

Madzangara Dzimu

The Apparitions

(The vocalizations **Hehaheya** and **Heheya**, repeated throughout, have no proscribed meaning)

Baba, chiiko chinenge madhunamutuna?

Father, what are these that look like animals?

Ndiwaya madhunamutuna

These are the strange creatures

Ndiwaya madhunamutuna

These are the strange creatures

Ndiwaya madhunamutuna

These are the strange creatures

Atishayisa rufaro

Which are depriving us of joy

Baba, chiiko chinenge madhunamutuna?

Father, what are these that look like animals?

Ndiwaya madhunamutuna

These are the strange creatures

Ndiwaya madhunamutuna

These are the strange creatures

Ndiwaya madhunamutuna

These are the strange creatures

Atishayisa rufaro

Which are depriving us of joy

Baba, chiiko chinenge madzangara dzimu?

Father, what are these that look like humanoids?

Ndiwaya madzangara dzimu

These are the odd apparitions

Ndiwaya madzangara dzimu

These are the odd apparitions

Ndiwaya madzangara dzimu

These are the odd apparitions

Atishayisa rufaro

Which are depriving us of joy

Baba, chiiko chinenge madzangara dzimu?

Father, what are these that look like humanoids?

Ndiwaya madzangara dzimu

These are the odd apparitions

Ndiwaya madzangara dzimu

These are the odd apparitions

Ndiwaya madzangara dzimu

These are the odd apparitions

Atishayisa rufaro

Which are depriving us of joy

Guitar solo

Mai, chiiko chinenge madzangara dzimuwe?

Mother, what are these that look like humanoids?

Ndiwaya madzangara dzimu

These are the odd apparitions

Ndiwaya madzangara dzimu

These are the odd apparitions

Ndiwaya madzangara dzimu

These are the odd apparitions

Atishayisa rufaro

Which are depriving us of joy

Mai, chiiko chinenge madzangara dzimuwe?

Mother, what are these that look like humanoids?

Ndiwaya madzangara dzimu

These are the odd apparitions

Ndiwaya madzangara dzimu

These are the odd apparitions

Ndiwaya madzangara dzimu

These are the odd apparitions

Atishayisa rufaro

Which are depriving us of joy

Baba, chiiko chinenge madhunamutunawe?

Father, what are these that look like animals?

Ndiwaya madhunamutuna

These are the strange creatures

Ndiwaya madhunamutuna

These are the strange creatures

Ndiwaya madhunamutuna

These are the strange creatures

Atishayisa rufaro

Which are depriving us of joy

Baba, chiiko chinenge madhunamutuna?

Father, what are these that look like animals?

Ndiwaya madhunamutuna

These are the strange creatures

Ndiwaya madhunamutuna

These are the strange creatures

Ndiwaya madhunamutuna

These are the strange creatures

Atishayisa rufaro

Which are depriving us of joy

Guitar solo

Mai, chiiko chinenge madzangara dzimuwe?

Mother, what *are* these that look like humanoids?

Ndiwaya madzangara dzimu

These are the odd apparitions

Ndiwaya madzangara dzimu

These are the odd apparitions

Ndiwaya madzangara dzimu

These are the odd apparitions

Atishayisa rufaro

Which are depriving us of joy

Mai, chiiko chinenge madzangara dzimu?

Mother, what are these that look like humanoids?

Ndiwaya madzangara dzimu

These are the odd apparitions

Ndiwaya madzangara dzimu

These are the odd apparitions

Ndiwaya madzangara dzimu

These are the odd apparitions

Atishayisa rufaro

Which are depriving us of joy

Mai, chiiko chinenge madhunamutuna?

Mother, what are these that look like animals?

Ndiwaya madhunamutuna

These are the strange creatures

Ndiwaya madhunamutuna

These are the strange creatures

Ndiwaya madhunamutuna

These are the strange creatures

Atishayisa rufaro

Which are depriving us of joy

The Green Arrows band was active at the height of [the liberation war in Zimbabwe](#), in the 1970's. (Independence was eventually attained on April 18th, 1980.) Three songs from the Chipo Chirorrwa LP and Waka Waka Selection albums (*Madzangara Dzimu*, *Musango Mune Hangaiwa*, and *Nyoka Yendara*) are revolutionary songs which got the band members in trouble with Rhodesian state security agents. They were beaten up and tortured as a matter of form after their live performances of these songs at various venues.

Madzangara dzimu and *madhunamutuna* are spiritual beings. They are hard to describe – Mr. Manatsa did make an attempt, as he claims to have seen one, but it was difficult for this translator to form a picture in her mind, which in turn made it difficult to find an English equivalent. He described the former creature as very tall, with a long, hanging nose. Scholars and elders agree that the form of a *dzangara dzimu* is humanoid in the sense that – as Mr. Manatsa described it to this translator – there is a head (with its associated parts), neck, torso, arms and legs, et cetera, and that it stands upright, but the

likeness ends there. All the parts are supposedly weird; twisted and gnarled. *Madhunamutuna*, on the other hand, the elders and scholars agree, are like wild animals, or strange creatures of mystical form.

These beings are sacred – it is said when you see one that you must not express surprise or shock nor make comment, or you will disappear without a trace forever, or be found dead in a very strange location (that is, a place which is technically physically impossible for an individual to get to on their own.)

This song is discreetly referring to the Rhodesian Army (the whites, that is). They resembled *madzangara dzimu*, in that they wore their camouflage gear and blended with the background such that they would come upon you as if from nowhere and make you disappear. They were greatly feared because nobody was safe – whether you were part of the liberation struggle or not. Apparently, the army took to training some of its agents in local languages and dialects in order for them to be able to decipher the messages encoded in songs such as this one, which efforts would inevitably precede the harshest of punishments being meted out to the band members.

Language(s): Shona

Songwriters: Zexie Manatsa & The Green Arrows

Original Album: Waka Waka Selection

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