



The descendents of the original Hambukushu settlers to Ngamiland live in small extended family homesteads in local communities along the edge of the flood plain of the Okavango River on the sand belt between Mohembo in the north to Sepopa and Seronga at the south. Though primarily agriculturalists, they also raise cattle, they hunt, fish, and collect edible wild plant and animal products from their diversified environment (LARSON 1962).

The long history of the Hambukushu as a furtive refugee people during the period of the slave trade which lasted as late as 1915 (WHITSON 1969), their exploitation by their own rainmaking chiefs (GIBBONS 1904; SCHULZ and HAMMAR 1897; FROELICH *s.d.*), and their human greed for their inheritance in the form of cattle have all contributed to the strongly entrenched beliefs in sorcery and witchcraft as a form of aggression. Their strong belief in the evil of sorcerers and witches have given them a fatalistic attitude toward life and death, in sickness, bad luck, and various forms of misfortune which they stoically accept. Almost all misfortune, death, and sicknesses are attributed