

# BOTSWANA Daily News

THE PAPER THAT INFORMS AND EDUCATES

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## The railway station that transformed Tatisiding



In the heart of Tatisiding, a unique tradition has been immortalised in a soon-to-be installed-billboard along the railway line. The image depicts a passenger train arriving at the station, with a commuter waving a glowing wooden stick to signal to the locomotive driver to stop. This nostalgic scene pays homage to the village's history, where a commuter will alert drivers of the presence of passengers waiting at the siding, especially on dark nights.

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### Introducing DuelaEasy on Absa MobiTap!

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# Council repairs rain-damaged roads



Kweneng District Council is currently grading internal roads in Molepolole. The project will cover all internal roads of the 22 villages in the district. Photos: Moshe Galeragwe

Moshe Galeragwe  
**MOLEPOLOLE**

Kweneng District Council has commenced grading of internal gravel roads following damage caused by persistent rainfall across the district.

The Chairperson of Kweneng District Council, Mr Ontefetse Rankhibidu, said the grading exercise, which started in Molepolole recently, would cover internal roads in all 22 villages within the district.

He explained that due to financial constraints, the improvement of the internal road network was being carried out in-house using council machinery. He noted that the council had three graders, although only two were currently functional, expressing hope that they would be sufficient to complete the project.

Mr Rankhibidu added that, funds permitting, the maintenance programme would be extended to internal tarred and paved roads, which had also been affected by the heavy rains.

“... storm-water drainage tunnels also require urgent attention, as many are almost covered by sand and vegetation.”

He said it was important to regularly maintain roads and that maintenance should go beyond grading to include re-gravelling and paving, adding that ideally roads should be graded whenever the need arose, subject to the availability of funds.

Mr Rankhibidu further highlighted that storm-water drainage tunnels also required urgent attention, as many were almost covered by sand and vegetation.

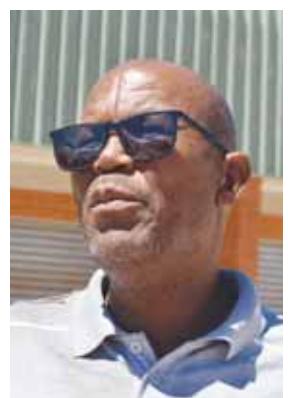
He said the blockage of these tunnels had resulted in flooding, which in turn caused further



Navigating the village has become increasingly difficult due to the poor state of internal roads.



The Chairperson of Kweneng District Council, Mr Ontefetse Rankhibidu



Molepolole-based taxi operator Mr Berinyana Batsimako

damage to road surfaces.

Meanwhile, a Molepolole-based taxi operator, Mr Berinyana Batsimako, said navigating the village had become increasingly difficult due to the poor state of internal roads.

He explained that taxi operators were expected to drop passengers

at their designated destinations, but this was sometimes not possible because of damaged roads.

“Molepolole’s internal roads are not in a good state. At times, we fail to drop customers at the exact locations because the roads are damaged by continuously flowing

water streams. However, we do our best to get our customers as close as possible to their destinations,” he said.

Mr Batsimako added that several gravel roads were riddled with potholes, while some paved roads were submerged by persistent water flows. **BOPA**

## Mohwasa acknowledges losses and promises action

Manowe Motsaathebe  
**MATHATHANE**

A decision meant to spare residents the pain of displacement has instead reopened emotional wounds for some villagers of Mathathane, following government’s cancellation of a road construction tender that would have cut through homes and ploughing fields.

Government recently cancelled the works contract for the proposed 30-kilometre Mathathane-Platjan Border Post road and opted instead to upgrade

the existing 27-kilometre gravel road from Lekkerpoet Junction to Platjan Border Post to bitumen standard. The revised plan avoids ploughing fields and homesteads and expands development into a wider road network across Bobirwa.

While the move was intended to minimise disruption, observations and community feedback indicate that some residents remain angry, confused and disappointed, having already prepared for relocation and compensation.

Speaking during a community meeting addressed by the Minister for State President, Defence and Security, Mr Moeti Mohwasa, residents said they had been psychologically and financially affected by the sudden policy shift.

Some villagers had already begun relocating fences and other assets, while others had abandoned farming in anticipation of compensation.

A resident, Mr Tsheoyo Madema, argued that Mathathane residents should have been consulted first before the decision was taken.

Mr Madema said government ought to have engaged the village more deeply and compassionately, adding that while the expanded road network would benefit Bobirwa at large, Mathathane bore the brunt of the emotional cost.

He further argued that the proposed Talana Farms-Sherwood road would not impact as many lives as the cancelled Mathathane-Platjan road, though he acknowledged the broader benefits of the new network.

Echoing similar sentiments, Mr John Monekwe said he had already moved his fence and other structures after officials from the Special Economic Zones Authority (SPEDU) marked sections of his ploughing field to be affected.

“I engaged workers whom I intended to pay using compensation funds from government,” he said, adding that he had since abandoned farming after his land was earmarked for the project.

However, not all residents rejected the revised plan outright. Mr Mmotana Tshebedi welcomed the wider road network but insisted that government should still honour the original Mathathane-Platjan road, arguing that its designs were already complete.

Like others, Mr Tshebedi believed the P357 million European Union funding was specifically allocated for the Mathathane-Platjan road and urged government to source alternative funds for the additional routes.

In response, Minister Mohwasa called for mutual respect despite differences and explained that the decision was taken to ensure

development reached a wider population.

He said communities such as Motlhabaneng and Mabolwe also deserved improved road access to uplift livelihoods and ease transportation challenges.

Dispelling what he termed misinformation, the minister clarified that the European Union funding was not ring-fenced for a single road project but was available for development initiatives across the SPEDU region.

He argued that spending P357 million on a single 30-kilometre road would have disadvantaged other communities and said the new Umbrella for Democratic Change-led government was committed to equitable development and national unity.

Minister Mohwasa acknowledged the disappointment and financial losses incurred by some residents and pledged that officials would return to Mathathane before the end of February to address grievances or complaints in question.

“We will come back to engage further on issues of compensation and expenses already incurred, because we are not an oppressive government,” he said, adding that government would continue listening to the people and act in their best interests. **BOPA**



Minister for State President, Defence and Security, Mr Moeti Mohwasa

# Kaone letter valuable memento - Boko

Thandy Tebogo  
**KANYE**

A letter written by the late Kaone Morubisi to President Advocate Duma Boko in December 2025 will be preserved as a memento of great value.

Addressing mourners on Saturday morning at the Dikoloi residence in Kanye following the burial of Kaone Morubisi, President Boko said the letter carried deep symbolic meaning.

He said after reading the letter in Kaone's presence, it reminded him of a letter once written to Martin Luther King Jr by a child, which was later preserved as a precious memory.

President Boko said the letter,

together with Kaone's funeral programme, would be framed as treasured keepsakes, symbolising that children possessed the ability and capacity to make meaningful contributions to nation-building.

He thanked God for Kaone's life, describing him as a child of outstanding conduct and remarkable boldness, and called upon both young people and elders to emulate him.

President Boko said he was in disbelief upon learning of Kaone's passing and struggled to come to terms with the loss.

He encouraged the bereaved family to find comfort in God and accept their son's passing by appreciating the time they were blessed to share with him.

President Boko further commended Kaone's grandparents for raising and moulding a responsible and well-behaved child, attributing this to the



President Advocate Duma Boko (centre) and some mourners paying their last respects during Kaone Morubisi's funeral in Kanye on Saturday. President Boko said a letter written by the late Kaone in December 2025 would be preserved as a memento of great value. Photo: Thompson Keobaletswe

wisdom accumulated by elders over many years, which he said informed government's decision to increase old-age pension benefits.

For her part, the deceased's grandmother, Ms Pananki Dikoloi, said Kaone came to live with her in 2019 after his mother secured employment.

Ms Dikoloi described Kaone as mature beyond his age, adding that he even once advised his parents to give him a sibling.

She said Kaone lived with a health condition that did not significantly affect his daily life, although he occasionally complained of headaches while

at school.

Ms Dikoloi said Kaone had long wanted to meet President Boko and told her about the letter he had written to the President while they were on their way to a kgotla meeting at Kanye main kgotla.

She said Kaone was brave and determined, recalling how he confidently approached officers from the Office of the President to enquire about procedures for submitting a letter.

According to Ms Dikoloi the letter appealed to President Boko to consider lowering the voting age so that he would be eligible to vote in the 2029 general elections.

The Member of Parliament for Kanye West, Mr Victor Phologolo, described Kaone as a hero and a courageous young politician.

Mr Phologolo said Kaone had paved way for his peers to assume active roles in contributing meaningfully to national development.

Kaone's teacher, Ms Kaone Thololwane, described him as a smart and confident learner, dismissing social media allegations that the letter submitted to the President was written on his behalf. She said Kaone was a visionary capable of independently articulating his ideas, contrary to claims made by some critics.

Kaone passed away at the age of 13. He was a Standard Six pupil at Segopotsso Primary School and is survived by his parents. **BOPA**

# EU funds Tuli Block access roads project

Omphile Ntakhwana  
**MARTIN'S DRIFT**

Minister for State President, Defence and Security says the European Union (EU) Commission has availed P350million to fund the Tuli block access roads network project.

Speaking during a consultative meeting with Tuli Block farmers and other stakeholders at Martin's Drift recently, Mr Moeti Mohwasa said initially government had floated a tender for the construction of the 30km Plaatjan bridge-Mathathane road but had since cancelled it.

He said government wrote to the EU November last year to request approval to modify the Plaatjan bridge-Mathathane road project by expanding its initial scope to include a network of multiple access roads serving various communities.

Furthermore, he shared that the EU issued a conditional approval in the same year and month,

adding that one of the conditions was financial transparency and reporting.

To this end, Mr Mohwasa said government had taken the decision to do the road project using resources such as Botswana Defence Force (BDF), Selebi Phikwe Economic Diversification Unit (SPEDU), Department of Roads, Ministry of Agriculture, in partnership with Tuli Block Farmers Association.

"In-sourcing is the model we are going to use," said Mr Mohwasa.

He further noted that in view of the fact that statistics illustrate that the Tuli Block Farmers Association was capable of contributing approximately 46 per cent of the country's food production, it was therefore pertinent for government to assist in providing adequate infrastructure in an effort geared towards supporting and growing this industry.

Mr Mohwasa said President Advocate Duma Boko was clear in his resolve to transforming the country in three years, thus it was paramount to move with the needed speed and agility.

"When we took over government after October 2024 General Elections, we were confronted with the reality of a stagnant and shrinking fiscal due to the low sale of diamonds and it has become apparent that we need to diversify our economy," he said.

Emphasising the need to walk the talk, he said it was now time for implementation.

"You are faced with a very difficult terrain and assisting with this project will help diversify our economy through agriculture. Promises were made before in the past by those in power and I want you to know that we will do what we promise," Mr Mohwasa said.

Minister Mohwasa further said designs for the access road project were ready and stakeholders would meet again in Martin's Drift at Kwa Nokeng Lodge to structure

Statistics illustrate that the Tuli Block Farmers Association is capable of contributing approximately 46 per cent of the country's food production

the working team and get their ducks in a row.

"Our aim is to improve the quality of life of our people and this

road access project will do exactly that," he said.

He said he had been reliably informed that the Tuli Block Farmers Association would pledge various resources to this project.

Mr Mohwasa said self-reliance was the way to go and it would not be wise for them to just fold their arms and hope for things to improve on their own.

"Do not underestimate your contributions to develop this country and we shall do it together," he noted.

Some of the areas that fall under the Plaatjan road access network include Talana farms, Lekkerpoet, Plaatjan, Zanzibar, Sherwood, Mathathane, Motlhabaneng and Mabolwe, amongst others.

For his part, Chairperson of Tuli Block Farmers Association Mr Andrew Freeman said they were ready to partner with government in getting this project up and running.

"We need to establish amongst others communication channels, terms of reference, lead, structure, peruse the designs together and establish proper time frames," Mr Freeman said.

He said as farmers, the road infrastructure in their area was very bad, which in turn affected their communities and clients.

"We need to hit the ground running and this speaks volumes to all of us to come together and execute this project in a timely fashion," said Mr Freeman. **BOPA**

## Learners success possible with shared responsibility



Motivational speaker, Ms Bantheri Mmopi addressing parents during Sir Seretse Khama Memorial Junior Secondary School Form One orientation in Gaborone yesterday. She urged parents to work hand in hand with teachers in raising disciplined and focused learners, stressing that family circumstances should not negatively affect pupils' education. Ms Mmopi said parents should lead by example and remain actively involved in their children's lives to ensure that they stay away from drugs and other harmful behaviours. Photo: Gothusang Lesego.

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# Medicines crisis pushes Batswana to herbal remedies

Lesedi Thatayamodimo

GABORONE

When clinic shelves run bare and prescriptions cannot be filled, some Batswana are finding comfort not in pharmacies, but in leaves once boiled by grandmothers, roots crushed by elders, and remedies passed down quietly through generations.

Medicine shortages, now affecting hospitals across the country, have forced communities to confront a reality that is both frustrating and familiar. For some, it is not a crisis so much as a reminder.

"This problem is not new," said Mr Mompati Chaba, reflecting on years of public meetings where residents raised concerns about unavailable medication. He said even back then, people would ask at kgotla meetings who was responsible when drugs were out of stock. It has always been there it has just become more intense."

As public hospitals report intermittent shortages of essential drugs, from painkillers and antibiotics to chronic disease medication, the Ministry of Health has cited global supply chain disruptions and procurement delays as contributing factors.

Across Gaborone and beyond, a quiet shift is taking place. Herbs once dismissed as old-fashioned are being rediscovered, not only out of necessity, but out of renewed cultural pride.

"I have gone back to using mosukujane and lengana for flu and headaches. Our grandparents relied on these herbs long before pharmacies existed and they knew what they were doing," said Ms Sheris Moyo of Block 9.



In her home village in the North East, she recalls a time when nature was the medicine cabinet.

"Pepperboom was everywhere. People knew it helped with flu, blocked noses and acne. Some they used it as a humidifier for flu symptoms," she said.

Beyond illness, these practices were part of daily care. Steaming was believed to promote healthy skin, while elders used simple water-based remedies to soothe children's stomach aches and restore appetite.

"There was wisdom in how they cared for children. Medicine was not always necessary," Ms Moyo said.

That wisdom is now resurfacing in unexpected places including shopping malls.

At Gaborone's Main Mall, herbal vendors say business has grown

steadily in recent months. Customers arrive with ailments both small and serious, asking for relief

**"We are rediscovering who we are. These herbs are part of our heritage. In times like these, they remind us that we are resilient."**

where conventional medicine has failed them.

"People are looking for help with everything, from stomach pains to high blood pressure. We make sure the herbs are clean and safe. This is our culture. We are helping people in the best way we know," said Mr Garebone Basele, who sells locally

sourced herbal mixtures

At BBS Mall, Earth Herbs has become a hub for those seeking organic alternatives. Sales representative Ms Nametso Monageng carefully arranges jars of dried leaves and roots as she explains their approach. We select and categorise herbs for different needs, for children, men and women. Everything is locally grown, organic and free from GMOs and MSGs."

Customers return often, many sharing stories of improvement. Some even bring medical reports, allowing progress to be tracked alongside conventional treatment.

One such customer, Mr Kaelo Kaelo, said herbs have become a seasonal staple in his household.

"Since COVID-19, I buy flu herbs every winter, she said.

This, she said helped her and children to stay safe from flu during

winter season.

Nearby, Ms Chenvula Sametsi credits herbal remedies for easing the hot flushes brought on by peri-menopause.

"Since taking the combination, I feel much better," she said.

For many, this return to herbs is not just about health, it is about identity.

"We are rediscovering who we are. These herbs are part of our heritage. In times like this, they remind us that we are resilient," said Mr Kabelo Masigo of Bontleng.

He believes blending tradition with modern healthcare is not a step backwards, but a step toward balance.

He encourages people to use common, non-spiritual herbs found in shops such as basil for inflammation, turmeric for joints, ginger for nausea, and everyday remedies like cloves, guava leaves, aloe vera and moringa.

"Even social media is helping. People are learning again, on TikTok, on Facebook, what our grandparents already knew."

Retired midwife Ms Nametso Tumagole warns that while traditional medicine has its place, it must be used responsibly.

"Some herbs have real benefits," she said, "but others can interfere with prescribed medication or cause harm if misused."

