

S.O.B.P.

HLOPHE

HISTORY

Mbani

Hlophe

4/4

when they were working

C In the King's fields?

HD until, like when they are
until
taking them crops.

C Are there any stories about the
Hlophes doing something special for
the Swazi kings? remembers

like the Mkhontas were divining.
Mkhontas⁹⁷
Anything like that being strong in
the Army or something. In other
words all the Hlophes famous for
something

HD kunkhona yini . . . labakwa Hlophle
Is there anything these of Hlophle
labakwenta nona Benta Banyanga⁹⁵
were performing or performing banyanga
nona Benta tinto lekitsile nje
or doing special duties

97 Mkhonta - clan name, Sumatran.

98 Buryanga - or refers to the duty performed by an inyanga which is sometimes translated as 'witch doctor', 'traditional leader'; and a ritual specialist.

17
HD Utsi ungambilabelelela yuni Hlophle
She says Can you sing it for her Hlophle?
Those present made a great noise
as they were laughing.

MH (singing) Niba Basembo asenimukhi
(you of embo please give him
nkomo zakhi abambe, nina
his cattle and let him leave you
Basembo mukhi nkomo yakhi
of embo, give him his beast that
abambe nina Basembo) ngera
she may leave you of embo). I heard
Kashimo yalo ~~le~~^{ki}.
it said that way.

C when do they sing that?

HD Bayihlabela nini-ke Hlophle?

when do they sing it Hlophle?

MH Sigiwe sekubhulwa emabele thini?
We heard it when it was ^{the} time of
sekubhabela lamajaha lamadala,
threshing emabele, as the elders sang
nobe ngabe bayawagale ngalesikhathi
even if they would be starting to
set the anganga lenathi, kuyozile
thresh them at this time, if they are of
kuyokusa

this house size in quantity they would thresh
HD Jue mabutto⁸⁹ will sing this song until next day.

6. emabele - Sorghum, food crops
and brass

HO wake wera ngadzaba yembo?
did you ever heard of the story of embo?

MH embo?

HO muh
muh

MH babehlabela nje swa raba
they use to sing, we heard the
labadzala bathi mntkemi intkomo
elders saying give him his cattle
zakhe una base embo. Asazi, mntkhi
you of embo. we do not know it
lowas mbo ngubani ngebakuphi?
are one of embo, if who were they?

HO we only heard the old people
when they were singing touching
embo, embo

C when they were singing?

HO mntkhi, yes when they were
mntkhi
singing.

C can he sing out the tune of
what he heard?

* Sihatsi Sabani-ke Sattawungunye
whose time was this, was it
nama Sa Sombilolo.

Hdwungunye's or Sombilolo's

MH ewu ngobe rayo lenkhosi
ewu⁹⁶, because the king which is
lengehdwungunye rayo yayiseyineri
Hdwungunye had time, &
khattu ngayabona kutsi kwatungu-
would think it was Sombilolo's
Sombilolo.

time

HO & think it was Sombilolo's time

C are the Hlophle people Mtungwa³⁰?

HA Mntungwa?
Mntungwa³⁰

C enhe
enhe

HA Bakamntungwa labaka Hlophle?
are these of Hlophle them of mntungwa?

MH bakamntungwa. bakandlangamandla.
them of mntungwa are them of ndlangamandla.

HO bakandlangamandla are the
them of ndlangamandla
mntungwas

mntungwas

C okay, did he ever heard about Embu?
Embu²⁹

96. ewu - an exclamation expressing
doubt.

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doubt.

114
C did he ever hear a story of the
impi that was so hungry that they
soaked the shields in
water and ate ~~the~~ them.

HD wake waywo lenkhulumo lets:
did you ever hear the story that
ngankh'ato say lam bile impi.
During the time the impi was hungry
Batsata lamahawa also sawafalce
they took these shields of theirs and put
emantun bise aya thamba asayaduna
them in water after they became soft, ^{then} they ate them.

