Interview 1 with Mr Msomi – Amatata
October 1988

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Date: 25 July 2023

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INTERVIEWED AT: Amatata
DATE: 07-10-1988
INTERLOCUTOR: Fred Gijima Msomi
INTERVIEWERS: Sizwe Nkomo and Heather Hughes

CELE HISTORY AT INANDA

Ungake usilandise ngomlando wakho ukuthi ungubani, wakwabani nokuthi wazalwa nini kuphi? Mina ngingu Fred Gijima Msomi, ubaba ngu [Silashama?], ngazalwa 1906. Ngabhabhadiswa 1907 kodwa emabhukwini abelungu kuthiwa ngazalwa ngonyaka ka - 1907. [1] Kusho ukuthi wazalwa ngempi ka Bhambatha? Yebo ngazalwa obaba bethu beboshiwe eThekwini kwa kuthiwa ikwaMpofu enkambweni maqondana nempi kaBambatha. Wayeboshiwe eThekwini ubaba wakho ngesikhathi sempi kaBambatha? ehhe bebeqoqwa nje bebizwa uhulumeni bonke izinsizwa sisentshenziswa zijoyiniswa. (inserted by Siphiwosakhe Bhengu taken from the recording). Ubaba wakho waye hlala eNdwedwe ngale nkathi eboshwa noma wayehlala eNkanda? Qha wayewowaseMaphephetheni duzane nendawo seyaziwa ngokuthi yi [Ngekwini?] school (eMngeni). Pho amaphephethwa eza kanjani lapha eNdwedwe? Amaphephethwa aqhamuka kaZulu phesheya koThukela iNkosi yaseMaPhephetheni yehla yagudla uMngeni uma sithwelwa yase ithola yonke lendawo kuye kuyofika eMzinyathi. Inkosi yasemaQadini yabe yakhe ngaphansi ngale phesheya koMngeni ezansi kwaseNtuzuma. Uma esekhuphuka amaQadi eza neno yasihlehla yona eyasemaPhethetheni yasuka yayokwakha emaTabetweni yayokwakha kwaMamphengane basebegcina lakungena khona uMngeni. Umngcele nje ulapho owadabulwa uSomtsewu. Kwasekwenziwa umgcele ongena eFaya ungene eMngeni mina ngavela elapho ke

emaphephetha.

[1]

Ubani igama lenkosi yamaphephethwa eyayihola kuwelwa uThukela kuziwa ngala? Inkosi uMyeka. Kusekela kunkosi uMyeka yamaphi amanye amakhosi ongahle uwakhumbule? Ngeke ngikhumbule kahle ngoba uMyeka azange ngimbone kodwa engimkhumbulayo uKhamanga ozalwa uMyeka. UMyeka ezalwa uMaJiya. UKhamanga uzala uDlivane. Emva kukaDlivane kwaphatha umfowabo kaDlivane (Mphengi) owabe ebambele uBhekinkosi okhona namanje. Kungabe kuyiqiniso yini ukuthi amaphe - [phethwa?] ayemancane ngesibalo kunamaQadi futhi ehlushwa ngamaQadi futhi ehlushwa ngamaQadi ngokuwachukuluza ? AmaQadi yebo ayemaningi njengoba nanamuhla amaQadi enesibalo esikhulu. Njengoba lapho sikhona labangwa lelizwe amabutho asemaphe-[theni] nabakwa Khumalo ayebuthisa lapha ekhaya kubangwa lendawo. Mina ngasuka eMapheph- [theni] ngiyinduna ngeza lapha eMatata lapho abaka Khu-[malo] bafike bathi angibe ngowabo ngoba bona banobufakazi bokuthi uBhulushe uyena [owaveza] isonto kulendawo ngoba nakhu ngakhe eduze nesonto ngabesengiyavuma-ke. Kwathike -ke masekubangiwe undabazabantu wabe esethatha lendawo
eseyinika amaQadi. Kwakunini kwenzeka lokhu? Angisakhumbuli kahle kodwa khona kwenzeka ngokushona kwenkosi uMvaba okuyona [owabe?] [e?]phethe umbango (inkosi yamaQadi) eyebambele uMandlakayise (1946-47).