She stressed that traditional remedies should complement, not replace, modern medicine and urged patients to consult qualified practitioners before using herbal treatments.

As Botswana works to stabilise its medical supply chains, one thing is clear, in the face of uncertainty, many Batswana are turning inward herbak medicine. **BOPA**

# Takuwa supplements provide healing touch

Gontle Merafhe

GABORONE

No seat remains vacant for five minutes at Dr Tanyala Takuwa's bustling practice, where the flow of patients is continuous throughout the business day. Known for his effective treatments,

Dr Takuwa's practice has become a beacon of hope for individuals suffering from various ailments, with cancer patients making up a significant portion of his clientele.

In desperation for healing, many patients turn to Dr Takuwa, whose medicinal herbs are marketed under the brand name Takuwa Supplements. Among them is Ms Lorato

Kgaodi (\*not her real name\*), who considers Dr Takuwa a lifesaver. After enduring a life-threatening battle with colon cancer, she credits the supplement's miraculous effects for saving her life.

Before discovering the supplements, Ms Kgaodi faced her own mortality, believing she was simply experiencing the hardships of pregnancy in 2022. Struggling with bloating, constipation, and an inexplicable loss of weight, she was unaware of the cancer lurking within her.

"Two weeks after giving birth, I heard popping sounds in my tummy. It sounded like balloons and I was rushed to the hospital. My body, especially my face, was rapidly

changing," Ms Kgaodi recalled, reflecting on her journey to recovery.

**Cont...  
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Dr Tanyala Takuwa



While modern medicine remains at the core of efforts to combat disease, some Batswana see the need to carry out research on indigenous plants and their medicinal value, thus sparking the debate on the significance of alternative medicines. Photos: Gothusang Lesego

## Takuwa supplements provide healing touch

...from page 4

Tests that were carried out brought a complete spin to her life. The diagnosis was something she had never thought of.

"The tests revealed that my colon was cancer-infested and looked like a pomegranate," Ms Kgaodi said.

During the whirlwind that followed, that included surgery to remove the affected part of the colon, she caught wind of the existence of some doctor who could change her story through the use of herbs.

With her husband support, she found Dr Takuwa and delved headlong into his healing regime.

Ms Kgaodi has not looked back since, and her health bears testimony to the success of her journey to recovery. That the supplements also thwart the potential recurrence of her cancer is a bonus.

Another patient, 62-year-old Ms Gaolatwe Siviya from Siviya in the North East District cannot praise the power of Takuwa supplements over cancer enough. Her journey with the disease began in 2019 when she started to notice bleeding from her left breast.

"The bleeding was persistent, but there was no pain. It was the persistent stain on my brassiere that made me realise there was a problem," she said. Not knowing what the cause of the problem could be, she soon began to notice a lump growing in the same breast, and this rang warning bells, compelling her to immediately seek medical attention.

She underwent intense tests and the debilitating part of the experience was having to wait a year to see the doctor who would give her the results, interpret them and prescribe the way forward.

When the results came back, they ruled out cancer, but because her bleeding had not abated, she resolved to seek a second opinion, which came in the form of a biopsy.

Receiving the biopsy results was devastating for Ms Siviya who was met with the results that recommended, among other things, a mastectomy - a breast removal

procedure meant to deter the cancer from spreading to other organs.

Instead of the procedure, she underwent chemotherapy, with which came a host of side effects including hair loss, brittle bones, limb numbness, piles and hernia.

"At some point I just gave up on life," she noted, recalling how she was struggling to cope with her situation. Someday under that shadow of gloom and imminent death, her daughter mentioned a certain Dr Takuwa whom testimonies on Facebook indicated could help.

"I felt hope resuscitate from within me. I was determined to do anything to get my health back, so I immediately made contact," she said. Following the doctor's instructions to the dot, three weeks into the regime, she observed that the lump was receding and the nipple that had disappeared into the swelling was beginning to re-appear.

As she wades through her journey to recovery, Ms Siviya is amazed at the power of herbs to counter disease, and is grateful that their use has given her another shot at life. Alive to the fact that cancers have often spread to other body parts, she has not thrown modern medicine into the back burner.

She strictly adheres to her appointments with oncologists, whom she sees every second month.

An analytic chemist, Dr Takuwa has proved that indigenous herbs are imbued with substances crucial for the body.

His interest in indigenous herbs was spurred on by growing up seeing people depend on them to prevent and cure illnesses especially in rural areas where there were no medical facilities in the 1970s.

"When you understand the chemistry of plants, you can use them to counter illnesses," he said.

While modern medicine remains at the core of efforts to combat disease, it is heart-warming that some Batswana see the need to carry out research on indigenous plants and their medicinal value. **BOPA**

# Malebeswa traces Ba-ka-Nswazwi journey

Thamani Shabani  
FRANCISTOWN

Renowned lawyer and historian Mr Tendekani Malebeswa of Nswazwi near Tutume offers a fresh and provocative examination of Bakalanga history in his book, *Nswazwi, Is He a Mofokeng?*

The 77-page publication challenges long-held assumptions about the Bakalanga people, particularly the widely accepted notion that they are part of the Shona ethnic group. Instead, Mr Malebeswa argues that the Bakalanga possess a distinct identity, one that predates and differs fundamentally from Shona heritage, despite historical interaction and linguistic overlap.

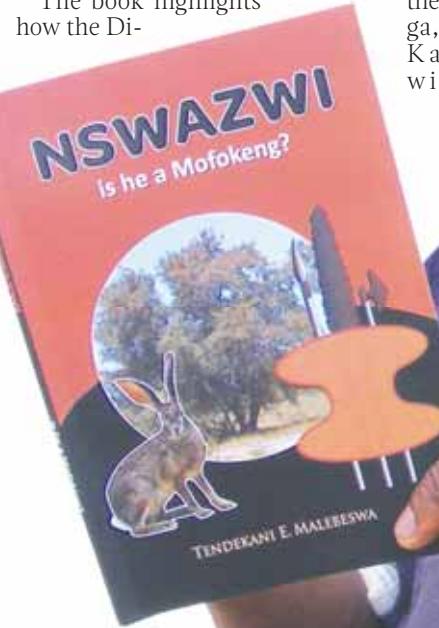
Mr Malebeswa, a former deputy attorney general, contends that the name Karanga was historically corrupted largely by the Shona and external commentators and imposed on the Bakalanga. He asserts that even the Shona themselves were aware of this distinction.

"The Shona always knew that the Bakalanga were separate from them in terms of language, history and heritage, even though there is some overlap between the languages," he explained.

The origins of the book trace back to questions that troubled Mr Malebeswa from an early age, particularly regarding the Bapedi totem in South Africa. This curiosity led him to investigate the deeper origins of the Baperi Ba-Ka-Nswazwi, prompting years of inquiry into oral tradition, lineage, and identity.

In reconstructing the journey of the Nswazwi people, Mr Malebeswa masterfully combines oral history, totemic studies, and genetic analysis, creating a layered and authoritative narrative.

The book highlights how the Di-



*Nswazwi, Is he a Mofokeng?* The book written by Mr Malebeswa traces the origins of the Ba-Ka-Nswazwi.

Photo: Thamani Shabani.

faqane wars and other regional conflicts triggered waves of migration across Southern Africa. Among those displaced were the Baperi Ba-Ka-Nswazwi, who initially settled in the Tswapong Hills at Goo Moremi, alongside the Bapedi Ba-Ka-Makgopeng of Mapulane.

From there, the group crossed the Motloutse River, historically the boundary of Bakalanga, eventually settling at Nchindingwe near the Nyamambisi River, where they were received by She (Kgosi) Mengwe (Me'nwe).

Mr Malebeswa argues that the term "Baperi" functioned as an umbrella name, encompassing multiple groups united by shared totems rather than a single ethnic origin. He concludes that the Baperi or Bapedi were, in fact, pure Bakalanga, who settled in present-day Botswana as early as the 1700s.

A significant portion of the book is devoted to explaining the origin of the Nswazwi name, tracing it to She (Kgosi) Shabalume, also known as Nswazi I, a legendary hunter.

According to oral tradition, Shabalume wielded a spear fashioned from the Nswazwi tree. After successfully killing game, he would exclaim:

"Nswazwi wa pomba ngobe!"  
(The Nswazwi spear has conquered a beast.)

The phrase earned him the nickname Nswazwi, which later became the name of his people Baperi Ba-Nswazwi (Ba-Ka-Nswazwi). Under his leadership, the Nswazwi nation was founded, with Domboshaba established as its first capital.

The book also explains the origin of Masunga, another Ba-Ka-Nswazwi branch.

Shabalume's son, Mangole, later known as Masunga, was known for his moody temperament and frequent threats to leave. Villagers teased him, saying:

"Aa, masunga mitolo Ntombo"  
(You are packing your bags to leave.)

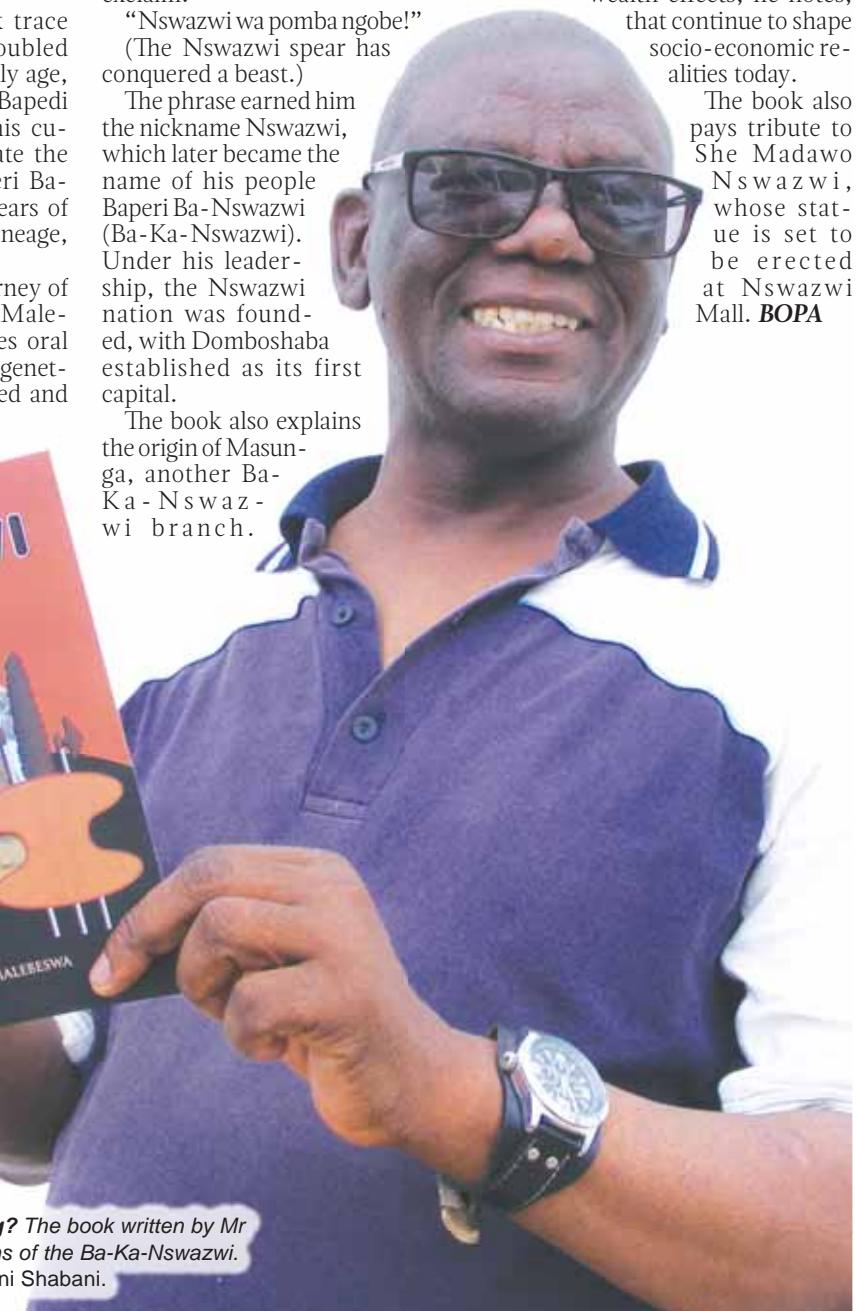
The nickname endured and eventually became his name and that of the settlement.

Mr Malebeswa also sheds light on a pivotal and painful chapter in Bakalanga history. He argues that Lobengula, king of the Ndebele, granted mining concessions to the predecessors of the Tati Company, effectively surrendering land between the Ramaquaban (now Ramokgwebana) and Shashe rivers territory belonging to the Bakalanga.

According to the author, Lobengula's decision was heavily influenced by gifts and pressure from white suitors, including Cecil John Rhodes' British South Africa Company (BSAC). At the time, Lobengula's kingdom extended southward to the Motloutse River, the recognised boundary of Bakalanga.

Mr Malebeswa contends that these concessions dispossessed the Bakalanga of their land and mineral wealth effects, he notes, that continue to shape socio-economic realities today.

The book also pays tribute to She Madawo Nswazwi, whose statue is set to be erected at Nswazwi Mall. **BOPA**





# The railway station that transformed Tatisiding

The envisioned symbol will represent the origin of the village's name, Tatisiding, which originally referred to the train station.

Thamani Shabani  
**TATISIDING**

In the heart of Tatisiding, a unique tradition has been immortalised in a soon-to-be installed-billboard along the railway line.

## Supplementary Voters registration period starts

**GABORONE**

The Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) has appointed a Supplementary Voters' Registration period starting January 12 to February 12 in respect of all the 61 Constituencies.

A press statement from IEC states that the registration exercise shall be carried out at the offices of the principal registration officers for each constituency during working days only.

"Batswana, who did not register for the 2024 general elections, are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to register as voters," says the release.

The statement further says that all Batswana who have attained the age of 18 years, and are in possession of a valid national identity, not disqualified from registering as a voter under Section 6 of the Electoral Act, are called to apply in person for registration during the appointed registration period.

**BOPA**

The image depicts a passenger train arriving at the station, with a commuter waving a glowing wooden stick to signal to the locomotive driver to stop.

This nostalgic scene pays homage to the village's history, where a commuter will alert drivers of the presence of passengers waiting at the siding, especially on dark nights.

Kgosi Simon Nkgageng of Tatisiding explains that this symbol represents the origin of the village's name, Tatisiding, which originally referred to the train station.

At 73, Kgosi Nkgageng has seen the village grow from a population of 4 000 to 19 000, thanks to

its rapid development, fuelled largely by its strategic location near Francistown.

The village has come a long way since Kgosi Nkgageng arrived in 1991.

"We had one primary school, and one secondary school, Tashatha Junior Secondary School," he recalls.

The turning point came with infrastructural development between 2006 and 2008, including tarring of internal roads, street lighting and sewerage installation.

This sparked an influx of residents and plot seekers.

Kgosi Nkgageng explains that Tatisiding has consistently

benefitted from national development initiatives.

Last, he explains, the village welcomed a post office and a community hall through the Constituency Community Project initiative.

This year, a multimillion Pula kgotla shelter project is underway, with completion expected by April.

The community and business people have contributed to the project.

Kgosi Nkgageng also highlights other notable projects, including the Bonno National Housing project with over 80 affordable units.

Plans are also in the works to

decongest the busy A1 highway by constructing a road linking Shashe Bridge to Gerald Estate in Francistown, highlighting that the road will pass through Tatisiding.

However, with growth comes challenges, and crime has since become a concern due to Tatisiding's proximity to Francistown.

Encouragingly, Kgosi Nkgageng was happy to explain that 2025 saw a reduction in crime rates, thanks to joint efforts between the police and the Botswana Defence Force (BDF).

With its rich history and ongoing developments, the village is poised to become a metropolitan hub.

**BOPA**





# DailyBusiness



Vice President Ndaba Gaolathe

## Gaolathe to launch Francistown city tourism

Thamani Shabani  
**FRANCISTOWN**

Botswana's second-largest city, Francistown, is preparing to position itself as a key urban tourism destination, showcasing its rich history, cultural diversity, modern amenities and natural attractions.

The Vice President, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe, is expected to officially launch the Francistown City Tourism Initiative on January 24, an event aimed at highlighting the city's unique blend of heritage, culture and scenic appeal.

Located in north-eastern Botswana, Francistown is a city steeped in history, shaped by the gold rush era and enriched by vibrant Tswana and Kalanga cultures.