MH ehe, ngani ngisho koma kutsi
ehe, ng mlan that, that is to say
babedla emahawa, ngaywa leyo
they ate the shields, I heard that
ndzaba
story.

HD yes I heard about it

C was that the emi of Somblolo,
Ngwane or Advungunye?

HD Mhlawumbel ungasichasela kutsi:
may you can clarify to us that is

from?

HD lamaharu bebawafolaplu
what did they get the shields

MH angaze ngazi, phila ngobakwaturveli
I wouldn't know because it was the game
kublaselwana, kublaselwana
of the day to attack each other, Shields are
ngemaharu, ngobe ungehe
utilized in an attack, because you can
ngobelweli impi ungakapatho lutho.
no! attack an impi^{se} empty handed.

HD enhe ngiyatona kutsi ulapha
enhe, I suppose if she is there
ekutsemi bati lalifolakala kanyani
that is they say how was this
leliharu.

Shield acquired?

MH ... Itsi impi ita ubesowunalo
by the time an impi^{se} comes, it finds you
liharu, ungakabikho, ngakho some
already in possession of a shield. By the time
tsatso liharu lakho —

it comes you just take your shield.

HD Before you start fighting you must

have liharu, It was the time
a shield

you must keep the shield.

HD pardon

C in the Geba regiment were there
we thought men?

HD

C In those days where did the
Mabutto get the food from?

HD Kuleto tikhatsi batsi kundla kwaku
during those day, they say where did
folakalaphi babe?
they get food babe?

MH Kundla: babe sebedla tikhumba
you mean food, they then at ladies.

HD food was scarce so much that
they take the skins and put in
fire and eat them.

C In those days where did they get the skulls?

C In the Giba mabutto³⁹ was it only
Hlophi man?

HD Utsi bakathlophi roma licimbu
you say these were of Hlophi or a
lalowo mbutfo kutsi laba lebutto
unit within that mbutfo⁹² that is of ^{the} n
bengulubeni malaba-bemagavini
lebutto³⁹ of ngulubeni⁹³ and those of Magavini⁹⁴

MH Qha Bemagavini... batfwan⁹⁵
rio those of Magavini are
laba?
children

HD Mgu Giba sengisho kona babe ngufuna
It is giba, I mean that babe⁸¹, I want
kutsi Bengulubeni na Giba kusho
to say those of ngulubeni and giba does
kutsi bakathlophi bodwa laba
It mean they are ^{all} of Hlophi these?

MH bomgaddelem, ari bengulubeni
them Mgaddelem, not them of ngulubeni
ngu Giba lowalwa imp.
It is giba who fought (in) the war.

HD Giba?

Giba

MH Giba Namgaddele.

Giba and ^{the} mgaddele

C do they have _____ man

in the _____

MH Aunu: Sengicedill bekunent.
 aunu: I have finished you of kunent⁸⁰
 Sekusele tanna Hagant, nitsi
 what is left is Mahagan's stories,
 angibuyell emuva?
 you say I must go back?
 HD Can he do Mahagan again?

C ya: ya
 ya ya
 HD yenta babe
 do it babe⁵⁹

MH ye Mahaga lomnyama uzakufela
 Hey! Black, Mahaga you will die
 emanzi, in the waters.
 khundla esinyalo semuti wakhe
 a spot like ^{that of} his homestead (residence)
 kulancabane, nhlavu eyenda
 at Langabane, seed like
 umasholosholo, ¹⁰⁶ nguwamanda
 ozibambelayo. ¹⁰⁷ he is gwamanda¹⁰³
 who takes things on his own, Black
 uzakufela emanzi, mphathi
 Haha you will die in the waters, person
 wagall' lue likusumela khundla
 in position who marked by digging
 sinyalo semuti wakhe kulancabane
 while the nation (country) consented, a

106. Langabane - the word is derived from the Swazi word ingaba which is translated Shelter, Fortress. This word is a name of a person who is said was living near the foot of the Mzimba Mountains (near the site of ~~the~~ Lozithelilezi today) in the early nineteenth century. It was he who, when introduced to King Sobhuza I by members of the Maseko clan, showed Sobhuza and his followers the famous caves in the Mzimba Mountains. (John J. Grottel)

107 Unaswobsholo. - Person of unsettled, inattentive, mentally preoccupied appearance; one of undecided, sluffy movements. (C. M. Doke & S. W. Vilakazi.)

