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The Mobile Workshop

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Glossary

Terms are in *chidzimbahwe*, except where specifically indicated.

Abantu, bantu; sing. *mntu*: People (isindebele)

Abazingeli: Hunters (isindebele)

Amatsheomnyama: Black water (isindebele)

Bani, rupani; pl. *mapani*: Valley

Basa, mushando: A task or work to be done, employment

Bhurudhoza; pl. *mabhurudhoza*: Corruption of bulldozer

Butalifi: Special expertise (silози)

Chakasviba: Dark

Chepfu: Poison

Chibhakera; pl. *zvibhakera*: Fist; plowing with the fist; zero tillage

Chibharo: Forced labor

Chidzimbahwe: Language, culture, and things of *dzimbahwe*

Chiguraura; pl. *zviguraura*: Literally, “the one that has cut off its intestines,” what *vachena* called larva

Chikopokopo; pl. *zvikopokopo*: Helicopter

Chikukwa; pl. *zvikukwa*: The insect at its worm or pupa stage, what *vachena* called puparia

Chimokoto; pl. *zvimokoto*: Quelea bird

Chimugondiya: Brown laundry bar soap

Chimukuyu: Dried meat

Chimumbure: Net

Chinanga: The hooked-thorn tree *vachena* called *Acacia nigrescens*

Chinhu; pl. **zvinhu:** Thing

Chinosvosvoma; pl. **zvinosvosvoma:** Crawler, reptiles

Chipfuyo; pl. **zvipfuyo:** Livestock

Chipukanana; pl. **zvipukanana:** Small animals, insects

Chirwere chegomarara: Disease of the mistletoe

Chisikwa; pl. **zvisikwa:** [God's] creation

Chitatarimbo; pl. **zvitatarimbo:** The birdlime tree

Chivanhu: Culture; custom; ways of the people

Chokwadi; pl. **zvokwadi:** Truth

Danga: Kraal

Démó: Blade

Dewulana: Bat (xitsonga)

Dikgomo, kgomo: Cattle (setswana)

Diphôlôgôlô: Wild animal (setswana)

Diruiwa: Livestock (setswana)

Dondo, rutondo; pl. **matondo:** Forest

Dzimbahwe: Houses of stone; headquarters of kings; graves

Dzoma: Bushbuck

Ekhayeni, ekhaya: Village (isindebele)

Fanakaló or **fanagaló:** Hybrid language composed of some English, Nyanja, and Shona; also known derogatorily as *Kitchen-Kafir*, *Mine-Kafir*, *Pidgin Bantu*, *Isikula* (Coolie or Indian), *Chirooroo*, *Fanikaroo*, and *Chiraparapa* (Silapalapa)

Fenzi yemhuka: Game fence

Fenzi yemombe: Cattle fence, locally

Fenzi yetsetse: Tsetse fence

Frayi chemba: Fly chambers

Gareta: Bush cart

Gedhi retsetse: Tsetse gate

Goji: Holes (xitsonga)

Gomarara: Cancer; derived from a plant that usually grows on other plants, deposited in the fecal droppings of birds roosting or stopping over

Gondo; pl. **makondo:** Eagle

Gopé, hotsikotsi: Sleeping sickness

Gora, pl. **magora:** Vulture

Gudo, pl. **makudo:** Baboons

Gumba: White stork

Guta, pl. **maguta:** City

Hambautare: Iron tortoise (bicycle)

Hembe dzemapisi: Clothes from pieces

Honci-nhova: Warthog (xitsonga)

Hové: Fish

Hudzvanyiriri hwevachena: The downpression of white people

Hufrayi: The work of flycatching

Hufuro, mafuro: Pastures

Huku: Chicken

Hugocha: Game-destruction work

Hungwe: Fish eagle

Hunhapwa, hutapwa: Slavery, bondage

Hunhu: Behavior, being

Hunyanzvi: Expertise

Hunyanzvi hwekuvhima or **huhombarume:** Hunting expertise

Hupfu: Meal, ground grain

Hurimbo, urimbo: Birdlime

Hurumende: Government

Hurumende yehudzvanyiriri: The oppressive government

Hurumende yevachena: White government

Hutachiwana: Literally, “we have found it, the invisible sickness causer”