Among the city's key attractions is the Supa Ngwao Museum, which preserves and exhibits the history

and cultural heritage of the region through traditional crafts, artefacts and historical displays.

Nature enthusiasts can explore the Tachila Nature Reserve, an 8 000-hectare wildlife sanctuary situated just outside the city, offering game drives, hiking trails and birdwatching opportunities. The Tati River, which flows through Francistown, adds scenic beauty and provides opportunities for fishing and recreational activities such as beach volleyball.

Cont... page 8



Vice President Ndaba Gaolathe is expected to officially launch the Francistown City Tourism Initiative on January 24, an event aimed at highlighting the city's unique blend of heritage, culture and scenic appeal.

### Residents express divergent views on Citizenship by Investment Bill

Kelebogile Taolo  
**FRANCISTOWN**

Residents of Somerset in Francistown have expressed differing views on the proposed Citizenship by Investment Bill, which was debated in Parliament towards the end of 2025.

The Bill proposes granting citizenship and national identity cards to selected foreign investors as a way of attracting investment and diversifying Botswana's economy.

Speaking on the sidelines of

a kgotla meeting addressed by the Member of Parliament for Francistown South, Mr Wynter Mmolotsi, some residents raised concerns while others welcomed the proposal.

Mr Noah Majube of Somerset said the Bill did not sit well with him, expressing fears that foreign investors could eventually take over Batswana-owned properties.

He said Batswana were a trusting and vulnerable nation that could easily be deceived into losing their land and other valuable assets.

Cont... page 8



The MP for Francistown South, Mr Wynter Mmolotsi (centre) and Somerset residents after a kgotla meeting in Francistown recently. Mr Mmolotsi updated the residents about the proposed Citizenship by Investment Bill among others. Photo: Ogopoleng Kgomoethata

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Bulgaria joins eurozone amid high expectations

**SOFIA** - In the first minutes of 2026, a three-dimensional euro symbol lit up the facade of the Bulgarian National Bank in Sofia. At the same moment, the headquarters of the European Central Bank in Frankfurt were illuminated in a synchronised display, marking Bulgaria's formal entry into the eurozone. "The introduction of the euro is the final milestone in Bulgaria's integration into the European Union," Bulgarian President Rumen Radev said in his New Year's address. For Sofia, the moment represented far more than a currency change. Bulgaria joined the European Union in 2007, but spent the following 19 years working to meet the eurozone's fiscal, inflation and institutional criteria. Officials and economists say accession opens a new chapter for the country. *Xinhua*

#### China issues government investment fund evaluation rules

**BEIJING** - China's top economic planner on Monday released a trial regulation aimed at improving the evaluation and management of government investment fund allocations. The move is intended to better leverage these funds to serve national strategies, promote industrial upgrading, and foster innovation and entrepreneurship. Issued by the National Development and Reform Commission, the regulation highlights the role of allocation evaluations in guiding government investment funds to align with national industrial

#### Myanmar exports over 2.1 million tonnes of rice

**YANGON** - Myanmar exported over 2.1 million tonnes of rice and broken rice in the first nine months, from April to December, of the current fiscal year 2025-26, according to the Myanmar Rice Federation on Monday. The Southeast Asian country earned about US\$ 675 million from the exports during the nine months, the federation's data showed. During the period, the country exported rice and broken rice via both sea and land routes to more than 30 countries, it said. In the fiscal year 2024-25, the country exported 2.48 million tonnes of rice and broken rice, the federation said. *Xinhua*



Mr Johannes Chikwama, a black Boer farmer, is also a force to be reckoned with in the world of horticulture.

## Discipline and vision drive Chikwama farming empire

Thamani Shabani  
**DITLADI**

**A**t the break of dawn, when Francistown is still wrapped in darkness, life quietly stirs at the Bus and Taxi Rank. One by one, small trucks popularly known as Dynas or affectionately called Matshelonyana by Batswana roll in, their engines humming softly as they offload crates of freshly harvested produce.

Ripe tomatoes, crisp cabbages, pungent onions, sweet butternuts and juicy watermelons spill onto the market floor, signalling the start of another trading day. This pre-dawn hustle embodies local term "Vuka u zezele" the early riser gets the best catch. In this competitive marketplace, arriving late often means missing out on the freshest produce.

Among the familiar faces is Mr Johannes Chikwama, a black Boer farmer whose presence commands quiet respect. Rugged and sturdy, dressed in khaki overalls, a wide-brimmed hat and heavy-duty boots, he looks every bit the traditional farmer — a reflection of years spent working the land.

A dedicated horticultural farmer from Ditoladi village, east of Tonota, Mr Chikwama arrives at the market unfailingly at 0300hrs, seven days a week.

"I arrive at exactly 0300hrs from Monday to Sunday," he said, underscoring the discipline required in commercial farming.

Tomatoes form the backbone of his production, but his farming portfolio extends far beyond. Across six farms, Mr Chikwama cultivates English watermelons, cabbages, onions and other crops, a remarkable achievement in Botswana's semi-arid climate, further challenged by climate change and recurring droughts.

Yet he remains unwaveringly optimistic.

"Everything is possible. Money is in the soil," he said. His farming operation spans three farms in Ditoladi, one in Gulushabe

(Tonota), one in the North East District and two in Boteti, with produce reaching markets as far as Kasane.

The Ditoladi farms draw irrigation from the Shashe River, while the Boteti farms are electrified and supplemented by solar systems, significantly reducing production costs.

"Horticulture is all about irrigation," he said. "You cannot rely on rain-fed farming. Crops need water 24/7."

**Having employed 45 permanent and 15 temporary workers, Mr Chikwama is making a meaningful contribution to employment creation. He is also among the top 29 horticultural farmers in the Ditoladi area, proof that resilience and skill can turn even harsh climates into opportunities.**

He takes pride in selecting crop varieties suited to Botswana's conditions, including SV 4126 tomatoes, Star 3301 cabbage and Tiger watermelons.

While horticulture demands heavy investment, he believes the returns justify the risk.

"The business is expensive, but the returns are quick and good," he noted.

Beyond profit, Mr Chikwama is deeply rooted in community service.

He has donated produce to the Ditoladi community and remains willing to support local primary schools and funerals.

However, he pointed out challenges, particularly expectations that donations be delivered to people's homes.

"If people have transport, they

should collect the produce so it does not interfere with market sales," he explained.

Farming for Mr Chikwama is a family affair. His wife, Chada, their son Johannes (junior), and farm manager Mr Elliot Muwungai all play active roles in the business. Together, they run Johannes Produce, a testament to their shared work ethic.

He treats his workers with dignity, providing free accommodation, electricity, water and food. Some farms even keep pigs, goats and chickens, raised solely to supply meat for workers rather than for sale.

"I want my workers to feel at home and take ownership of their work," he said.

Despite owning a tractor and six trucks, Mr Chikwama maintains a low profile. He does not use social media for marketing, preferring word-of-mouth and consistent quality.

He also opens his farms to students from the Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN) and Zimbabwe's University of Chinhoyi for industrial attachment, offering hands-on experience and allowances.

His advice to aspiring farmers is firm and uncompromising:

"Do not treat agriculture as a passion, a retirement package or an opportunity. Farming is a profession."

He also called on government to simplify access to agricultural policies and programmes, and urged the Water Utilities Corporation to open the Shashe River at least once a year during prolonged dry spells. While appreciative of electricity infrastructure along the river, he stressed the need for improved road networks.

From humble beginnings in 2011 to managing six thriving horticultural farms, Mr Chikwama's journey is a testament to discipline, resilience and vision.

True to his belief that "money is in the soil," he continues to prove it, harvest after harvest. **BOPA**

## Gaolathe to launch Francistown city tourism

From page 7

Other notable attractions include the Domboshaba ruins, a 14th-century archaeological site, Nyangabgwe Hill which offers panoramic views of the city, and the Francistown City Mall, a modern shopping centre providing retail, dining and entertainment facilities.

Visitors can also immerse themselves in the city's vibrant cultural life through events such as the Domboshaba Cultural Festival, the Business Botswana Trade Fair and Independence Day celebrations.

A unique feature of the city is the iconic Blue Jacket Street, a main thoroughfare stretching from the Kenneth Nkhwa Interchange to the Engen Total Filling Station. The street derives its name from a white man who was often seen walking along the route wearing a distinctive blue jacket. Former Francistown mayor, Mr Iqbal Ibrahim, recalled that the man would walk the street every morning and returned in the evening, becoming a familiar figure to residents.

Another landmark is the Kenneth Nkhwa Interchange, a major infrastructural feature connecting the city to various parts of the country and beyond its borders.

"This is one landmark that we pride ourselves in," said another former mayor of Francistown, Mr Godisang Radisigo.

Speaking on the tourism potential of the city, the Minister of Environment and Tourism, Mr Wynter Mmolotsi, said Francistown had much to offer and required deliberate efforts to diversify its tourism product beyond wildlife.

He noted that the city's reputation as a welcoming place was reinforced by its historical role in providing refuge to liberation leaders, including

former Namibian presidents Dr Sam Nujoma, Dr Hage Geingob, Mr Hifikepunye Pohamba and Dr Nangolo Mbumba.

Mr Mmolotsi explained that these leaders, while en route to Zambia during the liberation struggle, would spend nights at a hall-like structure known as the "White House" in Blue Town, near the Phillip Matante International Airport.

He further revealed plans to revive the Francistown Educational Park by transforming it into a wildlife reserve, with the introduction of wild animals to allow residents and visitors an opportunity to experience wildlife within the city.

"The park has been idle for a very long time and it is time to revive it. We want to introduce wild animals because there are people in Francistown who have never seen some wild animal," he said.

Mr Mmolotsi added that the city tourism concept, previously launched in Gaborone, would be rolled out in Francistown alongside a Tourism Pitso scheduled for January 22 to 23, to be officially opened by President Advocate Duma Boko.

He stated that tourism was currently the second engine of economic growth after diamonds, employing close to 58 000 people, but stressed the need to diversify the sector in order to double employment opportunities.

Francistown's history is also marked by tragedy, including the 1974 aviation accident involving a WENELA Air Services Douglas DC-4 aircraft, which claimed the lives of 75 passengers and crew.

The incident remains the worst aviation disaster in Botswana's history and serves as a sombre reminder of the city's past. **BOPA**

## Residents express divergent views on Citizenship by Investment Bill

From page 7

"If investors are given citizenship in our country, Batswana will end up being servants in their own land and may lose their precious land," he said. However, Mr Majube

noted that if citizenship were to be granted, investors should be encouraged to establish businesses in regions such as the North West and North East to ensure balanced development, rather than concentrating investment mainly in Gaborone and the southern part of the country.

In contrast, a youthful resident, Mr Kediretswe Kediretswe, welcomed the Bill, saying it could help address unemployment, particularly among young people. Ms Galenkope Ludick shared

"It would be a wise move for investors to come and set up businesses here, as this will promote development and create jobs."

similar sentiments, stating that the Bill could positively benefit the country. She said Botswana's economy had been struggling in recent years and attracting foreign

investors could help revive economic growth and stimulate development.

The Economic Citizenship Bill, also known as Citizenship by Investment, was presented to residents by Mr Mmolotsi, who emphasised the need to explore various ways of revitalising the economy.

Mr Mmolotsi also Minister of Environment and Tourism said attracting multi-billion pula investors would help diversify the economy, particularly in key sectors. "For investors with substantial capital who wish to invest in Botswana, after thorough assessment and ensuring they have no criminal background, citizenship may be granted," he said.

He said priority investment sectors would include tourism, agriculture, infrastructure and mining.

On the Ipelegeng programme, Mr Mmolotsi informed residents that it would be rebranded as Ikageng and implemented based on skills development, with participants receiving training in various skills. He added that beneficiaries would earn P2,500.

Mr Mmolotsi was addressing Somerset residents to update them on issues discussed during the last sitting of Parliament. **BOPA**

# Child abandonment: A silent crisis in Maun

Gaoletshoo Kgatitswe  
**MAUN**

In the quiet corners of Botswana's towns and villages, children of all ages constantly find themselves out in the cold.

Some are found thrown by the roadsides, others in the bushes, while yet others grow up in homes where neglect has slowly done its damage, out of sight until it is too late.

What was once an occasional shock has become a pattern. Child abandonment, particularly of newborns is emerging as a silent crisis, revealing the fragile intersections between youth behaviour, weakened family structures and the absence of preventative support within communities.

Tshidilo Stimulation Centre manager, Mr Ramoremi Mphothwhe says these stories rarely begin with abandonment, rather they

begin much earlier in moments where guidance is absent and risk is normalised.

Alcohol-fuelled social spaces, he explains, often lead to unprotected sexual encounters and unintended pregnancies and when reality sets in, young women are left isolated, overwhelmed and afraid.

"Child abandonment is not a sudden decision but a final step after many opportunities to intervene have already been missed," he says.

Those missed opportunities surface daily at the Maun Police Station.

Behind the front desk, the crisis does not announce itself dramatically, it arrives quietly case by case, file by file. Between 2024 and 2025, police in Maun recorded 44 cases of child neglect, involving children as young as newborns and as old as 15.

Many of those cases are still unresolved, not because they are unimportant but because the systems meant to protect children often move slower than expected.

Thirty of the cases remain stalled, awaiting social inquiry reports and others sit under investigation, complicated by silence from those who report them but cannot or will not help police trace those responsible.

Maun Station Commander, Superintendent Joseph Lepodise says repeated offenders remain one of the most troubling aspects of the trend, pointing to cycles of neglect that continue long after the first warning signs are visible.

During this period in 2025, two newborns were abandoned in circumstances that officers still recall vividly, with one having been thrown into the bush and another who was left beside the road, wrapped in plastic.

In both cases, police responded immediately, rushing the infants to Letsholathebe II Memorial Hospital, a race against time to ensure that life continued where it had nearly been discarded.

Despite investigations that included tracing mothers who had

recently given birth at surrounding clinics, no arrests were made.

Responsibility for the children shifted instead to social workers, who placed them in safety while the search for accountability faded into uncertainty.

For Superintendent Lepodise, these outcomes are painful reminders that law enforcement often arrives at the end of the story, not at the beginning.

Police, he says, continue to prioritise public education, urging parents and young girls to use available forms of pregnancy prevention and to seek help when overwhelmed.

Clinics, social workers, and police stations remain open doors; safer than the irreversible choice of abandonment, he stresses.

The long-term impact of those choices becomes visible at care facilities like Lorato House.

Case manager at Lorato House, Ms Omphile Itomeng says children entering the facility often arrive after prolonged neglect or abandonment.

Many carry physical signs of deprivation - malnutrition, delayed development, untreated medical conditions, weakened immunity and others carry wounds that cannot be weighed or measured.

"These children struggle to trust, and to feel safe," she says.

Lorato House communications and media relations lead, Ms Agatha Elijah says as they grow older, the questions become harder to avoid and curiosity about home and belonging emerges naturally.

Counsellors respond by building stability first following routine, consistency, and nurturing relationships before attempting to help children process the circumstances of their abandonment.

Beyond its emotional and social cost, child abandonment in Botswana remains a criminal offence as the law prohibits neglect, ill-treatment, or exposure of a child to conditions likely to cause physical, psychological, or emotional harm.

Penalties include fines or imprisonment, reinforcing the state's position that abandonment is both morally indefensible and legally punishable.

Yet those working closest to the issue agree that punishment alone will never be enough.

Prevention through education, early intervention, honest conversations about alcohol abuse and sexual health remains the strongest defense.

Facilities such as Lorato House also advocate for lawful alternatives like the Safe Haven Law, offering overwhelmed parents a way to protect their children without erasing their futures.

Without collective action from families, communities, educators, social services, and government institutions, the cycle will continue.

And somewhere, quietly, another child will be left behind waiting not just to be found, but to be chosen.

child will be left behind waiting not just to be found, but to be chosen. **BOPA**

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Maun Station Commander, Superintendent Joseph Lepodise said during this period in 2025, two newborns were abandoned, with one thrown in the bush and another left by the roadside.

# Editorial

EDITOR'S NOTE

## Back to school: Time for fresh opportunity and optimism

We look forward to new beginnings as learners across the country return to classrooms today for the new school year.

After weeks of worry-free days, the break is over, and school is back.

It is time for them to look ahead with optimism and hope as they chart their path for the future.

As they embark on another school year, let us remind them that this is an opportunity to make up for what was lost and strive to succeed even more.

