

The breaking up of a Tribe

The Korana ~~and Potlating~~ of Mamusa

The Hottentots who appear to have tricked from the far north down to the Cape at some remote period as yet undefined, carry us back in our histories to 1652 and the first days of Dutch occupation.

The Korana section of the Hottentot-nation, so named from their first-known Chief Kora, quarrelled with the early Dutch and tricked north through the country then sparsely inhabited by the Bushman till they reached the Orange river. It was probably about 1795 just north of the river that they met the oncoming Bechuana tribes who had not then penetrated further south.

After much of the customary intertribal fighting we find in 1848 a section of Korana settled at Mamusa on the Harto river. These people were under the Taaitosch family who were direct-descendants of the ancient-Korana chiefs.

By 1872 David Massow, known to the Korana themselves as Piet-Taaitosch and to the Bechuana as Pharatlhathe, was chief. That year he made a treaty with the South African Republic by which he ceded his territorial rights but reserved a location for himself and his people. Unfortunately the survey and beaconing off of this location was left over till a later date.

Authorities

G. W. Stow. Native Tribes of the Transvaal. War Office 1905

Native Affairs. Blue Book on Acquisition. Transvaal of Land 1904

Jan Delany.

Old Korana a native experiment of events from 1880.

Anthracite

Stone

Throughout their history these Korana had been indolent & much given to dancing & merry-making in times of peace, though ~~in~~ they had proved themselves fierce ~~in~~ <sup>in war,</sup> & were at all times prone to live by stealing their neighbours' cattle. They were called Batahotu by the Bechmana.

~~The~~ David Masson ruled over his own Korana at Mamma & also had under him a section of the Batsatsing who ~~had~~ previously had been subject to the better known Batloping tribe. The Batsatsing were a tribe of Bechmana origin but with an admixture of Bushman blood. This section had formerly been living under one Rooi Jantzi Mhutsiwa higher up the Harto river but when their ground was taken for farms they had tricked down to David Masson who placed them in a stead separate from his Korana.

Batsatsing section who were ~~previously~~ <sup>under Masson</sup> at Mamma

(quoted by Pitt Rivers) from neighbourhood of present Rooi Jantzi Mhutsiwa

In those days the large Batloping tribe occupied the country to the west of Mamma. Their main chief was Makura the son of Gasbone but, as is usual with all Bechmana, divisions had arisen in the tribe & sections had broken off under Mankuroane & under Matlabane.

This petty Batloping chief Matlabane had two sons of whom Racheune was the elder & Kantlopane the younger. Kantlopane declared that his elder brother was not a true son of Matlabane & therefore had no rights. This quarrel developed & Kantlopane went to chief Mankuroane & asked help to oust both his father Matlabane & Racheune. Mankuroane was only too glad to help & attacked

Jan Delaney brother of Gen. Koos Delaney

Authorities:

in 1882.

Maklabane who fled to David Masson in Mankwasa & sought his help against Mankwasa. Thus began a little tribal war which eventually ruined both parties & brought a complete change in the history of all that part of South Africa.

Both sides engaged white men to help them. Among those on Mankwasa's side there were J. D. Smit, Cecil King & Dumas a Frenchman who had married Mankwasa's daughter. On David Masson's side were a number of ~~the~~ Transvaalers.

On both sides the agreement was that each white volunteer should have a farm given him for his services, from the territory conquered from the other party.

There seems to have been considerable collusion between the opposing white volunteers who were all busy grabbing land, but eventually David Masson's side got the best of the so called war & chased Mankwasa & Kankoleane as far away as Tzame.

David Masson then gave his own white volunteers farms, but found that in order to keep Mankwasa's volunteers quiet he had to give them farms as well, so he distributed land to them round about where they are today. Thus was formed the settlement or republic known as Stillaland.

In much the same way a little further north in the Basuto country another republic known as the Land of Goshen

Jan De la Rey

sprang into being.

The disturbed and unsatisfactory state of the country north of Kimberley was the subject of much discussion in the Cape parliament, nevertheless various freebooters continued to come into Stillaland & brought with them the song the chorus of which ran "To hell with the lime-juice Government we'll fight for Mankwatoane", referring to the territorialism of Sir Gordon Sprigg.

These ~~republics~~ republics of Stillaland & the Land of Goshen could not be allowed to exist & the upshot was that they were abolished but the volunteers were <sup>confirmed</sup> ~~confirmed~~ in their titles to the Stillaland farms.

In 1884 the London Convention definitely placed Mankwato within the Transvaal border though David Masson refused to recognize the Transvaal Government & continued, in spite of the 1872 treaty, to claim the land as his own.

