

TITLE : THE ORIGIN OF THE MKHWANAZI TRIBE UNDER MKHONTOKAYISE
J.MKHWANAZI

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THE ORIGIN OF THE KHWANAZI TRIBE UNDER MKHONTOKAYISE J.
MKHWANAZI AT MTHUNZINI DISTRICT

1. The aim of the study of the origin of Mkhwanazi Tribe

The aim of this short research paper is to trace the origin of the history of the Mkhwanazi district. The source which had been used are mainly persons who are closely related to the Mkhwanazi Dynasty and some archival sources, as well as secondary sources.

2. The Location of Mkhwanazi Tribe

The History of the Mkhwanazi tribe between the UMhlathuze and the Umlalazi rivers in the east and west respectively and the Indian Ocean and the Ongoye mountains in the South and North is an offshoot of the Mkhwanazi tribe of the chief Somkhele in the Hlabisa district¹. Its history can be clearly understood by first looking at the history of the Mkhwanazi tribe in the Hlabisa district.

3. The period of Velani

Velani who became Dingiswayo's Induna of the Oyengweni regiment, originated from Swaziland on coming to settle under Dingiswayo he distinguished himself as an extremely brave man².

He died fighting Dingiswayo's wars against Zwide, leader of the

Ndwandwe clan. His son Malanda was also a brave man, who was succeeded by Somkhele as Chief of the Mkhwanazi in the Hlabisa district ³ .

4. Period of Malanda and Mfiki

Phalane and his brother Mfiki were sent across the Mhlathuze from the Hlabisa district by Malanda to conquer the Gumede's and the Dube tribe under chief Magemegeme ⁴. The Dube tribe was occupying the territory from Mhlathuze to the Fort Dunford area, along the coast whilst the Gumede's were living beyond the Ongoye mountain⁵.

1. S.N.A. 1/9/7, No 5 : Mkhwanazi Tribe Under Chief Somkhele
Hlabisa district, 3.11.1902

N.Makhwasa : Great Grand daughter of Mfiki living near the
Mengezi river kwa-Dlangezwa (65 years) 10.6.86

2. J.A. Stuart (ed) : Ubaxolele, p15.

3. S.N.A. 1/9/7, No 5 : Mkhwanazi tribe under chief Somkhele
Hlabisa district, 3.11.1902

4. N.Mkhwanazi : Port Dunford (70 years) 04.04.86

5. S.N.A. 1/9/7, No 9 : Madinzini tribe under Mqedi lower

Umfolozzi district 3.11.1902

Mfiki accomplished his talk with ease conquering the Gumede's and settling at the foot of the Ongoye mountains. He sent Phalane who had accompanied him from Hlabisa to conquer the Dubes of chief Magemegeme. Phalane had come as a very young man with his mother to pay tribute to Malanda⁶. Phalane got his name because of the work he did, namely scratching skins for making shields as well as dresses. He had gone to the Mthethwa to sow skin's skirts as this was the work done mainly by the Mthethwas⁶.

Malanda decided to send Phalane and Mfiki to the land between the Umlalazi and Mhlathuze, the present Kwa-Dlangezwa. Other people who accompanied Mfiki were Nyokana, Mganu and Ndeleleni⁷.

Mfiki was not hospitable to his subjects. He did not give them food when they had come to pay tribute to him.

5. Period of Phalane

Phalane on the other hand was more hospitable organizing many celebrations for those who visited him (at his place, near the Present Moholoholo store where he had gone to check the revolt of the Dubes)⁸.

Thousands of Mkhwanazi subjects eventually preferred the role of Phalane because of his hospitality and celebration in which he

held. This preference was the bloodless Coup of the role of Mfiki, and marked desertions by hundreds of his subjects⁹.

5.1 The period of Ngongwana

When Phalane died shortly before the outbreak of the Anglo-Zulu war, he was succeeded by his son Ngongwana, who ruled as an Induna of John Dunn¹⁰. This arrangement was in accordance with Sir Garnet Wolseley's settlement which divided Zululand into 13 districts¹¹.

