

HOUSES OF TAWANA.

1. House of Dikgang, daughter of Leshomo, paternal uncle of Tawana.

Morwanyane(d)      Motshidisi(d)      Mamoraila(d)      MaNtsha(d)

2. House of Mosela, daughter of Molekane, son of Rapulana.

Seetsela      Tlala      Motshegare      Molema      Phetogane      Majang(d)

3. House of Sebodio, daughter of Phetlu, son of Makgetla

Montshiwa      Marumulwa      Selere      Seru      Mametse

4. House of Letshane, daughter of Dingoko

Monthsiwana

5. House of Sennane

Keithuile(d)

6. House of Ma-Sefera, daughter of Makaba, the Ngwaketse Chief.

Saane      Rabodietso

7. House of Mojankunyana, daughter of Marumulwa, son of Makgetla

Kwenalesilo      Seitebatso(d)      Tshadidi(d)      Motsaatosi.

Notes.

1. Dikgang, Tawana's first wife was the daughter of Leshomo, the latter being a brother of Tlhutlwa, the father of Tawana. Leshomo and Tlhutlwa were sons of Tshidi. Dikgang was therefore Tawana's paternal cousin. Tawana's children by Dikgang were all daughters.

2.

2. Mosela was apparently Tawana's second wife. She was a daughter of Molekane, a son of Rapulana. Rapulana was a brother of Tshidi, the grandfather of Tawana. Molekane, the father of Mosela, and Tlhutlwa, the father of Tawana were the sons of two brothers by the same father but different mothers.

3. Sebodio was a daughter of Phetlu, a son of Makgetla. Makgetla was a brother of Tshidi, the grandfather of Tawana. Phetlu, the father of Sebodio, and Tlhutlwa, the father of Tawana were the sons of two brothers, Makgetla and Tshidi, by the same father (Tau) but different mothers. According to tradition, Sebodio was betrothed (go beelela) to Tau, the elder brother of Tawana, but Tau died before he had married her. Tawana had already married his two wives, Dikgang and Mosela, when he decided to marry Sebodio for his deceased brother Tau. This meant that the children of Tawana by Sebodio would be regarded as the children of Tau and would be senior in status to the children of Tawana by his first two wives. Accordingly after the death of Tawana he was succeeded in the chieftainship by Montshiwa, the eldest son of Sebodio, and not by any of the sons of Mosela who was married before Sebodio. Dikgang, the first wife, had no male issue. Of the sons of Mosela, Seetsela and Tlala died without issue. Therefore if Sebodio had not been regarded as a "wife" of Tau, the rightful heir of Tawana would have been Mosela's next son, namely, Motshegare. Molema, a younger of Motshegare, is supposed to have married Baitlhoi, daughter of Lekoma, for his deceased brother Seetsela after the latter's death. The descendants of Molema through Baitlhoi have occasionally raised the question as to whether this marriage did not give them precedence in tribal affairs over the descendants of Motshegare, or over the descendants of Montshiwa whose claim to the chieftainship, as noted above, was based on a similar marriage. This claim has however never been upheld in the tribal or any other court, probably on the ground that while there might have been some substance in the claim if Baitlhoi had been married by Motshegare to allow it in Molema's case would have been stretching custom too far.

4. ~~Lesshane~~, daughter of Dingoko, was apparently also married by Tawana for Tau. Her child, Montshiwana, would presumably rank after the children of Sebedio, but before those of ~~kixxixkix~~ Tawana's wives.
5. I have not been able to trace the family connections of Sennane, who however only gave birth to a daughter. Whether that accounts for the uncertainty about her antecedents, I am not in a position to say.
6. Ma-Sefera was a daughter of Makaba, the Ngwaketse Chief. Tshidi history shows that Tawana fled to Ngwaketse country during one of the Tshidi civil wars. It may have been during this period that Tawana married a daughter of Makaba.
7. Mojankunyana was the daughter of Marumulwa, a son of Makgetla. Marumulwa, the father of Mojankunyana, and Tlhutlwa, the father of Tawana, were the sons of two brothers, Makgetla and Tshidi, by the same father (Tau) but by different mothers.