Though few in numbers the Mankwato Koroana at this time were well supplied with firearms as indeed they had been for the last two generations, and in the altered state of the country it is easy to understand that owing to their ~~general~~ turbulent disposition combined with their cattle lifting propensities they had by 1885 come to be regarded as a menace to the farmers throughout the south western Transvaal.

The Transvaal Republican Government

Jan Delarey my informant received two farms from David Masson.

Native Tribes of the Transvaal.

Nov. 1905.

Jan Delarey and native eyewitness.

Anthropology

ordered David Massom and his people to pay hut-tax & live in a location, but when a surveyor was sent down to mark off the location the Korana drove him away.

Finally a farmer named Weber complained to the Government that Massom's people had squatted on his farm, cut down his trees and ploughed up his land, & he claimed £2000 compensation for the damage done to his property.

Native Tribes of  
the Transvaal  
War Office 1905.

Jan Delany  
& native experimenters

General Joubert went down ~~to~~ from Pretoria with a patrol & some guns of the Staat Artillery and made his headquarters at Michelsdorp (292) on the Hart's river. He had been authorized before leaving Pretoria to give David Massom the assurance that he was not on the same footing with other natives who could get no land registered in their name but that title deeds would be issued in respect of his land, giving him power to sell or dispose of it.

A despatch rider named Jan Delany was sent to call David Massom to Michelsdorp to see about surveying the location, but David Massom said he would not come, he would not live in a location & knew no Government except his own.

General Joubert while calling together a commando from Lichting and Riechdorp still endeavoured to treat with David Massom who refused to listen to him, so, when the commando had assembled, early in the morning on December 4<sup>th</sup> 1885 the order was given

to surround Mamusa and occupy a ridge overlooking Massom's staid, and all the watering places.

Next-day December 5<sup>th</sup> the Korana were ordered to lay down their arms & they agreed to do so. The burghers came down from the ridge to get the arms. While the disarmament was actually in progress Veld Kormul-Olivier took a gun from a Korana and a quarrel arose between ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> two of them, another Korana standing ~~by~~ near them upon shore Olivier died. Then there was hand to hand fighting everywhere. One Veld Kormul- and eight burghers were killed & several burghers wounded. David Massom & most of the Korana were shot dead: the chief's son and seventy-three of his people were captured and sent to Pretoria, a few others escaped & fled over the border to British territory.

Those who went to Pretoria were scattered over the country as indentured farm labourers: the leaders were tried but not punished. The staid was burnt & all the cattle & other property of the tribe divided between the Government and the commands. The land was laid out in allotments for European occupation.

The Batsaring section of David Massom's following, under a headman Jong, had not taken part in the fight but Jong was arrested. Soon afterwards he was released on payment of one head of cattle (or one horse or

Native Tribes of  
the Transvaal  
War Office 1905.  
for Delany  
and native experiments.

six sheep) per head of his tribe. Of these cattle half were given to Meber as compensation for his losses and the remainder were appropriated by the Government.

In 1904 a number of Korana were living scattered in the country between Mariboga & Tameya, and Kgasa a son of David Massomo was then living between Tameya and Uuyhny.

The Korana have ceased to exist - as an organized tribe and the town of Schweigen-Renke has sprung up alongside the site of the old Mamusa stads.

Korana &  
Batsateng  
witnesses.

David Masson

The Koranna Bushmen  
, the Batsatim

The father of David Masson lived near Table Mountain Cape Town. In ~~1825~~ 1836 he trekked from there with his Koranna accompanying the ~~sett~~ voortrekkers.

In 1844 his people were living near Winburg in the present Orange ~~Free~~ River Colony. They came to Marnusa, now Schweizer-Reneke, in 1848.

David Masson besides being chief of his own Koranna Batsatim also ~~was~~ had authority over a number of Batsatim who are an offshoot of the <sup>the Batsatim of the Batsatim</sup> Batsatim tribe. The Batsatim however always had a separate chief.

In 1882 David Masson fought against Mankuram a Batsatim chief.

The war was caused by a <sup>small</sup> Batsatim chief named Mattabane ~~was~~ driving away his son Kantlopene. It appears Kantlopene said his elder brother Rasene was <sup>not</sup> the son of his father.

~~But~~ Kantlopene asked help from Mankuram another Batsatim chief against his father Mattabane.

Mattabane fled to David Masson ~~and~~ who agreed to help him against Mankuram, & the war began.

Both sides employed white men on the understanding that each white hunter should have a farm given him from the territory conquered from the other side.

David Masson got the best of it & chased Mankuram as far as Tarmys.

All the white volunteers on both sides were given farms near where Winburg is today. This they called the Republic of Stellaland.

My informant states he received the farm for David Masson.



