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**Court orders release of suspect**

...five men including three cops nabbed for theft of 75 guns at Mafeteng Police Station

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**Small scale mining finally recognised**

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**Discrepancies in bank accounts impair Govt cash position - AG**



THURSDAY November 18 - 24, 2021

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# PROGRESS MADE IN REGIONAL, UK TRADE DEAL

...as parties acknowledge importance of time-bound commitments provided for under the agreement

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- Economists divided ahead of SA Reserve Bank's interest rate decision
- Illegal entry into Lesotho remains a challenge
- Phatsoane gets top World Cup qualifier assignment



## BORN ON THIS DAY

November 18

- 1727 - Philibert Commerçon, French naturalist, born in Châtillon-les-Dombes, France
- 1785 - David Wilkie, British painter, born in Pitlessie Fife, Scotland (d. 1841)
- 1824 - Franz Sigel, German teacher, newspaperman, politician and Major General
- 1832 - Adolf Erik Nordenskiöld, Finnish-Swedish explorer and mineralogist
- 1874 - Carrie White, oldest US woman (dies Nov 1990 at 116), born in Havana, Florida
- 1929 - William J. Knight, American astronaut and test pilot (X-15)
- 1935 - Rudolf Bahro, German dissident (d. 1997)
- 1935 - Rodney Hall, Australian author
- 1974 - Christian Schmidt, actor (Mullers Baro)
- 1974 - Chloë Sevigny, American actress
- 1973 - Steve Christopher Petree, American pop singer born in Shawnee, Oklahoma

## Quotes & Quips!

*"A careful observer would note that my (low basis) share sale rate significantly exceeds my 10b (high basis) option exercise rate, thus closer to tax maximization than minimization,"*

says Elon Musk, CEO of Tesla on the sale of the company's stock, which according to accountants did not appear to be connected with taxes - which could mean he will unload far more stock than expected.



## NewsBriefs

### Court orders release of suspect

...five men including three cops nabbed for theft of 75 guns at Mafeteng Police Station

**MASERU** – The High Court on Monday ordered the immediate release of one of the five men who have been arrested in connection with the theft of 75 firearms that were stolen from the Mafeteng Police Station armoury last month.

This, after Kunyane Ralekhetla who is a civil servant turned state witness against his four co-accused.

Earlier, his wife 'Maretšepile Ralekhetla had filed an urgent application in the High Court against the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) Beleme Lebajoa and others in which she wanted her husband to be presented before court dead or alive.

Advocate Thomas Thakalekoa who represents the respondents in the matter told High Court judge, Justice Polo Banyane that Ralekhetla's detention was

not baseless as it was intended to determine whether or not to prosecute.

Adv Thakalekoa said there was a need for a directive from the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) to charge the suspect as he is a public officer.

Ralekhetla's lawyer, Adv Napo Mafaesa confirmed that the defence is no longer pursuing the urgent application it had filed earlier.

The Commissioner of Police Holomo Molibeli on Monday announced during a media briefing that at least five suspects including three police officers have been arrested in connection with the burglary and theft of the 75 firearms, which were allegedly stolen at the Mafeteng Police station armoury.

He said seven of the guns have already been recovered, adding that one of them was seized from a Chinese business man in Mafeteng.

LeNA

## Judge lauds lawyers

...as the bench feels indebted to legal practitioners for sterling performance in trying COVID-19 times

**MASERU** – Legal Practitioners who participated in the second session of the Court of Appeal which commenced on October 11 and ended on Friday with delivery of judgments, have been applauded by judges of that court for sterling performance.

Dr Kananelo Mosito, President of the Court of Appeal said the bench is indebted to the lawyers who performed well, notwithstanding challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and remote operations, adding they have become resilient despite the trying times.

The judges who are all foreign, he also said are hopeful that they will be back in Lesotho for the next session which starts on April 11, 2022, provided the pandemic will have evaporated.

Dr Mosito advised all the legal practitioners who will be participating in that session to expedite



Appeal Court President Dr Kananelo Mosito

the processing of applications, records and all essential procedures to avoid excessive condonation applications.

The appeals in the just ended session were heard remotely as one of the measures to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Judgments were also delivered after three weeks of preparation.

Dr Mosito had during the official opening of the first session of the court earlier this year made a commitment that the court will put in place quality assurance mechanisms.

This was applauded by the Law Society of Lesotho through Advocate Mosoeunyane Masiphole who pointed out that delivery of quality judgments was previously compromised. He expressed hope that the extension of the writing and delivery of judgments will help add more value and quality to the jurisprudence. LeNA

## FastFACTS

Facebook has more users than the population of the U.S., China, and Brazil combined

Do you use Facebook? If you don't, you're among a number that gets increasingly smaller every day. In fact, 2 billion active users have an account on the social media platform, which is more than the population of the United States, China, and Brazil combined. Facebook's co-founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg posted about the milestone, saying, "We're making progress connecting the world, and now let's bring the world closer together."

## On This Day in History



November 18

### Mass suicide at Jonestown

On November 18, 1978, Peoples Temple founder Jim Jones leads hundreds of his followers in a mass murder-suicide at their agricultural commune in a remote part of the South American nation of Guyana. Many of Jones' followers willingly ingested a poison-laced punch while others were forced to do so at gunpoint. The final death toll at Jonestown that day was 909; a third of those who perished were children.

Jim Jones was a charismatic churchman who established the Peoples Temple, a Christian sect, in Indianapolis in the 1950s. He preached against racism, and his integrated congregation attracted many African Americans. In 1965, he moved the group to Northern California, settling in Ukiah and after 1971 in San Francisco. In the 1970s, his church was accused by the media of financial fraud, physical abuse of its members and mistreatment of children. In response to the mounting criticism, the increasingly paranoid Jones invited his congregation to move with him to Guyana, where he promised they would build a socialist utopia. Three years earlier, a small group of his followers had travelled to the tiny nation to set up what would become Jonestown on a tract of jungle.

Jonestown did not turn out to be the paradise their leader had promised. Temple members worked long days in the fields and were subjected to harsh punishments if they questioned Jones' authority. Their passports were confiscated, their letters home censored and members were encouraged to inform on one another and forced to attend lengthy, late-night meetings. Jones, by then in declining mental health and addicted to drugs, was convinced the U.S. government and others were out to destroy him. He required Temple members to participate in mock suicide drills in the middle of the night.

## ALL JOKES ASIDE

### Blind man and naked nuns

Mother superior tells two new nuns that they have to paint their room without getting any paint on their clothes. One nun suggests to the other, "Hey, let's take all our clothes off, fold them up, and lock the door." So they do this, and begin painting their room. Soon they hear a knock at the door. They ask, "Who is it?" "Blind man!" The nuns look at each other and one nun says, "He's blind, so he can't see. What could it hurt?" They let him in. The blind man walks in and says, "Hey, nice tits. Where do you want me to hang the blinds?"

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## Small scale mining finally recognised

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# Metro BUSINESS

## CURRENCIES

(How Lesotho's Loti fared against world major currencies this week)

Loti/SDR	Special Drawing Right (SDR)	23.22
Loti/Dollar	United States (US\$)	15.25
Loti/Rands	South African (ZAR)	1.00
Loti/Euro	European Union (€)	17.42
Loti/Yuan	Chinese (¥)	2.37
Loti/Yen	Japanese (¥)	0.13
Loti/Pound Sterling	British (£)	20.47
Loti/Dollar	Australian (A\$)	11.21
Loti/Dollar	Hong Kong (HK\$)	1.96
Loti/Dollar	Singapore (S\$)	11.28
Loti/Naira	Nigeria's (₦)	0.04
Loti/Kwanza	Angola's (Kz)	0.03
Loti/Birr	Ethiopia's (Br)	0.32
Loti/Pound	Egypt (E£)	0.97
Loti/Ruble	Russia (RUB)	0.21
Loti/Riyal	Saudi Arabia (SAR)	4.06
Loti/Shekel	Israel (₪)	4.90
Loti/Real	Brazilian (R\$)	2.79
Loti/Rupee	India (₹)	0.20
Loti/Dirham	UAE (د.إ.)	4.15
Loti/Rupee	Mauritius (Rs)	0.42

## COMMODITIES (International Rates in US\$)

STOCKS	
S&P500	4,681.50
NASDAQ100	16,192.75
Nikkei225	29,808.12
Dow Jones30	36,087.45
FTSE 100	7,348.18
JSE	70,757.00
Hang Seng	25,682.63

PRECIOUS METALS	
Gold p/ounce	1,871.56
Platinum p/ounce	2,168.21
Silver p/ounce	25.38
Copper p/ounce	0.22
Brent Oil p/barrel	82.70

EQUITIES	
Bonds	18.44
Treasury Bills	3.67
Interest Rates	91

## AGRICULTURE (Rates in Maloti/Rands)

Maize Meal p/kg	M7.00
Wheat Meal p/kg	M10.00
Cabbage p/kg	M14.00
Potatoes p/kg	M10.50
Brown Bread p/loaf	M10.00
White Bread p/loaf	M11.00
Sorghum Meal p/kg	M25.00
Brown Beans p/kg	M30.00
Tomato p/kg	M15.00

Eggs p/tray	M45.00
Milk (fresh) p/litre	M16.00
Milk (sour) p/litre	M20.00
Rice p/kg	M30.00
White Sugar p/kg	M22.00
Brown Sugar p/kg	M25.00
Beef p/kg	M85.00
Mutton p/kg	M90.00

## ENERGY (Rates in Maloti/Rands)

Petrol Unleaded 93 p/litre	M16.80
Unleaded 95 p/litre	M16.60
Diesel 50PPM p/litre	M16.60
Paraffin p/litre	M11.90
Water (Domestic) p/litre	M5.53
Water (Industrial) p/litre	M15.03
Electricity (Domestic) p/unit	M1.38
Electricity (Industrial) p/unit	M0.26
Gas p/kg	M20.00

# Progress made in regional, UK trade deal

...as parties acknowledge importance of time-bound commitments provided for under the agreement

**NEO SENOKO**

[business@maserumetro.com](mailto:business@maserumetro.com)

**MASERU** – Major progress is being made, with members of the Southern African Customs Union (SACU), alongside Mozambique and the United Kingdom Economic Partnership Agreement (SACUM-UK EPA) in the process to develop the rules of procedure for the institutions established under the pact as well as the appointment of arbitrators in preparation for the first meeting of the Joint Council.

