

**Ndinje nje nje nguMama** – “I am who I am because of my mother” (a wedding song from amaXhosa people in Eastern Cape in South Africa)

Language: **isiXhosa**

This song translates to

<i>Ndinje nje nje nguMama</i>	<i>I am who I am because of my mother</i>
<i>Ndiliyokoyoko</i>	<i>I am magnificent</i>
<i>Ndinje nje nje nguMama</i>	<i>I am who I am because of my mother</i>

This is a joyful song often sung at weddings, graduation parties, and birthday celebrations. It is a song of gratitude to the mothers who have nurtured and supported the celebrants. The song expresses pride in the mothers for the many sacrifices they have made to ensure that their children attain such a height in life. It is often performed by women.

isiXhosa Text is translated into English by Mr Thembela Vokwana

*Dr Andile Khumalo transcribed and arranged this song in 2017 for Jiwe Publishers (an online African Music library). Jiwe is a non-profit organization which seeks to both preserve and make African music easily accessible to the African continent and beyond. It accepts contributions from all genres of music. This song falls under the category “children’s songs.*

# Ndinje Nje Nje nguMama

"I am who I am because of my mother"

amaXhosa wedding song (South Africa)

Arr. **Andile Khumalo**

♩ = 126

Doh is Ab

**SOPRANO 1**

**SOPRANO 2**

**ALTO**

*mp* f m :—: d | s<sub>1</sub> :—: m | m :—: — | r :—: m

Ndi - nje nje nje ngu - Ma - ma ndi -

: : : : : : : :

**S.**

**S.**

**A.**

5 *mf* : m : r | d :—: r | r :—: — | d :—: m

nje - nje nje ngu - Ma - - ma ndi -

: : : : : : : d

ndi -

*p* *mp* *p*

: : : : m . m | m . m : m . m : :

ndi - li yo - ko yo - ko

Bars 9 - 16, can be repeated  
a number of times

9

*mf* *mp*

S. m : — : d | d : — : m | m : — : — | r : — : m

nje nje nje ngu - Ma - ma ndi -

S. *mf* *mp*

d : — : d | s<sub>l</sub> : — : d | d : — : — | t<sub>l</sub> : — : de

nje nje nje ngu - Ma - ma

A. *mp*

: : s<sub>l</sub> | m<sub>l</sub> : — : — | : : | s<sub>l</sub> : — : —

nje nje ma

13

*f* *mf* *mp*

S. f : m : r | d : — : r | r : — : — | d : — : m

nje — nje nje ngu - Ma - - ma ndi

S. r : d : t<sub>l</sub> | s<sub>l</sub> : — : t<sub>l</sub> | t<sub>l</sub> : — : — | d : — : —

nje — nje nje ngu - Ma - - ma

A. *f* *mf* *mp*

f : l : s<sub>l</sub> | s<sub>l</sub> : : t<sub>l</sub> | s<sub>l</sub> : — : m . m | m . m : m . m :

nje - nje nje ngu - Ma ndi - li yo - ko yo - ko

div.