Isigidimi Sama-Xosa

Ipepa Lama-Xosa Pambili nto Zak’wetu Lihlaulelwa 5s ngonyaka

 Kwase Kuqaleni

 Lenyanga

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Isigidimi Sama-Xosa.

Au! . . . ! Isikewu esenzeke kuba fundisi base Lovedale ngomhla we 8 ku June, 1885, koke kube lixesha pambi kokuze sidibeke ngokuqelekileyo, kwabo bebemazi u Mr. John A. Bennie, beubona nomsebenzi wake kulomzi.

Kuko iqalo eliti kulenteto yakowetu: | Intaka yaka ngoboya benye,”—ekungoko ke kusilungele ukuba ke sime pezu kweli dlaka, sibabalisele abafundi be Sigidimi ngobomi balowo kuvuleke incwaba lake ; ukubukeka nokubaluleka komninilo, ngesimilo, nemisebenzi. Olu lutsha luninzi lwakowetu lulitemba nakwabo batshonayo, ukuba losusela Iona apo ate amalinga abo apela kona; belufanele ke ngoko ukubonela izaci zabanye, lutabate umzekelo, nezimbo zabo kwimpilo yobu bomi, ize lwakele kambe ezalo ezihle ngapezulu, ukuba oko kunokwenzeka, koko kubanduleleyo.

Umfi u Mr. Bennie, ob’eminyaka ingapezulwana kuhle kuma 45 ubudala, wazalelwa e Lovedale apa ngosuku lwama 23 ku March, 1840. Ngelo xesha wausakiwa lomzi wemfundo, ote ke wavulwa ngokufika kuka Rev. William Govan ngo March, 1841. Uyise yena wagaleleka kweli lizwe evela kwela pesheya eyindodana entsha, eminyaka ima 25 ubudala, nge 15 ku November, 1821, nje ngoko sibalisilevo kwi Sigidimi senyanga edluleyo ; wazeka intokazi yasema Bulwini, e Rafu, u Miss M. M. Make, nge 6 ku July, 1827; ekute ngonyaka olandeleyo nge 5 ku April (saposisa ukuti ngo May) wazibula ngentombi, le ke ib’ingu Mrs. Kayser, oncwatywe yena ngo May, 1885.

Kwisituba sokufika kuka yise esiyiminyaka ema 20
pambi kokuzalwa kuka Mr. Bennie, kuninzi ate uyise
wakufeza, encediswa kakade ngabanye abafundisi belo
xesha; siteta okunje ngokushicilela incwadi zemfundo;
amaculo okuvunywa ezityalikeni ; nenguqulo zezi balo;
ukwakiwa komzi wase Lovedale kuqala e Ncera, ize kamva
ufudukele apo siyibalela kona namhla lembali, nalapo
unyana wake azalelwe, waza wancwatywa kona.

Ekuyicamangeni kwetu lembali, sikumbule ngenye
imini ukuba kuko igqala lakowetu, lase Mabambeni,
omnye wama-Kristu emihla yokuqala yentsebenzo yaba
fundisi kwesi Sikolo sase Dikeni, ote wabambelela kule
ndlela yelizwi, wakwenza anako ukuyisebenzela i Nkosi.
Siteta u Tshuka unyana ka Piti, esite ke ngoko sambiza
ukuba aze kusibalisela ngo Bene omdala. Ezizintloko
indawo esizipauleyo zezi zokuba,—U Bene omdala ube
ngomnye wabafundisi abakuteleyo kunene, osandla besino
bugcisa bokwenza nantoni. Ekushumayeleni, akungetshi-
wo ukuba ubeliciko ; kodwa amandla ake apo ebekona
ebe kubugcisa bencoko embutweni, nokuba yeye nkundla,
nokuba kuse ndlwini. Incoko yake ibinombizane owoku-
rola ungaqondi wena, uve selute gxupu ezintweni zelizwi,
ekubeni beniqale nge zelizwe,—njengoko senjenjalo
isigcau ukuhenda impukane ngemisonto yaso. Ube
nobugcisa kanjalo bokukwenzela, ngencoko, umfanekiso
ocacileyo woko kulizelayo eli lizwe, ngokubonakala kwezinto
ngezinto; nakuba ubesazeke ati, “ Abafundisi abayikuhlala
befana uhlobo lwabo.” Ub’eyindoda elulamileyo kunene
engaze ibe nalizwi libi ’mntwini, nasenzo sirwexayo.
Ubube ngosuku lwe 9 ku February, 1869, eminyaka ima
73 ubudala, incwaba lake lise Middelburg, apo way’esele
efudukele kona.

Njengoko sesitshilo unyana wake u John Angell
Bennie wazalwa ngomhla wa 23 ku March, 1840, wape-
hlelelwa ebusaneni ngomhla wesi 5 ku April walonyaka,
ngu Rev. James Laing, umfundisi wase Mkubiso. Ubu-
kwenkwana bake ubugqibele e Middelburg apo wafuduke-
la kona uyise nge Mfazwe ye Zembe, 1846-47, apo afike
asilahleke kona. Uti tapu kodwa sel’eminyaka ilishumi
elinesihlanu ubudala ngo June, 1856, eze kufunda ekay’ apa
e Lovedale. Uhleli iminyaka emitandatu, wapuma ekufu-
ndeni ngo December 1862.

Iminyaka emitatu ukususela apo uyicitele ekufundiseni
e Mhlangeni (Balfour), isikolo sekolwane lika yise u Rev.
W. R. Thomson. Kute nge 1864, weza kutabata indawo
yenye yetitshala zake, yokuba ngu Mfundisi no Mondli
webuto lase Lovedale; londawo ke ib’iyeye titshala apa
epape kunene, u Rev. Robebt Templeton M.A., lo ngoku
ufundisa kwe sama Ngesi e Rini. Umbali weli bali ke
kaloku yena uqubisana no Mr. Bennie ngo 24 July, 1866,
ngokutunyelwa e Seminareni ese yimbutusana yenkwe-
nkwana, nyakana kwangena o Rev. Daniel Gezani Iowa
sesike sabalisa ngaye e Sigidimini. U Mr. Bennie waye
eselisoka ke eloxesha.

Kute kodwa nge holide yase busika,—ngo July 1867—
sabona ngabusuku butile, ngesidlo sangokuhlwa, namhla
zishenxiselwa bucala inkobe, yanto yimbi itafile yemidaka :
kwa mafuta, kwa zonka, kwa zikofu.—kanti koko siza ku-
bulisa umtshakazi womfundisi wetu. Uye kuzeka kweli-
pezulu la Bahlambeli, esi sizwe ati ama Ngesi ngama
Bechuana, u Miss Maby Ashton, intombi yamazibulo ka
Rev. Wm. Ashton, omnye wabafundisi bokuqala be
London Missionary Society pakati kwa Bahlambeli abo, eli

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