

DATE : 23.4.70

INFORMANT : MANDLENKOSI NXUMALO

REGIMENT :

AREA : DHUME : Esikotheni

INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM :

We started from Langa of Maguda, then Zwide, Mgani, Sihalahala, Shemane and Dhume. The present son of Dhume is chief Makhutwane Ndwandwe. My grandfather is Shemane Sihalahola. We found Mswati as king of the Swazi.

Shemane is a brother of ~~Ngolotsheni~~ Ngolotsheni, who was the leader of this clan. Shemane was introduced to the Swazi king by Ngolotsheni. That was in the days of Mswati - we went through the Ngwane kings until today. Shemane once had his village at Mbulungwane hill in the south eastern area of Hlathikhulu. After the death of Ngolotsheni Mlokathwa became chief. Ngolotsheni was the one who put the head ring on Dhume. Shemane established his home at Mbulungwane, among the Simelane people. Loziga was a ~~royal~~ royal maiden of Malambule, who was married to Shemane sometime.

Zwide was the royal king of Zululand, who had fought many wars in Zululand. One incident here was that one day Sobhuza I visited Zwide the Royal king of Zululand. On his way he was followed and preceded by cattle. On his meeting for the first time with the Zulu King Zwide, the latter fell down, and Somhlolo wondered at his feebleness and wondered if he ~~should~~ should kill him. On that night there fell torrential rain, but on the following morning it was sunny. When Zwide conspired against Sobhuza, plotting to kill him, his mother protested and pleaded with him to let him go in peace. Then on his return he was given Thandile Ndwandwe and the mother of Thekwane, the mother of Lavumisa. The mother of Mswati was Thandile LaZwide, while the mother of Thekwane was LaVumisa, meaning her father was Vumisa. Their friendship sprang out from ~~there~~ ^{there} Mahlokohla Bhunu, the son of Mbandzeni went for a wife from Ngolotsheni's family, so he married LoMawa ~~who~~. Whilst she was pregnant the king Mahlokohla ~~died~~ died. After the death of Mahlokohla the Langenis then said, "go and ask the body guard of the king, Mshengu of Mashobeni, if he knows who of the wives of the king is to take queenship." Mshengu told them to ordain LaNgolotsheni, because she was by the family of a king's grandmother. Then meanwhile the king's wives dispersed to stay with their original families. Also Ngolotsheni went to Zikhotheni, where she gave birth to a son. Because it was already known that she was the chosen mother to be of the present King immediately a palace was built at Zikhotheni. As you can remember, in these yards one was not permitted to rest on one's stick, because this is the king's birth place. Afterwards the king and his mother went back to Lobamba. It was known that even the mother was born during the Zulu Wars. She had been born in a cave fortress - three cliffs. After that Zwide had a strong relationship with the Ngwane.

The real purpose for migrating from Shiselweni to Mdzimba range was the mere fact that the place had good cave fortresses. As one can remember, ~~that~~ even LaNgangeni, the fleeing Queen mother hid at Gobholo, a large cave at Mdzimba mountains.

In fact Sobhuza I fought the Basutho clans as far as the far north of Swaziland. A legendary incident of the Zulu raids in Swaziland is that once the Zulu impi went ~~to~~ for the Swazi who resorted to cave fortresses. One woman who was in one cave killed 5 of the Zulu warriors. Really she repulsed them because there was ~~an~~ ^{only one} entrance, and whoever appeared was stabbed to death. Then ~~the~~ the Zulu impi retreated, ~~complaining~~ complaining that they were killed by a female.
