

Sie Lɔngɔ Katoo, Banda-Ahenkro¹

Sie Lɔngɔ Katoo is the name of the Royal House located in Banda-Ahenkro. Succession to the paramount stool was restricted to the descendants of the three sisters of Kralɔngɔ, the ancestral founder of Sie Lɔngɔ Katoo. Other divisions of the Royal House include Gyase, Kronti, and Abakomahene's houses.

Kralɔngɔ was the man who led the Nafana from Kakala in what is today Côte d'Ivoire. Prior to their exodus from Kakala, there was a chief by the name of Zie. At this time the Nafana were living with the Jimini people. Upon the death of Zie, his nephew (sister's son) was to inherit the stool. This was the man Kralɔngɔ. It was Nafana custom that when a man dies, his nephew (sister's son) is the heir and, as such, he should inherit the wife/wives of his uncle, or have first choice among them. After the death of Zie, the Jimini people were, by custom, caring for the wives of Zie. Before Kralɔngɔ had selected his choice of the wives, it came to light that one of the wives had conceived a child by a Jimini man. This annoyed Kralɔngɔ and led to a war between the Jimini and the Nafana. It was at this point that Kralɔngɔ decided to move away with his people. They settled first at Tampi. Subsequently, they divided into 4 groups: Tampi, Sampa, Jyinini, and Banda. Among the brothers who led these groups, Kralɔngɔ was senior and brought the stool with him from Kakala. Kralɔngɔ was senior to the man Sie Nyonogbo, head of the Sampa group, by virtue of the fact that Kralɔngɔ's mother was senior to Sie Nyonogbo's mother.

Interview conducted on 27 July 1986 with Omanhene Nana Kofi Dwuru III, Gyasehene Nana Kofi Mensah, Adwo Kuma (Female Head), Akosua Dogo (sister to Nana Kofi Dwuru II), Amma Donkor, Afua Mapenyi, Akua Mensah.

Interview conducted by Dr. Ann B. Stahl and Mr. James Anane.

A fuller history of Sie Lɔngɔ Katoo, including a listing of former Omanhenes, is found in Kwabena Ameyaw's 1965 "Tradition of Banda," In Traditions from Brong-Ahafo, nos 1-4, pp. 1-15, Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, Legon.

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