

Vaparidzi Vawanda

Preachers Are Now So Many

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Hatichazivi wokutevera

We no longer know who to follow

Honai Baba, tadzungaira

Look, Father, we are confused

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Tinomubvunzo mukuru kwazvo:

We have a really big question:

Ndiani achaparidza

Who will preach

Umo muchechi yeZioni?

In that Church of Zion?

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Baba tirotsei kuhope, tirotsei kuhope

Father, reveal it to us in the dream

Kuti timuzivewo

That we may know him too

Baba tirotsei kuhope takarara

Father, reveal it to us in the dream while we sleep

Baba kuti timuzivewo

Father, that we may know him too

Baba, isu hatitaure, hatitaure

Father, we do not speak, we do not speak

Fungira mumwoyo rwendo rwembwa

Our thoughts are secret

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This is a political song, in reference to the 1980 Zimbabwe (formerly Southern Rhodesia) general elections to elect members of the House of Assembly of the country's first Parliament of the independent Zimbabwe. There were 9 political parties (*vaparidzi vawanda*) campaigning for their candidates, all from black communities, and all claiming to represent the black population. The nation seeks divine revelation, so to speak, regarding the choice of candidate (*tirotsei kuhope*), because only God knew who was genuine and who was not. Ultimately, though, each person's vote was their secret

(fungira mumwayo rwendo rwembwa). The nation's choice (through the revelation) would be revealed after the elections, when the results came out.

The song is still relevant in modern Zimbabwe, especially towards election times, where the preachers are taken to be the presidential candidates. [The Zimbabwe 2018 harmonised elections](#) had a record 23 candidates running for president.

Language(s): Shona

Songwriters: Zexie Manatsa & The Green Arrows

Original Album: Waka Waka Selection

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