Hutachiwana hwegopé: Used when referring to sleeping sickness

Hutachiwana hwen’gana: N’gana; animal trypanosomiasis

Hutongi hwavachena: White rule

Hutsi: Smoke

Hutsiny'e hwemabhunu: The cruelty of the Boer

Hutungu: "The one that gores"; *varungu's* mosquito

Hwayi: Sheep

Hwema: Odor, olfactory

Hwiza, mhashu, ndongwe, domboji, dzviti: Swarming locust, grasshopper

Idlelo: Pasture (isindebele)

Imbuzi: Goat (isindebele)

Imbwa: Dog

Imvu: Sheep (isindebele)

Inda: Louse

Inja: Dog

Inkomo, izinkomo: Cattle (isindebele)

Intesi: Tsetse, corruption of *ndedzi* (xitshangana)

Inyamazana: Animal (isindebele)

Inyanga: Healer, diviner, doctor, physician

Inyongo: Fever (isindebele)

Isibungu: Insect (isindebele)

Izinkomo, inkomo: Cattle (isindebele)

Kabhunu: Thin, emaciated Boer/white man

Kasiri: Cattle breed indigenous to *vedzimbahwe*

Khumba: Bushpig (xitsonga)

Kitsô: Knowledge, knowing (setswana)

Kubika: To cook, cooking

Kuchenesa, kuchenura: Cleaning

Kudheruka: To come from nowhere

Kuenda kusango: Going to the bush (urinating or defecating)

Kufamba: Mobility, walking, traveling, moving

Kufamba kweruzivo: The mobility of knowledge

Kufamba kwevanhu nemhuka: Human and animal traffic

- Kugadzira*: Making
- Kugarisika kwevanhu*: Human settlement
- Kugobora*: Stumping
- Kugumha hurimbo*: Tapping birdlime
- Kuhugocha*: At *magocha* work (at the work of tsetse control hunting)
- Kumafrayi*: The place of the fly people
- Kumusha*: In/at the village
- Kupa*: Giving
- Kupamba ivhu nehupfumi hwavatema*: Abducting the land and wealth of blacks
- Kupesvedzera, kupesva*: Inciting
- Kupihwa*: Receiving, being given
- Kupisa sora*: Burning weed/grass
- Kurodza*: Sharpening
- Kuroyiwa*: To be bewitched
- Kusangana*: Encountering, coming into contact
- Kusangana kweruzivo*: Encounter between knowledges
- Kushanda, kuita basa*: Working, doing work, efficacy
- Kutemwa nemusoro*: Headache; literally, “being chopped by the head”
- Kuziva*: Knowing
- Kuziva kwevachena*: Knowledge of the white people
- Kuzvisunungura*: Untying, freeing oneself, self-liberation
- Likomu*; sing. *komu*: Cattle (silozu)
- Limbweletete*: Human excrement (silozu)
- Lisu*: Sun-dried cattle dung (silozu)
- Mabisi*: Milk (silozu)
- Mabwidi*: Those from Northern Rhodesia in *chidzimbahwe* (colloq.)
- Madheruka magochamiti*: Newcomers who roast trees (colloq.)
- Madhibhi*, sing. *dhibhi*: Dip tanks
- Madzviti*, sing. *dzviti*: Pillagers
- Mafrayi*, sing. *mufrayi*: Fly men, fly catchers

Mafulô: Pastures (setswana)

Mafuro, sing. *hufuro*: Pastures

Magandanga, sing. *gandanga*: Terrorist (colloq.)

Magirosa or *zvitoro*: Grocery store

Magobo: Stumping

Magocha, sing. *mugocha*: Those who are always roasting meat; black hunters employed by the government to kill wild animals to starve *mhesvi*

Magora, sing. *gora*: Vultures

Magwa, sing. *igwa*: Canoes

Mahlomalavisi: Pupa, chrysalis (xitsonga)

Maitiro: Ways of doing

Majerenyenje, sing. *jerenyenje*: Anteaters

Majuru: Termite

Makandiwa, *madhunduru*: Contours

Makarwe, sing. *garwe*: Crocodiles

Makonzo, sing. *gonzo*: Rats

Makorekore: Those *vedzimbahwe* who live or hail from Gorekore, who taboo *gudo* the baboon or *soko* the monkey

Makwayi, sing. *gwai*: Sheep

Mangwa: Zebra (xitsonga)

Manhuwe: Repellents

Manyasarandi: Those from Nyasaland in *chidzimbahwe* (colloq.)

