

PAGES
32
BLADSYE

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Name IVHLEKO HISTOR 1
Naam
Subject INTERVIEW II
Vak
Place BOOK 1
Plek

Feint Ruling with Margin
Dowwe Lineëring met Kantlyn

JD. 267

Interviewed at Ra. Madivubem, near Sitjabela

Date Sunday, 13th April, 1986

Informant(s) : Dibhi Nhleko (ND)
: Khushwa Nhleko (NK)

Interviewed by Mamba Rottler (MR)

MR Angiwele ngikuhluphe nhleko mgilija
let me trouble you nhleko, mgilija²

ND [some information not clear to understand]

MR nako ke lokuhluphako vele sengita e sengitawu-

That is troublesome indeed I will, I will ask them

cela nje sekuta sekuvele sekutsatsa kahle nyalo

It is, it is already recording well now

Ase ungitjele ke Babe nhleko imilandvo nje ke

Can you tell me then Babe Nhleko the imilandvo⁴

loyikhumbulako yebaka nhleko. kokucala

which you remember of those of Nhleko. Firstly, I will

ngitawucela ngekutsi sowuke ungitshela ngesibongo

ask that you tell me about the sibongo⁵ of Nhleko

sakanhleko netinanatele takhona kutsi ntsini

together with its tinanatelo⁶, just what you say

nanibongako

when you bonga⁷

ND Nhleko mgilija (Mabhele) Nyanganduna
nhleko mgilija² (Mabhele) Nyanganduna⁸

[some information not clear to hear]

MR Mahluzuluta

Mahluzuta⁹

ND Mahluzuta

Mahluzuta⁹

R Um Mahluzuluta

Footnotes

1. Nhleko : a surname
2. Mgijija : could be a person; also could be a sinanatelo of the Nhleko surname
3. babe : see glossary
4. Imilandvo / unilandvo : see glossary
5. Sibongo : see glossary
6. Tinanatelo : is a plural form of sinanatelo which refers additional clan name(s) and/or praises associated with a particular sibongo
7. bonga : is a verb used to mean many issues; it can mean to give thanks; to praise somebody (particularly a king); to insult a person; to tell somebody that her/his job is finished in a particular organization.
8. Nyanganduna : Nyanga can refer to moon, to month, and to a traditional doctor. nduna refers to male(s).
Nyanganduna = nyanga + nduna.

Footnotes

9 Mahlugu^{lu}a : probably is a name of a person;
or may be a place

Footnotes

10 Um / : this is used to show that you agree
um-um to what is being said, or to show
that you follow the conversation.

11 dzabuka : see glossary

12 Ehhe/i; sometimes said as ihhi; interj. of assent,
Ihhi : agreement, or approval; yes, I agree

13 Ya/ : refers to yes
Yah

Unio Mahluzulula

NA mahluzilula

Mahluzulula?

MR wo mahluzilula

Oh mahluzulula?

NA [some information not clear to hear]

MR wo laba labakankoleko bona badzabukaphi

Oh these g nhleko where do they dzabuka as you
nje nasewukhumbula
would remember

NA [some background information not clear to hear]

MR O

Oh

NA [some information not clear to hear]

MR O

Oh

NA [some information not clear to hear]

MR Ehhe

Ehhe

NA [some information not clear to hear]

MR Ya

Ya¹³

NA [some information not clear to hear]

MR Ehhe. Lapha ke indgawo yenu beyikuphi?

Ehhe¹². Here then where was your place?

Footnotes

14 encandwini : a place found around the Ncandu Hills which are found about 50 km east of Hlatikhulu; where the Nhleko people were first found.

15 indruna (plural, tindruna) : see glossary

ND ngale encandweni

There at encandwini¹⁴

MR Encandweni

at encandwini¹⁴

ND Encandweni

at encandwini¹⁴

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND Sibe ncandweni

we are of ncandwini

MR njoba ngwile kulesibongo nitsi Nhleko ngilija

Because I have heard from your sibongo⁵ saying

lomgilija ke yena, ingatsi angicale ngalohlhloko

Nhleko¹ Ngilija², this Ngilija², let me start with this

lonhleko abeyini

Nhleko¹, what status did this Nhleko have?