This was revealed during the first meeting of the Trade and Development Committee under the agreement recently, with Lesotho also participating by virtue of being an affiliate of SACU.

“The parties further agreed to exchange views on issues to be considered by Special Committees on trade facilitation and customs cooperation, geographical indications and trade in wine and spirits and the agricultural partnership to facilitate the convening of the first meetings of these special committees,” said SACU Executive Secretary, Paulina Mbala Elago (pictured) in a statement on Tuesday.

The parties further acknowledged the importance of time-bound commitments provided for under the agreement including in relation to the review of regional cumulation, developing work programmes on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)

matters as well as the scope and volume under the automatic derogations.

They also provided information on their respective tariff rate quota usage and administration.

SACUM-UK EPA was signed on October 9, 2019 in London United Kingdom (UK).

The agreement entered into force on January 1, 2021 following the end of the UK's transition period and the deposit of the instruments of ratification by all parties to the contract.

SACUM-UK EPA establishes a free trade area between the SACU member states and Mozambique as well as the UK. It also replicates the effects of the economic partnership agreement between the European Union and Southern African Development Community States (EU-SADC EPA) signed on June 10, 2016.

In this regard, it replicates the preferential tariff treatment of the EU-SADC EPA with the exception of the volume limitations on Tariff Rate Quotas.

The entry into force of the SACUM-UK EPA provides for the continuity of trade between the UK and the SACU member states and Mozambique as the UK ceases to be a member of the EU single market and customs union.

The agreement also solidifies the strong trade relations and partnership between the parties. It also reflects the commitment of the parties to maintain a strong trading relationship as the UK develops its independent trade policy.



# Business

## Small scale mining finally recognised

- Poverty levels projected to decrease as the industry creates more jobs
- Bill will allow Govt to reposition artisanal and small-scale miners (ASM) of precious stones

NEO SENOKO

business@maserumetro.com

**MASERU** - The level of poverty, currently at around 24 percent in Lesotho, coupled with more than half of the population living below poverty line, is expected to reduce significantly in the near future, with the mining industry projected to generate more jobs for the people.

This, after the recent adoption of the Mines and Minerals (Amendment) Bill of 2021 by Parliament.

The Bill which, was referred to the Portfolio Committee on Natural Resources, Tourism and Land Cluster for consideration will allow government to work towards recognising and repositioning the Artisanal and Small-Scale Miners (ASM) sub sector in mining of precious

stones in an attempt to alleviate poverty.

Artisanal mining means traditional and customary mining operations using traditional or customary ways and means. These include the activities of individuals using mostly rudimentary mining methods, manual and elementary tools to access mineral ore, usually available on surface or at shallow depths.

"It seeks to remedy the lacuna in the 2005 Act where artisanal or small-scale miners of precious stones had no recognition, were not licensed and or permitted to mine. The Bill seeks to include them and will further enable the ASM sub-sector to fulfill its potential for alleviating poverty and contributing to development, particularly in rural areas," the report presented by the committee says.

All miners who were excluded in the granting

of diamonds for mineral permits in the Mines and Mineral Act 2005 are expected to benefit.

The Ministry of Mining will support the ASM sub sector to have their own fund, which will help them grow into a mining company. They will also be able to purchase the necessary equipment for such a mine.

When the desired capacity has been achieved, the ministry will amend their permits from small scale mining to those of mining companies.

The ministry will also decentralise the issuance of permits meaning that miners will not have to travel to Maseru to obtain permits.

Miners will further be assisted in areas of feasibility studies as well as ensuring safety.

"It is going to be the responsibility of the Government through the Ministry of Mining to ensure the safety of miners including other areas



Minister of Mining Serialong Qoo

such as feasibility studies and many other things," the Public Relations Officer in the Ministry of Mining, Makanelo Motseko said in brief interview with Metro on Wednesday.

According to the report, members of the public also welcomed the Parliament's initiatives to include them in the enactment of the mining laws.

They were enthusiastic about the Bill in that they will not have to queue for jobs anymore while some will now be self-employed.

However, despite the positives about the Bill, the public raised concerns that a certain percentage of sales from the amnesty diamonds should be returned to the communities where the diamonds were discovered. This, they say will improve their livelihoods.

Another concern was that the Ministry of Mining should organise markets and take responsibility of the sales of the diamonds on their behalf and that the diamond amnesty should also be included in the Bill.

Lesotho is not the only country in the SADC region that is making strides towards formalisation and recognition of artisanal and small scale mining.

Earlier this year, South Africa released the draft policy on the issue through its Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy.

The South African Government said one of the reasons for recognition was to encourage participation of historically disadvantaged persons and address other challenges facing the sector.

The neighboring country clearly stated that illegal mining has a range of negative social and financial impacts on employees, companies, the mining sector and the country due to loss of revenue, taxes, employment opportunities, capital expenditure, exports, foreign exchange earnings and procurement among others.

It also presents a serious risk to the sustainability of the industry and its ability to contribute to a meaningful future for the people.

Botswana is, however still lagging behind, with the country's Mines and Minerals Act Section 52(1) stating that anyone willing to conduct small scale mining operations may apply for any mineral other than diamonds over an area not exceeding 0.5km<sup>2</sup> per permit.

This, according to experts does not make good business sense because it means even if a person finds a small diamond mine, they still have to go through all the requirements for minerals permit.

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Ha-Khoeli  
Box 13765  
Maseru 100  
CONTACT NUMBER:  
56037667

# Discrepancies in bank accounts impair Govt cash position – AG

*...Lesotho Post Bank says loan bursary fund account with balance of M708 173 was omitted*

**NEO SENOKO**  
business@maserumetro.com

**MASERU** – Monica Besetsa, the Acting Auditor General (AG) says inconsistent information provided by the banks coupled with discrepancies between financial statements and bank confirmations have impaired the reliability of the reported cash position of the government.

In her report, the AG shows that there are discrepancies between the consolidated financial statements and bank confirmations with regard to the number of bank accounts and cash balances as at March 31, 2020.

“There are 374 accounts held at different banks reported in the financial statements totaling M5.311 billion whereas bank confirmations reflect 362 accounts with a total balance of M5.313 billion resulting into a variance of 12 accounts totaling M2 million. The variances were

mainly on the accounts held at Standard Lesotho Bank,” Ms Besetsa (pictured) reported.

Bank confirmations are said to be the most reliable type of audit evidence that auditors can obtain with regard to the existence, accuracy and ownership of bank accounts and bank account balances of the audited entity.

The banks have provided confirmations of cash balances as at March 31, 2020 and confirmations of opened accounts and closed accounts during the financial year

2019/20.

“The total number of accounts held at different banks as at 31 March 2019 was 387. The information provided by the banks revealed that during financial year 2019/20, 69 new bank accounts were opened, 40 were closed and therefore the expected number of bank accounts at the end of the year was 416.

“However, the bank certificates showed a total number of 362 accounts as at 31 March 2020 and thus resulting in a shortfall of 54 accounts,” Ms Besetsa further noted.

Out of the seven accounts reported by Standard Lesotho Bank to have been closed during the year 2019/20, six accounts still appeared on the bank certificates as at March 2020.

Two accounts, namely Capital Project Leribe and Decentralisation Local Auth. Recu Leribe were reported by Lesotho Post Bank to have been opened and closed on September 4, 2019.

The audit established that a total of 25 accounts reported by Nedbank, Standard Lesotho Bank and Lesotho Post Bank

to have been opened during the year 2019/20 did not appear on bank certificates as at March 31, 2020.

For instance, out of three accounts opened during the year by Nedbank, only two appeared on the bank certificate. At Standard Lesotho Bank, accounts opened during the year were 34 but only 13 appeared on bank certificate while out of 19 accounts opened at Lesotho Post Bank, only 16 appeared on the bank certificate.

It was further noted that 28 accounts totaling M198 million were not part of the reported accounts at March 31, 2019 and had appeared on bank confirmations as at March 31, 2020. However, these accounts did not appear on the confirmations from the banks for the new accounts opened during the year 2019/20.

“The comparison of previous year’s bank confirmations and current year’s bank confirmations revealed that 64 accounts with a total balance amount of M48.3 million appeared on bank confirmations as at 31 March 2019 but no longer appeared on bank confirmations as at 31 March 2020 nor appeared on lists of closed accounts,” the AG further showed.

Asked about the missing bank accounts, the Central Bank of Lesotho (CBL) said three accounts totaling M5 304 070 could not be closed due to challenges encountered in their system.

For the remaining three accounts, treasury confirmed that they had been closed though it is still not clear why the accounts were not included in the account closure confirmation from the banks.

Ned Bank Lesotho on the other

hand stated that the account with a balance of M86 834 was mistakenly omitted, while Standard Lesotho Bank showed that 38 accounts with a total balance of M44 230 888 have been closed.

The bank said four accounts with balances totaling M3 464 870 were dormant whereas seven accounts totaling M7 494 631 were reported to be still active.

The bank further stated that as at March 31, 2020, those active accounts had a total balance of M7 285 553 and there was one dormant account with a balance of M203 757.

Lesotho Post Bank on the other hand reported that the loan bursary fund account with a balance of M708 173 was omitted and another account was closed but its date of closing was not included.

Section 74 (2) of Treasury Regulations 2014 requires the Accountant General to maintain a register of official bank accounts showing the ministry or office responsible, the name of the bank, the account number, the purpose of the account, date opened and date closed if applicable.

