

SAN AND KHOI UNIT INTER-UNIVERSITY DIGITAL ARCHIVE RESEARCH GROUP

IZIKO LWEZIFUNDO ZE-AFRIKA

ILIZWI NGENTLEKELE YOKUTSHA KOVIMBA OBUGCINWE E-AFRICAN STUDIES

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*'Inene, ndixhelekile. Andinabuciko.'*

– *Eshcha Adams, ithwasa lesidanga seMasters nomfundisi-ntsapho, kwiSan and Khoi Unit, eUCT*

Sikhupha eli lizwi sixhelekile sileli qela lophando ngovimba ogcinwe ngobuchwephetshe (digital archive) emva komlilo otshise iThala leeNcwadi i-African Studies Special Collections ngeye-18 kuTshazimpuzi 2021. Kodwa ke, sibhala sinethemba elizalwa sisithembiso sokuntshula kweenyibiba zohlobo luthile (fire lillies) emva kwesidunge-dunge somlilo. Le ntlekele iye yagqamisa imfuneko yokusiphula neengcambu ubuxoki bokuba ixabiso lwamathala eencwadi novimba ogcinwe kumaziko-ngamaziko 'lolobukoloniyali' kuphela. Kukho uluvo lokuba imbali yabomgquba 'iyathethwa' kuphela, ngapha koko, akukho xabiso kulo vimba ubhaliweyo. Ukubonisa ukunganyaniseki kolu luvo, lo vimba ubhaliweyo, phakathi kwezinye izinto, uqulathe amabali amayela no//Kabbo nephupha lakhe lokubalisa ibali lakhe. Abantu bomgquba babebalisa amabali abo kwiimishinari nakwabanye abantu. Nangona singenokulikhanyela ifuthe lwenkokhakalo yobukoloniyani kule ngqokelela-mabali - ona zange afe, kodwa afumana ubomi obude, aba sisixhobo sokubinza mhla ubukoloniyali buchitha-chita budiliza iintsika zethu. Okunye emasikuvelela kukuba ama-Afrika okuqala ukufunda kwiizikolo zeemishinari enza imigudu neenzame zokuqokelela amabali neembali zabantsundu, bazipoposha kumaphepha-ndaba abhalwe ngeelwimi zesiNtu kwiminyaka engama-160 adlulayo, benenjongo zokuba azokugcinwa kuvimba ukulungiselela isizukulwana soqokelelo olungqakamba lwase-Afrika. Oomakhulu noobawomkhulu bethu baqokelela, bapoposha, bagcina olu lwazi ngexesha elinzima lwenkqubo yobukoloniyali, ngokuba babeyiqonda le nkqubo, nanjengokuba babephila phantsi kwayo, ukuba yayitshabalalisa ulwazi lwabo ngokwephanyazo. Nokuba agcinwe phi na la maxwebu, kwizwekazi lethu okanye ngaphesheya kolwandle, aligugu

enkubeko nobugqi bethu. Khawukhangele ukubaluleka koku ngokuthi ugqale *imotto* kwi*Coat of Arms* yoMzantsi Afrika- *!Ke e: /Xarra //Ke* – lilizwi lwezizwe sama- /Xam elifumaneka kulo vimba. Ukuba ke lo vimba wesizwe sama- /Xam zange ubhalwe phantsi, uMzantsi Afrika ngowungazange waba nale *motto* kwi*Coat of Arms*. Le lahleko yamaxwebu ethaleni ibuhlungu kuba inkulu ilahleko kwimbali ebaliswayo kule Ntshona-Kapa ekhuculwe ubu-Afrika, umzekelo, imbali kunye neelwimi zamandulo asizazi ncakasana. Lo vimba wobukoloniyanane wanamhlanje-nokuba unengxaki zawo, kodwa usibonisa ubungakanani bale lahleko xa siphengulula iziphene ezicwangciswe kwimbali. Esi sehlo sisikhumbuza ngexesha lokubhujiswa kwamathalakazi eencwadi e-Alexandria, eTimbuktu naseRio. Yayiyilahleko enkulu kuluNtu lonke jikelele le, futhi ihlabathi lonke lasililela esi sehlo, njengokuba kwakufanele. Ukulwa le nwebu isemehlweni, yokungazi ukubaluleka kwalo vimba wolwazi, amaziko-ngamaziko makadlale indima yokuqinisekisa ukuba ulutsha luyazi ngovimba walo nangexabiso lawo ukulungiselela isizukulwana sangomso. Ngenxa yalo mlilo ke, umsebenzi wethu njengabaphandi nabahlohli abafundisa ngovimba (ozintlobo-zininzi, ezibonakakayo nezingabambekiyo) sele ngoku ubaluleke ukugqitha ukuqonda ebesinako. Ngenxa yokuba lo vimba wobukoloniyanali ububhalwe phantsi kwaye ungafikeleleki lula ebantwini (ingakumbi kubaphandi abasuka kumazwe asuka kwaba phantsi kolawulo lobukoloniyanali abizwa *iglobal south*), asazi ngokupheleleyo yintoni na ebiquathwe kulo vimba, umthamo welahleko, nomonakalo kwixesha langoku nakwelizayo. Eyona nto ingumnqa nekwabalulekileyo, kukuba lo mlilo, usenza ukuba sicinge ngobudlelwane bethu nalo vimba nokuba ngubani okwaziyo ukufikelela kuye nokuba ulawulwa ngubani. Asinokube siyazi ncakasana into ibiquathwe kulo vimba, futhi le lahleko iza kushiya isikhewu esikhulu kubantu basemazantsi Afrika. Ukuba lo vimba ebeyinxalenye yeenkqubo zezifundo esizifundisayo, loo not lbiza bizokukhuthaza ukufunda ngokuthabatha inkxaxheba nokuwusebenzisa. Le ntlekele idalwe ngulo mlilo ibethelela ukubaluleka kokushicilela lo vimba kwezobuchwephetshe (digitization of the archives) nokuba ufikelele kuwo wonke ubani; sinethemba lokuba njengokuba sisakha kutsha eluthuthwini, sizokuyila indlela yokuba lo vimba afikelele kuye wonke ubani ngokulinganayo kunye nabaphandi bakumazwe *iglobal south*. Lo msebenzi nokubaluleka kwawo kuhlaziyo, uchaphazela ngqo umsebenzi weZiko iSan and Khoi nomsebenzi wethu siliqela labaphandi *i-Inter-university research team on the digital archive and endangered languages*. Sinovimba wolwazi lwamandulo ongundoqo ohleli eluNtwini lwethu, futhi emveni kwale ntlekele, ukugcina nokushicilela olu lwazi olubaluleke nangaphezu ngoku kunangaphambili. –

*Translated/adapted into isiXhosa by/Iguqulelwe esiXhoseni nguSanele Ntshingana”*

Ukuxhasa umsebenzi oqhubekayo weli qela labaphandi, nceda ubhalele u:

Admin.khoiandsanunit@uct.ac.za

June Bam, Interim Director, San and Khoi Unit, UCT.

Pedro Dausab, Khoekhoegowab Subject Matter Expert, Namibia and San and Khoi Unit, UCT.

Professor Ana Deumert, Linguistics, UCT

Martin Gluckman, - Language Computational Linguist

Robyn Humphreys, PhD student in Archaeology, San and Khoi Unit, UCT.

Prof Pamela Maseko, Nelson Mandela University

Prof Nomalanga Mkhize, Nelson Mandela University

Bradley Van Sitters, Khoekhoegowab researcher, San and Khoi Unit, UCT.