

*Praises for an ironsmith*

1 *Today this place is full of noise and jollity.*

*The guiding spirit that enables my husband to forge makes him  
do wanders.*

*All those who lack hoes for weeding, come and buy!  
Hoes and choppers are here in plenty.*

2 *My husband is a craftsman in iron,  
Truly a wizard at forging hoes.  
Ah, here they are! They have come eager to find hoes.  
Ah, the iron itself is aglow, it is molten red with heat,  
And the ore is ruddy and incandescent.*

3 *My husband is an expert in working iron,  
A craftsman who sticks like wax to his trade.  
On the day when the urges to forge come upon him,  
The bellows do everything but speak.  
The pile of slag rises higher and higher.*

4 *Just look at what has been forged,  
At the choppers, at the hoes, at the battle axes,  
And here at the pile of hatchets, large and small.*

5 *Then look at the double-bladed knives and the adzes.  
Merely to list them all seems like boasting.*

6 *As for fowls and goats, they cover my yard.  
They all come from the sale of tools and weapons.  
Here is where you see me eating at my ease with a spoon.*

Zulu: Izbogno, i tre stadi:

1) Senzangakhona (XVIII sec.) Sud Africa — solo lode

*UMenzi kaNdaba!*

*UBhid elimathetha ngezinyembezi.  
Linjeng' elikaPhik' eBulawini.  
Inyath' ehamb' isengam' amazibuko,  
UnjengoMzingeli kwamaMfekana.*

*Ozithebe zihle uMjokwane,*

*Ozithebe zihle zidel' amanxasakazi.*

*Odl' umfazi umkaSukuzwayo,*

*Wamudl' uSukuzwayo kanve  
nendodana.*

*Menzi son of Ndaba!*

*Variagation like a multi-coloured animal,  
Like that of Phiko at Bulawini.  
Buffalo that goes overlooking the fords,  
He is like Mzingeli of the  
Mfekana people.*

*He whose eating-mats are  
beautiful, Mjokwane,  
Whose beautiful mats are eaten from  
by womenfolk.*

*He captured a woman, the wife  
of Sukuzwayo,  
And destroyed Sukuzwayo and his son.*

2) Shaka figlio di Senzangakhona (1787 - 1828) - la lode diventa epica, con una stanza e un episodio compiuto

*Uteku Iwabafazi bakwaNomgabhi,  
Betekula behlez' emlovini,  
Beth' uShaka kakubusa kakuba nkosi,*

*The joke of the women of Nomgabhi,  
Joking as they sat in a sheltered spot,  
Saying that Shaka would not rule, he  
would not become chief.*

*Kant' unyakan' uShaka ezakunethezeka.*

*Inkom' ekhal' eMthonjaneni,  
Izizwe zonke ziyizwil' ukulila,*

*Izwiwe uDunjwa waseluYengweni,*

*Yezwiwe uMangengeza wakwaKhali.*

*Umlilo wothathe kaMjokwane;  
Umlilo wothathe ubuhanguhangu,  
Oshis' izikhova eziseDlebe,  
Kwaya kwasha neziseMabedlana.*

*Whereas it was the year in which Shaka was  
about to prosper.*

*The beast that lowed ad Mthonjaneni,  
And all the tribes heard its wailing,*

*It was heard by Dunjwa of the Yengweni  
kraal.*

*It was heard by Mangeengeza of Khali's  
kraal.*

*Fire of the long dry grass, son of Mjokwane;  
Fire of the long grass of scorching force,  
That burned the owls on the Dlebe hill,  
And eventually those on Mabedlana  
also burned.*

3) Post Shaka Mzilikazi ex ufficiale di Shaka fino al 1823, lo lascia e fonda il regno Ndebele (Zimbabwe) nel 1826 - lo sviluppo del parallelismo

*UMkhatshwa wawoZimangele,  
Okhatshwe ngezind' izinyawo,  
Nangezimfushanyana;*

*UMkhatshwa wawoZimangele,  
UMzilikazi kaMashobana;*

*Inkubele abayihlabe ngamanxeba,*

*Abamkhule ngezinyawo  
ezimfushanyana,*

*Nezimaqhukulwana.*

*The expelled one of Zimangele,  
Who was kicked out by long feet  
And by short ones;*

*The expelled one of Zimangele,  
Mzilikazi son of Mashobana;*

*The wounded one whom they stabbed*

*with wounds,*

*Whom they tripped up with short feet*

*And with big toes.*