The audit however, established that the AG has not maintained the register for official bank accounts properly. As a result, the acting Auditor General could not verify the number of accounts against the information provided by the banks.

The Acting Auditor General could also not confirm the accuracy and completeness of 362 accounts with a total bank balance of M5.313 billion per bank confirmations. The poorly maintained register also compromises ownership management of bank accounts.



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# Comments & Letters

## Parents worried about new education system for Grade 7 learners

### The Editor,

As parents of pupils who have just written their Grade 7 final examinations, we are concerned about our children's future, as well as their education.

The new system which has been implemented by the Government that says Grade 7 learners can no longer sit for their final exams in order to proceed to Grade 8 is not welcomed because it is compromising the quality of our children's education.

There is no guarantee that under the new system, the admission of the learners into high schools and secondary will be transparent.

We understand that schools are making arrangements to ensure that the pupils are interviewed for admission, but the question is, what will happen to learners who will not make it in those interviews?

Will the Government make other arrangements for the learners who failed admission interviews to enter secondary schools like other pupils?

'Malichaba Mohloai  
Masianokeng, Maseru

## The harassment of local journalists escalates

### The Editor,

The recent case of a 357 FM presenter who was on Sunday arrested and interrogated by the Pitso Ground and Maseru Central Charge Office (MCCO) police over firearms allegedly stolen from the Mafeteng Police Station armoury is a clear indication that media freedom is under great threat.

The arrest comes shortly after another attack by the unknown assailants on the family of a senior reporter for both Lesotho Times and Sunday Express on the night of November 9, in which her husband was seriously injured.

It has become the norm for journalists in Lesotho, particularly ahead of every National Assembly election to be subjected to unlawful arrests, harassment, assaults and torture by members of the state security agencies and political parties.

We therefore make a clarion call to all relevant authorities in the country and outside, to apply more efforts to end the war waged against local journalists and press freedom.

A local journalist  
Maseru

## Can LEPOSA fix its differences with COMPOL?

### The Editor,

We want the Lesotho Police Staff Association, (LEPOSA), and the Commissioner of Police, Holomo Molibeli to show us the true definition of leadership and reconciliation. As the nation, we do not necessarily want to know their differences or what the bickering is all about. But we want to see the police chief making peace with officers serving under his command in order to focus on what is of great importance - fighting crime and providing protection to the people of Lesotho and their property.

If Compol Molibeli fails to bring the situation under control, he will eventually lose control of the fight against crime and all officers serving under him. The theft of the 75 firearms from the police strong room in Mafeteng clearly shows that the Lesotho Mounted Police Service (LMPS) is slowly losing the plot. Corruption and high levels of incompetence and lack of professionalism as well as resources within the police service paint a terrible picture of the country's abilities. It is high time that the police boss took charge of the men and women in blue before our country is ruined completely.

Mphonyane Tikoe  
Thabaneng, Mafeteng

**Speak OUT!** Your opinions matter. This page is dedicated to those who wish to express their views.

## EDITOR'S NOTE

# Mining bill should not be used as a political tool

The adoption of the Mines and Minerals (Amendment) Bill of 2021 by Parliament is widely appreciated and will certainly go a long way towards boosting economic activity in the country.

But, the Government should accelerate efforts and ensure that the Bill becomes law sooner than later in order to allow for ground work to begin for small-scale miners.

Unlike hundreds of bills that have perhaps been overlooked and abandoned by the Government, this one in particular, is more important and therefore deserves to be treated with the urgency it deserves.

Political games should be put aside in this regard if the country is seriously concerned about the wellbeing of its people in line with reducing hunger and creating employment.

Failure to achieve in this issue will definitely prove the mindset which thousands of people now have about politicians in this country - that none of them really cares about the people on the ground.

With them, it is always 'all talk and no action'.

That behavior has since been realised by many and our understanding is that the current Government should really double efforts, and could change people's perceptions if only they could ensure the success of this brilliant initiative.

The Bill, which was referred to the Portfolio Committee on Natural Resources, Tourism and Land Cluster for consideration will allow the Government to work towards recognising and repositioning the Artisanal and Small-Scale Miners (ASM) sub sector in mining of precious stones in an attempt to alleviate poverty.

It seeks to remedy the gap in the 2005 Act where artisanal or small-scale miners of precious stones had no recognition, were not licensed and or permitted to mine.

The Bill seeks to include them and will further enable the ASM subsector to fulfill its potential for alleviating poverty and contributing to development, particularly in the rural areas.

With the national elections quickly approaching in 2022, the move to accommodate smallholder miners should not have been used as a tool for political campaigns with no form of action to fulfill it.

This comes to mind because politicians have a tendency to take advantage of the powers they have to try and manipulate people into voting for them by preaching empty promises.

This is even easier to do for those that are in government because they have resources that allow them to tell lies to the people.

This is because they know that some people will easily believe in their promises and maybe bring them back into power only to fail yet again.

## FW de Klerk's death is an opportunity to liberate ourselves from the prison of bitterness

### JAY NAIDOO

FW de Klerk has died. And his passage has unleashed a cacophony of pent-up emotions that for nearly three decades we have swept under the carpet. A festering sore has broken and its pus oozes painfully into our public debate.

But De Klerk is just a proxy for the state of our democratic project.

The key question is: who stole our revolution?

I have never been social friends with De Klerk.

In the 1980s we were fierce opponents in a deadly struggle to reclaim our human dignity and the right to elect the leaders we wanted. Our demand was crisply encapsulated by our slogan, "One person, one vote in a democratic, non-racial and non-sexist society." It captured our imagination and galvanised a mass struggle within South Africa, driven by young people coming out of the 1976 Soweto Uprisings - the watershed to a new era of militant activism.

Globally, the anti-apartheid movements mobilised millions into action in people-to-people solidarity even when the Western governments of the Reagan/Thatcher axis of neoliberalism saw the apartheid state as an ally and a bulwark against communism.

But let's correct a piece of "fake news trending in established media". De Klerk did not end apartheid. Neither did Nelson Mandela or any of us. The change happened when millions of South Africans rose up to delegitimise apartheid. The people lost their fear of the oppressor and the apartheid state lost its power and legitimacy. Into that vacuum a new leadership emerged that would rise above their constituencies and find common ground. But it was on that fateful day, 10 April 1993, when comrade Chris Hani was murdered by the assassin Janusz Walus that Mandela became the de facto head of our country.

De Klerk was a conservative who came from a long line of family who served the National Party, which was key in constructing the apartheid architecture that dominated our country.

He served in the Cabinet from 1984 as minister of education when troops occupied our townships and unleashed a torrent of violence against even our schoolchildren. More auspiciously, he served on the State Security Management Council that eviscerated even the democracy that was white-centric. It was one of the most brutal periods in our history. In every respect it manifested as a low-scale civil war that was healing up to an explosion.

The State Security Management Council organised, funded and implemented the covert agendas of shadowy right-wing hit squads who tortured and murdered scores of activists, some of whose bodies have still not been recovered; who bombed many of our offices, including Cosatu House, our headquarters, in 1987.

And I, and many others were on circulating death lists of the apartheid state and its collaborators. In that period of repressive actions that saw tens of thousands of young people in detention or forced to leave the country, there can be no escaping the culpability De Klerk had in what happened.

De Klerk and I remained fierce combatants even after Mandela was released in 1990.

On the political spectrum, we were the polarities. We fought on many issues: The National Party's demand to write white minority rights into the Constitution. Our demand that the right to strike should be in the

Constitution.

We fought against the arbitrary decisions about mobile licences and the introduction of VAT. Our view was that De Klerk and his government were illegitimate and therefore not in a position to make such economic decisions. Mandela had to mediate often in this conflict between a non-state actor like Cosatu and the apartheid government.

These issues were, in our minds, key to the content of the democracy we would negotiate. Although a powerful section of the ANC leadership had a "Don't rock the boat" syndrome, Cosatu pushed for a Reconstruction Pack which morphed into the RDP which was our election manifesto that won us a landslide victory in 1994.

I never recognised De Klerk as my president in an apartheid South Africa. But I did serve in the first democratically elected government of South Africa in 1994 in which he was the deputy president. And I respect that office.

He also was the person in the warped environment of the racial politics of the National Party who took the brave step to unconditionally free Mandela and political prisoners and unban the ANC, PAC, SACP and all political prisoners. And I respect him for that.

And in the political negotiations, as the leader of the National Party, he accepted the advice of his negotiators led by Roelf Meyer and Leon Wessels to rise above his narrow constituency and abandon any notions of minority rights and accept universal franchise as the only solution.

And I respect that also.

So why does De Klerk's death evoke such strong emotions? It's because of the failures of our democratic project. And that has less to do with De Klerk who meddled in the politics of the foundation he set up and designed to guarantee him some leading role in South Africa's transition. South Africa's own Gorbachev. He is a useful scapegoat for our political elites and the Twitterati clicktivists. The loud voice of many who also seek their turn to feed at the trough of public largesse, driven by a belief that "I didn't struggle to be poor".

The elusive peace and democratic dividend that has been funnelled into the fattening carcass of corrupt officials and politicians, aided and abetted by global multinationals and our locally bred mercenary middlemen, is responsible for the sorry state of our democracy.

So who should stand in the court of public opinion alongside De Klerk for gutting our democracy?

Well, let's look at the Zondo Commission. It's been an unsightly parade of tarnished bandits from the public and private sector, who, irrespective of their political affiliation, have so muddied the waters of our democracy. And downright sabotaged it.

In his statement before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in the late 1990s, De Klerk protested against the 1973 international assignation of apartheid as a "crime against humanity". Archbishop Desmond Tutu characterised him well: "Mr De Klerk could have gone down in history as a truly great South African statesman, but he eroded his stature and became a small man, lacking magnanimity and generosity of spirit."