Many'atera: Sandals

Manyepo: Falsehoods

Mapete, sing. *bete*: Cockroaches

Maprofita: Prophets

Mapundu: Boils

Mapurazi, sing. *purazi*: Farms, ranches; from the Portuguese word *prazo*

Marengeny'a: Tattered clothes

Mari: Money

Marukisheni, sing. *rukisheni*: Locations

Mashuramurove, sing. **shuramurove**: The bird that portends waterlogging; stork

Matanga emombe, sing. **danga remombe**: Cattle stockades

Matore, sing. **dore**: Walking carcasses

Mazizi: Owls

Mbavala: Bushbuck (xitsonga)

Mbeva: Wild (therefore edible) rodents, mice

Mbudzi: Goat

Mbumburu: Bullet

Mbuwe, **mbuwo**, **uo**: Blind fly

Mfenhe: Baboon (xitsonga)

Mhangele: Guinea fowl (xitsonga)

Mhara: Impala

Mhelembe: Rhinoceros (xitsonga)

Mhene: Duiker

Mhesvamukono: The one that drives the bull (*mukono*) crazy

Mhesvi: From the word *kupesva*; tsetse

Mhesvirupani: *Mhesvi* that lives in the valley; *varungu's Glossina pallidipes* and *Glossina palpalis*

Mhesvirutondo: *Mhesvi* that lives in the forest; *varungu's Glossina morsitans*

Mhopfu: The blind one; eland (xitsonga)

Mhuka: Animal of the forest

Mhuka yomurukova, pl. **mhuka dzomurukova**: Animal that lives in water

Mhunduru: Armyworm

Mhunga: Millet

Mhunti: Little blue duiker (xitsonga)

Mhuri: Family

Mibhemhe, sing. **mubhemhe**: Donkeys

Midziyo, sing. **mudziyo**: Instruments

Migodhi, sing. **mugodhi**: Mines

Mikono, sing. **mukono**: Bulls

- Mirhi*, sing. *murhi*: Tree (xitsonga)
- Misengwa*, sing. *musengwa*: Luggages, loads
- Misha*, sing. *musha*: Villages, homes, homesteads
- Mishini*, sing. *mushini*: Machines
- Mishini yekupureya*: Spraying machines
- Mishonga*, sing. *mushonga*: Poisons, medicines
- Misika yemabhazi*, sing. *musika wemabhazi*: Marketplaces for buses (bus stations)
- Mlilo*: Fire (isindebele)
- Mogare*: Pathogens (setswana)
- Mombe*: Cattle
- Monang*: Mosquito (setswana)
- Moto*: Fire
- Motokari*: Motorcar
- Motse*: Village (setswana)
- Mpukane*: Tsetse (isindebele)
- Mpukane zegangeni*: Tsetse of the forest (isindebele)
- Mubhemhe*: Donkey
- Muchena*, pl. *vachena*: White person
- Muchetura*, pl. *michetura*: Poison
- Mudziti*: Stick around which birdlime is wound, set to catch birds
- Mudzviti*: Magistrate
- Mufambi*, pl. *vafambi*: Traveler, walker
- Mufrayi*, pl. *mafrayi*: Fly man
- Mugocha*, pl. *magocha*: The ones who are always barbequing
- Mugwagwa*, pl. *migwagwa*: Road
- Mukonde*: *Euphorbia ingens*
- Mulaha*: Liquid cow dung (silozi)
- Mulilo*: Fire (silozi)
- Mulumbeti*: The devil (xitsonga)
- Mumusha*: In the village

- Munhu*, pl. *vanhu*: People, those who are familiar, kin, or known
- Munhu mutema*, pl. *vanhu vatema*: Black person
- Munhuwi wemunhu*: Human odor
- Munyori ari kuzvinyora*: A writer writing about him/herself
- Mupani, musharu*: Mopane (setswana)
- Mupembere, mubondoroko*: *Vachena's Combretum* bushland
- Mupfuti*: All *vachena's Brachystegia*
- Murungu*, pl. *varungu*: White person
- Musha*: Village, homestead
- Mushini*, pl. *mishini*: Machine
- Mushini wekupureya*, pl. *mishini yekupureya*: Knapsack sprayer
- Mushonga*, pl. *mishonga*: Poison, medicine
- Mushonga wezvipukanana* (shortened to *mushonga*), pl. *mishonga yezvipukanana*: Pesticide
- Musvo*: Metabolites; literally, "residue"
- Muswe*: Tail
- Mutema*, pl. *vatema*: A black person
- Mutemo*, pl. *mitemo*: Law
- Muteyo*, pl. *miteyo*: Trap
- Mutsetse*: In the Tsetse Department
- Muvatli*: Carpenter or sculptor (xitsonga)
- Muvengahonye*: Literally, "the maggot hater"
- Mvubu*: Hippo (isindebele/isizulu)
- Mvura*: Water, rain, rainfall
- Mvuu*: Hippo
- N'anga*: Traditional healer
- Nare*: Buffalo (setswana)
- Ndedzi*: Tsetse (xitsonga)
- Ndege*: Fixed-wing aircraft
- Ndlopfu, tindlopfu*: Elephant (xitsonga)
- Ndlovu*: Elephant (isindebele)