6. N. Makhwasa : Great Grand Daughter of Mfiki (65years)

Living near Mengeni river 10.06.86

7. N. Mkhwanazi : Port Dunford, Headman (70 years) 04.04.86

8. T.A.Mthethwa : Port Dunford (62 years) 06.05.86

9. N. Makhwasa : Great Grand Daughter of Mfiki (65 years)

Living near Mengezi river 10.06.86

10. S.N.A. 1/9/7 No 15 : Six sections of the Late Dunn's tribe and the appointed chiefs Lokothwayo Zungu,

Sisimana Mzimela, Ngwenya, Nzuza, Ngongwana
Mkhwanazi, Zimema Mzimela, Ntungelazana Zulu.

11. J. Guy : Destruction of the Zulu Kingdom pp 72-3

John Dunn was appointed as one of these thirteen chiefs (the abanumzane) King's representatives who had previously been independent of John Dunn's rule now became his Indunas. This was mainly in a territory between the Umhlathuze and Tugela, which later became known as Umlalazi district. There were six of these so called Indunas of John Dunn, Lokothwayo Mathaba was the only one whose tribe was North of the Thukela river¹². Simamana Zulu was in charge of his tribe whose territory stretched to the Mthunzini garage. Ngwenya Nzuza, was in charge of his tribe in a territory from the Gingindlovu to the South of Eshowe.

Zimema Mzimela's territory stretched from the Umhlathuze to parts of Eshowe and to the Ongoye range. In the South Ntungelezana Dube had the small territory near the so called Port Dunford, John Dunn ruled over this territory like a King. However, after his death in 1895, the Indunas were made independent chiefs again. In this manner Ngongwana resumed the administration of his tribe, but like all the chiefs had to report to the Magistrate at Mthunzini who had been appointed in place of John Dunn¹³.

When Ngongwana died, he was succeeded by Mbuyiseni, who ruled peaceful without any incident after his death Munt'ongenakudla Mkhwanazi, his son, took over. Munt'ongenakudla involved his tribe in a serious faction fight at Port Dunford. He was then arrested and banished¹⁴. During his banishment, however, Munt'ongenakudla's mothers favoured his chief Headman (Induna) Mvuzemvuze Mnguni to act as a regent until the release of Munt'ongenakudla himself, who recommended Mvuzemvuze to rule during his absence¹⁵.

12. S.N.A. 1/9/7 No 14 : Ndlela Section of the Zungu tribe under Ndabayakhe. 3.11.1902

13. S.N.A. 1/9/7 No 15 : Six Sections of John Dunn 3.11.1902

14. N. Makhwasa : Great Grand Daughter of Mfiki 10.6.86

15. N. Mkhwanazi : Port Dunford, Headman, (70 years)
04.04.86

Mvuzemvuze rule the Mkhwanazi tribe for the period of 19 years. His reign marked the settlement of whites in the Mkhwanazi territory.

One of the important events was the establishment of the University of Zululand in 1960, and the removal of the people along the coastal area near Port Dunford and Esikhawini¹⁴. Mvuzemvuze managed also to end faction fights, which were many during the

Furthermore the discovery of Russian weapons in July 1986 under a trained guerilla fighter, Nkuna in one of Chief Mkhwanazi's ward was also a sign that tribesman were no longer very loyal to their chief.

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- 16. P. Ndunakazi : Esikhawini, tribesman, (64 years) 05.08.86
 - 17. M. Mkhwanazi : Kwa-Dlangezwa (50 years) 20.07.86
 - 18. N. Mkhwanazi : Port Dunford, Former Headman (70 years)
04.04.86
 - 19. T.A.Mthethwa : Port Dunford (62 years) 06.05.86

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- Mkhwanazi, M : Former Chief's Headman
70 years living at Fort Dunford
- Mthethwa, T A : Tribesman. 62 years, living at Port
Dunford
- Ndunakazi, P : Tribesman; 64 years, living at eSikhawini.