Let us liberate ourselves from the prison of bitterness, acknowledge our mistakes and reimagine a different country by working towards the realisation of all the dreams and hopes we had in 1994. Then De Klerk's passing will be a more significant milestone in our country's history. DM

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# Metro



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# Likila Complex offers grandest shopping destination in Butha-Buthe

- The upmarket facility has modified the outlook and economic landscape of the town
- Satiated consumers from surrounding villages have dubbed building 'Sun City' of Butha-Buthe

**KABELO MASOABI**

**BUTHA-BUTHE** – Likila Complex, a small upmarket building located in the relatively ill-designed semi-rural town of Butha-Buthe is by far the largest and grandest shopping destination that has altered the outlook and economic landscape of the northern district. The multimillion maloti shopping centre owned by a group of Asian investors, and situated along the Main North 1 road to Mokhotlong opened its doors in 2020, welcoming an array of renowned local and international retailers. The glitzy complex contains a number of first-rate restaurants, several boutiques, financial service outlets and numerous beauty and hair salons. Also included are franchise restaurants such as Debonaires Pizzeria and Mamma's Chicken, an up and coming local fast food outlet.

Liqhobong, Letšeng and other diamond mines in the district and the neighbouring district of Mokhotlong. The Butha-Buthe town also serves as a major local shopping destination for the residents of the mountainous district of Mokhotlong. "There are lots of businesses operating in this town here but most cater for the lower income workers. Some middle and higher income workers with a different perception needed a shopping experience that would suit their demands and the Likila Shopping Centre came through as an ideal game changer. Both the upper and the lower levels of the structure boast of shops and service providers of high quality, making it a number one choice for customers who value quality. It has reduced traffic to businesses in neighbouring towns like Bethlehem in the Free State province of South Africa: a best move for boosting local tourism and economy. Likila Complex

offers improved services to customers in more upmarket establishments which would further stimulate more economic investment," says Desmond Luka, a regular shopper and director of a local logistics company. "The stores are fresh. I would recommend the establishment to anybody to visit. It is a fully exciting experience. The shopping complex also prides itself on offering high quality cleanliness and top notch safety through its security personnel who are always on guard and maintainers who ensure shiny and clean floors, providing a soothing shopping experience," adds Rakhomo Rakhomo of Likileng Village. Most shopping centres receive the most volume of foot traffic in a day than any other commercial place and it is therefore imperative to ensure that they are regularly and thoroughly cleaned to keep deadly viruses and germs at bay.

"Effective cleaning of commercial places such as shopping malls and stores is crucial to creating a positive impression on clients who come to shop, dine, or spend leisure time. "Customers are less likely to buy from a shop that is highly unhygienic and dirty. Therefore, to improve one's customers' shopping experience, it is essential to keep the mall as clean as possible," explains Mamosetsi Mpeta, who operates a boutique at the shopping centre. The complex also has a big parking lot that is user friendly and safe as it is under the careful watch of security personnel during business hours. Adjacent to the building are smaller retail outlets that are occupied by micro-business owners who also bring a lot of business traffic to the complex. Investor-partner at the shopping centre, Mr Mohamed (first name unknown) says they had received over 100 000 applications from potential tenants who wanted to rent space at the complex. "Finalising an appropriate selection of tenants was not an easy task. We however, maintained that there should be a variety of businesses and service providers in the best interest of our customers," he says. There are lots of tourist accommodation options available in the area and located a stone throw away from the facility, including guesthouses, self-catering units, hotels and resorts. The district of Butha-Buthe was founded in 1884 and has a population of 110 000. It was named after the Butha-Buthe Mountain situated to the north of the town.

Other retail outlets renting business space at the plaza include Eye-care Optometrist, Wellness Pharmaceutical and Cosmetics; Herbalife, Animal clinic and Pharmacation; Arabian Electrics and fashion shops such as Boutique Elegant, Dressing Style, Bundles of Joy and Mabita Beauty Parlour; Penny Pencil Stationary Shop, JP Finance, Lite Sports Shop and the famous clothing store, Mr Price. "The giant pizzeria - Debonaires, has brought a fresh breather and new lifestyle to the fast developing northern region town. The launch of the eatery in July added to a stream of exhilarating food servers in the district, including Kentucky Fried Chicken (KFC) which is located across the road," a shopper and Butha-Buthe resident, Mahlape 'Makong told Metro during a recent site visit. Excited with the new establishment, local shoppers have dubbed Likila Building the "Sun City" of Butha-Buthe. The satiated consumers come from the surrounding villages of Ha Shepeseli, Tholo, Mokomane, Rakotoane, Laoti, Ha Pokane, Liphakoeng, Ha Maloi, Ha Ntlane, Koung, Mafika Lisu (Ha Keletso), Ha Machenene, Phoku, Ha Seboche, Makhunoane, Ha Lehloara, Ha Kopialena and Qholaqhoe, which make the bulk of the lowlands of the district. The town is also a shopping stop for mine workers who pass by on their way to Kao,



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TRANSMISSION  
1.400CC



2000

MITSUBISHI PAJERO AUTOMATIC  
TRANSMISSION, 200CC



2008

MAZDA DEMIO AUTO  
TRANSMISSION  
1.400CC

# SUMMER SHOPPING AT MASERU MALL

Ackermans

Ellen Bee

Legit

PEP

Studio 88

The Hanger

Lapis La Zuli



MASERU  
— MALL —





## Diabetic patients take longer to accept condition – health expert

- *World Diabetes Day provides an opportunity to raise awareness of diabetes as a global public health issue*
- *The numbers of patients are increasing, many are not even aware of their condition*

**LINEO MABEKEBEKE**  
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**MASERU – NTLHANE**  
Sehloho, a member of the Lesotho Nurses Association (LNA), says most diabetic patients take a long time to accept their illnesses, adding that they urgently need guidance to manage their condition.

He made these remarks during the World

Diabetes Day that was commemorated in Maseru on November 14. The World Diabetes Day provides an opportunity to raise awareness of diabetes as a global public health issue and what needs to be done, collectively and individually, for better

prevention, diagnosis and management of the condition.

Mr Sehloho said it is not easy for the patients to accept their condition, adding that they grieve and go through many stages making it difficult to cope if they do not get the essential support.

“At the health centres, health care workers need to comprehend these patterns and make their patients accept their condition,” he said.

This year’s edition of the World Diabetes Day took place at the end of a year which has been intensive in terms of global advocacy for diabetes.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) and partners have used the opportunity of the 100th anniversary of the discovery of insulin to highlight the huge gap between the people who need access to insulin to control their diabetes, as well as essential technologies such as blood glucose metres and test strips, and those who actually have access.

Speaking at the same event, Moliehi Mokoloko, a Maseru woman who lives with diabetes, said Lesotho is at a huge risk as many young Basotho of both sexes live with the disease. She said while the

numbers of patients are increasing, many are however, not even aware of their condition.

For his part, the Minister of Health, Semano Sekatle (**pictured**) said people living with diabetes require ongoing care and support to manage their condition and avoid complications.

“It is important to attend appointments, never miss them, and manage the condition with healthy lifestyle choices. Staying active and eating healthy diet will reduce the risk of complications from the diabetes,” the minister said.

Mr Sekatle also highlighted the importance of having adequate information and knowledge about the incurable disease, adding that its symptoms include among others, an unquenchable thirst.

The commemoration of the global event also comes at a time when the world continues to live through the COVID-19 pandemic, which has not only resulted in a high proportion of people with diabetes among hospitalised patients with severe manifestations of COVID-19 and among those who have succumbed to the virus, but has also led to severe disruption of diabetes services.

Often times, there are no notable symptoms of diabetes. Most early symptoms are from higher-than-normal levels of glucose, a kind of sugar in one’s blood.

The warning signs can be so mild that they are not noticeable. That is especially true of Type 2 Diabetes. Medical reports show that some people do not find out that they have it until they get problems from long-term damage caused by the disease.

Reports further show that with Type 1 Diabetes, the symptoms usually happen quickly, in a matter of days or a few weeks and normally they are much more severe too.

Both types of diabetes have some of the same tell-tale warning signs.

They include constant hunger and fatigue, peeing more often and being thirstier, dry mouth and itchy skin as well as blurred vision.

The reports also show that the symptoms of Type 2 Diabetes tend to appear after one’s glucose level has been high for a long time.

Medical reports further show that about 422 million people worldwide have diabetes and the majority of them live in low-and middle-income countries.

They also show that 1.5 million deaths are directly attributed to diabetes each year and both the number of cases and the prevalence of diabetes have been steadily increasing over the past few decades.

# The world in 10 minutes

## UK

### 'Cock-up' as three giant stone penises stolen from shop

A CCTV 'cock-up' has left cops facing a hard job trying to find the culprit behind this crime.

Three giant penis-shaped garden ornaments have been snatched from a shop which hit the headlines after the owner refused to remove one of the 'obscene' statues from his window display.

Jason Hadlow, 58, owner of Simply Dutch in Leeming Bar, North Yorkshire, was forced to look on as his beloved 4ft masonry manhood was seized in 2010 following complaints from the public.

But the defiant businessman declined to pay the £80 fine to have the stone sculpture returned to him - and instead ordered 150 more from Indonesia.

The incident led to him launching the 'Free Willy' campaign - with pictures of concrete penises appearing online in various locations.

North Yorkshire Police eventually bowed to pressure and released the statue to the shop.

But now, 11 years later, the final three ornaments were stolen around 10pm on a Monday night.



## CALIFORNIA - USA

### World's most COVID vaccinated man feels great after 180 shots

A man from California is making headlines recently after receiving his 180th COVID-19 vaccine shot within the last two months, saying that he's never felt better, healthier, and safer in his entire 23 years on earth.