- Ndunguza***: Antelope
- Ndzilo***: Fire (xitsonga)
- Ngamboto***: A matter of common knowledge (kilozi)
- N'gana***: Animal trypanosomiasis
- Ngano***: Fable
- Nghala***: Lions (xitsonga)
- Nghwari***: Crested francolin (xitsonga)
- Ngongoni***: Wildebeest
- Ngoroyemoto*, pl. *ngorodzemoto***: Carriage of fire (motorcar)
- Nguruve***: Bushpig
- Nguruve yemusango***: Bushpig
- Ngwahle***: Monitor lizards, iguana (xitsonga)
- Ngwarati***: Sable
- Ngwenya, garwe, gambinga***: Crocodile
- Nhéma, chipembere, mhembere***: Rhinoceros
- Nhimura***: Literally, “the slashing”; the term *vedzimbahwe* gave to the Native Land Husbandry Act
- Nhoro***: Kudu
- Nhoveni***: Forest (xitsonga)
- Nhungu***: Kudu (xitsonga)
- Nhunzi***: Housefly
- Njiri***: Warthog
- Nkawu***: Monkey (xitsonga)
- Ntsandza***: Poles (xitsonga)
- Ntsi*, pl. *lintsi***: Housefly (setswana)
- Ntsutsu***: Egret (xitsonga)
- Nyama***: Meat
- Nyarhi***: Buffalo (xitsonga)
- Nyati***: Buffalo
- Nyaudzosingwi***: Ideophone

Nyemba: Beans

Nyimo: Round nuts, Bambara nuts

Nyoka: Snake

Nyong'o: Fever, malaria

Nyongororo: Parasite

Nyongorosi: Earthworm

Nzira: Footpath, way

Nzira nemaitiro: Ways and means

Nzou, Zhou: Elephant

Nzungu: Peanuts

Pabasa, pamushando: The workplace, being at work

Pesva: The action of plunging a sharp object like a needle or thorn into flesh (ideophone of *kupesva*, to probe; hence, proboscis)

Pfungwa dzavatema: Ideas, idioms of black people

Purazi: See *mapurazi*

Ronda rinongobva pasi risingapori: A wound that emerges from the ground and never heals; a wound with no explicable origin

Rukodzi: Falcon

Rusosa, ruzhowa: Fence

Ruzevha: Native reserve (transliteration)

Ruzivo: Knowledge

Ruzivo chairwo: True knowledge

Ruzivo rwemhesvi: Knowledge of *mhesvi*

Ruzivo rwemombe: Knowledge of cattle

Ruzivo rwevachena: Knowledge of whites

Ruzivo rwevarungu: Knowledge of whites

Ruzivo rwevatema: Knowledge of black people

Ruzivo rwezvehurimbo: Birdlime knowledge

Rwendo: Journey

Sango, pl. *masango*: Forest

Setshidinyana: Insect (setswana)

Shayishayi: Monarch butterfly

Shiri: Bird

Shumba: Lion

Sinuka: Odorous grasses (silози)

Sondela enkosini: Draw near to the king (xitshangana)

Stupa, chitupa: An identity document (Fanakalo, Chiraparapa, chid-zimbahwe)

Sutelezi: Repellent (silози)

Svexilungwini: The things of the white people (xitsonga)

Svidvelo, sing. *xidvelo*: Pastures (xitsonga)

Svifufunhunhu, sing. *xifufunhunhu*: Insects (xitsonga)

Svifuri, sing. *xifuri*: smiths (xitsonga)

Svigalanyundzu, sing. *xigalanyundzu*: Hammers (xitsonga)

Sviharhi, sing. *xihloka*: Animal (xitsonga)

Svihloka, sing. *xihloka*: Axe (xitsonga)

Svikokovi, sing. *xikokovi*: Reptiles

Svimun'wana, sing. *ximun'wana*: Springs (xitsonga)

Svindlu svasvifuri, sing. *xindlu xaxifuri*: Forge (xitsonga)