113 Gwamanda - take by force

ngatigodvo

HO person I was supposed to start with Tigodvo
Cala ngatigodvo-ku babe
Start with Tigodvo babe

MH (Dialses) - Ugodo belubanda,
Chopped large log,
beluband' unnyaka, ngabe 'nalungaphda
chopped for years, what can you chop
uzakubandam, ngabe
if it can get finished.

ngamthathe
where can I

ngimphonsephi, ngiyamphonsa phizulu
throw him, ~~can~~ will throw him up,
uyawubuya anyani, uyawubuya
what form will he be when he comes back
Amabele ebomvu, unka

Amabele will be red when he comes
bani, unkancedl unkanatitela
back, the wife of ncedi, the wife of

wena wesigodo Semzizembe,
Matikitela, you of the log of
Umuntu kaduni lhambe,

Mzilazembe, a person is not popular
uyawuduma esefile

while he's alive, he will be popular when
Wahlabela amakhosi Amabili

he is dead. you habela for two kings
wasel wawuhlabe zwidl kalanga
until you habela-ed it for zwidl
of langa

102. (Ngiyam)plwusa ÷ literally it means
to throw something.
However, it can also
be used to refer to
sending an individual
to some place.

103. Ncede - is a name of a bird

as it is used but it is a
name of a person.

104. Matikitela - name of a person
derived from tikitela
which means to shake.

105. Mzilazembe ÷ a name of a tree.

MH. Awa: kante impela lengakena
 Awa: truly there is nothing &
 nga Tigodvo ngaphandle kwehutsi;
 know about Tigodvo except that
 aye leha zulu. Asatfunyine
 he went to zulu (land/area) being
 indlovuhazi; kutsi kuhlaselewa
 sent ^{by the} indlovuhazi¹⁰¹ to ask who is
 bam. Tinkulandzile-ke loko
 being attacked. I have mentioned that.
 HD abetfunywe kazulu, nguloko
 he was sent to zulu (land), is it
 abehambelle kona
 that that he went for?

MH luhl
 enxe

HD wo, I remember -
 wo;

HD Asucall phansi ngamaMazane
 start afresh about Mahazane

MH Ngitawukala nga Tigodvo ngoba
 I will start by Tigodvo because
 nengcalise kabi bekufanell nyiall
 you made me to start from the wrong

HD I am sure that I can collect every work that he used to do, I used to hear some people about Tigochwo.

C but can he try whatever he can remember.

HD uti kodwa ungas utunge yini
She says but you can try to kukhumbula nje noma ngayini remember just anything he abeyenta was doing

MH Hibongikhumbuta phela nami
Remind me please, you (people) ngobe ngini lembadzala rura wena because it is you who are older.

1 Sasakwa ngani phela tsini
how did we hear it ngoba natsi siwelle bobabe bangasekhe because even us we (appeared) we born kanye nawe when ^{our} fathers were not more here.

C did Tigodvo see that?

HD wakubona Tigodvo loko?
did Tigodvo see that?

Q
MH wakubona
He saw it

HD Tigodvo did see it

C does he know any other stories
about Tigodvo?

HD lokunye ngatigodvo nyakwati
is there anything you know about
Babe?

Tigodvo Babe⁵⁹?
MH ngingeke ngatigodvo kwatigodvo
I cannot exhaust all that is about
abedume Kakhulu, abedwuni
Tigodvo. he was well known, he was
Kakhulu nam ngumucane bantwana
well known, I am also young, children
bakwethu ngingeke ngakwati
of my family, I may not know what
lababekwenta labadzala lokunye
the elders were doing, I will leave
ngitakusliya lokunye, kumbel
and skip other things.
ngikwelle.