In the midst of all the excitement that comes with transitioning to a new grade or making new friends, it is important to ensure that the children do not succumb to peer pressure.

In the past the Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education had expressed concerns of learners' misconduct both at primary and secondary schools. This disruptive behaviour threatens the safe and respectful environment in schools.

Therefore, the new school year, also challenges parents to be present in the education of their children, to reclaim their central role in raising disciplined, respectful and responsible young citizens.

And to the teachers, let us not hold back the support as we walk a mile with them in their academic journey and equally, praise them when they succeed.

Let us not forget that a child thrives well with the support of those around them.

Hence clarions call for all to continue supporting the #CountMeIn campaign, a programme by the Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education aimed at refurbishing dilapidated school infrastructure across the country to make the learning environment better.

Good luck to all learners as they return.

We hope they seize the opportunity ahead of them. Let us encourage them to show up to class, and push through each day.



Illustration by Freepik



## Matsiloje border proximity gives rise to disturbing trend

Thamani Shabani  
**MATSILJOE**

Matsiloje's close proximity to Zimbabwe, separated only by the Ramokgwebana River and less than a kilometre from the village of Maboledi in Zimbabwe, has long fostered social and cultural ties across the border.

But community leaders say that this closeness has now given rise to a disturbing trend, with day scholar female learners from Matsiloje Junior Secondary School allegedly crossing into Zimbabwe to engage in risky sexual relationships.

From Matsiloje, the lights of neighbouring Maboledi are visible and voices can be heard across Ramokgwebana River.

What could be a symbol of cross-border kinship has now become a growing source of concern for village leadership.

"Yes, we are disturbed as the leadership of the village by the behaviour of these female learners," said Kgosi Solomon Segopa of Matsiloje.

He explained that the community was grappling with this disturbing trend amongst female pupils who were engaging in risky behaviour, including crossing the border into Zimbabwe for illicit activities.

Kgosi Segopa explained that the school management had taken steps to address the issue, summoning students and parents to the main kgotla for reprimand.

He nonetheless expressed frustration, saying some parents seem to condone their daughter's actions.

"Some learners lamented that their parents told them to fend for themselves as they are now 'women'" he said.

Kgosi Segopa explained that the village's proximity to Zimbabwe, with some areas just a kilometre away, had made it easier for the students to sneak across.

In addition, he noted that the pupils' disregard for safety was alarming, especially since they were using un gazetted entry points.

"The border fence is no obstacle for them. It is like cutting through butter with a hot knife," he explained, highlighting the ease with which they cross into the

neighbouring country.

He said the situation has become so dire that some senior secondary schools in the region are reluctant to admit pupils from Matsiloje, out of fear of them possibly influencing others to engage in wayward behaviour.

Chairperson of Matsiloje JSS Parents and Teachers Association (PTA), Ms Agnes Moloiwa said they recorded three cases of female learners crossing into Zimbabwe

**“**  
Some learners lamented that their parents told them to fend for themselves as they are now "women" **”**

and one pregnancy case involving a local man.

Ms Moloiwa suspects that the learners could have been lured by illegal gold miners to skip the country.

"These girls are being attracted to gold smugglers and some parents are condoning it," she added.

She attributed this to economic hardships, with some parents encouraging their daughters to 'fend for themselves.'

Ms Moloiwa said the learners involved have been caned and reprimanded at the main kgotla.

The school head, Mr Lebogang Setilo said the incident has tarnished the school's reputation.

"We reported the case to the leadership of the village to assist and we have been working with the parents to address the issue," he added. **BOPA**



Kgosi Solomon Segopa

# Dikgang

PAMPIRI YA THUTO LE DIKITSISO

## IPAPATSE FA

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# Ba eletsa Botswana yo montle



Mme Itumeleng Botlhoko



Rre Victor Gaboutlwelwe



Rre Brighton Mandevu

## GABORONE

**N**gwaga wa 2026, ke oo haphegileng mo Batswaneng, ka lefatshe leno le tlaa bo le ipelela ngwaga tse di masome a marataro le ipusa.

Di le dintsi di diragetsi mo dingwageng tse di fetileng, tse Motswana a ka ipelang ka tsone.

Gape fa Botswana a ikala ka mafatshe a mangwe, go santse go le gontsi mo go ka dirwang, go tlhabolola lefatshe le matshelo a Batswana.

Ka jalo, BOPA e ne ya buisana le Batswana ka tse ba di eletsang go ya pele, e le sesupo sa gore Botswana o na le dingwaga a ipusa mme e bile, o gatetse lepe.

Rre Tshepo Kebogane (42), wa kgotlana ya Goo-Mabe kwa Molepolole a re Botswana o tsamaile sentle le dipaka mme mo bogompienong go mo Motswaneng mongwe le mongwe go bona gore o ka dira eng se se ka thusang lefatshe go tlhabologa.

Rre Kebogane, yo berekang e le mookamedi wa McRay Royal Arts, ke motaki yo dumelang gore bataki ka ene ba tshwanetse go tlhagafalela go ngoka bareki ba mafatshe a mangwe ka go inaakanya le tiriso ya maranyane go tlhabolola dikitso tsa bone le go ipapatsa.

“Mo bogompienong mafatshe jaaka la China a setse a dirisa maranyane a 7G fa mono re santse re dirisa 5G. Re tshwanetse re itshepe e bile re ipaakanye go dira ditlhabololo tse e leng gore Botswana o tlaa fetoga ka ntla ya tiriso ya maranyane,” Rre Kebogane a kgothatsa.

A re boitsaanape jwa metlha eno ke jwa maemo a kwa godimo mme Botswana a sa inyatse ka gore o gatetse pele, a fa sekai ka sekapa-ditswantsho sa lefaufau sa BOTSAT-1. Rre Kebogane a re se, ke katlego e tshwanetseng go gwetla bataki go dirisa maranyane go rekisa Botswana.

“A re simoleng gone fa, re seka ra lelela sepe se se kwa morago mme re lebe kwa pele a bo re bona gore Batswana ba neelwa eng gore ba kgone go dira eng. Nna tota ke batla go bona re tsene kwa dielong tse di kwa godimo tsa mafatshefatshe,” Rre Kebogane a tlhalosa.

Mme Itumeleng Botlhoko (41), wa kgotlana ya Mashadi kwa Thamaga, yo e leng moetlelepele wa khamphani ya Seedpod Capital, a re baeteledipele ba tshwanetse go kanoka ditlhabololo segolo jang tse di amanang le botsogo, ditlamelo tsa letsati le letsatsi ga mmogo le kgatelopele ya madirelo.

Fa Mme Boniswa Bayani wa kgotlana ya Magokotswane kwa Molepolole a re thuto e remeletse mo go baleng le go kwala, mme seemo seo se baya ka fa mosing dikitso le dineo tsa baithuti ba bangwe.

A re o dumela gore Batswana ke bone teemane ya lefatshe, ka jalo, go ka nna mosola gore go agiwe madirelo a a ka tlhamelang badiragatsi ditiro gore ba itshetse ba bo ba tlhabololo, go lepalepana le metlha eno ya go dira letseno ka maranyane.

Mokapa ditshwantsho e bile e le monni wa Francistown, Rre Brighton Mandevu, (24), a re o eletsa go bona go na le diphetogo mo go tsa tiriso maranyane segolo bogolo YouTube, TikTok ga mmogo le Facebook.

Rre Manevu a re tiriso ya maranyane mo mafatsheng a mangwe e tsenytse badiragatsi madi.

A re jaaka Botswana a tswelsetse ka go gola, o eletsa fa tona wa lephata la tsa ditlhaelatsanyo le boranyane a ka tsibogela gore Batswana le bone ba bone dikatso ka badiragatsi jwa bone mo maranyaneng.

Rre Mandevu a re Batswana ba na le go salela kwa morago mme ba bonela dilo mo mafatsheng a mangwe, a tlatsa ka gore nako e tsile ya gore Botswana a inaakanye

le diphetogo tsa go gweba ka maranyane.

Mo go tse dingwe, Rre Mandevu a re thuto ya lefatshe leno e siilwe ke nako ka jaana e itebagantse le thuto ya go bala le go kwala fela mme e kgaphela ntle dikitso le di talente.

“Thuto ya rona e remeletse fela mo ditlhakeng, ke eletsatseo se ka okediwa ka go rutuntsha bana mo ditalenteng tsa bone. A re tsenyteng ditluto tse dingwe jaaka go bina, go opela, re di nosetse go tswa kwa moding. Mafatshe a mangwe bana ba ya dikoleng go dira tse e leng ditalente tsa bone mme ba rutuntshiwe mo go tsone,” Rre Mandevu a tlhalosa.

Ntswa lefatshe leno le tlaa bo le ipelela ngwaga tse masome a marataro le ipusa, Mme Dithapelo Mopaki, (36) a re sebe sa phiri ke gore matshelo a Batswana o ne a saletse kwa morago mme a kopa puso go tsibogela dilelo tsa Batswana di akaretsa ditlhawatlha tse di golang thata mo marekisetson.

“Re kokonelwa ke ditlhawatlha tse di tsholetsegang malatsi otlhe, dilo di a tura mme rona dituelo di kwa tlase,” Mme Mopaki a supa.

Mme Mopaki, yo o direlang kwa Francistown, a re nako e tsile gore puso e oketsa dituelo tsa babereki, a re mafatshe a gatetse pele ka go duela batho ba bone dituelo tse di ba godisang e seng tse di ba tsenytse mo lehumeng.

O kaile fa dingwaga tse di masome a marataro a go ipusa, di tshwanetse tsa tsamaelana le matshelo a Batswana, go nne ditlhabololo, lehuma le fedisiwe gammogo le borukuthi jo bo bakiwawang ke go sa bereka ga batho.

Rre Victor Gaboutlwelwe, (30) wa Beetsha a re puso e tshwanetse ya oketsa ditirelo tsa setshaba tse di fitlhelwang mo maranyaneng, go khutshwafatsa le go fefosa go

thusa setshaba.

A re go dira jalo, go ka dira gore Batswana a lepalepane le mafatshe a mangwe ka bokgoni le go phatlalatsa dithuso tse puso e di neela setshaba mme se, se tlise maduo a a isang lefatshe kwa pele.

Rre Keoleletse Mokgethapula wa Werda a re Botswana o humile diphologolo tse di tswelwang pelo ke mafatshe ka jalo, a re puso e tshwanetse ya tlhabolola bojanala go oka bajanala ba le bantsi go etela mono.

O boletse fa tomagano ya bodiragatsi le bojanala di ka tswela lefatshe leno mosola, mme a kgothatsa Batswana go ipela le go ipelefatsa ka ngwao ya bone, go ngoka batswakwa go tla go ithuta le go akola ditso tsa Botswana.

A re gape go ya pele, puso e tshwanetse ya tlhabolola bojanala ka go aga dikgorwana go duedisa bajanala fa ba tsena kwa mafelong a ditso le bojanala jaaka mafatshe a mangwe ba dira, ka thulaganyo eo gape e ka fokotsa letlhoko la ditiro.

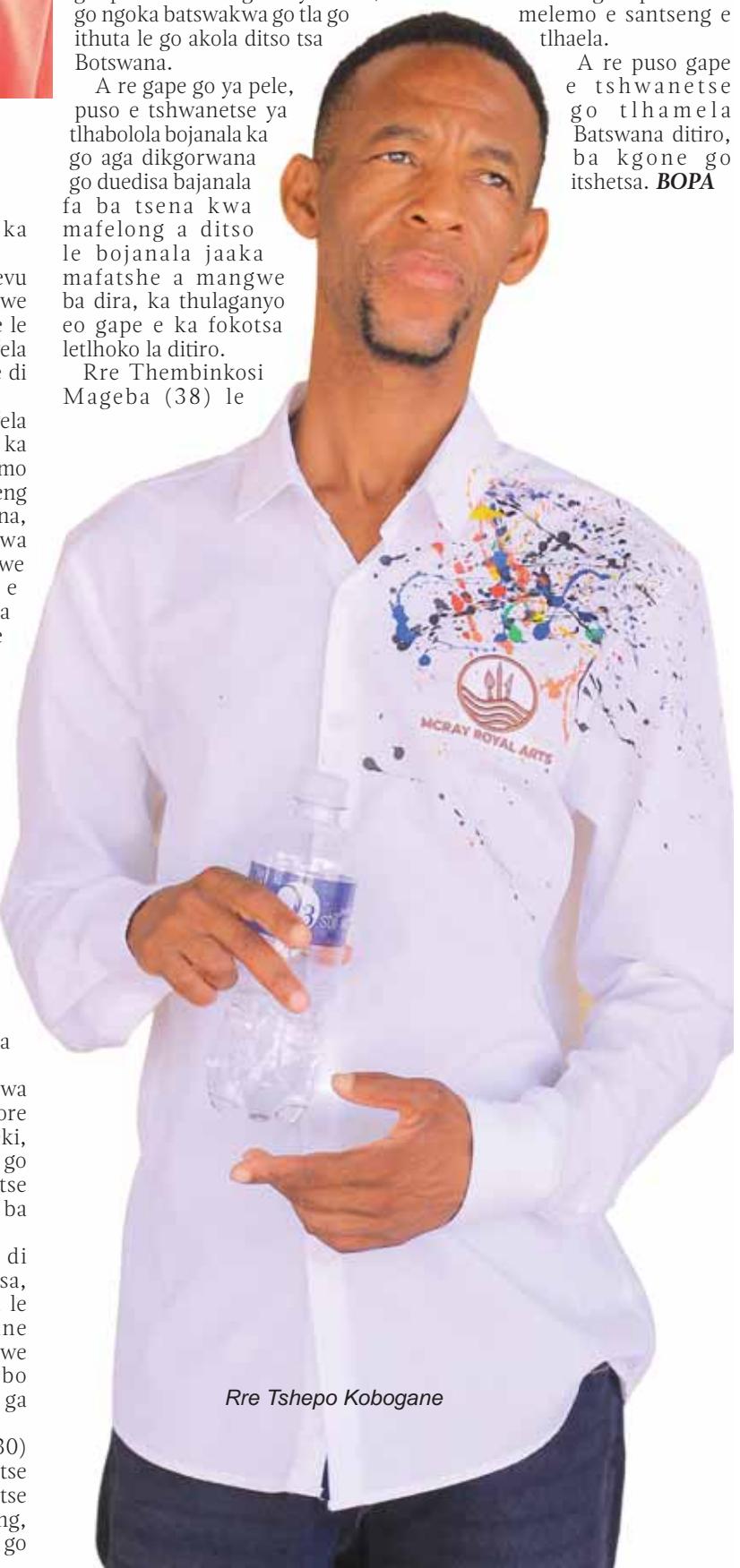
Rre Thembinkosi Mageba (38) le

mosadi wa gagwe, Mme Mercy Mageba (35) kwa Palapye ba re lefatshe leno le tshwanetse le itebaganye thata le temo thuo go kabakanya itsholelo ka e le nngwe ya tse Batswana ba e tlhaloganya e bille ba tswa kgakala le yone.

Ba re bontsi jwa Batswana ba na lefatshe le ba sa le diriseng mme puso e tshwanetse e ba rotloetse ka go dira mananeo a temo thuo a a farologaneng e bile a le bogadi bo gaufi.

Mme Pulane Kelailwe (34) le ene a le kwa Palapye a re dithuso tsa botsogo di tshwanetse tsa emelwa ka dinao, Botswana a lepalepane le mafatshe a mangwe ka itlamelo tsa botsogo, e seng seemo sa gompieno se melemeo e santseng e tlhaela.

A re puso gape e tshwanetse go tlhamela Batswana ditiro, ba kgone go itshetsa. **BOPA**



Rre Tshepo Kobogane



# TENDER NOTICE

Botswana Vaccine Institute Limited (BVI) is inviting companies to submit proposal for the below mentioned tenders.

## 1. A TENDER FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A FIVE (5) YEAR CORPORATE STRATEGY FOR BOTSWANA VACCINE INSTITUTE.