Svinyenyana, sing. *xinyenyana*: Birds

Tau: Lion

Tawana: Cub, from the word *tau* (adult lion; setswana)

Tihomu, homu: Cattle (xitsonga)

Tiko: Land, village, country

Timbuti: Goats (xitsonga)

Timbyana, sing. *mbyana*: Dogs (xitsonga)

Timhala: Impala (xitsonga)

Tlou: Elephant (setswana)

Tsangadzi: Runner grass, which *vachena* called *Loudetia superba*

Tsetse: *Mhesvi* (setswana)

Tsika: Culture, custom

Tsika, chivanhu: Culture, custom

Tsika dzevachena: White culture

Tsika dzevatema, chivanhu: Ways or culture of black

Tsoko, shoko: Monkey

Tsvina: Dirt

Twiza: Giraffe

Twukodzi, sing. *rukodzi, hodzi, kakodzi*: Hawks

Ukulagisa: Whereby *izinkomo* are lend to relatives to look after in exchange for milking, manure, and draft power (isindebele)

Vachena, sing. *muchena*: Whites

Vadzimu, sing. *mudzimu*: Ancestors

Vadvanyiriri, sing. *mudzvanyiriri*: Downpressor, oppressor

Vafambi, sing. *mufambi*: Travelers, walkers, itinerants

Valungu, sing. *mulungu*: Whites (xitsonga)

Vanhu, sing. *munhu*: People, person

Vanhu vachena: White people

Vanhu vatema, sing. *munhu mutema*: Black people

Vanhu vetsetse: Tsetse people, people who work for the Tsetse Department/Branch

Vantima, sing. *muntima*: Black people (xitsonga)

Vapambepfumi, sing. *mupambepfumi*: Abductors of wealth

Vapambevhu, sing. *mupambevhu*: Abductor of the land/soil

Varungu, sing. *murungu*: Whites

Varwi verusununguko, murwi werusununguko: Freedom fighters

Vashandi vatema: Black workers

Vatema, sing. *mutema*: Blacks

Vazungu, sing. *muzungu*: Whites

Vechishangwe: colloquial *shangwe* people, actual name *vakorekore*

Vedzimbahwe: Those of *dzimbahwe*

Vekupureya: Spraymen

Vutivi: Knowledge (xitsonga)

Vutivi bya valungu: The knowledge of whites (xitsonga)

Waya nemakurundundu: Crude wire fence made of felled tree poles

Waya yehurumende: Government fence

Xekolodi: Millipede (setswana)

Xifufunhunhu, pl. **svifufunhunhu:** Insects

Xiharhi: *Mhuka* (xitsonga)

Xikanyakanya: Bicycle, named from the sound of pedaling, *kanya-kanya-kanya* (xitsonga)

Xindedzi xa nhoveni, pl. **svindedzi sva nhoveni:** *Mhesvi* of the forest (xitsonga)

Xindedzi xa nkova, pl. **svindedzi sva nkova:** *Mhesvi* of the valley (xitsonga)

Xinyenyana, pl. **svinyenyana:** Bird (xitsonga)

Xitivi, pl. **svitivi:** Expert (xitsonga)

Xitsongwatsongwana, pl. **svitsongwatsongwana:** The microorganism that caused it (xitsonga)

Zambuko, pl. **mazambuko:** Drift

Zengeni, shengezhu: Tall sweet grass, what *vachena* called *Hypparrhenia spp.*

Zeze: Kokolo name for *mhesvi*

Zimbabwe: Big house of stone

Zimunhuwenhuwe: Smelly plant

Zumbani, sumba: Both indigenous mint varieties

Zuva: Day, sun

Zvakatikomberedza: Surroundings, *vachena's* "environment"

Zvechirungu: Literally, "the things of the white people"

Zvenhando: Trivia

Zviguraura, sing. **chiguraura:** Literally, "the ones that cut off their intestines"; larva

Zvikepe, sing. **chikepe:** Boats

Zvikopokopo, sing. **chikopokopo:** Helicopter

Zvikukwa, sing. **chikukwa:** Chrysalises, puparia

Zvikwekwe: Ticks

Zvimokoto: Quelea birds

Zvinhu, sing. *chinhu*: Things

Zvipfukuto, sing. *chipfukuto*: Weevil

Zvipfuyo, sing. *chipfuyo*: Livestock

Zvirimwa, sing. *chirimwa*: Crops

Zvokwadi, sing. *chokwadi*: Truths, facts