22

Seibon...ala kutsi sebatan uphuma
and it was then that them of
misakathlophi emerged, many
lophi would come out of the
katsi - u bakwazulu nyakubona
cave (from hiding), the Zulus said you
ngetfulu kufunqa kutsi impi
will see by the rising of smoke
Scyphelike
that the impi is over.

HO The Zulus made a sign to

Tigodvo that when you see smoke
coming then you will know that
the war is ended, the fight is
end

C what kind of smoke?

HO just the burning, to burn something
else — —

They said you will see by a smoke
coming up that the war is
finished.

121
HO Baka zulu baphendula batrin
as you hear, how did the zulus
nanuwako? Hlophi?

reply, Hlophi?

MH Wabonaka lomkhulu loTigodvo
Tigodvo was seen

asabuya le kwakungulepho
returning from there, it was then
Sekutawuphela impi.

that the impi⁸⁴ was to end.

HO When Tigodvo was returning back

it was about the war to end.

MH asatawubuya Tigodvo batakumbo-

when Tigodvo came back they
nga lapho batsi ulilabela emakhosi
praised him saying you hlabela⁹⁵ for
lamabili ngobe ulilabela uzide
two kings because you hlabela-ed for
Kalanga

Zwile⁹⁶ of Langa¹⁰⁰

HO That is they praised him.

~~that~~ Ulilabela babe.
continue babe

MH Sengisho wena ukumbale ^{kufi}
I am saying you of kument⁸⁰ that is
Kwakhulapho impi seyiphela
when the impi ended.

98. hlabela - piece for, slaughter for,
sacrifice to, cut
medial incisions. (C.M. Doka
and B.W. Vilakazi).

99. Zwickl - Ndwandwe Chief

100. ^{si}Langa - it can refer to a day,
to and also to the sun.

labakazulu nguloku belhasela
 these of zulu continued to attack
 kephikelele. ~~gapho~~ wase Tigodvo
 insistently then Tigodvo
 utryela emuva uyavukhuluma
 went back to talk (with them)
 utsi mhlasela ubani lapha
 saying whom are you attacking led
 ngoba mhlasela umfati lapha
 because you are attacking a woman led.

HD what I remember the story
 that the induna Tigodvo went
 back to the zulu to tell them
 why are you fighting, that kraal
 there is only women staying
 thus why do you trouble yourselves.

C after Somhlolo has died?

HD emva ~~a~~ sekufe Somhlolo?

after Somhlolo has died

C ~~Then how~~ And what did the zulus
 say to him?

letisebentisa kwempi kutshosin? like those connected to impi, at the king's place?

MH awu kwakute wena webentent⁸⁰ awu; there was next year of kwent ngoba batengahlaseli ngaphandle because they did not make attacks without bato bangakahambi rentshosi, the company of the king. rentshosi yayhamba nabo ihlasela the king used to go with them nabo —

HO at when attacking (other clans) the Hlophe used to go with the king when going to fight so they could not do their own motive

C were they strong when fighting?

HO bebangemaqhawe? were they heroes (warriors)

MH ehe ehe

HO yes

MH ngobe ngikhumbula — please I remember

mine basembo ya-ya o-lio
may go, you of embu ya-ya o-lio¹¹⁶

116. lya-ya o-lo ÷ is a way Sembl
Swazi songs are
ended.

MH Ngabokwe labo labangoba impi
 These are they who conquered ^{the} impi
 yakwa zulu. Size ~~the~~ Siphume
 of Zulu, that is why we came out
 emgedeni. Thina baka Hlophle
 of the cave (from luding) we of Hlophle,
 Siphindl sibuse njengoba sibusa
 we once again get into power as
 nye sitikhona tenthosini.
 we are in authority, we are the king's ¹¹⁰ tendunas

HO That is how we get out of

Mgedeni and be tendunas
 cave

C Can we ask him to sing this

embo song.