NO	TENDER REF:	DESCRIPTION:	PPRA CODE:	PROCUREMENT METHOD	COMPULSORY SITE VISIT AND DATE	TENDER CLOSING DATE & TIME
1.	BVI/CEO/36/2025-26	A tender for consultancy services for the development of a five (5) year Corporate Strategy for Botswana Vaccine Institute Limited	Code:317 Other Consultancy Services  Sub code: 01 Management Consultancy Services	Open International bidding method	There is no requirement for site visit	06 February 2026 at 10:00HRS (CAT)

## 2. A TENDER FOR THE PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE ALIGNMENT OF BOTSWANA VACCINE INSTITUTE LIMITED ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

NO	TENDER REF:	DESCRIPTION:	PPRA CODE:	PROCUREMENT METHOD	COMPULSORY SITE VISIT DATE AND TIME	TENDER CLOSING DATE & TIME
2.	BVI/HCC/37/2025-26	A tender for the provision of consultancy services for the alignment of Botswana Vaccine Institute Limited organizational structure	PPRA Code: 315 – Human Resource Services Sub code: 01 - Organization Design and Change Management and 02 – Job Evaluation, Compensation and Reward Management	Open domestic bidding method	There is no requirement for site visit	26 January 2026 at 10:00 HRS

Both tender documents will be available with effect from 05 January 2026 and will be sent to the bidders via email upon submission of proof of payment of a non-refundable fee of BWP250 (Two hundred and Fifty Pula Only) each. 100% Botswana citizen owned youth companies will pay BWP125 (**One hundred and twenty-five Pula Only**) each non-refundable fee upon submission of Identity Document (Omang) and company documentation payable to the BVI Account details provided below. Proof of payment must be emailed to [procurement@bvi.co.bw](mailto:procurement@bvi.co.bw). To access the full tender notice please visit [www.bvi-tenders.co.bw](http://www.bvi-tenders.co.bw)

The BVI banking details are as follows:

Bank: Access Bank

Branch name: Corporate

Account type: Current

Account Number: 1002533640701

Branch code: 552067

Swift code: FMBZBWGA

BOTSWANA

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# Classified Ads

REAL ESTATE | JOBS | FOR SALE | WANTED | SERVICES | LEGALS

## FARM WORKERS

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Sekokwe, Matshelagabedi, Peter Mathambo 71 244 244 Box 339 Francistown

**1 SUPERVISOR AND 2 FARM** workers are wanted in Mmamhiko call 76 928 513

**FARM WORKERS WANTED** Ref: Power Cell. 71 668 758

**FEMALE FARM WORKER WANTED.** Cattle Post (Topisi) P O Box 1289 Serowe. We require a dedicated farm worker at Moiyabana Lands to work looking after cattle and goats and assist on Moringa project. Start date 25th January 2026. Farming background a must, Phone 74489612 / 72 347 114.

**LOOKING FOR A YOUNG** Motswana female farm worker, Kopong Farm 72109778.

**MOCHUDI CENTRE CHIEFS** calls for applications for the following vacancies:

**1.) Head Coach, 2.) Goalkeeper Coach.**

Applicants for the Head Coach position must hold UEFA Pro license or equivalent or CAF A license. Applicants for the Goalkeeper Coaching position must hold CAF C or Goalkeeper Coaching Course Certificate.

Please forward your applications to: gm@mochudicentrechiefs.com.

**P O Box 492 Mochudi,** The General Manager, Mochudi Centre Chiefs Unit 2, Remmogo Crossing Gaborone.

**Deadline is 21-01-2026.**

**Kweneng International Secondary School** Honour First

**Teachers:** The following teachers are required for Form 1 to Form 5: **Business Studies (Commercial subjects), Mathematics and Sciences.**

**Qualifications:** Degree or equivalent plus a teaching qualification and accreditation from BQA.

**Experience:** Minimum of 5 years of teaching IGCSE, Verifiable records of success with past classes, ability to teach a second subject and Cambridge IGCSE teacher accreditation a big advantage.

**Send or bring C.V. to:** The Head, P. O. Box 586, Molepolole. (Lot No 1874, Masuaditshwene Ward, Molepolole)

**Closing Date: 26 January 2026**

Tel: + 267 591 5 015  
Fax: +267 591 5 016

Email: kweneng.international@gmail.com

**Kweneng International Secondary School(K.I.S.S)**

## NOTICE OF LOST TITLE DEED

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the undersigned intends to apply for a certified copy of Deed No. FT TL 140/2004 dated 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2004 made in favour of **LUCKY LETSAPA**.

**CERTAIN:** Piece of land being Tribal Lot 2726, Maun;

**SITUATE:** At Maun in the Batawana Tribal Territory;

**MEASURING:** 3240 m<sup>2</sup> (Three Thousand Two Hundred and Forty Square metres);

**AS WILL MORE** From diagram DSM No. 1631/2003 surveyed by Land Surveyor

**FULLY APPEAR:** W.M. Ratsie in August 2003 and approved by the Director of Surveys and Mapping on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of December 2003.

**WHICH PROPERTY:** is held under Memorandum of Agreement of lease no. **FT 140/2004** dated 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2004 in favour of **LUCKY LETSAPA**.

All persons having objections to the issue of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same, in writing, with the Registrar of Deeds within twenty-one days of publication.

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 18<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER 2025.**

**THANKE & PARTNERS, Associated with David Newman, Plot 32367, Donga Francistown, P.O. Box 411 AAH, Masa Centre, GABORONE, TEL: 241 6598/74790741**

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT FRANCISTOWN**

ESHFT-000281-23

## FIRST AND FINAL DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

**IN THE ESTATE** of the late **ANDREW KUMBULULU NDUBIWA** ESHFT-000281-23 who died at SEROWE, Central District on the **04/08/2023**.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY** First and Final Liquidation and Distribution Account in the above Estate will lie open for inspection at the Chambers of the Assistant Registrar and Master of the High Court Francistown for period of twenty-one (21) days from the date of the second publications thereof.

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 18<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER 2025**

Ivy Mpopi Tema  
Executor Dative  
P O BOX 3067  
Francistown

**AND TO: MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT**  
PRIVATE BAG F13  
FRANCISTOWN

## FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

Master's Ref: ESHGB-000651/23

**IN THE ESTATE** of the Late **LETLADITSWE GALEBOE** who died at Princess Marina Hospital, Gaborone, Gaborone District, Botswana on the 29th May 2005.

**THE FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT** in the Estate will lie open for inspection at the offices of the Master of the High Court at Gaborone for a period of twenty-one (21) days from the date of publication hereof. Any objection to the Estate Account may be lodged with the Master.

**DATED at .....** on the .....

The Executor  
Banya Galeboe  
P O Box 2134  
Molepolole  
Cell: 75092067/73393326/5930100

Everest Social Services  
P.O Box 353  
Mmankgodi

**Tribal Lot 4105 Segkowane Ward Kumakwane**  
phumlabp@yahoo.com  
71723996/72490746

We are Botswana's largest Oyster Mushroom producers by volume and space. We are recruiting five farm workers with a minimum of two years' experience for our growing Oyster Mushroom business. A bias is given to one who has worked or exposed to mushroom production. Integrated farm experience will be considered together with good work ethics and desire to learn. If you fit the above description, submit copies of your identities together with certificates and two recent references.

**Closing date 27 January 2026**

**FARM WORKER WANTED** 24/7  
Contact 75 500 153

**FARM WORKERS WANTED** Ref: Infraclo Cell. 71 668 758

**FARM WORKER WANTED** Ref: Organic Cell 71 668 758

**FARM WORKER NEEDED** Kgatleng (Dikwididi) Box 65 Mmopane 73705172.

**FARM WORKER WANTED** Ref: Mat-L Cell; 71 668 758

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Wildsave (Pty) Ltd, Kauxwi Village. Horticulture experience required. Apply to: kashetegreens@gmail.com, P O Box 468, Shakawe. Contact: +267 72 360 951.

**WORK AS A FARMER** in Tloaneng Farm. Call: 72 172 984, Box 707 Gabane.

**FARM WORKER WANTED** 71637779

## FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

Master's Reference  
ESHFT 0000 23-24.

**IN THE ESTATE** of the Late Lekgowa David Seth who died at Nyangagbwe Referral Hospital in Francistown District, Botswana on 10<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023.

**FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT** in the Estate will lie open for inspection at the offices of the Master of the High Court at Francistown for a period of twenty-one (21) days from the date of publication hereof.

Any objection to the Estate Account may be lodged with the Master.

**DATED** at Francistown on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023.

Dominic Botshelo

.....  
Executor  
P O Box 1287 Francistown  
75302125

## NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Masters Reference: ESHGB-000989/25

**IN THE JOINT ESTATE** of the late **JABER SHIRI** who died at Phakalane Golf Estate Plot 69278, Gaborone, Gaborone District, Botswana on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2025.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the **Debtors and Creditors** in the above Estate are **hereby required to pay their debts and file claims** of whatever nature with the undersigned **within thirty (30) days** after the publication hereof.

**DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 7<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JANUARY 2026**

The Executor Dative Samaneh Rahim  
C/O Akheel Jinabhai & Associates  
P.O Box P.O Box 20575 GABORONE  
Tel No: 316 3125

AJA LAW OFFICES OF  
AKHEEL JINABHAI & ASSOCIATES  
MCL  
DRIVING SUCCESS THROUGH LEGAL STRATEGY

AJA House, Unit 2, Matante Mews  
Plot 54373 (B), Gaborone  
P O Box 20575, Gaborone Botswana  
Plot 17396 Bolese Ward Maun, Botswana

Tel: (+267) 316 3125 Fax: (+267) 316 3124  
Email: info@aja.co.bw  
Web: www.aja.co.bw

Partner Akheel Jinabhai  
Consultant Partner Mark Nkene (F.Arb)  
Associates: Juwairiyah Maher | Khaled Khan | Lesedi Kgakololo | Gorata Major | Letiika Nikolonyane | Ame Rindo

## IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT FRANCISTOWN

ESHFT-000454-24

## FIRST AND FINAL DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

**IN THE ESTATE** of the late **ELISAH KOONTSE** ESHFT-000454-24 who died at NYANGABWE REFERAL HOSPITAL, FRANCISTOWN DISTRICT on the 19<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2020.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY** First and Final Liquidation and Distribution Account in the above Estate will lie open for inspection at the Chambers of the Assistant and Master of the High Court Francistown for period of twenty-one (21) days from the date of the second publications thereof.

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 18<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER 2025**

MOKETSI KOONTSE  
EXECUTOR DATIVE  
P O BOX 10034  
TATITOWN

**AND TO:** Master of the High Court  
Private Bag F13  
FRANCISTOWN

## IT Specialist (Forensics)

## JOB ADVERTISEMENT

Firm in Francistown seeks Digital Forensics Expert With proven experience in Autopsy Triage, Red HatLinux, and related forensic analysis tools.

### Requirements:

Diploma/Degree in Network & Digital Forensics  
Autopsy & Basic Hands-on Certificate (essential)

Apply to: The Director, P.O. Box 3275, Francistown  
Email: info@pabalingalaw.com

**Closing Date: 17 JANUARY 2026**

Ref: 100235 |

## NOTICE OF LOST DEED

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned intends to apply for a certified copy of deed No. 276/1990 dated 15<sup>th</sup> August 1990 made in favor of Kgomoito Karabo Pule in respect of:

Certain: Piece of land being tribal grant no 242;

Situate: at Thamatlhogo ward Kanye in the Bangwaketse tribal territory

Measuring: 1652m<sup>2</sup> (One thousand six hundred and fifty two square meters)

Held number: deed no 276/1990

All persons having objections to the issuance of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same, in writing, with the register of deeds Gaborone within three (3) weeks from publication of this notice.

Address: P O Box 1908 Gaborone.

**FARM WORKER WANTED** box 249 Ghanzi call Mr C. Ditshwene 72705533

**LOOKING FOR A FARM WORKER** in Tlokweng. Address to P.O Box 301502 Tlokweng

**WANTED: FARM WORKERS** at Gakuto. Apply : Seabo Moses, Box 21781 Gaborone. Closing date : 27/01/2026

**FARM WORKER WANTED** in Samedupe. Apply to Mr Ntshuke P O Box 20362 Boleja Maun. Closing date 26/01/2026

**FARM WORKERS WANTED** in Lesoma 256. Apply to David Kalundu P O Box 60 Kasane. Closing date 26/01/2026

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Dorsland farm, location NL165 Kuke. Apply to Box 54 Ghanzi

**GENERAL HERDBOY WANTED.** General full-time herdboy wanted at Ratshweu cattle post. Apply to: P O Box 2362 Mochudi, Call Nurse Modimakwane: 71 679 793.

## NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

**NEIGHBOURS OF PLOT** in Bolamba ward, Bobonong owned by Botho Ivy Sanoto wishes to change landuse from residential to self catering lodge. Contact Bobonong Council (2619274) in 14 days of this notice.

**LEKHUBU KMG PTY LTD.** Change of land use from mixed agriculture to commercial tourism at Lathapeo Zoroga. Any objections call Tutume Physical Planning or 71 303 676.

**NEIGHBOURS OF PLOT 7292** Tlokweng, Maratanang, owner wishes to build boundary wall. Contact council on 369 5018 for any objection.

**OWNER OF PLOT No 987** Mmopane intends to change land use from residential to multifamily. For any objection contact Mogoditshane-Thamaga District Council Physical Planning office within 14 days of this notice.

<b

## NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

**OWNER OF PLOT No. 10170**  
Botshabelo Tlokweng informs neighbours that he would like to erect a boundary wall. Any objections should be forwarded to Tlokweng District Council Physical Planning Office within fourteen (14) days from this publication.

**KEONEILWE OF PLOT 12173,**  
Mogoditshane Ledumadumane wishes to inform neighbors about change of land use to multi-residential. Call +267 76 620 303 for any objections.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**LOSS TANZANIA PASSPORT TAE 638787**, found please send to nearest Police Station, Call +267 71 571 212.

## PROPERTIES

**HOUSE / PLOT WANTED:**  
Gaborone, Lobatse, Phakalane : 72 338 834

**PLOT FOR SALE:** Seuwane : 85k 75901179

## TUITION

**STEP BY STEP DAY CARE & Pre- School (English Medium)**  
Registration now open!! We provide: Breakfast & Lunch, Computers & Swimming, Music & Educational Trips. To Register Contact: 392 3569/ 72172365/ 71577447

## VACANCIES

**PG7 (PTY) LTD REQUIRED 2X**  
Executive chefs, 2X Senior chefs, Hospitality Technical Specialist, with certificate in Hospitality Management. 5- 10 years work in hospitality management industry. Apply to The Manager, P/ Bag A435 AEH Gaborone. Closing 29/01/2026.

**BLACK LIONS** REQUIRES the services of international professional players. We require strikers, midfielders and defenders. National CAPS are added advantage. Send CV, videos highlights to botsmots@gmail.com or teammanager@blacklionssportsgroup.com

**BRANCH MINISTRIES TRUST** is seeking a Pastor to oversee Christian community, sports, program, supervisory experience, book keeping, public speaking, biblical qualificationS, experiece coaching large groups of children. Please send response to Branch Ministries. P.O. Box 2487 Selebi-Phikwe

**WORK VACANCY BWX LINKS** is looking for a qualified and experienced individual in running track installation. Interested candidates should send their CV to david@bwxlinks.co.bw or contact 71 694 111.

**VISION EDUCATION (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED**  
Amalgamed into  
**AP DEVELOPERS (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED**

of Tribal Grant 1335 - KP in Mmatshipa Wishes to change land Use from integrated farm to Commercial, owners of neighbouring plots are to contact **Kgatleng District Council, Physical planning Department on 5777411 or 5777412 for any Queries within 14(Fourteen) days of this Publication.**

## LOST DEED OF TRANSFER

NOTICE is hereby given that we intend applying for a certified copy of Deed of Fixed Period State Grant No. 2603/2013 dated 19th December 2013 made in favour of Peter Tladi in respect of:

**CERTAIN:** piece of land being Lot 1560, Gaborone;  
**SITUATE:** in the Gaborone Township Extension 7;

**MEASURING:** 465m<sup>2</sup> (Four Hundred and Sixty Five square metres)

**SUBJECT:** to the conditions and reservations contained in the aforesaid Deed.

All persons having objection to the use of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds within three (3) weeks from the last publication of this notice.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 08 DAY OF JANUARY 2025.

RESEGO SETSHOGO c/o | AKOONYATSE LAW FIRM  
Plot 398, Extension 4 | Kgasa Close Opposite Lesedi Hall  
P O Box 25058, Gaborone | Tel No. 3937360 | Fax No. 3937350 | Email: tuelo@akoonyatselaw.com

## NEXT OF KIN MEETING

**ESTATE NO. ESHGB 001499/2025**

**IN THE ESTATE LATE KEGALALWE GASENNELWE**

**IN PURSUANCE** of Section 31 of the Administration of Estates Act (Cap 31:01), the heirs and Next of Kin of the deceased persons specified below are hereby invited to attend a Next of Kin meeting on **5<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 0930 hours** before - **Silibaziso Daramola** at the Office of the Master located at Gaborone.