ND Bokuyindruna yenkhosi yetfu

He was our king's indruna¹⁵

MR wo lonhleko

Oh this Nhleko

NA Angitsi njenganyalo nje

Just as it is now

[some background information not clear to hear]

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND [some information not clear to hear]

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND [some information not clear to hear]

Footnotes

16 Hlekwako: was the father of Nhleko

17 gogomkhulu (Khokhomkhulu): see glossary

18 elwandle: could refer to the sea; could also be a place located about 6 km south of Mangini

MR Wo kusho nje kutsi ke olenguyena abetala lonhleko
Oh, it means that who was it that begot kwakungubani?

Nhleko

ND nguHlekwako

It is Hlekwako⁶

MR O nguHlekwako

Oh it is Hlekwako¹⁶

ND ngugogomkhulu khokho wabokhokho

It is my gogomkhulu¹⁷, ancestor of ancestors

MR O nguHlekwako

Oh it is Hlekwako¹⁶

ND ngutHlekwako

It is Hlekwako⁶

MR Lo Hlekwako abayini ke yena?

What status did this Hlekwako⁶ have?

ND ngunangu lowaphuma lena elwandle

He is the one who came from elwandle¹⁸

MR ngulowaphuma lena elwandle

He is the one who came from elwandle¹⁸

ND Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

NA [some background information not clear to hear]

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

NA [some background information not clear to hear]

Footnotes

19 Bo Ndondo in Ndondo could be one of Hlekwako's sons. bo refers to brothers and sisters of Ndondo.

20 tsatsa: lit. means to take; but it can also mean to marry someone.

21 Mlotsa: is a surname

MR wo wacamuka enakuzeneni ehwandle loHlekwako

Oh he came from such and such, from ehwandle this

ND loHlekwako

This Hlekwako¹⁶

MR Sowuba yinkhosi

He became king

ND _____ loHlekwako, loHlekwako, Hlekwako ngugogo-

_____ this Hlekwako¹⁶, this Hlekwako¹⁶, Hlekwako¹⁶ is my

mkhulu lachamuk' ehwandle watala naba gogomkhulu¹⁷ who came from ehwandle¹⁷, he begat these

MR Ehhe Hlekwako bo

Ehhe¹² Hlekwako¹⁶ those

ND Bo Ndondo

Bo Ndondo¹⁹

MR Bo Ndondo

Bo Ndondo¹⁹

ND Ya

Ya¹³

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND

[Some information not clear to hear]

MR manje ke lo njibose ngiva lapha kungatsi

Now then, I sometimes hear that you do not

anibatsatsi laba bakamlotsa

tsatsa those of mlotsa

ND badzadzewethu bantfwabetfu

They are of our sister, they are our children

MR i-

i¹²

ND ngisho bokhokhomkhulu nawungumfana nje awubatsatsi

Footnotes

22 i-i : means yes; but can also mean
u-u no, the difference is on the tone or
the way it is said.

even our khokhomkhulu⁷, if you are a boy you do
not tsatsa²⁰ them

MR E

E

NA Telamani

one is younger than the other

MR E

E

NA Hobe sekent' inkhosi

Even when they have made a king

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

NA Telamani nayo bo ngumuntfu umnakabo

They come after the king, it is the person, their brother

MR Ehhi

Ihhi¹²

NA

naka najinkhomo letsite
take care of this cow which

yibulale bani

he ^{said} let anybody kill it

MR I-i

I-i²²

NA Uyisike upheke nakuya. lolomkhulu uyinkhosi

Cut it and cook that that. The older one is a
edluke

king

MR Ihhi Lo Hlekwako

Ihhi¹² this Hlekwako¹⁶

NA Lo Hlekwako

This Hlekwako¹⁶

MR Ihhi

Ihhi¹²

Footnotes

23 emanyela : probably a type of a stone used to make some type of hoes.

ND ngumnakabo lo. naku ke njobushito lomlotsa
It is their brother. Here then as you have said this
unemsebenti wakhe

mlotsa has his own job; like himself

MR Unemsebenti wakhe
He has his own job

ND utsi angasebenta nenkhosi umnakabo bese

After he has worked with the king his brother he
utsatsa nakugcoba ti — tikhali yonkhe lentfo
then takes the sculpture of weapons and all such

nanangemakhuba, yimali
even these hoes, it is money

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND Nitabeloku nifa timali ———

You will always die of money ———

MR Ihhi

Ihhi¹²

ND Uhhu

Uhhu¹²

MR Abenta kona

He was making that

ND ngisho kona naku labatsi ingemanyela

Even that which they call emanyela²³

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND Ngemanyela

They are emanyela²³

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND Emanyela uyati yini?