Twenty-three year old Eric Schiff, the self-proclaimed smartest man on earth, left the San Francisco Gene Therapy Institution after getting jabbed with his 21st dose of the vaccine within the past week, which puts him on pace to have a total of approximately 735 doses by the end of the year. Eric claims those 735 doses of the vaccine still may not be enough to stay protected.

Eric was all smiles as he gave a press conference to help urge vaccine hesitant people who may be on the fence about the safety and efficacy of the totally awesome vaccine that all the cool kids are injecting themselves with when their parents are not around.

"I'm almost immune from the scary virus," Eric said as his face skin fell off in front of various news reporters. "As soon as I'm vaccinated enough I'll be able to get back to my normal life of being agoraphobic and only leaving my house to get vaccinated some more."



## NIGERIA

### Nigerian student accused of beating lecturer into coma

A student at the University of Ilorin in Nigeria has been detained by the police after accusations he beat up a female lecturer.

Police say the student had gone to see the supervisor over his final year project work when a disagreement ensued.

He allegedly attacked the lecturer who sustained a head injury and went into a coma.

The lecturer is being treated at an undisclosed hospital while the student is being held in police custody.

The university's spokesman Kunle Akogun confirmed the incident in a statement shared with local media.

He said the lecturer was recovering well.



## EGYPT

### Lost 4,500-year-old temple unearthed in Egypt

Archaeologists in Egypt say they've made one of the most important discoveries in decades.

They have found one of the four lost sun temples built by the pharaohs while they were still alive in an attempt to turn themselves into living gods.

It is believed that only six sun temples were built by Egyptian pharaohs some 4,500 years ago.

Just two of them have been unearthed so far, so archaeologists are describing the discovery of a third such structure as the biggest find for 50 years.

It stands in the Abu Gorab site south of Cairo and it would have featured a large courtyard with a tall obelisk inside it that was perfectly aligned with the east-west arc of the sun.



## BOTSWANA

### New mineral discovered inside a Botswana diamond

A mineral that scientists had assumed must exist based on laboratory experiments has been found inside a diamond in Botswana.

The mineral - davemaoite - should help researchers understand what the earth's lower mantle looks like.

It was identified inside a tiny bit of rock trapped inside a diamond that formed at depths of more than 660km (410 miles).

Scientists assume that between 5% and 7% of the lower mantle must be made of davemaoite.



## KENYA

### Kenya's vice-president accused of noise pollution

The residents of an upmarket residential area in Kenya's capital Nairobi have written to the vice-president to complain of noise pollution at his home.

Vice-President William Ruto has been hosting political gatherings at his Karen home.

Residents now say the noise from the gatherings is affecting them.

They have also raised security concerns, including muggings along the road by people "masquerading" as visitors to the vice-president's home," residents' association chairperson James Hirst said.

Visitors parking outside the vice-president's residence awaiting clearance have also been accused of causing traffic gridlock on that route.

Wealthy families live in the Karen area, with 24-hour security surveillance.



## Food preservation methods with top cook

- Maintaining nutritional value, texture, and flavor are key aspects in food preservation
- Canning involves placing foods in canning jars and heating them to a high temperature

**KABELO MASOABI**

**MASERU** – Excess in fruit and vegetable production from a bountiful garden or bulk shopping spree at the farmers' market can leave cooks in the kitchen wondering how to stretch out their storage capacity.

If one wants to enjoy market produce all year round, preserving food at home can be a healthy and cost efficient option.

Maintaining nutritional value, texture, and flavor are key aspects in food preservation and can be attained using simple preservation methods, according to food expert and cook, Gloria Leballo of Ha Thamae in Maseru.

Canning is one method the cook explains as preserving food from decomposition by storing it in containers that are hermetically sealed and then sterilised by heat.

"The process was invented after prolonged research by

Nicolas Appert of France in 1809," she notes.

The process involves placing foods in canning jars and heating them to a high temperature to destroy the microorganisms that cause food to spoil.

During the heating process, air is pushed out of the jar, and as the can cools down, a vacuum seal forms.

"Canning in a bath of boiling water is ideal for high-acid foods like fruits and fruit juice, pickled vegetables, salsa, chutneys, vinegars, and condiments. Water bath canning requires extended cooking time at a low temperature to destroy the mold, yeast, and enzymes that cause spoilage while making a vacuum seal for long-term storage," she shows.

Before the industrial refrigeration, Leballo who offers door-to-door food preserving lessons, says most foods were preserved using sugar, salt, or a

mixture of both, because the two items reduce the water content and inhibits microbial growth in meats, fruits, and vegetables aiding in preservation.

"Common sugar-preserved foods are jams and jellies, while salt cod, salt pork, corned beef, and bacon are common foods preserved with salt," she indicates.

Alcohol, she says has a long history of preserving fruits. During the 18th century in Europe, fruits like peaches, cherries, and apricots were submerged in brandy and served as dessert after a meal.

Leballo says alcohol draws water out of food, exactly like salt and sugar, inhibiting microbial growth.

"These are just a few examples of preserving methods one can discuss. Next time I will talk about others that include; Freeze-drying, vinegar pickling, olive oil preserving and freezing," she adds.



An array of bottled fruits and vegetables

## Learners host a massive farewell party

...talented young dancers incorporated contemporary dance moves with amapiano moves

**KABELO MASOABI**

**LERIBE** – Dance, poetry and song were the highlights of a farewell party that was hosted for retiring teachers at an all girls school, Holy Family High School (HFHS) in St Monica's, Leribe on Friday.

The learners received a standing ovation for a grand performance as they celebrated with their teachers -

'Matsebo Pholo, 'Mamoeketsi Mohapi and 'Mampho Ntšekhe who had reached the public servants' retirement age of 65.

The talented young dancers incorporated contemporary dance moves with amapiano moves and traditional performances of mokhibo, ndlamo, litolobonya and liphotha, while DJ Shaker enthralled the enthusiastic spectators with his moving music.

The departing teachers received mountains of gifts from both the

learners and other teachers.

Wishing them the best of luck in their future endeavours, the school Principal, 'Matumane Tefo said their time together was well-spent.

"Most of the time in life we celebrate people's departure rather than their arrival. However, we want to bid you a proper farewell. I feel grateful to deliver this farewell speech on an outstanding day like this.

"We are all here to say goodbyes to our valuable teachers, who are

retiring from active practice. Today, I realised how much time and valued moments fly. We wish you all the best in your respective lives after this," she said.

The school Head Prefect, 'Mapitso 'Molaoa, said: "I feel honoured to tell you that we will always respect all the valuable skills and knowledge you gave us. You gave us everything we need to become proper future leaders. I therefore thank you for your invaluable, efforts and patience."

Sharing similar sentiments was a former learner who said: "You have inspired us to become the better people that we are today. I personally feel grateful that when we encountered some challenges in our lives as learners, you stood by us and motivated us through those trying times. We shall forever respect you for the contribution you made in our lives."

For her part, one of the retiring teachers, Mrs Mohapi who served the school as a religious studies teacher for the past 32 years said it was indeed a happy day for her.

"I had always wanted to take an early retirement but the principal could not have any of that, as she still wanted me on her team," she said.

Another retiring teacher, Mrs Pholo said it was time they gave young people a chance to take over from them.

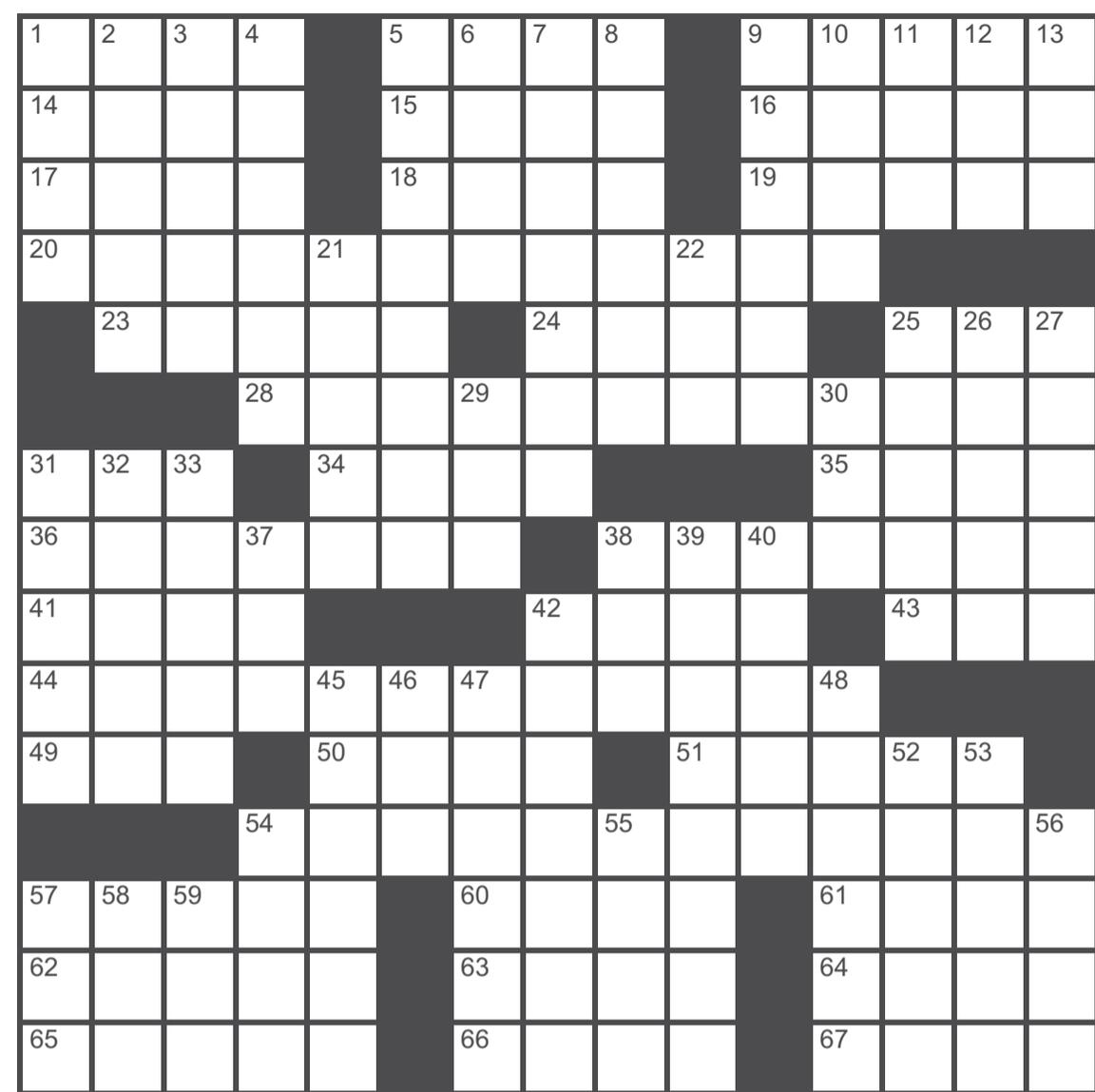
She had taught English Language and Business Education subjects at the school since 1986. All the retiring teachers including Mrs Ntšekhe who was the Head of Department for Commercial subjects, are former students of HFHS.