At the respective meeting, the next of kin meeting are to recommend person(s) to be appointed as Executor(s) Executrices Dative, identify beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to the estate of their deceased relative.

For more information concerning the deceased person's estate, please contact the Masters Office at 371 8083, 371 8343 or switchboard 371 8000.

## NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS ADMINISTRATION OF Estates Act [Cap 31:01]

**NOTICE IS HEREBY** given that by virtue of section 31 of the Administration of Estates Act (Cap: 33:01), heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all persons having claims against the above estate, are being called upon to attend before the Master of The High Court at Francistown High Court on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for the purposes of recommending for appointment, a person or persons as Executor/ Executrix Dative as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their deceased relative.

Name of Deceased Person Estate Number Date Of Meeting Time Master  
MOSES SERUMOLA ESHFT-000852-25 07-04-2026 0900HRS SARM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 18TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2025

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

## Join the NIS family!

Register now & find out how to save!



Pre-School

Siblings 2nd Child = 5%  
 3rd Child = 10%  
 4th Child = 15%  
Ts & Cs Apply

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Ts & Cs Apply 3900261 / 76345042 / 74166328

## MILLENNIUM INSURANCE AGENCY IS LOOKING FOR CANDIDATES FOR THE POSITION OF INSURANCE AGENT.

## Requirements:

- Certificate of Proficiency (COP) in Long Term & Short term Insurance
- Minimum of 1 year relevant work experience
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to work independently and meet sales targets
- Good customer service skills

## How to Apply:

Interested candidates should contact 74 184 849 or submit their applications to: P.O. Box 118, Gaborone

Closing Date -26 January 2026

## NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS

Administration of Estates Act

(Cap 31:01)

**NOTICE IS HEREBY** given that by virtue of section 31 of the Administration of Estates Act (Cap. 33:01), heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all persons having claims against the above estate, are being called upon to attend before the Master of the High Court at Francistown High Court on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for purposes of recommending for appointment, a person or persons as Executor/ Executrix Dative as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their deceased relative.

Name of Deceased Person Estate Number Date of Meeting Time Master  
GEORGE KING ESHFT-001082-25 02-04-26 0900HRS SARM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 16<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER 2025

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

## NOTICE OF NEXT OF KEEN MEETING FOR THE LATE MMABONTLE KENOSI

**IN PURSUANCE** of Section 31 of the Administration of Estates Act (Cap 31:01), the heirs and next of kin of the deceased persons specified above are hereby invited to attend a next of kin meeting on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 0830 hours** at the Office of the Master – Silibaziso Daramola located at the Gaborone High Court Division.

At the respective meeting, the next of kin are to recommend person(s) to be appointed as Executor(s)/Executrices Dative, Identify beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to the estate of their deceased relative.

For any enquiries concerning the deceased person's estate please contact the Master's Office on 3718343, or 3718000/3718040 (switchboard).

## NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS

Administration of Estates Act

(Cap 31:01)

**NOTICE IS HEREBY** given that by virtue of section 31 of the Administration of Estates Act (Cap. 33:01), heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all persons having claims against the above estate, are being called upon to attend before the Master of the High Court at Francistown High Court on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for purposes of recommending for appointment, a person or persons as Executor/ Executrix Dative as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their deceased relative.

Name of Deceased Person Estate Number Date of Meeting Time Master  
SEREBOLO LEBAKENG ESHFT-000378-24-25 05-02-2026 0900HRS SARM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS DAY OF DECEMBER 2025

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

## NEXT OF KIN MEETING

ESTATE NO. ESHGB -E51/2003

**IN THE ESTATE LATE BEN GASENNELWE**

**IN PURSUANCE** of Section 31 of the Administration of Estates Act (Cap 31:01), the heirs and Next of Kin of the deceased persons specified below are hereby invited to attend a Next of Kin meeting on **5<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 0930 hours** before - **Silibaziso Daramola** at the Office of the Master located at Gaborone.

At the respective meeting, the next of kin meeting are to recommend person(s) to be appointed as Executor(s) Executrices Dative, identify beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to the estate of their deceased relative.

For more information concerning the deceased person's estate, please contact the Masters Office at 371 8083, 371 8343 or switchboard 371 8000.

## REAL VALUE INSURANCE AGENCY IS HIRING:

## POSITION: TRAINEE INSURANCE CONSULTANTS

## REQUIREMENTS:

- Botswana Citizen
- BGCSE Certificate
- Any Tertiary Qualification
- COP Long Term a prerequisite
- Driver's License would be an added advantage
- Highly motivated and dedicated

## COMPENSATION

- Commission based and highly competitive

## OUR ENVIRONMENT

- Ongoing Product, Sales and Compliance Training
- Lead generation and client acquisition support systems

SEND APPLICATIONS TO  
CONTACT NUMBER

: hr@realvalue.co.bw  
: 71 858 233

Applications deadline: 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## DailyNews



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365 3500

## APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF LANDUSE

KEDIBONYE PHEKO, OWNER OF TRIBAL LOT 1879, RASESA, INFORMS THE PUBLIC ABOUT CHANGE OF LAND USE FROM SINGLE FAMILY DEVELOPMENT TO MULTI-FAMILY DEVELOPMENT.

FOR ANY OBJECTIONS, CONTACT KGATLENG DISTRICT COUNCIL, PHYSICAL PLANNING OFFICE AT TELEPHONE NO. 5777411/ 5773512 WITHIN FOURTEEN (14) DAYS OF PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

## NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS

Administration of Estates Act (Cap.32.01)

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that by virtue of **section 31** of the **Administration of Estates Act (Cap : 33 : 01)** heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all persons having claims against the above estate, are being called upon to attend before the **Master of the High Court at Maun High Court** on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for purposes of recommending for appointment, a person or persons as **Executor/Executrix Dative** as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their deceased relative.

Name of Deceased Person Estate Number Date of Meeting Time  
1. Losika Molefhi ESHMH -000098-25 04/02/2026 11:00Hrs

DATED AT MAUN THIS 18 DAY OF NOV 2025

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT



THUSANYO FUNERAL UNDERTAKERS  
"Trust In Us We Care"

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05<sup>th</sup> January 2026

POST: Procurement and Supplies Officer- Vacancy No. 1 of 2026 (1)

### Procurement and Supplies Officer

#### 1. Job Purpose

To manage the end-to-end procurement and supply chain for the company, ensuring the timely, cost-effective, and dignified availability of all materials and services. This role is vital for maintaining the highest standards of care and support for bereaved families while ensuring operational efficiency and strict adherence to budgetary and regulatory guidelines in the Botswana context.

#### 2. Key Responsibilities

- Procurement & Sourcing
- Budgeting
- Asset disposal/Asset Management
- Preparation and submission of procurement reports
- Inventory & stock control
- Logistics & Administration
- Compliance & Ethics

#### 3. Person Specification

##### Qualifications & Experience:

- A minimum of a Diploma in Procurement, Supply Chain Management, Business Administration, or a related field. A professional certification (e.g., CIPS) is an advantage.
- A minimum of 2-3 years of experience in a procurement or inventory management role.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite (especially Excel) and experience with inventory management software (SAGE software).

#### Skills & Competencies:

- **Strong Negotiation & numerical Skills:** Ability to secure cost savings without compromising quality.
- **Excellent Planning & Organisation:** Meticulous attention to detail and ability to

**JAMES KGETHIWA MOLOKOMME, OWNER OF PLOT 1660, METLHABENG, TLOKWENG** wishes to change land use from single-family to multi-family residential and to erect a boundary wall on the said premises.

Any objections should be forwarded to the Tlokweng District Council Physical Planning Officer or Call Telephone **NO. 3695000**, within fourteen (14) days from publication of this notice.

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## QUALIFICATIONS:

Measurement and Control Technology and Instruments ,Bachelor's degree  
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## NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS

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NOTICE IS HEREBY given that by virtue of **section 31** of the **Administration of Estates Act (Cap.31:01)**, heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all persons having claims against the above estate, are being called upon to attend before the **Master of the High Court at Francistown High Court on the date and time specified** opposite the names of their deceased relatives for purposes of recommending for appointment, a person or persons as Executor/Executrix Dative as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their deceased relative.

Name of Deceased Person Estate Number Date of Meeting Time Master  
THEBEETSLIE DERPS MOSINYI ESHFT-000780-25 09/04/26 0900HRS SARM

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 08TH DAY OF JANUARY 2026

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

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## VACANCY: CLASSTEACHER

Emmanuel Adventist Academy is inviting applications from suitably qualified and experienced individuals for a post of a class teacher.

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- 2) At least five years of teaching experience. And should have taught in the Middle or Lower primary school.
- 3) Should be conversant with the Adventist philosophy of Education, values and Adventurer Club curriculum.

## Applications should be accompanied by:

- Cover letter
- CV with contact details of three referees (preferably former/current supervisors and church Pastor/Elder)
- Certified copies of educational/professional certificates
- Certified copy of ID/Passport

Applications should be hand delivered or emailed as a single PDF file to:

**Addressed to the Principal**

Emmanuel Adventist Academy

Private Bag 70, Molepolole

Email: eaasbc@gmail.com | Contacts: 5910190

**Closing Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026**

**NB: Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted**

# Wildfires damage buildings and displace thousands

## CAPE TOWN

South Africa's Western Cape was still grappling with several wildfires across the province on Sunday, with some blazes remaining out of control while others had been extinguished. The Cape Winelands District Municipality said a wildfire that broke out on Wednesday in Franschhoek, a popular tourist town about 75km from Cape Town, continued to 'burn out of control'. In a statement issued on Sunday, the municipality said the fire spread rapidly down the mountain across a large area on Saturday night, threatening surrounding farms along the Wemmershoek Road.

"Firefighting efforts, including aerial resources, focused primarily on structure protection. The fire later shifted back toward the R45, where recognized firefighting techniques, including backburns, were implemented," it said.

"Unfortunately, the fire claimed one building structure, damaged another and destroyed a tractor. No injuries have been reported," it added.

Meanwhile, in Cape Town, more than 5 000 people have been left homeless after a blaze tore through an informal settlement in the township of Dunoon.

Authorities said it was believed to be the largest informal settlement fire in the Western Cape since

2013. Cape Town Mayor Geordin Hill-Lewis said the fire was eventually extinguished on Friday night and that 'city staff are currently giving various forms of support to affected residents'.

Progress has also been made in containing wildfires in the Overstrand Municipality, where evacuations were ordered on Saturday.

"The Pearly Beach Fire Crew made good progress overnight along the border of Groeneweide and Panorama. The left flank's active fire line has been contained, and mop-up operations will now continue," Overstrand Municipal Manager Dean O'Neill said in an update on Sunday.

"On the seaside of Pearly Beach, there are no active fire lines at this stage, and there is no threat to houses," he said.

"The fuel load remains high in dense alien vegetation, which is conducive to flare-ups under strong wind conditions."

Firefighters and landowners will remain on high alert for any signs of smoke or flames," he added. However, O'Neill said the fire in Stanford Village remained challenging, with renewed efforts focusing on inaccessible old vegetation where active fire lines were persisting. "All roads are open," he said.

"However, roads may close at short notice if conditions change."

Xinhua



A total of 62 people were killed and 81 injured as a result of wildlife attacks in Zimbabwe last year.

## Human-wildlife conflicts result in 62 deaths last year

### HARARE

A total of 62 people were killed and 81 injured as a result of wildlife attacks in Zimbabwe in 2025, according to the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority (ZimParks).

Hyenas, crocodiles and elephants remained the most frequently reported problem animals, underscoring the need to scale up preventive measures, state broadcaster Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation on Saturday quoted ZimParks Spokesperson Tamirirashe Mudzingwa as saying. He said in 2025, a total of

556 problem animals were neutralised to mitigate the challenge of human-wildlife conflict, mostly recorded in wildlife-rich districts.

According to ZimParks, in 2024, 49 people were killed and 90 were injured in human-wildlife conflicts. Mudzingwa said the increase in human-wildlife conflict reflected both growing wildlife populations and improved reporting mechanisms within communities.

Authorities observed that human-wildlife conflict in Zimbabwe was primarily driven by habitat loss, growing human and wildlife populations, climate change-induced resource scarcity, and ex-

panding settlements into wildlife areas, forcing animals like elephants, lions, and hyenas into closer contact with people for food and water, leading to crop and livestock losses, injuries, and fatalities.

Amid rising human-wildlife conflicts, the Zimbabwean government last year established a human-wildlife conflict relief mechanism to support affected communities.

Zimbabwe is home to an abundance of wildlife, including giraffes, zebras, antelopes, crocodiles, and hippopotamuses, and hosts Africa's second-largest elephant population after Botswana. Xinhua



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# China and Lesotho advance partnership

## MASERU

Lesotho and China have reaffirmed their commitment to advancing bilateral strategic partnership to a higher level and making it a model of friendly exchanges and common development between countries with different national conditions and systems, according to a joint press communique released on Sunday.

The communique was issued following talks between Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and Lesotho's Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Relations Lejone Mpotjoana in Maseru.

Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, visited the southern African country on Saturday and Sunday, during which he met with his counterpart, Mpotjoana.

The ministers spoke highly of the achievements in the development of bilateral relations, the communique said, adding that the two sides agreed to firmly support each other on issues involving their respective core interests and major concerns.

Lesotho supports the four major initiatives proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping and commends them for injecting stability and certainty into a turbulent world, said the communique.

Lesotho reaffirmed its firm commitment to the one-China principle and recognition that there is but one China in the world, Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory, and the government of the People's Republic of China was the

sole legal government representing the whole of China.

China applauds the new progress Lesotho continued to make in its national reform process and supported Lesotho in upholding its national sovereignty, security, and development interests, according to the communique.

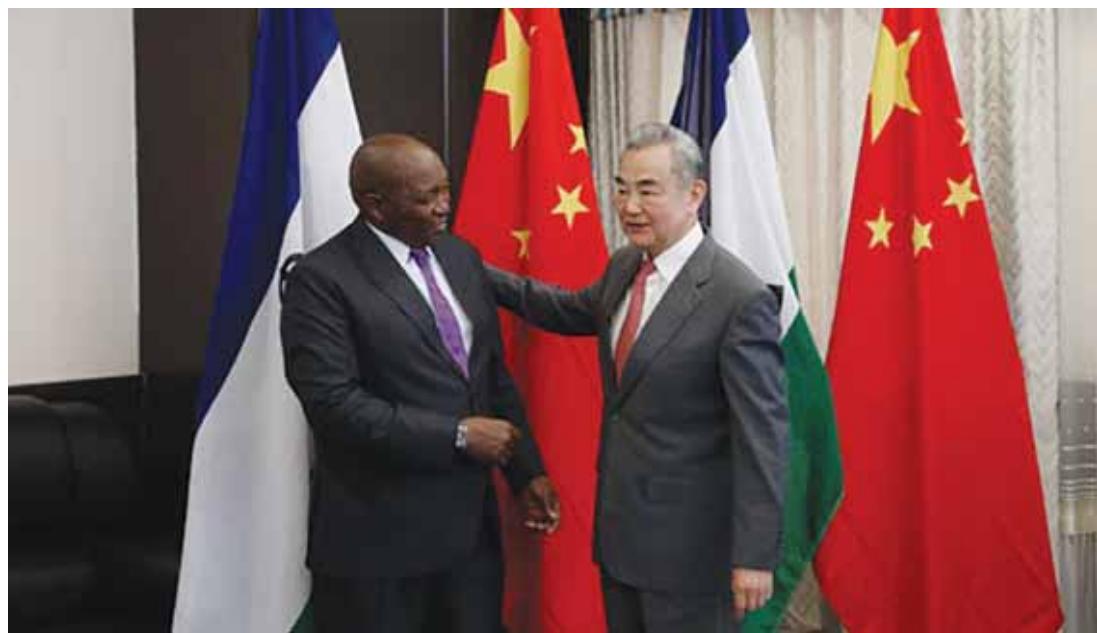
The two sides stressed that promoting human rights was a common cause for all humanity, and exchanges and cooperation on human rights should be carried out based on mutual respect and equality.

Both sides opposed politicising, weaponising, and applying double standards to human rights issues and opposed interference in the internal affairs of the two countries under the pretext of human rights.

