

African Languages Guide

| SONGS/LYRICS | PRONUNCIATION | LITERAL TRANSLATION | MEANING |
|---|---|---|--|
| ONE BY ONE (Zulu) | | | |
| <i>Ibambeni njalo, bakithi.</i> | ee-bam-BEH-nee DJAH-loh bah-KEE-tee | <i>ibambeni</i> = hold on; <i>njalo</i> = always; <i>bakithi</i> = my people | Hold on tight, my people. |
| <i>Ningadinwa!</i> | NEEN-gah-DEEN-wah! | <i>ninga</i> = don't; <i>dinwa</i> = weary | Don't get weary! |
| <i>Ningaphelelwa ngamandla!</i> | NEEN-gah-PEL-lel-wah gah-MAND-lah! | <i>ninga</i> = don't; <i>phelelwa</i> = lose; <i>nga</i> = your; <i>mandla</i> = strength | Don't lose your strength! |
| <i>Siya babona ngeke balunge!</i> | SEE-yah bah-BOH-nah GEH-keh bah-LOON geh! | <i>siya</i> = we; <i>babona</i> = see; <i>ngeke</i> = they will not; <i>balunge</i> = succeed | We can see they will not succeed! |
| <i>Sizo nqoba!</i> | SEE-zoh N<click>OH- bah! | <i>sizo</i> = we will; <i>nqoba</i> = win | We will have victory! |
| <i>Ngeke balunge!</i> | GEH-keh bah-LOON geh! | <i>ngeke</i> = they will not; <i>balunge</i> = succeed | They will not succeed! |
| <i>Zobona!</i> | zoh-BOH-nah! | <i>zobona!</i> = come see | Come and see! |
| <i>Umhlaba wa bantu</i> | um-HHLAH-bah wah BAHN-too | <i>umhlaba</i> = land; <i>wa</i> = of; <i>bantu</i> = people | This land of our people |
| <i>Gazi la bantu</i> | GAH-zee ah BAHN-too | <i>gazi</i> = blood; <i>la</i> = the; <i>bantu</i> = people | Blood of the people |
| <i>Siya zidla ngalo!</i> | SEE-yah ZEED-lah GAH-loh! | <i>siya</i> = we; <i>zidla</i> = are proud; <i>ngalo</i> = of it | We are proud of it! |
| <i>Kumnandi kwela kith'e Africa!</i> | koom-NAHN-dee KWEH-lah KEE-theh AHF-ree-KAH! | <i>kumnandi</i> = beautiful; <i>kwela</i> = land; <i>kithi</i> = beloved; <i>e</i> = is | This beautiful land, our beloved Africa! |
| CIRCLE OF LIFE WITH NANTS' INGONYAMA (Xhosa) | | | |
| <i>Nants' ingonyama, bakithi, baba.</i> | NANTS een-GON-yah- mah, bah-KEE-tee, bah-BAH. | <i>nants</i> = here comes; <i>ingonyama</i> = lion; <i>bakithi</i> = my people; <i>baba</i> = father | Here comes the lion, my people, the father (of our nation). |
| <i>Sithi hu 'ngonyama.</i> | SEE-tee WHOO GON- yah-mah. | <i>sithi</i> = we hail; <i>hu</i> = this; <i>ingonyama</i> = lion | We hail this coming of the lion. |
| <i>'Ngonyama nengwe bo!</i> | GON-yah-mah NEN-gway boh. | <i>ingonyama</i> = lion; <i>ne</i> = and; <i>ngwe</i> = leopard; <i>bo</i> = (adds emphasis, awe) | The lion and the leopard! |
| <i>Nants' ingonyama, bakithi babo.</i> | NANTS een-GON-yah- mah, bah-KEE-tee bah-BOH. | <i>nants</i> = here comes; <i>ingonyama</i> = lion; <i>bakithi</i> = my people; <i>babo</i> = dear | Here comes the lion, my dear people. |

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| <i>Ingonyama nengwe 'namabala.</i> | een-gon-YAH-mah NEN-gweh nah-mah-BAH-lah. | <i>ingonyama</i> = lion; <i>ne</i> = and; <i>ngwe</i> = leopard; <i>en</i> = with; <i>a</i> = the; <i>mabalā</i> = spots | The lion wears the leopard spots. (connotes royalty) |
| <i>Ingonyama nengwe wema!</i> | een-gon-YAH-mah NEN-gweh WEH-mah! | <i>ingonyama</i> = lion; <i>ne</i> = and; <i>ngwe</i> = leopard; <i>wema</i> = oh my | The lion and the leopard, oh what a sight! |
| <i>Balek' ingonyam'i ya gale!</i> | BAH-lek een-gon-YAH-mee YAH gah-LEH! | <i>baleka</i> = run; <i>ingonyama</i> = lion; <i>i</i> = and; <i>ya</i> = will; <i>galela</i> = attack | Run, the lion will attack! |
| HAKUNA MATATA (Swahili) | | | |
| <i>Hakuna matata.</i> | hah-KOO-nah mah-TAH-tah. | <i>hakuna</i> = none; <i>matata</i> = worry | No worries. |
| TAMATISO (Zulu) | | | |
| <i>Tamatiso, a so a helelema.</i> | tah-mah-tee-SOH, ah SOH ah HEH-leh-leh MAH. | <i>tamatiso</i> = tomato sauce (urban slang); the rest is a play on words/sounds | (popular South African nursery rhyme underscoring children's fondness for ketchup/tomato sauce) |
| HE LIVES IN YOU (Zulu) | | | |
| <i>Igonyama nengwe 'namabala.</i> | een-gon-YA-mah NEN-gweh nah-mah-BAH-lah. | <i>ingonyama</i> = lion; <i>ne</i> = and; <i>ngwe</i> = leopard; <i>en</i> = with; <i>a</i> = the; <i>mabala</i> = spots | The lion wears the leopard spots. (connotes royalty) |
| <i>Oh oh iyo</i> | OH OH ee-YOH | | (ancestral echoes that imply "This is it!") |
| <i>Mamela!</i> | MAH-meh-lah! | <i>mamela</i> = listen | Listen! |
| <i>Hela, hem mamela!</i> | HEH-lah HEM mah-MEH-lah! | <i>hela</i> = pay attention; <i>hem</i> = adds emphasis; <i>mamela</i> = experience | Pay attention and experience this! |
| FINALE (Zulu) | | | |
| <i>Busa le lizwe bo!</i> | BOO-sah leh LEEZ-weh boh! | <i>busa</i> = rule; <i>le</i> = this; <i>lizwe</i> = land; <i>bo</i> = (adds emphasis) | Rule this precious land! |
| <i>Busa lomhlaba!</i> | BOO-sah LOM-hhlah-bah! | <i>busa</i> = rule; <i>lomhlaba</i> = earth | Rule this earth! |
| <i>Busa ngo thando bo!</i> | BOO-san GO TAN-do boh! | <i>busa</i> = rule; <i>ngo</i> = with; <i>thando</i> = love; <i>bo</i> = (adds emphasis) | Rule with love! |
| <i>Oh, busa Simba iyo!</i> | oh BOO-sah SEEM-bah YOH! | <i>busa</i> = rule; <i>iyo</i> = (adds emphasis) | Oh, rule, Simba! |