

# AFRICAN LANGUAGES GLOSSARY

## Circle of Life with Nants' Ingonyama (Xhosa)

**Nants' ingonyama, bakithi, baba** (NANTS een-GON-yah-mah bah-KEE-tee bah-BAH): Here comes the lion, my people, the father (of our nation).

**Sithi hu 'ngonyama** (SEE-tee WHOO gon-YAH-mah): We hail this coming of the lion.

**'Ngonyama nengwe bo** (GON-yah-mah NEN-gway boh): The lion and the leopard.

**Nants' ingonyama, bakithi babo** (NANTS een-GON-yah-mah bah-KEE-tee bah-BOH): Here comes the lion, my dear people.

**Sizo nqo'** (SEE-zoh N<click> OH): We will have victory!

**Ingonyama nengwe 'namabala** (een-gon-YAH-mah NEN-gweh nah-mah-BAH-lah): The lion wears the leopard spots. (*connotes royalty*)

**Ingonyama nengwe wema** (een-gon-YAH-mah NEN-gweh WEH-mah): The lion and the leopard, oh what a sight!

**Balek' ingonyam'i ya gale'** (BAH-lek een-gon-YAH-mee YAH gah-LEH): Run, the lion will attack!

## Grasslands Chant (Zulu)

**Zm zm zmm:** (*sounds of wind in the grass*)

**Mama ye** (mah-mah YEH): Mother Earth/Wow...

**Woza, 'mfana. Oh, woza!** (WO-zah MFAN-ah oh WO-zah): Come, son. Oh, come!

**Oh, woza!** (Oh WO-zah): Oh, come.

**Busa le lizwe bo** (BOO-sah leh LEEZ-weh boh): Rule this precious land!

**Busa lomhlaba** (BOO-sah LOM-hhla-bah): Rule this earth.

**Busa ngo thando bo** (BOO-san GO TAN-doh boh): Rule with love.

**He um hem, ya oh ha:** (*imitation of animal sounds – bull, donkey, horse – to connect with animal spirits*)

## The Lioness Hunt (Zulu)

**Ah ha hayi (ya):** (*roaring sounds*)

**We baba** (WEH bah-bah): Oh, father.

**Zingela, siyo zingela, baba** (zeen-GEH-lah see-YO zeen-GEH-lah bah-bah):  
Hunt – let's go hunt, father.

**Hi baba** (HAI bah-bah): Oh, father.

**S'qhubekeni, siyo zingela** (S<click>OO-beh-KEH-nee see-YO zeen-GEH-lah): Let's proceed – let's go hunt.

### **They Live in You (Zulu)**

**Ingonyama nengwe 'namabala** (een-gon-YA-mah NEN-gweh nah-mah-BA-lah): The lion wears the leopard spots. (*connotes royalty*)

**Oh oh iyo** (OH OH ee-YOH): (*ancestral echoes that imply "This is it!"*)

**Mamela** (MAH-meh-lah): Listen.

**Hela, hem mamela** (HAY-lah HEM mah-MEH-lah): Pay attention and experience this.

### **The Stampede (Zulu)**

**Yona yona yona** (YOH-nah YOH-nah YOH-nah): Here it comes!

**Baba, wa mi baba** (BAH-bah WAH MEE BAH-bah): Father, oh my father!

### **The Mourning**

**Hamela, hamela, hamela** (HAH-meh-lah): (*breathy expression of grief*)

### **Hakuna Matata (Swahili)**

**Hakuna matata** (hah-KOO-nah mah-TAH-tah): No worries.

### **Shadowland (Setswana, Zulu)**

**Fatshe leso lea halalela** (FAT-SEE LEH-SOO LEE-AH HAH-lah-LEH-lah): This land of our ancestors is holy. (Setswana)

**Ngizo buyabo** (GEE-zoh BOO-yah-boh): I will return. (Zulu)

**Beso bo** (BEH-soo boh): My people. (Setswana)

### **Tamatiso (Zulu)**

**Tamatiso, a so, a helele ma** (tah-mah-tee-SOH ah SOH ah HEH-leh-leh MAH): (*A popular South African nursery rhyme underscoring children's fondness for ketchup/tomato sauce*)

### **He Lives in You (Zulu)**

**Ingonyama nengwe 'namabala** (een-gon-YAH-mah NEN-gweh nah-mah-BAH-lah): The lion wears the leopard spots. (*connotes royalty*)

**Oh oh iyo** (OH OH ee-YOH): (*ancestral echoes that imply "This is it!"*)

**Mamela** (MAH-meh-lah): Listen.

**Ubukhosi bokhokho** (OO-boo-KHOH-see boh-KHOH-khoh): This is the throne of our ancestors!

**We ndodana ye sizwe sonke** (WEN doh-DAH-nah yeh SEEZ-we SOHNk): Oh, this son of our nation!

**Hela, hem mamela** (HEH-lah HEM mah-MEH-lah): Pay attention and experience this.

### Finale (Zulu)

**Busa le lizwe bo** (BOO-sah leh LEEZ-weh boh): Rule this precious land.

**Busa lomhlaba** (BOO-sah LOM-hhlah-bah): Rule this earth.

**Busa ngo thando bo** (BOO-san GO TAN-do boh): Rule with love.

**Oh, busa Simba iyo** (oh BOO-sah SEEM-bah YOH): Oh, rule, Simba.