Footnotes

24 Bhadla : Bryant says bhadla means to 'boil in a bubbling spluttering manner' as any thickened semi-liquid food like porridge; to stow away, pack away into, as goods, grain etc. into any basket or other receptacle.

25 kwelapha : can mean to doctor someone who is ill; can also mean to apply some medicine upon someone as a way of prevention; ritual strengthening of an army.

Do you know what emanyela²³ are?

MR Aha angikwati

ND I do not know them

ND hitje nalilelimbi lelibhadla lite livutse

It is an ugly stone which bhadla²⁴ until it burns into ashes

MR Wo

Oh

ND Ya _____

Ya¹³ _____

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND noma uyaganga uyeba wentani _____ nalotjani
even if he does wrong, he steals or whatever

bakho
even your grass

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND [some information not clear to hear]

MR wo kwelapha

It is kwelapha²⁵

ND kwelapha

It is kwelapha²⁵

MR Ehhe lo ngulomlotsa ke lowo

Ehhe¹² this is mlotsa²¹ then

ND ngulomlotsa emanyela

It is mlotsa²¹, the emanyelas²³

MR Ehhe batalwa ndvodza tinge nalothlekwako

Ehhe¹² they are begat by ^{one and} the same man with

Footnotes

26 Nkhosi : a praise name of the Royal clan particularly the Namini's; just a polite term of address

27 Natsa : lit. means to drink; but it can be used specifically to refer to drinking alcohol

28 Umphakatsi : see glossary.

29 Awu / ^{owu} _{hawu} : according to Bryant this "interj. Oh!" which is an exclamation, when uttered soft, expressing agreeable surprise, admiration etc.; but when expressed hard, as Hawu, expressing the surprise of dislike, disapproval, indignation, etc."

30 khulekela : Salute a person from respect, as does a man upon first arriving in a kraal, or when passing a superior on the road; also to do reverence to by voice, adore as one adoring God or to pray; humbly or respectfully request or beg a thing of a person; to call out owner's name at his gateway.

31 Hhawu : interj. of surprise or disbelief.
Aha

this Hlekwako¹⁰

ND Yinje sengatsi ————— bayelamana
It is the one, it seems. ————— one comes after the other.

MR Njengani na Khushwa Ehhe
Just as you and Khushwa Ehhe¹²

ND Ya ngangetsi ke lomfana ke nkhozi nabofika
Ya¹³ I thought that this boy then nkhozi²⁶ when they ekuseni la nasilele
arrived here in the morning while we were asleep

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND Bantfu besinatsa (ke tsine) sihambi' busuku
We are people who used to natsa²⁷ and going at night laph' emphakatsini
within the umphakatsi²⁸

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND Bane mabhabhalazi
They have some hangovers

MR Uhhu

Uhhu¹²

ND Awu yebo ke nheko mgilija. Awu silele ke tsine
Awu²⁹ yes nheko' mgilija²⁹. Awu²⁹ we are asleep. Awu²⁹
awu na bantfu (mgilija). Nakhulekela³⁰ landzani
here are people (mgilija)²⁹. You khulekela³⁰, hhawu³¹
litje (entsabeni)
go and fetch a stone from the mountain.

MR Ihhi

Ihhi¹²

ND Unnakefu utanibonela ————— emadladleni
My brother will bonefa³⁴ you ————— in the kitchens

MR Ihhi

Footnotes

32 timvutjeni : probably refers to fermented drinks

33 lijaha : see glossary

34 Bonela : can mean many things; can mean to see for; take care of (someone); imitate, or copy

NA Ihhi¹² letinyameni (nasetimvutjeni). Sesithuma lelijaha in the meat and in (timvutjeni). we sent my lijaha lani sita halo nje manje and we came with him, even now

MR Uhhu

Uhhu¹²

NA Bas' umlilo woku nje bayotsa bantfu kindle up the fire for people are enjoying ^{heat} them

MR Uhhu

Uhhu¹²

NA O uyeta lowaha utawukhulekela la kimi nkhosi Oh that one comes to khulekela³⁰ to me, nkhosi²⁶, Oh o yebo make baboneke bantfu balambile yes mother bonela³⁴ these people they are hungry.

ngiyangena ngiya³⁴chiyaba bayajabula sebakikile

I enter and take it out, they get happy, they have nakuke lapho kufika lesibongo lesitsi mlotsa come. It is where this sibongo⁵ of mlotsa²¹ comes

