

DATE :

INFORMANT : DIELEKULU MASILELA

AREA: ENHLAMBENI

REGIMENT : ENHLOVINI

INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM : FATHER, NGANGA

---

We came from Zululand, and originated from Mzilikazi's homestead - the house of Shaka. This is where my father came from. When we arrived here my father separated himself from the Magagula ( from whom he was born), and came here to stay because he is from the same family as Princes Sipha Hluka, Mbodlongo and Mhawa. These were chiefs. After staying for a while he became mad. He went back to his mother's area at Madlangempisi. Whilst he was there he went to fight in a war in Malawi. He then came back to ~~x~~ be the induna at Gaza. It was then that he came with the Masilela. He came with men like Myengwa. The source of our kingship is from Myengwa Ndwandwa. Myengwa was an important king of the Ndwandwa. They came back with King Mawewe who had come to stay with his cousin Mswati. Seeing that Mawewe was a strong man in war, killing mercilessly, my father brought him so that he could show ~~xxxx~~his skills to the people. ~~Mawawewe~~ Mawewe was brought and settled at Ngonini at Piggs Peak. My father was staying at Madlangempisi at that time. That is when he found my brother Madangu and the girl Sibota. That girl had been stabbed. He found these people sitting behind the store at Balegane, under a tree. As soon as they saw him the ~~xx~~ girl wanted to run away into a deep donga, but he told her that he had not come to kill her. He took them to where he was staying and brought them before people like Moyeni. As the girl had some wounds she was treated and is still alive.

All these people as ~~x~~ far as Namahasha came. My father decided to ~~xx~~ separate himself from chief Lobengula and come into Mawewe's impi. He became an <sup>important</sup> induna. In fact he became Mawewe's induna until such time as he came back with him. They were then sent to LaZidze ( their grandmother). As they came from Zwide's area they would not be killed because Mswati knew them. They would be well treated. They had proved that they were one of us.

#### QUESTION A

Mbandzeni suspected that Masilela might be killed, why did the people of Namahasha want him.

Perhaps he was a wizard. In fact he was hated because women like him. The king then wanted to know the area that he liked so that ~~xxxx~~ Masilela could build his home. He chose Ehlangeni, <sup>which</sup> ~~xxxx~~ his cousin Madlangompisi had shown him. Then the king sent Ntwana Gule to fetch him to Ehlangeni. Important men of the area were called, like Manamathela, to be told that Masilela would be ~~xxxx~~ their induna.

#### QUESTION B

.....?

Matembeni and Masilela are the same surnames.

DLELANKULU MASILELA cont..

QUESTION C

When did the Masilela come?

They found us here. They have khontad to us. This is our land.

QUESTION D

How are you related to them?

They defeated us. We were weak people. <sup>+</sup>here was war. The Mawewe people intervened.

QUESTION E

The Sifunda, Masilela and others, were they fought by the king because they had their own incwala?

No they didn't celebrate the incwala - instead they had .....? During Mswati's days the incwala ceremony ~~wasn't~~ wasn't as active as all that. All that was known was Timbandze Samanti ( the belief that the king has ~~px~~ power to form rain and these are the 'chemicals ' required). These chemicals were with the Masilela until such time as Mahlokohla wanted them.

QUESTION F

During the ~~at~~ time that Mahlokohla waged war on them were they still together with the Mahlalela?

We were together.

QUESTION G

After some time did you wish to fight with the Ngwane people?

We never wished to fight with the people form KaNgwane.

QUESTION H

Do the Masilela, Mahlalela and Madolo.....?

No. They are on the way to the Portuguese, and I know nothing about them.

QUESTION I

Besides the Mahlalela, Masilela and Sifunda were there any other clans here?

Y They are the offspring of Namahasha. Mawewe and my father were fighting with Mzizi for his own kingship. Mswati helped Mawewe.

QUESTION J

Was there anyone from Nomahasha who lead the fighting against the Basuto?

The one that Mbandzeni fought at Mshada, defending the white. It was Mawewe who lead the war against the Portuguese. Nomahasha ~~was~~ never sent anybody to Lesotho.

DLELANKULU MASILELA cont...

QUESTION K

Did Mswati ever wage war against the Matebele?

He wanted to fight with the Mngometfulo. It was returned.

QUESTION L

Are there any famous warriors amongst the Masilelas?

My father was a warrior of Enyathini regiment. He killed people with spears.

QUESTION M

When you came to Nomahasha were there any people settled there?

~~xx~~ Nothing.

~~Mswati~~ Mswati's war raged from the Portuguese area to Msapa and he killed many people. L.M. was besieged. The Portuguese helped Mzila and took him to an island. It was Mswati who made a mistake by agreeing with Mawewe. If the Portuguese had been clever they would have killed them. Mawewe ran away from these and came here with my father. Mswati died at Balagane.

*4 Mswati*