The ministers highlighted the important outcomes achieved in 10 partnership actions China and Africa have jointly taken to advance modernisation. They shared the belief that changes unseen in a century are accelerating, and Global South countries were playing an increasingly important role in international affairs.

The two sides reaffirmed their commitment to close collaboration to jointly oppose unilateral sanctions, protectionism and economic hegemonism, promote an equal and orderly multipolar world and universally beneficial and inclusive economic globalization, establish a more just and equitable global governance system, and build lasting peace, universal security, and shared prosperity, the communique said.

**Xinhua**



MASERU - Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi (right), also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, meeting with Lesotho Prime Minister Sam Matekane in Lesotho. The ministers spoke highly of the achievements in the development of bilateral relations. Photo: Xinhua

## Firm to build largest combined solar and battery storage project in Egypt

### CAIRO

Egypt on Sunday signed an agreement with Norwegian firm Scatec to build a massive renewable energy complex, which the company said would

be the largest combined solar and battery storage installation in Africa.

The "Energy Valley" project, located in the Suez Canal Economic Zone (SCZone), includes a 1.95-gigawatt solar power plant and a 3.9-gigawatt-

hour battery energy storage system, Scatec said in a press release, adding that the project would be capable of delivering 24-hour-a-day clean electricity, generating an estimated 6 000 gigawatt-hours annually. Xinhua



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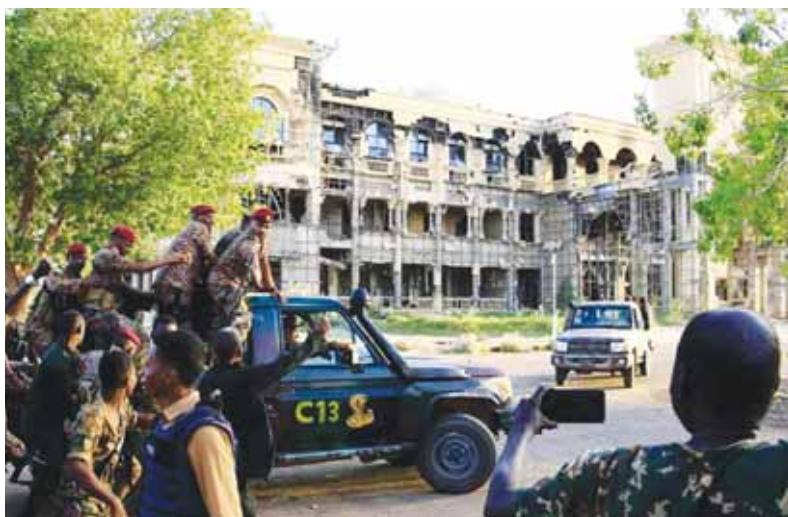


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*KHARTOUM - Abdel Fattah Al-Burhan, chairperson of Sudan's Transitional Sovereign Council and commander of the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), departing from the Presidential Palace in Sudan. The Sudanese government on Sunday announced its work priorities after officially resuming operations in the capital, placing peace, public security, livelihoods, restoration of state institutions and basic services at the top of its agenda. Photo: Xinhua*



## Sudanese govt sets work priorities after returns

### KHARTOUM

The Sudanese government on Sunday announced its work priorities after officially resuming operations in the capital, Khartoum, placing peace, public security, livelihoods, restoration of state institutions and basic services at the top of its agenda.

Speaking to reporters at the Khartoum State government headquarters, Prime Minister Kamil Idris said peace was a primary objective of the government.

"What we seek is a peace that Sudanese people accept, in the context of a war that was imposed on the country," he said.

He said that despite challenges,

government would prioritise citizens' livelihoods and security while enhancing basic services, including expanding healthcare facilities, reopening universities on schedule, and extending access to water and electricity.

On the economic front, the prime minister said government would prioritise agriculture development, rehabilitate slaughterhouses, build a new airport, and establish an integrated export-oriented city.

Khartoum State governor Ahmed Osman Hamza told reporters that the central government's return signals the capital was ready to receive its residents, urging them to return and participate in rebuilding.

The government's return is

part of official efforts to restore administrative functions and public services to Khartoum, following recent announcements of plans to gradually reinstate state institutions.

The Sudanese government relocated to Port Sudan in late April 2023, days after fighting broke out in Khartoum between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF).

The conflict has left tens of thousands dead and millions displaced, both inside Sudan and across its borders.

In May 2025, SAF declared Khartoum State cleared of RSF forces, paving way for the city to gradually reclaim public spaces and resume normal life. **Xinhua**

## Namibia urges miners to promote beneficiation and inclusive growth

### WINDHOEK

called for policy measures that enabled local miners to legally own, develop, and benefit from the country's mineral resources.

Mutero raised concerns about restrictions on the use of modern mining equipment in areas classified as mining claims, saying such limitations negatively affected productivity among small-scale miners while advocating for regulated modern mining techniques that complied with environmental management and safety standards.

The consultations on Jan. 7 with the Emerging Mining Association of Namibia (EMAN) are part of the government's strategy to strengthen the mineral value chain by incorporating input from smaller operators and supporting inclusive, long-term sector development.

Addressing the meeting, Minister of Industries, Mines, and Energy Modestus Amutse said sustainable development of the mining sector depended on close collaboration between government and industry stakeholders, noting that practical experience from miners was essential for shaping effective policies.

"The development of Namibia's mining sector cannot be achieved by government alone," Amutse said, adding that engagement with industry participants ensured that value-addition strategies were realistic and responsive to conditions on the ground.

EMAN President Thekla Mutero said emerging miners were ready to contribute more meaningfully to the sector and



## BENEFICIARY ASSESSMENT NOTICE

### CALL FOR BENEFICIARIES - DEATH BENEFITS CLAIMS

In line with the provisions of the Retirement Funds Act (2022) (the Act) which require retirement funds administrators to trace beneficiaries of death claims, NMG Administrators Botswana is currently assessing beneficiaries for deceased members of the Botswana Public Officers Pension Fund listed below. Therefore, all possible beneficiaries/dependants should liaise with the Administrator. This is to ensure that all beneficiaries or dependants are known and considered by the Trustees in apportioning the Death Benefits in pursuit of their fiduciary responsibility.

Kindly contact NMG Administrators Botswana within 14 days from the date of this Publication.

MEMBER NAME	EXIT DATE	MEMBERSHIP STATUS	MEMBER NAME	EXIT DATE	MEMBERSHIP STATUS
Molimisi Balesamang	23/09/2025	Active	Lehe L Mhaladi	20/08/2023	Active
Katsenyana Bokokwe	30/12/2021	Active	Kanayane Molebatsi	03/09/2025	Active
Cynthia S Gondo	05/09/2025	Active	John Molotsi	09/12/2025	Pensioner
Mpho Habana	10/10/2025	Active	Gabriel Mothati	07/11/2025	Pensioner
Jankie N Joseph	26/07/2025	Active	Onthusitse Mothibi	29/10/2025	Active
Bashi Kasome	24/07/2021	Active	Letsogile Motsumi	04/01/2026	Active
Gabaratane Keakwala	06/12/2025	Active	Mamokwena A Nkabuile	01/08/2025	Active
Maipelo Kobe	29/06/2025	Active	Molosiwa M Resheng	21/09/2025	Active
Lesego L Lepale	06/04/2024	Active	Kagiso Selebogo	07/05/2025	Active
Facility Majumane	13/08/2025	Active	Letsebe Tina Seswati	29/01/2019	Deferred
Johannes Makhura	06/06/2025	Active	Kgomotsegoo Tau	19/09/2025	Active
Buyani Maphuru	23/10/2025	Active	Pilot Thabologo	07/07/2019	Deferred
Resego Mariri	04/10/2025	Active	Karabo Tshweneyame	24/09/2025	Active
Wabone Matlhodi	18/02/2025	Active			

Please contact NMG Administrators Botswana at: +267 318 6820 / 241 2562 / 588 1236 / 686 0597 or Toll Free: 0800 600 177



**DAR ES SALAAM** - Water shortages and rising temperatures have gripped much of Dar es Salaam and the neighbouring Coast Region since early December. The Dar es Salaam Water Supply and Sanitation Authority attributed the shortage to sharply reduced water levels in the Ruvu River caused by the delayed rainfall following an extended dry spell. Photo: Xinhua

## Water shortages and rising temperatures test Tanzania climate resilience

### DARES SALAAM

Prisca Ntaula, the mother of a seven-year-old boy, has not slept properly for weeks.

A resident of Temboni on the outskirts of Dar es Salaam, now spends most of her days and nights thinking about where to find water.

For nearly three weeks, taps in her neighbourhood have run dry, forcing her into a daily struggle to secure enough water for drinking, cooking and basic hygiene.

"Since the water shortage began, I have spent most of my time searching for water," Ntaula said, her voice heavy with exhaustion.

"I have stopped washing clothes altogether. The little I get, about 10 to 20 litres, is only for drinking and cooking. If this continues, we may start seeing outbreaks of diseases like cholera," said the single parent.

The burden is compounded by soaring prices.

According to Ntaula, the cost of a 1 000-litre water delivery has risen from about US\$8.2 to about US\$11.7 in just a few weeks, putting water increasingly out of reach for low-income households.

Ntaula said she had already exhausted the money she had saved to enroll her son in school in January 2026.

"I have spent all my money buying water," said Ntaula, a food vendor.

Rising temperatures have made the situation even more unbearable.

"Because of the heat, my son and I have almost spent sleepless nights. Even when you manage to find water, the heat drains you."

Ntaula's experience mirrors that of millions of residents across Dar es Salaam, a bustling port city of more than 5.3 million people.

Prolonged dry conditions and intensifying heat have reduced flows in the Ruvu River, the city's primary source of domestic and industrial water, turning daily life into a relentless search for an increasingly scarce resource.

From dawn to dusk, residents clutching yellow jerry cans line up at boreholes, while water bowsers

rumble through neighborhoods, chased by desperate customers.

The crisis began in early December after the Dar es Salaam Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (DAWASA) warned of major supply disruptions across much of the city and the neighbouring Coast Region.

On November 6, DAWASA attributed the shortages to sharply reduced water levels in the Ruvu River caused by delayed rainfall following an extended dry spell.

Production at the Lower Ruvu water treatment plant fell well below normal levels, cutting supplies to large sections of the city.

"Water service shortages have occurred in many areas due to reduced production linked to the drop in the Ruvu River's water level following delayed rains," DAWASA said.

To cushion the impact, DAWASA, working with the Ministry of Water, imposed restrictions on the use of Ruvu River water for agriculture and prioritized human consumption.

Groundwater wells across the city were rehabilitated and connected to the network to supplement the supply.

Even so, the measures have struggled to meet surging demand.

The shortages have also reshaped Dar es Salaam's informal water economy.

For vendors like Novatus Kimaro, demand has surged sharply, bringing brisk business but also raising concerns about affordability.

"Since the shortage began, I raised the price of a 1,000-litre water bowser from 20,000 shillings to 30,000 shillings," Kimaro said as his phone rang repeatedly with customer orders.

"The price increase has not stopped anyone. I get calls from morning until night." Behind the water crisis lies an intense heatwave gripping large parts of Tanzania.

Meteorological data from late November showed unusually high readings across the country.

Moshi station in the Kilimanjaro Region recorded a maximum temperature of 35.7 degrees Celsius on November 21, about 4.2 degrees above the seasonal average. **Xinhua**

TMA said high atmospheric moisture, especially along the coast due to evaporation from the Indian Ocean, has intensified heat stress.

While December rains were expected to ease heat and water stress in some regions, authorities urged the public to closely monitor weather updates and heed advisories.

On December 13, DAWASA introduced a water rationing schedule for Dar es Salaam, calling on residents to conserve available supplies strictly for essential use.

As the parched Ruvu River and relentless heat strain urban life, concerns are also growing over broader food security risks.

On December 15, Tanzania Prime Minister Mwigulu Nchomba urged citizens to conserve food stocks and avoid waste amid delays in the onset of the rainy season.

He cited forecasts indicating below-average rainfall in several regions, marked by prolonged dry spells and uneven distribution.

The government has also stepped up long-term investments to strengthen water security.

On December 29, Nchomba directed the Ministry of Water to fast-track completion of the Kidunda Dam, valued at about US\$136 million and currently 40 per cent complete.

Minister of Water Jumaa Aweso said climate change had sharply reduced water production by DAWASA from 534 600 cubic metres per day to 270 000 cubic metres, a shortfall of 264 600 cubic metres daily.

To mitigate the situation, Aweso said the government had rehabilitated and connected boreholes within DAWASA's service area and restored the Ruvu River to its natural course at Kitomondo.

For residents like Prisca Ntaula, these projects offer hope, but relief feels distant.

As water scarcity, rising temperatures, and food security concerns converge, Tanzania's largest city is confronting the daily realities of climate change, one bucket of water at a time. **Xinhua**

## Donation cheers mothers in Zambia

### LUSAKA

As early as 7am, Katherine Ngulube, a 23-year-old mother of two from Lusaka, is already preparing to collect a free food hamper for her family.

"I want to ensure that I am among the first to receive a hamper," said Ngulube, placing her seven-month-old baby on her lap.

A resident of Chaisa Compound, one of Lusaka's low-income settlements, Ngulube's family was among more than 100 vulnerable households that received food hampers on Friday through an initiative supported by the Chinese Ladies Association in Zambia (CLAZ).

"This donation has come at the right time, as most vulnerable households like mine are struggling to provide for our younger children due to a lack of resources," she said after receiving a food hamper.

"I hope for more support in the area of livelihood strengthening for women like me to improve our situation."

Each food hamper included a bottle of cooking oil, packets of sugar, packs of soy pieces, and a variety of cookies, offering a balanced and nutritious supplement for children and their families.

For many vulnerable and low-income households in Zambia, access to adequate food remains a daily challenge, often leading to malnutrition, particularly among young children.

Faustina Munshya, a 36-year-

old mother of three children, also shared her joy and expressed gratitude for the timely donation.

"It will greatly help in supplementing my family's food needs," she said.

The donation, coordinated by the Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP) Zambia Chapter, benefited over 200 children aged under five. During the handover ceremony, WFWP Zambia Chapter president Annie Mwale thanked CLAZ for its support in promoting the welfare of vulnerable homes through food assistance.

"We are immensely grateful to the Chinese Ladies Association for their partnership with us in making a positive impact on the lives of the less privileged in our society. This donation will go a long way in ensuring that targeted children receive the much-needed food," Mwale said.

She added that WFWP Zambia's food supplement programme, which has been running for over five years, targeted households with malnourished children, who were prioritised as beneficiaries of the food hampers.

CLAZ president Liu Guifen acknowledged WFWP Zambia's work in supporting vulnerable women and addressing the needs of malnourished children.

"We are glad to take part in this initiative and recognize the practical impact WFWP Zambia has made in assisting women and children in need," Liu said. **Xinhua**

## Duo vows to implement FOCAC Beijing Summit outcomes

### ADDIS ABABA

China's foreign minister Wang Yi recently met with Ethiopia's Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and minister of foreign affairs, Gedion Timothewos in Addis Ababa, with both sides pledging to jointly advance the implementation of the outcomes of the Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC).

In a joint press release, both sides agreed to deepen all-round cooperation and strive to build the China-Ethiopia all-weather strategic partnership as a model for building an all-weather China-Africa community with a shared future for the new era.

They pledged to deepen cooperation in traditional areas, including economy, trade, infrastructure, energy, transportation, and justice, tap the potential for collaboration in emerging areas such as e-commerce, digital economy, artificial intelligence, and green energy, and expand cooperation in culture, tourism, media, education, and think tanks.

They highlighted their willingness to take the 2026 China-Africa Year

of People-to-People Exchanges as an opportunity to promote people-to-people exchanges for closer bonds through culture and art.

They are willing to strengthen the alignment of development strategies and policies, deepen exchanges on governance experience and jointly advance on the path to modernisation, according to the press release.

Ethiopia reiterated its steadfast adherence to the one-China principle, reaffirming that there was but one China in the world, Taiwan was an inalienable part of China's territory, and the government of the People's Republic of China was the sole legal government representing the whole of China.

China attaches great importance to Ethiopia's role in the Horn of Africa, and the Ethiopian side commends the results achieved under China's Outlook on Peace and Development in the Horn of Africa.