HO Angasihlabelelela njengoba
 Can he sing for us as
 usihlabelele —

you have sung

MH Nuna basembo mnikeni inkomo
 you of embo give him his beast
 yakhe, nuna basembo, mnikeni
 you of embo give him
 inkomo yakhe, nuna basembo
 his cattle, you of embo
 mnikeni inkomo yakhe ahambe
 give him his beast that he

Umsi namu senget Mantambe, nami
 the boundary it is now Mantambe⁶⁹ and
 ngatatutsi. senget ingela ngintsheli
 when I go hunting I will tell
 Tigodvo, laba bakantshangase-tee
 Tigodvo, these are of Htshangase,
 Htabakayikhonjwa, ngabo-tee
 of Htabakayikhonjwa, these are they
 labefika emvathwaloko yafobla
 who came, after which the zulu
 impi yakazulu, ~~tee~~ bakazulu
 impi broke through, the people of
 base Bayaphinda batfumela wesibili
 zulu sent the second person,
 Sithangu induna yelukhandampere
 Sithangu¹¹⁴ an induna¹¹⁰ of lukhanda-
 lokunguyena angoba impi lapha
 mperu¹¹⁵ who is the one who
 kaHwane, sangabi⁵ saphinda segwazwe
 conquered the impi here in
 impi

Hwane's place. we were never from there ^{pierced} by impi

HO Sithambu?

MH Sithangu

HO Sithangu

MH euh
 euh

69 Mantambe - same as
Mantsambe 69

114 Sitingu - person's name.

115 Lubandampevu

eShiselweni yathi luvu kanti
 Shiselweni, it said hawu¹⁰⁰ the
 induna ayizange isala yin. lapha
 induna did not remain here
 eShiselweni, kwathwa wasala
 at Shiselweni, it was said igodvo
 igodvo, inkhosi yase ifumela
 remained, then the king sent
 luntusa l'umfanenkhosi
 representatives, prince (child of the king)
 Magwen na Bhulindlela
 Magwen and Bhulindlela who is
 Madangamane sebata kutigodvo
 Madangamane they came to igodvo
 Sebayamthola igodvo sebayamthola
 after they found igodvo they took luvu
 bamuyisa kwebakantshangase
 to them of Hkshangase¹⁰¹
 kutitabakayikhonywa kusatingelwa
 to itabakayikhonywa¹⁰² by those days
 ngaleso sikhatsi base vika
 hunting was still done, when they came
 itabakayikhonywa wase utsi
 to itabakayikhonywa he said I am
 ngwabonga wazwide nakang lethela
 thankful to him of Zwidi for
 indoda utigodvo indoda yenkhosi
 this man he has sent to me, igodvo is
 nam angisutawewela emantambele
 a man of the king.

109. hawu - an expression of
Surprise; an exclamation.

110. Induna - See glossary.

111. Hshangase - Clan name

112. Matakayekhonjwa - literally it
is translated as
Mountain/hill that is
not to be pointed. In
this context it is a
name of a person.

awumice Bezizwe
 Spot like that, of his residence (homestead) at
 ngisho kume Sindza sindz2
 Lancabani¹⁰⁶ — giving it unto outsiders,
 kasigodvo, ngumchagani-ke
 I mean you, heavy one of log, that
 lowo
 is Mahagané

C Mahagané, finished.

okay so could you tell us the
 story again.

HO Asuphunde uyisho hlophle
 can you again say it -hlophi until
 uze tofika laptha lasikhonakhona
 you come here when we are

MH Sigodvo wasala laptha esuselweni.
 Sigodvo¹⁰⁸ remained here in Suselweni,
 wathi nakasala laptha esuselweni
 when he was left there at Suselweni,
 na inkhosi iphasela besuthu, impi
 here is the king attacking the sothos, after
 seyiphelile, kwasi sebayakonakala
 the impi was over then the zulus
 bahazulu^{bafingela} sebaze bafika laptha
 were seen hunting until they
 esuselweni, nabefika laptha
 reached here at Suselweni, when
 they arrived here at

108. Sigodvo - literally it means
a log. In this case it
is a person's name.