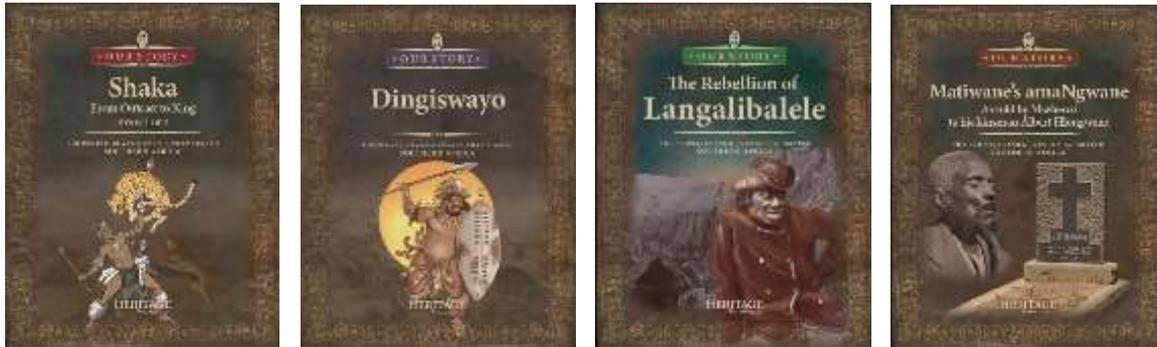


Press Release 1 May 2020

Heritage Publishers are pleased to announce the publication of four new titles in the acclaimed *Our Story* series



**'Southern African stories revived in heritage series'
Estelle Sinkins, The Witness 12 October 2015**

'Retelling our stories Heritage Publishers has released a new series of books that delves into the events that shaped our country'

Garreth van Niekerk, City Press 11 October 2015

The series had its genesis in a conversation between four friends – two Xitsonga speakers (one of amaShangana heritage and the other Vatsonga), a Tshivenda speaker and an English-speaking South African – which took place in Vuwani, Limpopo. The discussion centred on the first meetings of the ancestors of these people and the role of the Portuguese in these engagements.

First published in 2015 this heritage series has grown from 14 to 23 titles with another 8 titles to be published by the end of 2020. The series has been purchased and catalogued by the Library of Congress in Washington and is formally approved by the Eastern Cape, North West and Gauteng Departments of Education – the only provinces to have called for book submissions in the recent past.

For the first time in South African publishing history, the *Our Story* series tells the earliest recorded stories of the ancestors of all South Africans. Richly illustrated, the events which shaped South Africa and some neighbouring countries are told in English allowing access to most South Africans. Young and old can now read the stories of their own people and also those of the ancestors of their fellow South Africans.

Shaka From Outcast to King

In the first of five books, we find out how the young Shaka accompanied his mother, Nandi, in search of a place they could call home. As people with little status, Shaka was ridiculed and teased by other boys. Nandi was a volatile woman and made herself so unpopular that she was banished from the home of Shaka's father, Senzangakhona.

Dingiswayo

Believing that incessant battles would leave the land littered with corpses, *Dingiswayo* began his innovative policy of developing a Nguni federation where chiefs retained their clans and prestige while paying 'ukukhonza' (tax or tribute) to him as sovereign. He also introduced several reforms to traditional practices and in the military, while creating large-scale employment based on trade and agriculture. He gave refuge to Nandi and her son, Shaka, and would play a vital role in his life.

The Rebellion of Langalibalele

This is the story of Mtwetwe Langalibalele who rose from humble beginnings to chief of the amaHlubi. Langalibalele means 'the sun is shining with all its strength' and this great chief did, indeed, shine as a strong leader and a great warrior. Surviving many attempts on his life and overcoming adversity, Langalibalele earned a reputation from several Southern African peoples as both a rainmaker and *inyanga*. More than this, he fought hard for the unity and strength of his clan, not only rebelling against British authority but also against amaZulu domination.

Matiwane's amaNgwane

Byline: As told by Msebenzi to his kinsman Rev. Albert Hlongwane

This is the story of Matiwane and the amaNgwane as told by Msebenzi – Matiwane's grandson – to his kinsman, Albert Hlongwane. From this valuable text, we trace the fluctuating fortunes of the amaNgwane as they both flee and fight, led by the cunning and ruthless Matiwane. Forced to move from the beautiful White Mfolozi River in Northern Natal, Matiwane fearlessly led the amaNgwane across Southern Africa in search of a fertile land where they could settle. Instead, they found conflict and warfare, encountering the mighty Zulu in clash after clash.

All of the above titles will be published in June 2020 following the lift of Covid-19 regulations.



Forthcoming titles: Due in the third quarter of 2020

Sinking of the Eole

Two books on Kimberley – how the discovery of diamonds impacted on all South Africans.
Game and Gold

Manthatisi and Sekonyela (Book 2 of 2)

Shaka – Lord of the Battlefield (Book 2 of 5)

<https://www.facebook.com/SAHeritage.Publishers/>

<http://saheritagepublishers.co.za/>

Publication Details

Titles:

Shaka From Outcast to King 978-192832613-7

Dingiswayo 978-192832629-8

The Rebellion of Langalibalele 978-192832628-1

Matiwane's amaNgwane 978-192832620-5

Publisher: Heritage Publishers

Availability: <http://saheritagepublishers.co.za/> and

<https://www.facebook.com/SAHeritage.Publishers/>

Recommended Retail Price: R 115.00

Format: Paperback

Pages: 48

Category: Non-Fiction Heritage

Publication: June 2020 following the lift of Covid-19 regulations

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