. e- Ngwane was a king for twenty-five
e- Ngwane abeyinkhosi kwate waba
years.

C.H. yiminyaka lengemashumi lamabili nesihlanu.
enhe. Does he know anything else about
enbhe⁵. Kukhona yini lokunye lokwatiko
Ngwane?

H.D. nga Ngwane?
lokunye nga Ngwane lokwatiko Mlangeni?
another [thing] about Ngwane which you know?

M.D. Cha, nkhosi; kute Mlangeni¹⁸?
No, Nkhosi⁶, there isn't any.

H.D. that's all.
sekukonkhe.

C.H. enhe. okay. Has he got anything else he
enbhe⁵. Kulungite. Kukhona yini lokunye
would like to tell us about?
langafuna kusitjela kona ngako?

H.D. utsi kukhona lokunye longatsandza kusi-
she says, is there anything else you would
tekela?
like to tell us?

M.D. Cha! Nkhosi, kute.
No! Nkhosi⁶, there isn't any.

H.D. NO
kute.

C.H. What did he say?
utsiteni?

H.D. He doesn't know Mswati's praises, but
akafati tibongo ka Mswati, kepha tabona
this one he knows: Sabhuza.
uyafati; ta Sabhuza.

C.H. enhe. Does he know any stories about
enbhe⁵. kukhona yini tindzaba latatiko
Nduungunye?

H.D. nga Nduungunye latatiko?
e- tindzaba ta, lokunye lokwati nga
e- [um] stories of, what else do you
Nduungunya ke yini?
know of Nduungunya?

M.D. Dlamini, Ngati kutsi inkhosi Nduungunye
Dlamini, I know that inkhosi⁶ Nduungunye
yabulawa litulu, kayibusanga
was killed by litulu²⁵; he didn't reign.

H.D. I only know that Nduungunye was
ngati nje kutsi Nduungunye wabuywa
strike by the lightning
ngumbani.

C.H. enhe.
enbhe⁵.

H.D. he didn't —
akazange —

C.H. does he know any stories about Ngwane?
kukhona yini tindzaba latatiko nga Ngwane?

H.D. e- Nga Ngwane ke?
e- and then about Ngwane?

M.D. e- wabusa busa Ngwane ngoba wawacedza
e- [um] Ngwane busa¹⁴ a bit, because

26 July - this is the word which is commonly used to refer to rainfall, weather condition, and lightning.

sikhand'umahlanya ahlezrendlini, asingga
 and Nguane; it found Mahlanya sitting in a
 banga, Simphicikezile. Inkhosi bayifume
 house; it never hit him, it phicizekile²² him,
 buNguni yabuyelala; bayifuma ka Donda
 the inkhosi⁶ has been sent buNguni [and]
 ya Dondubusuku. Ngingayithathaphi inkabie-
 he returned frequently. They sent him at Donda's
 nkulu engangawe ye Sobhuza, engingayi-
 [place] and he Dondubusuku²³. Where can I get an
 hlaba umboko wayo ukhuze Zulwini,
 ox which is of Sobhuza's greatness, which I can slaughter
 bayibone bombashana bano Ntjakulana
 and have its nostril(s) face the heaven, so that
 C.H. enhe. Okay. Mbashana and Ntjakulana may see it.
 enbhe⁵. Kulungile

H.D. nhn.

nbn"

C.H. and he knows none of the other early
 kute latatile talamakhosi atugala?
 Kings?

H.D. laba labanye ke? Kukhona lomkhumbulako
 and about others? Don't you remember anyone's
 longasowumutsi Caphu! naye?
 whom you can say Caphu!²⁴ as well?

M.D. awu! Ngulolohambe nyalo lengingamutsi
 awu!¹⁰ It is the one who has just gone,
 Caphu! Kani naMswati nje Kancane, ngi-
 whom I can say Caphu!; yet even Mswati, a
 ngam. Caphuna, Kepha'ke angikametayeli.
 little bit, I can Caphuna²⁴, but I am not used to him

22 phicizeka then phicizekile —

23 Dondrubusuku — Donda the/in the night

24 Caphu! — of saying, or shouting the
praises of a person or of
telling a story (an interjection)
Caphuna noun, derived from
the act Caphu!.

Mswati

C.H. Somhlolo, and leave out Mswati
but I want Ndungunye, so. --
kepha phela ngiyamfuna lo Ndungunye, ngoba

H.D. ufuna Ndungunye naye; uyamfuna
she wants Ndungunye, too; him, too, she
Ndungunye
wants

M.D. Ndungunye na Mswati?
Ndungunye and Mswati?

H.D. na na Somhlolo
and Somhlolo.

M.D. na Somhlolo
and Somhlolo.

H.D. nhn.
nhn"

C.H. yebo
yes

M.D. Ndungunye ngu lulakase ekhaya netsafeni.
Ndungunye is lulakase¹⁹ at home and
Ngwane phani losemnyango, ngoba
in veld. Ngwane give [something] to the one who
losemselen'utsambekele. Ngu Ndungunye,
is at the doorway because the one in a trench has

C.H. enhe, tsambekele²⁰. That is Ndungunye.
enhe⁵

M.D. u Sobhuza, libhuza lindlebede lingayizwi-
then Sobhuza; The Libhuza²¹ who/which is
ndaba, litse lingezwindaba laphangeleha-
long-eared who/which, doesn't hear any story,
wini; Isando sika Ndungunye no Ngwane
it dashed for the shield; the hummer of Ndungunye