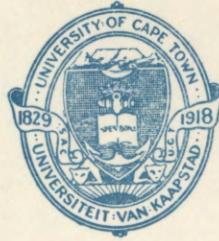


SCHOOL OF AFRICAN STUDIES

POSTAL ADDRESS:

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University of Cape Town

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE SOUTH AFRICAN COLLEGE.)

Rondebosch

November 23rd, 1938

Dear Mr. Matthews,

Very many thanks for your sketch of Rolong history. It is just the sort of thing that I was wanting, and I am delighted to have it. I shall let Professor Lestrade go through it to check up the orthography, but don't think any other changes will be required, apart perhaps from your reference to Morolong's having ruled about 1400. This date seems to me, judging from the various attempts I have made to straighten out Tswana chronology, to be about 200 years too soon. We usually assume that all the early Chiefs were father and son, which of course is by no means the case, what with regents and others coming in; and I would certainly feel happier if we could agree to place Morolong at about 1600. But if you have any strong opinion on the subject, we could let 1400 stand.

I am hoping now to include in the book, after each historical sketch, as many praises as possible of the Chiefs of the tribe dealt with; I am not sure if space will allow it, but I am hoping for the best. Do you think, therefore, that you could get me some other praises, apart from those of Tawana and Montshiwa, which I shall in the meantime keep here?

Another point is that I want to place at the head of the sketch of each tribe a figure (illustration) of the tribal totem; and for this purpose I am relying upon the figures usually placed on their letter-heads by the various Chiefs. If the Rolong also do this, could you please get me some specimens of their letter-heads so that I can do the same for them?

Messrs. Ellenberger & Nettelton have not yet sent me all their contributions, and as I sail for London on December 9th I now doubt if it will be possible for me to get the book to press before I go, as I had hoped; but I shall be back at the end of February, which should give everybody ample time to have all his material in. Can you manage the praises by then?

With kind regards,  
Yours sincerely,

I. Schapera

Best wishes for a successful field trip.