Cecil Rhodes came along a few months after the fighting was over & entitled these ~~peoples~~<sup>tribes</sup> in their titles to the farms.

In 1884 the London Convention definitely placed Masumbe & David Masson's people inside the Transvaal border.

In 1886 David Masson was ordered to pay hut taxes & live in a location. A surveyor was sent to mark off the location.

My informant was  
an officer of the  
despatch riders at the time.

He drove the surveyor away. General Joubert went down with a patrol to Nienhuysen (292) & sent for David Masson to come & see him about the location. David Masson said he would not come, he would not live in a location & knew no government except his own. General Joubert summoned a commando & they still tried to treat with David Masson but he would not come. On Dec 5<sup>th</sup> 1886 the commando was

ordered to surround him & occupy the water places. They did so. Next day the Boers came to get the natives' arms.

My informant stated  
he was standing  
alongside.

Veld Kromer Olivier took a gun from - Koranna, while taking it another Koranna shot him dead. This started a fight all over the ~~whole~~ neighborhood. Some Koranna surrendered & were sent to Putsona, the rest ran away. Those who went to Putsona were indentured to farmers & the leaders were tried but not punished. Those who <sup>ran away</sup> fled over the border & are still scattered though a number are <sup>now</sup> living round Mariboga.

Mohutewa  
Roziantya was headman  
of Patsatim  
J. Hermann  
His summer drove them  
away

Bardong originally descended  
from Patsatim  
Tan  
Tanage  
Moufion

---

Bardong Barathou (Mochette)  
Boratschi (Montana)  
Bosilika (Mochka)  
Borupulana (Machala)

Kyasa now living between Ukyang & Tanyo

↑  
Tharathathe = David  
Masson

↑

Masson

↑

~~Masson~~ Mochumongwe

Babgothe near tube  
or  
Koranna to Uryines

Batsatim  
Bushman of the  
Bechuana  
1/2 Bechuana

Batsatim - became David Masson's  
people because they were living in his  
country but they always had a  
separate name.

Batsatim formerly lived near Rooftop  
but afterwards tracked down to Marussa  
? about 30 years ago.

Tribu Koranna Bushman

His father lived on Table Mountain  
2 bushmen from there to Mossos about  
1835 with another  
1848

David Masson was ordered to pay hut tax

Koranna

& live in a location & a surveyor was sent down  
to mark off location. He drove surveyor away.

Gen. Joubert & his staff went down & stopped at  
Michels Pass & sent word to Masson to come

& see his surveying location. David Masson  
said he would not come he would not live in a  
location & knew no government except his own.

(Mr. J. Delany was one of his despatch riders)

Then General Joubert called a commando & after  
it was collected he tried to treat but David Masson  
would not come & on Dec 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> 1886 the

commando got an order to surround him & take all the  
water round him. They did so. Next day the Boers  
went out of the kopjes to get the natives' arms.

On top of the first kopje Old Komor Olivier took a gun from a  
Koranna while taking it another Koranna shot him dead.  
Then there was fighting all over the place.

Some Koranna surrendered & were sent to Pictoria  
rest ran away. Those who went to Pictoria were  
indentured to farmers, & had no trial & got off.

Those who ran away ran over the border to Nyabing  
& are now scattered

Delany's journal

J. Delany  
present all  
the time

1881 Convent Masson - Bechuanaland  
Moshette

1884 Convent ditto file 45  
Transvaal

1882 David Masson & Mankwane quarrelled

Mankwane engaged J.D. Smit, Cecil King & Duman  
(who had married Mankwane's daughter)

David Masson engaged Transvaal with the agreement  
that if they won each Mankwane should have a farm  
for Mankwane's country

Mankwane promised ditto.

Mankwane lost the war & David Masson gave  
his own Mankwane's Mankwane each - farm  
where they are today. J. Delany got two farms from  
David Masson.

Then Cecil Rhodes came along & ~~was~~ certified  
the titles of these farms.

1881 Convent

The war between Mantswa Moshette & Matlaba  
was not won. Mantswa got Mankwane for Kimberley  
Moshette, Matlaba got Transvaal (including Wharfedale)  
When Rhodes & Gen. Buller (Warren big in England)  
came the Mankwane would not come & so he & got  
no communication with them.

1884 Convent

The thing was reported to England & these Mankwane  
did not get farms on the ~~English~~ <sup>side</sup> side of the border.  
After the <sup>the</sup> London Convention came, then some of the  
Mankwane got farms the Transvaal side of the border.

**Collection no: A1655**

**Collection: HUNT, Donald Papers**

***PUBLISHER:***

*Publisher:-* **Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand**

*Location:-* **Johannesburg**

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