Two cattle and a sheep were slaughtered to feed the crowd that came to see the great teachers off.



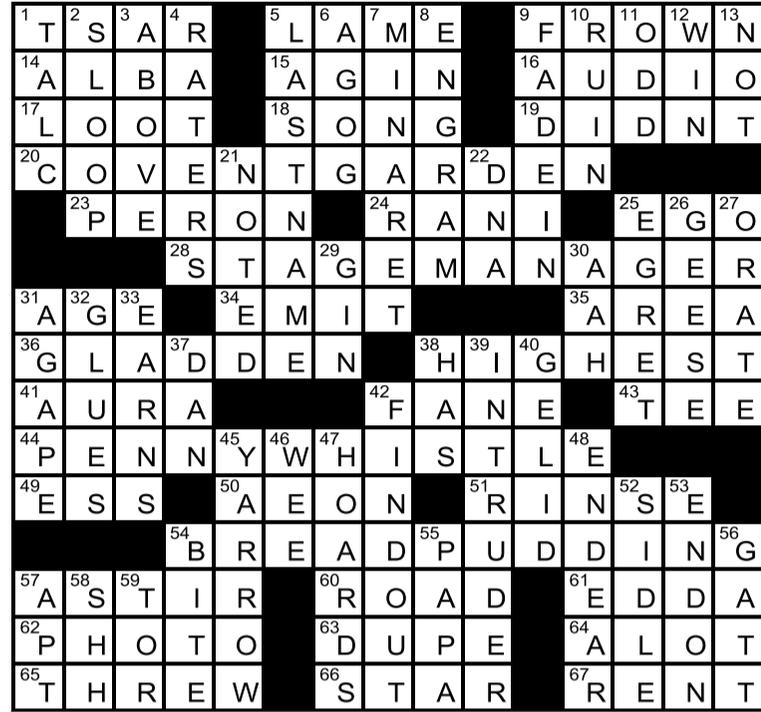
LAST DANCE: Holy Family High School dancers perform to bid their retiring teachers goodbye

## General Crosswords



- Across**
- 1. Innocent
  - 5. Difficult situation
  - 9. Indian side dish
  - 14. Reunion attendee
  - 15. Kind of agreement
  - 16. Without a spouse
  - 17. Semicircular recess
  - 18. Columbus' ship
  - 19. Illegal firing
  - 20. Very small horsy
  - 23. "Farewell, mon ami"
  - 24. Fearless
  - 25. \_\_\_\_\_-eyed
  - 28. Aging materials
  - 31. Increases
  - 34. Imitation
  - 35. Wallop
- Down**
- 1. Bleats
  - 2. Top dog
  - 3. Cleared dishes
  - 4. Nauseant
  - 5. One-eared
  - 6. "\_\_\_\_\_go bragh!"
  - 7. Child's play area
  - 8. Apply carelessly
  - 9. Central African republic
  - 10. Gossamer
  - 11. Driver's lic. and others
  - 12. Very
  - 13. Barley bristle
  - 21. Ivy-covered
  - 22. Vintage
- Across**
- 36. Digits
  - 38. Japanese metropolis
  - 41. No-win situation
  - 42. Part of the Corn Belt
  - 43. Sawbuck
  - 44. Computing problem
  - 49. "The Catcher in the\_\_"
  - 50. Get wind of
  - 51. Nairobi's land
  - 54. Four plane faces
  - 57. Book of maps
  - 60. Light on Broadway
  - 61. One for the road
  - 62. Swampy lake
  - 63. Ultimatum word
  - 64. Gloomy
  - 65. Salad green
  - 66. Went out, as a fire
- Down**
- 67. To be, in old Rome

## Last Week's Solution

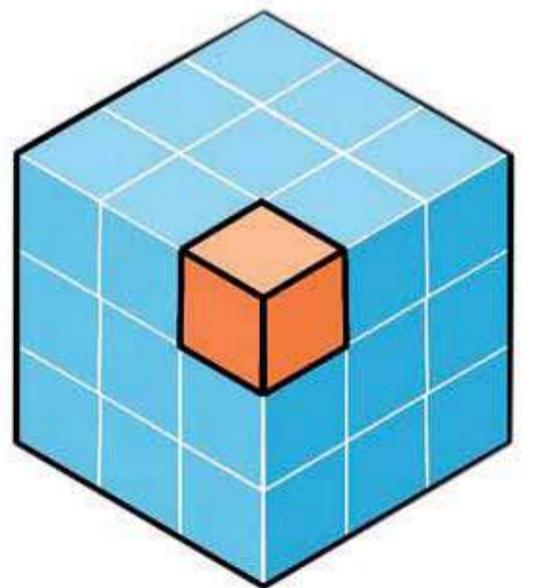


- 25. Kitchen light
- 26. Become accustomed (to)
- 27. Incite
- 29. Greyhound, e.g.
- 30. Recipe amt.
- 31. Milk dispenser
- 32. Duck
- 33. Close call
- 37. Couple
- 38. Plea at sea
- 39. Woke up
- 40. Beeped
- 42. Nazareth native
- 45. Kind of monkey
- 46. Bumped into
- 47. Deserved
- 48. Infuriate
- 52. Complimentary close
- 53. Nay sayers
- 54. New Mexico art community
- 55. Engine attachment
- 56. A few
- 57. Epitome of simplicity
- 58. It paves the way
- 59. Soapmaking need

## So You Think You are Geneius

### Question (Answer next week)

Which are there more of: square feet in half a square mile or cubic yards in a cubic furlong?

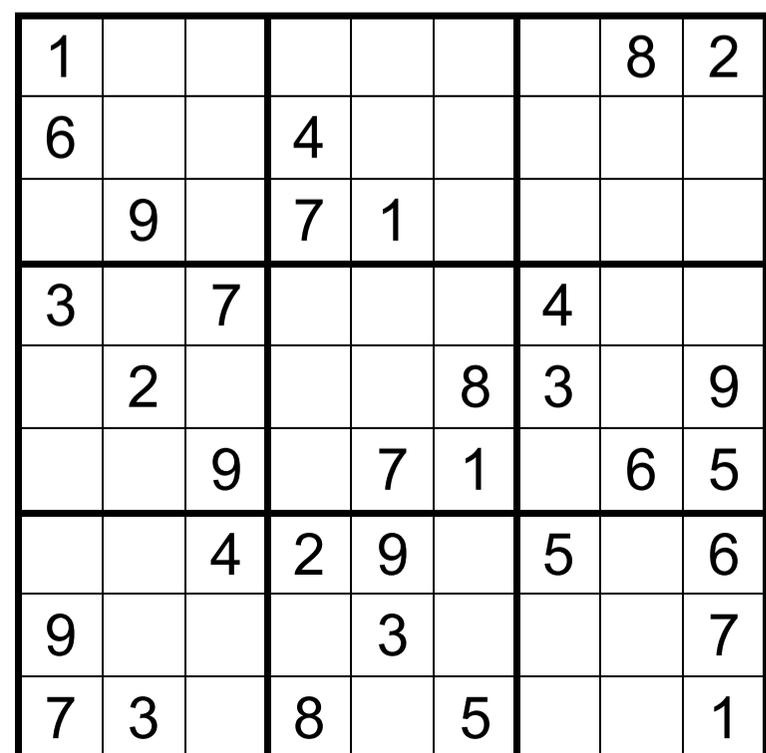


### Last Week's Answer



A: 14285: 714285 = 5 \* 142857.

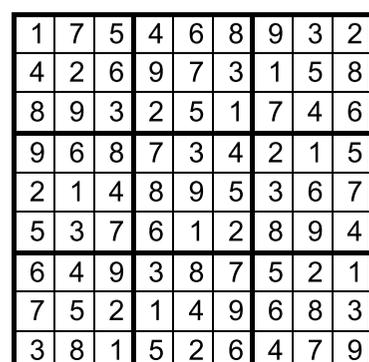
## Sudoku Puzzle



Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, each column and each 3x3 square contain all the from 1-9

This is the Quick Sudoku for the solver in a hurr: target time, ten minutes.

### Last Week's Solution



# Metro Motoring

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## Be Car-Smart

### Check Your Emissions

The Blade is an aftermarket device that attaches to your car's tailpipe and reduces CO2 emissions by up to 12 percent. It also improves fuel economy by up to 12 percent by shortening the duration of your car's wasteful cold-start period, when fuel burn and particulate emissions are both at their worst.

An amber symbol of an engine is glowing on your dashboard, but what does it mean? Every image on your dashboard has a purpose and when something lights up to indicate a potential problem, it shouldn't be ignored. The check engine light, which signifies several possible issues including emissions, is the most common.