MR wo

Oh

NA Njengawe nje singadl' inyama lapha

Just as you, we can eat meat here

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

NA Sebayetba ke bantfu batsi mlotsa then people it and said mlotsa²¹

MR O wetsiwa bantfu lokutsi mlotsa

Oh he was named by the people as mlotsa²¹

NA Wetsiwa bantfu kutsi mlotsa

He was named by the people as mlotsa²¹

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND njenganabomnakehu nje

MR Just as your brothers

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND Bayadla nayiya _____ bayadla

MR They eat that _____ they eat

MR Ithi

Ithi¹²

ND Ya

Ya¹³MR Labemdza kusho kutsi ngumuphi kulalabili
MR Who was the older one among the two, is
ngulo
it

ND (ngabe nyatikhombela)

MR You would be pointing for yourself

MR ← koduwa^{wo} ngulo ngulomlotsa labemdzaND _____ by the way oh it is this Mlotsa²¹ who
was older)ND Nguthekwa^{ko}MR It is Hlekwa^{ko}MR Ingatsi nguthekwa^{ko}, wo nguthekwa^{ko}ND I mean it was Hlekwa^{ko}, oh it is Hlekwa^{ko}

ND I-i

i-i²²

MR Wo manje ke

MR Oh now then

ND [some information not clear to hear]

MR Wo

Oh

ND Konakele la nangumshini wakhe

Footnotes

35 imphi : see glossary

36 kangwane : lit. (place) of (the) Ngwane; it can be used to refer to the entire domain under the rule of the descendants of the early king Ngwane i.e. our equivalent of Swaziland; or it can refer to the very heart of the kingdom, the area around the principal royal residence, i.e. around Lobamba.

something went wrong here, his machine (the informant is talking to someone else about the tape recorder)

MR E sekutawulunga kodwa nyalo sokuvele

E it will soon be alright but now it already get kuyalunga. Manje ke infact ngiyacedza nje alright. Now then infact I finishing right now manje ke nako ke sekwenteka ke e sekwenteka

There it happens then, how did it happen that njani lokuge bantfu bakanhko bahlipheke ba people of nhleko' got scattered, how did it kwentekanjani

happen

ND Kwefik' imphi, la kwesuka bakangwane le MR Au imphi³⁵ came here. Those of kangwane³⁶ came leveni lenu

from your live

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND E ngitakutjela kahle mine

E I will properly tell you

MR Uhhu

Uhhu¹²

ND ngete ngesaba noma ungangifak' esitokisini

I will not be afraid even if you can put me into jail

MR Oha ngeke ngakufak' esitokisini

NO I will not put you into jail

ND kwesuk' inkhosi le

The king came from there

NK uyabhala lomshini wakhe

His machine is writing

ND kahle wena awati

Stop you, you do not know

Footnotes

37 Advungunye : also called Zikodze, son of Ngwane III and a daughter of Kubheka Mndzebele (also known as Lamndzebele or Takubheka). His administrative capital Shiselweni and his induna was Mahagane Hlophe. He died in about 1815.

38 Maja : generally there is Maja I and Maja II; but they are both Mamba kings; Maja II has been installed in 1972, he is called alias Muntonsundvu.

39 Kamamba : lit. (place) of the Mamba-people; a place under the leadership of the Mamba king

Kwesuk' inkhosi le

A king came from there

MR Uhu

Uhu¹²

ND namadrodza

These men

ndvungunye

ndvungunye³⁷

MR Andvungunye

They are of ndvungunye

ND Ya

Ya¹³

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND kawti nangu sowu — Maja naye yinkhosi yakitsi
Whereas here he — Maja³⁸ is also our king

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND totayonyana le kangwane

that one at kangwane³⁶

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND Laba bakamamba, kuhlatjw' inkhomo naku nay'

Those of Kamamba³⁹, a cow is slaughtered here, then inkhomo iyahlingwa

the cow is skinned

MR Ihhi Wow

Ihhi¹²

ND Nansi inkhomo la kamamba ihlingwa nganaku

Here is the cow, here at kamamba³⁹ is skinned with ngesithupha

Footnotes

40 emakhosikati (singular inkhosikati) see glossary

41 klwi : means to tear something (such as cloth) in a very fast way; also means to be tall; also to be full.