[2]

Kuthi ngale emaphe- [theni] kube inkosi [uMphungwa?]. Okusho ukuthi ngalesosikhathi wena wabe ususema Qadini? Cha kubangwe lowombango undabazabantu wabe esethi uyalamula lowombango, ngokuthi usuthathe iminyaka eminingi. Indawo yase inikezwa amaQadi ukuthi amakhosi onke angayibangi leyo ndawo. Isonto leli noba kwakungelenkosi uBhulushe yayisiyongena phansi kwentaba ingakhuphuki. Lokhu kwenziwa ngoba undabazabantu wathi ulamula indaba yomsindo wayo indawo yesonto. Amakholwa ayengaqhubeka azisontele ngokwawo kodwa kungabe uBhulushe onamandla [ematata?]. Isonto labe selibuyela eMaqadini –Nawe? Kwathiwa mina ngoba ngangikhona ngangihola umbango ngikhuluma enkantolo ngikhuluma umakuhlangenwe kwathiwa angingene emaQadini yase ingenza induna inkosi. Kodwa [uMphungwa?] yena akazange angithande. ngaze ngabuyela ebunduneni sekubusa uMzonjani. Lapho ke sasesiba amaQadi. Okusho ukuthi namanje useyinduna ? Yebo ngiyinduna yamaQadi. Ake usitshele ukuthi wakhula kanjani [nibangaki?] ekhaya nemfundo yakho? Ngafunda [eNgcukwini?] ngafunda eMngeni kwaNgcolosi naseMission phesheya yoMngeni ngaye ngcina ku Std 4. Emva kwalokho ngabe sengiyosebenza.

[3]

Wasebenza kuphi. Ngasebenza emakhishini ehotela eButterworth iminyaka emibili ngangibuye ngiyosebenza ekhaya lakhe uMnu.(Mnu. is short for uMnumzane/Mr.) Nini [?] (inserted to underline follow up question by interviewer). Lapho kwakungabo 1921 ngezikhathi ze ICU yilapho ngake ngasebenzela esitolo sesulumane (Thekwini). Uyayikhumbula yini iICU na? Yebo futhi ngayijoyina. Uyamazi noMnu W. Champion? Yebo ngiyamazi kakhulu bengike ngimvakashele nasekhaya lakhe. Wafika eThekwini ungakaganwa? Yebo ngaleyonkathi ngangikashadi ngaze ngashada ngo 1930. Ngabe sengakha lapha [ematata?] ngo 1932. ngayeka ukusebenza eThekwini ngangizisebenza nginenqola yezimbongolo ediliva izimpahla zabantu kusuka eThekwini kuyako Mngeni koNdwedwe [kwazise?] zazingabikho izimoto. Kwakungekabani inqola lena? Kwakunge yami kodwa ishayelwa umkhwe wami owabe eyinduna lapha emakholweni mina ngangena esikhundleni sakhe. Igama lakhe kwakungu Thomas Phaqula Dingila. Kwakuyini igama lesonto? Kwakuyi Afrika lona leli. Yona lendlu yesonto yakhiwa nini? Elalakhwe sisengaphansi kwabamhlophe belihambela nje [Ngenkathi?] ngoba labe lise [Lisesabelweni?] bethi yimission yabantu kaMdikane. Kungabe naye uAMerika? yebo.

[4]

Ukhona umlungu ongase umkhumbule na? Cha akekho kodwa lona babephethe eNanda ngoba noMadikane eyalapha nje wacelwa kubona. uMadikane yena wabe eyini? Wabe eyinduna kodwa wabuyeka ubuduna [inserted word Ubunduna] waya eyoba ukuyofundela [ubufundisi?] waselethwa eMatata. Cishe kwakungumuphi unyaka uMadikane eza ngawo lapha eMatata? Ngingathi angazi kodwa washona ngisengumfana ngifunda isikole. washona kwathi emva kwakhe kwangena uQandiyana indodana yakhe engaqala ukuba umshumayeli kuyena. Ngisewumfana uThomas owayeyigosa likaMadikane. Kwakuyindoda enjani uMadikane? Kwakuyindoda ehloniphekile inkosi uBhulushe waxosha abefundisi ababethunyelwe abamhlophe baze babababili kodwa kwathi kungafika uMadikane wajabula uBhulushe [cishe?] wamthanda ngoba wabemazi ukuthi uyiNduna kaMqhawe. Futhi uBhulushe wabe eganwe yindodakazi kaMqhawe. Kwabe kungubani igama lendodakazi ? Kwabe kunguNomasonto wabe eyinkosazana kaMqhawe owegane uBhulushe okwathi uma uBhulushe ethola icala egwaze umuntu inhliziyo yakhe ibabuhlungu wase efuna umfundisi ozomthandazela.