The check engine light (CEL) illuminates after being prompted by the engine control unit that manages

the engine. If the control unit determines that something in your engine is not functioning properly, it will send the signal to light up the symbol on the dashboard. So, you see it blink to life, but what should you do?

Unlike certain symbols which tell you exactly what is wrong with your vehicle, such as the coolant temperature light that alerts you of overheating, the CEL can glow for several reasons. Because of this, you should take it to a garage for the technicians to determine the root cause and go from there.

As you won't be immediately aware of the cause, there are several things you can do initially to try and solve the issue.

#### 1. Observe

Check that there are no other symbols on your dashboard indicating additional problems, such as low oil pressure or overheating. If this is the case, pull your vehicle over, shut the engine off and contact a roadside service.

#### 2. Check gas cap

Tighten or replace your gas cap as sometimes a broken or loose rubber seal can trigger the light to come on.

#### 3. Reduce pressure

If you think that your vehicle feels different on the road, especially if the performance has decreased, reduce your speed and avoid transporting heavy goods.

#### 4. Check whether the engine light is constant or flashing

A solid glow tells you that you should have your vehicle inspected soon, however a blinking CEL is a greater cause for concern and indicates that your vehicle should be inspected by a professional immediately.

#### What can cause the emissions light to come on?

There are several different possible triggers for an illuminated engine light. The following are some of the most frequent causes.

#### Emissions system fault

Your emissions control monitors the volume of carbon monoxide that your vehicle emits while in motion. This is something that people are becoming increasingly aware of by opting for more eco-friendly vehicles to reduce their carbon footprint.

A component of this is the oxygen sensor, which can sense if the engine is burning too much or not enough fuel. This can trigger the CEL to indicate that the car is either running too rich or too lean, or that there's an issue with the sensor itself.

#### Blocked diesel particulate filter

This function measures how easily gas is able to travel through the exhaust. As this gas moves through the system,

it must pass through the particulate filter, which removes harmful particles from the exhaust.

It does this by oxidising the particles into a fine ash. The CEL may illuminate if this process fails in some way, or if the filter becomes blocked.

#### Mass airflow sensor fault

The engine control unit calculates how much fuel to add to the combustion chambers based on data from the mass airflow sensor.

This sensor gathers information from an air filter, which, if incorrectly installed or clogged, can damage the sensor. If this is the case, the CEL will appear.

#### Ignition system fault

Responsible for burning the fuel that starts an engine is the ignition system. Faults with components such as glow plugs, spark plugs and coil cylinders can all be indicated by the CEL. These kinds of faults are known as 'misfires' and repair often involves getting replacements.

## Black Style Package added to the Polo Vivo range

... Popular exterior package now available in South Africa's best-selling passenger car

The Polo Vivo is the latest model in the Volkswagen range to offer the popular Black Style Package.

The Black Style Packages were introduced in the Tiguan and Touareg in 2019.

"The Black Style Package is a popular optional package and its success in the Tiguan and Touareg models motivated our decision to also introduce it in the new Golf GTI and now the Polo Vivo," said Steffen Knapp, head of the Volkswagen Passenger Car Brand.

The Black Style Package is available on the Polo Vivo Comfortline and Highline derivatives. It is only offered in Pure White, Reflex Silver, Flash Red and Reef Blue exterior colours.

In the Polo Vivo range, the Black Style Package includes black 16-inch Portago alloy wheels, gloss black mirror caps, a gloss black painted roof, gloss black B and C pillar covers, black side sill covers, body-coloured boot spoiler, privacy glass, chrome exhaust tip as well as anthracite headliner and sun visors.

The Black Style Package on the best-selling Polo Vivo is now available from Volkswagen dealers and retails for M9 000 on the Comfortline and



M8 250 on the Highline.

In the Golf 8 GTI, the Black Style Package features piano black side mirrors, a piano black chrome strip on the front grille as well as black 18-inch Bergamo alloy wheels. The Black Style Package in the Golf 8 GTI retails for M8 000.

In the Tiguan, the Black Style Package comes with a body coloured bumper and lower door parts, black air intakes with fins on the radiator grille, black decorative trim on the side windows, black exterior mirror housings, privacy glass, black roof rails, a black headliner,

sport suspension and black 20-inch Suzuka alloy wheels. The Black Style Package in the Tiguan costs M28 000.

In the top-of-the-range Touareg, the Black Style Package features blackened out chrome elements, an 'R' style bumper, body-coloured

bumper and lower door parts, black roof rails, black decorative trim on the side windows, black side mirrors, black radiator grille and black 21-inch Suzuka alloy wheels. The Black Style Package in the Touareg, which is only available on the Executive model, retails for M45 200.



Likuena striker, Motebang Sera

# TV pundit supports Sera bounce back

*...Shongwe believes loss of form and injuries to other strikers could help striker return to starting line-up*

**MIKIA KALATI**

**MASERU** – Supersport analyst, William ‘Cool Cat’ Shongwe is confident that Likuena striker, Motebang Sera will bounce back from a difficult start to the 2021/22 season at South African DSTV Premier League side, Royal AM.

Sera is yet to play for Royal AM – the outfit that purchased the status of Bloemfontein Celtic before the start of the season, moving all its players to Durban, where the club is based. The Likuena marksman hit the

ground running in his first campaign in South Africa in 2018, including scoring a brace against Kaizer Chiefs.

He also went on to score against other major teams like Mamelodi Sundowns and Supersport United among others.

However, Shongwe who minded Chiefs and Pirates’ goals during his playing days understands the concerns in the Mountain Kingdom regarding Sera’s lack of game time at his new club.

But the former top goalkeeper feels it is too early to press the panic

buttons.

“Look, it’s always the case when two or more players compete for the same position and in this case, the other one has grabbed that opportunity with both hands,” the SuperSport pundit further showed.

He added: “I know you want him active in club football as the top striker for your national team, so that he is in good shape when he is needed.”

The former Eswatini number one goalkeeper believes loss of form and injuries to other strikers could soon pave way the way for Sera to return

into the starting line-up.

Adds Shongwe: “It is that time when one starts asking questions, such as should they loan him out to get game time somewhere else?”

“No, the season is long and with things like loss of form and injuries to other players, he will surely get his chance especially now that Victor Letsoalo has been on form scoring goals.

“Sera has proved that he is a top goal-scorer and has done that several times coming from the bench at Celtic as well as his national team. The

season is long like I said, and he will get his chance.”

The Likuena all-time top goal-scorer in the COSAFA cup has managed to make the match day playing squad five times from the 10 matches played by Royal AM thus far into the current campaign.

The 26-year-old forward has made 45 appearances since making the big move to South African football three years ago when he was signed by Bloemfontein Celtic under Lesotho-born coach, Lehlohonolo Seema.



Free State-born Coach, Morena Ramorebuli



Bantu Head Coach, Bob Mafoso

# Coaches with no playing background at a disadvantage

*...former topflight players always make reference of their playing days*

**MIKIA KALATI**

**MASERU** – Soccer coaches with no background of playing the game at the highest level say they are forced to work a lot harder than their counterparts who made a name for themselves during their playing days in order to get recognition and respect from all stakeholders.

Bantu head coach, Bob Mafoso and Kick4Life's Motebang Makhetha are among a group of prominent local coaches who are making a mark in the industry.

However, the two mentors were forced to double their efforts as they never played elite football like most coaches in the local Premier League.

Mafoso got his breakthrough coaching the now defunct Likila FC and led the Butha-Buthe-based outfit to a surprise sixth place in its first year of topflight football during the 2014/15 season.

He attained a similar feat or even better the following season, when he led other Premier League rookies, the also now defunct Sandawana FC to a fourth place finish during the 2015/16 season.

This led to several major local clubs taking notice of his unique coaching talents.

At the time, Mafoso was in his early 30s and it did not take A-Matšo-Matebele long to come calling for his

services.

He started his long journey with the Mafeteng-based side as the assistant to head coach James Madidilane.

He left the club for an opportunity to become head coach himself elsewhere, but in no time, his masters recalled him after Madidilane returned to his native South Africa.

In his first season in charge of Bantu, his charges were crowned league champions after the campaign was brought to a halt due to the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic, enjoying a 16-point advantage over second placed Matlama and without a loss.

"Coaches that played in most cases always make reference of their playing days and get the respect of the players because of that," Mafoso says.

"Whenever they address players, it's about themselves and what they achieved or how things were done during their playing days. That could make life difficult for you as a coach who didn't play topflight football, and you must also address the players especially if its players in the national teams or those who have played for such teams.

"They also don't accept you in their circle. It becomes extremely difficult for you to fit in if you are a coach that didn't play football at that level," he says.

Mafoso adds that the only way to win that battle is to seek knowledge

and beat the other coaches at their own game.

"It's about knowledge. Seek knowledge, get people and ways that will help you grow and improve your skills. Even with the clubs, former players who are now coaches get more support from those in the administration of teams because they were admired and still get recognition from what they achieved as players," he notes.

"Unfortunately, these things are scientific in recent times. You don't just become a good coach because you were a good player. Look at top coaches in Europe these days, especially those from Germany; Julian Nagelsmann, Thomas Tuchel, Jurgen Klopp, Arsene Wenger. If we leave Germany and come closer to home, we have Rhulani Mokwena, Manqoba Mngqthi. Of course, we also have a lot of top coaches who played football at the highest level, but they invested a lot in coaching education. That's why I'm saying I don't think we are giving football a lot of respect because we put the sentiments of those that played and others didn't play," he says.

Makhetha, who is also the Lesotho Football Association (LeFA) Coach Instructor, echoes Mafoso's sentiments, saying that coaches with no background of playing the game find themselves as unknowns not only to the

administration of football, but even the media.

"Generally, I would say the fact that they didn't play football at the top level they become unknown to football administrators and the media," he says.