42 giya : see glossary

a thumb

MR Wo bayihlinga ngesitfupha

Oh they skin it with a thumb

ND nganasi sifupha

with this thumb

MR Wo

Oh

ND Bayesuka laba baka bakamamba banikwa

These 3 kamamba came and were given the emakhosikati

emakhosikati

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND Angati kutsi. Klwi klwi klwi base bayagiya

I do not know that, klwi klwi klwi, then they

(lapha ngilasebanikwa imphi)

giya⁴². (Here is where they were given an imphi)

MR Ihhi (sebanikw' imphi lapha)

Ihhi¹² (they are given an imphi here)

ND Rurusesiy' inkhosi wena. Uyakoshwa ke Maja

You are no more a king. Maja³⁸ is then driven

MR Phhi^{away}

Ihhi¹²

ND Angati ke, nani angati ngoba nani kangibati

I do not know, I also do not know because I also

MR Uhhy do not know them.

Uhhu¹²

ND Uyakoshwa ke Maja

Maja³⁸ is then driven away

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

Footnotes

#3 khandza : can have different meanings ; can mean to find ; can mean to stone or hammer ; can mean to work metal or stone ; can also mean to repair.

ND Sijithandza _____
We then khandza⁴³ _____

MR la
here

ND _____ Hhohho line
_____ Hhohho line

MR Ehhe
Ehhe¹²

ND Wo ye bayasibulala laba bakahleko.
Oh yes they are killing us these of hleko
Sebabita wonkhe lomhlaba
they are calling the whole world

MR Ehhe
Ehhe¹²

ND Sekubakhona ke lohleko kuge kubekhona ke
Then there was this hleko till we^{were} also
natsi

found
MR Ehhe
Ehhe¹²

ND Sesibuyel' emura _____
We then go back _____

MR ukutsi angikeva ke lokutsi wabese ubutsa
It is that I did not hear that he then collected

ND ubutsa ije wonkhe ithohho line matfwanami
He collected the whole Hhohho line my child
wonkhe longwane
the whole ngwane

MR Ehhe
Ehhe¹²

ND Ta

Footnotes

44 Maloyi: (Mamba) Contemporary of Somhlolo and head of the branch of the royal family which later became the Mamboas (Mamba, Bonner interview, edit. pp 4, 5, 10, 12-13, 16, 20, 23. Mamba, Sikhondze, article pp 19-21.)

45 Ntfulini: is a sinanatelo of the Mamba sibongo, or a praise name for the Mamba people.

46 Shheya o: has no meaning but it is just said just to give the song a rhythm

47 Awuva: lit. means you do not hear; but can also be used to mean yes, I agree.

48 Mamba: a sibongo (surname)

Ya¹³

MR kutowuhlasela bakanhleko

To attack those of Nhleko'

ND kutowuhlasela bakanhleko

To attack those of Nhleko'

MR Ehhe

Ehhe¹²

ND Uhhu

Uhhu¹²

MR Manje ke ngike ngeva lapha ukhuluma ngekwekutsi

now then I have heard you talking about, I

seku ingani ngake ngeva nengoma njena itsi

also heard a song saying Maloyi⁴⁴ is

uyesaba Maloyi

afraid

ND _____ uyesaba Maloyi yelaba batidle singekho

Maloyi⁴⁴ is afraid oh these have eaten them

uyesaba Ntfulini shheya o uyesaba Ntfulini

while^{we} were away, Ntfulini⁴⁵ is afraid shheya o⁴⁶, Ntfulini⁴⁵

shheya o. Batidle nemankonyane. Sesititsetse fonkhe

is afraid shheya o⁴⁶. They have eaten them with their

sihambe nato

calves. We have taken them all and have gone with^{them}

MR Ihhi nitsetse nine bakanhleko nitsatsa kamamba

Ihhi¹² you have taken them you of Nhleko', you

ND Awuva

Awuvu⁴⁷

MR Ihhi bakuphi ke laba bakamamba bayephi

Ihhi¹², where are these of Mamba, where have they

ngabeso sikhatsi?

gone to during that time?

ND A - - bakhona

A2760

A22.2.3.1

MR Knowlton's booklets

MR Knowlton's booklets

MR Egan

NO Wilson

MR Egan to right of page Wilson's notebook

MR Egan's notes on Wilson's notebook

Wilson's notes

MR Egan's notes on Wilson's notes

Wilson's notes on Egan's notes

Wilson's notes on Egan's notes

Wilson's notes

MR Egan's notes on Wilson's notes

MR Egan

MR Egan's notes on Wilson's notes

Wilson's notes

MR Egan



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