[5]

Izinga lemfundo labe linjani ngesikhathi sikaBhulushe? Baya kancane abantu, esikoleni abafundanga kakhulu babengakuthandi ukufunda bekhonze ubuqhwaga okwathi uma uBhungushe egwaze umuntu kulwa amadodana akhe nawakwa Qhawe waze wacela abantwana bakhe ukuba baphenduke babe amakholwa. Kwabe kuyini imbangela [yezimpi?] ngaleso sikhathi? kwabe kuxatshwana emshadweni kulokhu nje kwabe kukhona umshado kaQwabe ehla amadodana kaBhulushe ayakhona kuthi uBhulushe ebona amadodana akhe ebaleka wawabuyisela khona wathi abayolwa wathi ingahlangana wase egwaza umuntu ezefa lowo muntu kwabe kuwu Kudla waka Cele. Cishe kwabe kungeziphi izikhathi? Cishe ngangizelwe ngingathi ngoba udaba udaba ngalixoxelwa uThomas owaye ngokuzwalwa kwaShangase. Abakwa Shangase namaphephetha bona babephathene kanjani? Angiyitholi impi phakathi kwamaphephetha noShangase ngaphandle kokulwa okujwayelekile nje uma kuyimishado. Impi eyabankulu yabaphakathi kwabakwaShangase namaQadi ngo [1892?]. Ubaba wakho wabe eziphilisa ngani? Wabe ezisebenzela nje esebenzela [epholisiteshi?] (uSayitsheni) esebenza ekhishini , uSayitsheni wase Nanda [eMtshebheni?]

[6]

Usayitsheni wayeke afike nasekhaya. Ngesikhathi sikababa wakho abantu babeya yini ukuyosebenza emadolobheni? Yebo babesebenza khona ubaba nje owabe eseNanda [kanti wake wasebenza eGoli naye ubaba?]

END OF SIDE ONE

Izibongo zakho ungasipha zona? Ukhona [ozaziyo?]kodwa akekho lapha ekhaya [manje?], nozithola uma nibuya zona nginazo . Lokhu kungenzeka mhlawumbe emva kwamashumi -10 uma sesilethe [lomkhundu?] wakho. Yebo ngingingazama ukuba eze lapha. Kungenzeka yini asiphe nezibongo zika Madikane? Cha ngoba yena azange abe umuntu okhalwayo. Umuntu ongase abe nazo ezikaMadikane uQhawe. [Ku?]Ngenzeka Thomas ongazaziyo zona.

Nzima emnyama kanotiyela

Mshayi wensimbi kungakaphunywa

Usingayengi usungayingendlela

Usumangokhanda emadodeni

[Njengamanje?] wenzani? Ngafundisa abelungu ukujova izinkomo [njalo?] ngoLwesihlanu ngisuka [ngiyojova?]. Njengomuntu omdala yikhuphi okuyinguquko nentuthuko ozibonile kusukela ezikhathini zenu kuze kube namuhla?

[7]

Uma ngiqhathanisa izikhathi ngiyayibona intuthuko kodwa lendawo engikuyo (eMatata) ayinabo abantu besilisa abahlala khona abaningi. Abakhona abayingcosana bayayi hambisa intithuko njengaye lowo umdala esiqeda kukhuluma ngaye uyalima, angibize ukuze ngizomlimela [kwakhe?] impilo yakhe ukulima. Abanye abantu, abantu bangamavila baye bahlale emjondolo baphile ngamatoho.Bheka thina siyalima nalendawo impofu ifuna umuntu okhuthele alime afake umanyolo nemiquba ukuze avune.

Kukhona abezolimo abafika bezosi fundisa ukulima nenhlabathi kanjalo nokusebenza umsebenzi wezandla. Indodakazi yami yafundela ukuthunga sesikhuluma nje. Bheka leziyazingodo ezilayishwa lapha ngasesitolo ingumsesbenzi wentuthuko ngoba kwelinywa amahlathi asedayiswa [manje?]. [lo?] owatshala ihlathi usashona kodwa izingane zona zisathola okusho ukuthi yona [impucuko?] ikhona. Nabagugayo baya ekiliniki bafike bathole ukwelashwa mahala kunjalo nemali yempesheni nabagugile siyahola okwabe kuyiphupho kuqala. Ngingasho ukuthi ziningi izinto ezikhomba intuthuko eyaye [bangenayo ?] abantu.

[8]

Siyabonga lokhu osiphe khona namuhla mhlawumbe sesiyoqhubeka ngesonto elizayo ? Sicela siye ethuneni lika Msomi . Going to the grave. Nami ngiyajabula kakhulu.

[9]