"That's says, they get quite little recognition and it's a disadvantage on their part, hence they have to work extremely hard to finally get recognised.

"Getting coaching jobs is also a problem. In most cases they only get hired where a team is desperate with no options of former players available to coach. That is the only way they get employed and if things go well for them then they will eventually get the recognition and respect they deserve, owing to the good work they do," Makhetha notes.

Free State-born coach, Morena Ramorebuli, who has had two spells with Lioli and is currently mentoring Jwaneng Galaxy of Botswana, has for years been overlooked as a Premier Soccer League coach in South Africa.

But he recently led Bafana Bafana to the COSAFA Cup and was also the assistant coach when the South African Under-17 side won the COSAFA Youth Championship in 2020.

"To be honest and talking from experience, if you have played football at the top level, you remain in the mind of many and it's easy for them to take risks about such people without even a good track record," Ramorebuli says.

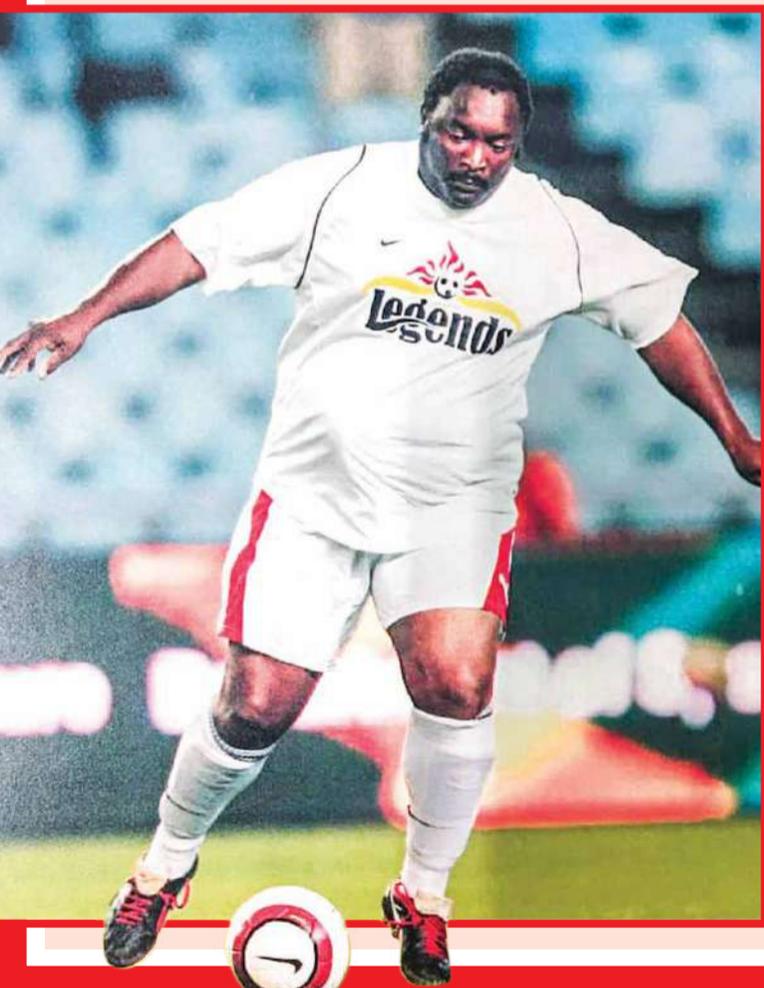
"If you didn't play topflight football, you must work twice as hard to prove yourself and it's not easy to be trusted until you have proven yourself," he adds.



● Pelé and Sono in the states... (See pages 6, 7 and 8.)

Brazilian soccer legend, Pelé and Jomo Sono during their playing days at the New York Cosmos in 1979

# The Black Prince of SA soccer, Ephraim Matsilela "Jomo" Sono



**JOHANNESBURG** - Dr Ephraim Matsilela Sono, affectionately known as Jomo Sono and sometimes also called the "Black Prince of South African Soccer" or "Bra J" "Mjomana" is the Head Coach, founder, Chairman and owner of South African soccer club, the Jomo Cosmos FC.

The legendary former Orlando Pirates star also plied his trade in the European Leagues as well as America and Canada in the 70s and 80s.

Sono, 66, has won every major title in South African football as a player, coach and administrator. He was appointed Technical Advisor for the 2010 World Cup, which South Africa hosted. He was the Chief Ambassador for South Africa's 2010 FIFA World Cup bid campaign and also a member of FIFA's Technical Committee.

He was voted the third best coach in Africa in 1998 and was voted SA footballer of the century by Radio Metro and Sowetan newspaper via a voting poll in 2000.

He led the Jomo Cosmos to win the Gauteng Champions Challenge tournament in 2003 and the Rjah Cup when they beat the Kaizer Chiefs 1-0 in the final in 2004. The same year, Sono was voted the 49th in the Top 100 Great South Africans.

He is the Winner of the Jack Cheetham Memorial Award for outstanding contributions to South

African soccer and won Johnnie Walker Lifetime Achievement Award in 2013 before being awarded Honorary Doctorates by the Universities of Dubai and London in Dubai, UAE in 2016.

In 2017, he received special recognition by the city of Ekurhuleni for "Outstanding Contributions to Football" before being appointed Brand Ambassador by Ford South Africa the following year.

Born on July 17, 1955, Ephraim Matsilela Sono was raised in the township of Orlando East in Soweto, near Johannesburg. At the age of eight, his father Eric "Scara" Bamuza Sono, who was a midfielder for the Orlando Pirates in the early 1960s died in a car crash and soon after, his widowed mother abandoned him.

The young Sono was consequently left in the care of his ailing grandparents. As they were poor, he resorted to selling apples and peanuts at soccer games and train stations to take care of the family and pay his school fees

His soccer career had an unusual beginning; during a match that he attended, one of the Pirates' regular players was absent and Sono was requested to stand in for him, and he excelled beyond all expectations. He soon gained fame for his all-round ability, dribbling and accurate passing skills.

His prowess on the soccer field earned him the nickname of Jomo (the Burning Spear).

After he accomplished everything that he had set out to do at the Orlando Pirates, Sono went to the USA where, in 1977, he played for the New York Cosmos and one of his team-mates was the legendary Brazilian, Pelé. In 1978, he moved to the Colorado Caribous. At the end of the season, the Caribous moved to become the Atlanta Chiefs where Sono played alongside another SA star of the time, Kaizer Motaung.

Sono completed his stint in North America playing for the Toronto Blizzard. He played for three summers, 1980 through 1982, while also teaching and giving demonstrations at Clemson University Soccer Camp for youths.

After his soccer career in the US ended, he returned home and bought the Johannesburg-based Highlands Park FC in 1982, renaming the club the Jomo Cosmos in honour of his old team, the New York Cosmos.

The club went on to achieve several successes, winning the National Soccer League in 1987, the Bobsave Super Bowl in 1990, the Cola Cola Cup in 2002 and 2005, and the Super Eight trophy in 2003.

The Jomo Cosmos have also consistently finished among the top teams in the South African Premier Soccer League.

Sono has also taken a leading role in discovering and developing new football talent, especially from rural areas.

Some of the players he recruited went on to play for the Bafana Bafana and numerous European clubs.

Some of his protégés include Philemon Masinga, Helman Mkhalele, Sizwe Motaung and Mark Fish. His recruits formed the core of the South African squad that won the 1996 African Nations Cup. Sono was also a Technical Advisor to the team's Head Coach, Clive

Barker during the tournament.

In 1998, he was appointed as Caretaker Coach of the Bafana Bafana just before the African Nations Cup tournament in Burkina Faso in the place of Barker, who had been sacked just before the event. Under him, the team reached the final of the tournament, where they lost to Egypt.

After a disappointing performance by the Bafana Bafana during the 2002 African Nations Cup in Mali, Sono was again appointed as Technical Director to the team. However, the then Head Coach, Carlos Queiróz, felt that his position was being undermined by this appointment and resigned.

Sono was again appointed as Caretaker Coach, this time for the 2002 FIFA World Cup in South Korea and Japan.

Prior to the World Cup fiesta, he led the Bafana Bafana to win a Four-Nation Invitational tournament in Korea, beating Turkey in the final.

During the World Cup, the South African squad did not progress beyond the first round; however, they did score five goals and achieved one win, one draw and a 3-2 loss against pre-tournament favourites, Spain. The South African captain, Lucas Radebe, credited Sono with much of the team's performance, saying that he had instilled a good spirit within the team and that he had ensured a positive atmosphere in the squad.

Sono is the longest-serving coach in the South African Premier League and also sits on the board of the Premier Soccer League. He has also built a reputation as a successful businessman; in addition to making a substantial profit by developing players and selling them to European teams, he also owns a number of businesses and is a Chairman of numerous companies.

In 2009, he returned to the South African Football Association and worked as Technical Director. As the Jomo Cosmos FC Head Coach, he won promotion to the South African Premier Division in 1994.

He reached the quarter-finals of the Mandela Cup as Head Coach of the team in 1997.

In 2003, he won the SAA Supa 8 Cup with the team and reached the Mandela Cup quarter-finals before he reached the semi-finals of the high-profile King Al-Faisal Soccer Tournament in Saudi Arabia the following year.

He won the 2005 Coca-Cola Cup with the team and the 2006 Chailanse Challenge Tournament in Gauteng.

In 2009, he won the National First Division (NFD) Championship and the club was promoted to the Premier Soccer League and went on to win the 2011 National First Division (NFD) Championship, before gaining promotion to the Premier Soccer League.

In 2015, the Jomo Cosmos won the National First Division (NFD) Play-offs and gained promotion to the Premier Soccer League before bagging the 4-team Transversal Cup tournament in Mpumalanga, beating University of Pretoria 1-0 in the final the following year.

He also led the team to the NFD/PSL Play-offs by finishing third in the NFD regular season in 2018. Jomo Cosmos Media

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