Both sides reaffirmed that all countries should abide by the basic principles established by the UN Charter and international law, respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries, and oppose the use or threat of use of force in international relations. **Xinhua**



Smith explores  
Botswana  
in *Pole to Pole*  
docuseries  
Page 22

# Dikhwaere: Rhythm of the countryside

By Pako Lebanna  
GABORONE

For the thousands congregated on a farming field along the Mochudi-Sikwane road, the rhythm of Dikhwaere, local ensemble Badiragatsi hosting Mokwepa Choir of Molepolole, beats any snow and rain-deer Christmas or major fireworks New Year's experience elsewhere on the globe.

Every grain of sand they step over in the dusty patch, the cobblestones on the sides of the gravel pathways, the stench coming from dung odour dropped by passing livestock, just creates memories, and the residents of Kgatleng congregated would rather not be anywhere else in the world.

A staple festive season fare, particularly in the southern parts of the country, dikhwaere traditional music choirs bring delight to cultural enthusiasts over the holidays. Dikhwaere tunes and specially choreographed dance sequences were dished out by the two choirs immaculately dressed in their respective tunics.

"The original, and

proper name for this type of music is Dikopelo," Tswana traditional music authority and former Radio Botswana announcer, Mogatusi Kwapa explains. "This evolved out of the youth of Kgatleng, creating entertainment for themselves in their farming lands and cattle posts. Dikoma (tribal regiment songs) were for the elders, the youth developed Dikopelo."

Over time, the youth formed singing groups for their masimo (farming lands) to challenge others.

"From the late 1970s we started having the choirs identify themselves through the purchase of uniforms, and from being just a pass-time, the Dikopelo became a feature of the Christmas holiday period, first in Kgatleng, and then progressively adopted by the neighbouring districts," Kwapa explains.

In 1985 Kwapa joined Radio Botswana and was handed over the Dipina Tsa Dikhwaere programme by the late Riecks Morake, who had over the years worked with the likes of Batho Molema in recording traditional Setswana music countrywide, for the Dipina Le Maboko programme and Radio Botswana signature tunes.

"I found that that Morake had recorded music from a few choirs from Bokaa and Dikwididi lands in Kgatleng, and another choir from Tlokweng. I undertook the task of recording more choirs over the period 1986 to 1988 and we managed to get a variety of choirs.

This also broadened interest from the rest of the country, as choirs organised themselves and wrote to us, with the hope to hear their music on national radio. We recorded choirs from Mochudi, Lentsweletau to as far afield as Tonota and Tobane," Kwapa said.

From the earlier songs recorded by Morake, Kwapa picked a song called Selemela by Ramatlhaku Choir from Dikwididi to be the signature tune for Dipina Tsa Dikhwaere.

"Iyo iyo Selemela, selemela... Banna re tsile kwano go opela, dumelang lotlhe dikhwaere..." the lyrics, later immortalised in popular culture by Mr Tagg's modern remake, became an anthem of sorts.

"I picked the song because it spoke to how dikopelo originated. Selemela was a star that marked the seasons, such as the ploughing season, the time at masimo to congregate, and it proceeded with the invite to choirs that it is the time to sing," Kwapa adds.

In 1990, Kwapa got involved with Rangers Marena of Artesia which were emerging as the country's leading choir. He recalls how, having spoken to the Department of Culture and Registrar of Societies on how choirs could be assisted, he worked on Rangers having a constitution, and modernising their operations.

"I had inquired and got to realise that funding was possible from government if the choirs

became organised as registered societies. I also advised that we organise the singing fields better, to fence the area where the choirs sing. In that regard Rangers became a pioneer and other choirs followed suit," Kwapa recalls. While both Kgatleng have been the genesis and stronghold of dikhwaere culture spanning decades, over the past festive season it was somewhat of a surprise to witness Molepolole's Mokwepa have a slight edge over their Mochudi rivals Badiragatsi.

Isaiah Lejone, Mokwepa Choir Chairman revealed in an interview that their generation of Molepolole youth founded the choir in 2010 when the government started promoting artistic competitions.

And since, they have grown in leaps and bounds to the extent of Mokwepa winning the 2025 Ma48 Choir competition, against strong competition from others.

Originating from Kgatleng as Dikopelo, the sub-culture gained popularity countrywide as Dikhwaere, the Setswana interpretation of the English word 'Choirs' but in reference to the overall repertoire of music and dance this style encompasses.

The structure of the Dikhwaere has grown to the extent of Super League choirs now charging an entrance fee and being overall more organised in their preparation for events.

Artists such as Dr Vom have taken the traditional Dikhwaere into modern popular music recorded format. Political party rallies and football supporters have also adopted the Dikhwaere influence, which indicates the national mainstream influence of this musical sub-culture.

"Political parties initially used chorale music, but over the years, noting the popularity of Dikopelo among Batswana, they switched to the Dikhwaere style. As for football supporters, it started with the very Kgatleng choirs attending Mochudi Centre Chiefs matches and singing to motivate their team. Supporters of other clubs and the national team, the Zebras followed suit," Kwapa notes.

Back to the Kgatleng field, Badiragatsi Choir representative said their choir, founded on June 16, 2012 had also grown in stature, first competing in the lower category before being admitted to the Super League.

The huge crowd drawn to their field, and the following week as they travelled to Molepolole for the return fixture at the Mokwepa Grounds along the Lephephe road, bore testament to the popularity of Dikhwaere, the rhythm of the countryside. **BOPA**



A staple festive season fare, particularly in the southern parts of the country, dikhwaere traditional music choirs bring delight to cultural enthusiasts over the holidays.

# Smith explores Botswana in *Pole to Pole* docuseries

By Benita Magopane  
**GABORONE**

Botswana has emerged as a sanctuary for many celebrities seeking refuge from fame. Among them is Will Smith, who in his seven-part docuseries goes beyond mere escape and explores the breathtaking Kalahari Desert.



Even Hollywood's biggest names seek refuge from fame in nature's quiet spaces, and Botswana has become one of the favoured escape destinations.

In his quest to explore life's biggest questions, American actor Will Smith explores the Kalahari Desert in his upcoming seven-part global expedition docuseries, *Pole to Pole*, premiering on January 14, 2026 on National Geographic (DStv).

Five years in the making, the series follows the Academy Award® winner across all seven continents, in search for what is important while traversing incredible challenges over the course of 100 days.

And in

that search, the actor's expedition lands him deep into the Kalahari Desert for an episode that highlights the rich heritage of Botswana.

The series captures Smith's time with the San people, one of the oldest hunter-gatherer groups on Earth during his first visit in June, 2023.

He joins the community on a traditional hunt in one of the planet's most inhospitable environments, led by local San bushman guide, Kane Motswana.

While there, Smith explores the 'enduring success' of the San, learning lessons about ancestral knowledge and resilience in the face of modern climate challenges.

This intimate connection to the landscape of the Okavango and Kalahari offers a profound look

at how humanity can thrive in extreme conditions.

The actor described places like the Kalahari Desert, located far from the hustle and bustle of modern day living, as a portal to his authentic self.

"No cars, no phones, no sounds, just me," he said in one of the docuseries' promotional videos, "it's like I can be me, somebody who is actually flawed and scared.

For the Hollywood star, the 100 days journey did not only change the way he sees the planet, but himself too.

"This journey was unlike anything I have ever experienced," he said, 'traveling pole to pole is an exploration of our planet's outer edges and the remarkable people who call those places home". BOPA .

American actor Will Smith explores the Kalahari Desert in his upcoming seven-part global expedition docuseries, *Pole to Pole*, premiering tomorrow, on National Geographic (DStv). Five years in the making, the series follows the Academy Award® winner across all seven continents, in search for what is important while traversing incredible challenges over the course of 100 days. And in that search, the actor's expedition lands him deep into the Kalahari Desert for an episode that highlights the rich heritage of Botswana. Photos: Courtesy of National Geographic

# Ugandans hail Kiplimo after historic back-to-back treble

## KAMPALA

Ugandans have showered praise on long-distance runner Jacob Kiplimo after he clinched a historic third consecutive gold medal at the World Athletics Cross Country Championships in Tallahassee, Florida, on Saturday. Kiplimo won the senior men's 10km title in 28:18, finishing ahead of Ethiopia's Berihu Aregawi, who clocked 28:45.

"Kiplimo defending his 10km senior men's title to complete a historic back-to-back treble is a very big achievement and we thank him for doing Uganda proud," Dominic Otchet, president of Uganda Athletics, told Xinhua on Sunday.

Fans also lauded Kiplimo for his consistency and continued success on the global stage. Sarah Mpalanyi praised the athlete for always carrying the Ugandan flag high.

"We need to remember that Kiplimo also won the Chicago Marathon last year and this year has defended his gold at the World Cross Country Championship.

He deserves all the praise

and a reward by the government," Mpalanyi added.

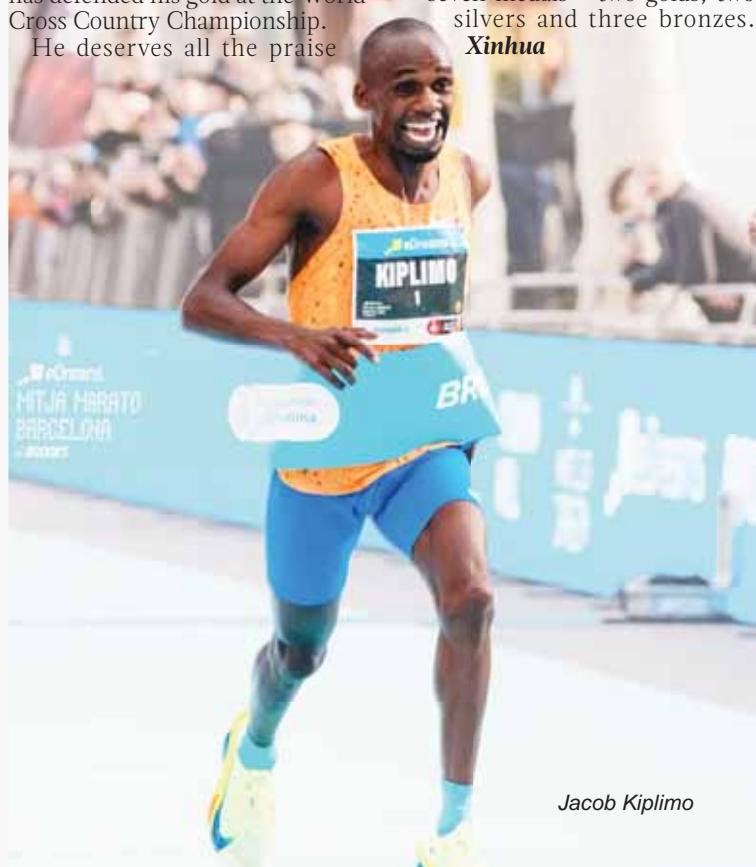
Patrick Ogwel, general secretary of the National Council of Sports (NCS), echoed the sentiments, describing Kiplimo's achievement as exceptional.

"We need to thank Kiplimo for bagging gold in the World Cross Country for a third year in a row. It is not easy to win gold in the same race for three years and Kiplimo deserves all praise," said Ogwel, who heads the body that oversees sports in Uganda.

Uganda's two-time Olympic champion and 5 000m and 10 000m world record holder Joshua Cheptegei also congratulated Kiplimo, noting his contribution to Uganda's bronze medal in the team event.

"Well done, Kiplimo," Cheptegei said. Beyond Kiplimo's individual triumph, Uganda recorded its best-ever performance at the World Athletics Cross Country Championships, winning a total of seven medals - two golds, two silvers and three bronzes.

Xinhua



Jacob Kiplimo

# Zhu advances to second round in Australian Open

## BOURNE

China's Zhu Lin is through to the second round at the qualifying tournament for the Australian Open after beating Brazil's Laura Pigossi on Monday.

Zhu came back from losing four of the first five games of the match to defeat the world No.200 6-4, 6-4 in one hour and 35 minutes at Melbourne Park.

After winning five consecutive games to claim the first set, Zhu again fell behind 4-2 in the second before staging another comeback by winning four straight games

to end the match, converting her fourth match point with a powerful backhand.

Players in the tournament must win rounds of matches to qualify for the main singles draw at the Australian Open, which begins at Melbourne Park on Sunday. Zhu will play Andorra's 9s Victoria Jimenez Kasintseva in the second round.

One of tennis' four grand slams, this year's Australian Open has a prize purse of US\$73.59 million, representing a 16 per cent rise on last year's US\$63.69 million pool.

Xinhua



LONDON - Manchester United's Diogo Dalot (left) during the FA Cup third round match on Sunday. United lost 2-1 to Brighton & Hove Albion. Photo: Xinhua

# Manchester United crash out of FA Cup

## LONDON

Premier League leader Arsenal overcame conceding an early goal to reach the fourth round of the FA Cup with a 4-1 win away to Championship side Portsmouth on Sunday.

Gabriel Martinelli scored a hat-trick for Arsenal, who showed how effective they are from set pieces after Colby Bishop rewarded Portsmouth's bright start with a third-minute opener.

Arsenal equalised following a scramble after a corner in the seventh minute, and Martinelli scored his first after another corner in the 25th minute.

Although Noni Madueke missed a first-half penalty for Arsenal, Martinelli completed his hat-trick with a far-post finish following a well-worked team move and a header from another corner to

keep the Gunners in the race for four titles this season.

Manchester United's bad season got worse after a 2-1 defeat at home to Brighton ended its interest in this year's FA Cup.

With Darren Fletcher still in temporary charge of Manchester United, his side was outplayed by Brighton, who led 2-0 thanks to goals from Brajan Gruda and Danny Welbeck before Benjamin Sesko gave the home side late hope with a goal in the 85th minute, although hopes of an equaliser were ended when Shea Lacey saw an 89th-minute red card.

Ben Brereton gave Championship side Derby County a first-half lead at home to Leeds United, but the visitors turned things around with a quickfire double from Wilfried Gnonto and Ao Tanaka before James Justin confirmed the win with Leeds' third in injury time.

West Ham needed extra time for a much-needed win at home to second-tier Queens Park Rangers, with Cryencio Summerville putting the Hammers ahead in first-half injury time after Konstantinos Mavropanos suffered a serious injury.

Richard Kone levelled for QPR 20 minutes into the second half and the game went into extra-time where Taty Castellanos scored his first goal for West Ham to win the game for Nuno Espirito Santo's Premier League strugglers.

Elsewhere, Hull City won an all-Championship duel against Blackburn Rovers after a penalty shoot-out that followed 120 goalless minutes, Norwich City won 5-1 against fourth-tier Walsall, while Mansfield Town from League One caused a minor upset with a 4-3 victory away to Championship strugglers Sheffield United.

Xinhua

# Raphinha strikes twice for Barcelona to win Spanish Super Cup title

## JEDDAH

Raphinha was FC Barcelona's hero as his side retained the Spanish Super Cup with a 3-2 win over Real Madrid in the Saudi Arabian city of Jeddah on Sunday night.

The Brazilian scored his side's first goal and then netted the winner in the second half with a touch of fortune to decide a thrilling game where Madrid looked for an equalizer until the final moments.

Madrid started with Kylian Mbappe in the bench and Dean Huijsen in for Antonio Rudiger in defense, with coach Xabi Alonso adopting a pragmatic policy of getting his side to defend deep and look to hit Barcelona on the break.

With Barcelona careful not to give the ball away to allow Madrid the chance to break, the first half hour was a cautious affair, although both Vinicius - who had an excellent game after having been criticized on Thursday - and Gonzalo Garcia had chances to put Madrid ahead, only for both to hit

weak shots at Joan Garcia in the Barcelona goal.

Barcelona gradually pushed Madrid further back, with Fermin Lopez denied by Thibaut Courtois before Raphinha fired wide after 35 minutes when put through by Lamine Yamal.

A minute later the Brazilian drilled Barca ahead with a low shot, and with Yamal springing to life, Barca could have killed the game with Courtois denying Fermin again and Yamal going close with a near-post effort.

Barca's profligacy was punished when Vinicius levelled for Madrid in first-half injury time, the Brazilian collecting the ball on the halfway line, beating Jules Kounde for pace, cutting past Pau Cubarsi and firing past Garcia.

Barcelona were back in front just a minute later, when Robert Lewandowski fired home a smart finish after being put through by the excellent Pedri, with Madrid players complaining that the halftime whistle should have been blown.

Those same players were

celebrating two minutes later when the referee continued to play on for another two minutes and Garcia stabbed home after Huijsen's header had bounced back off the bar following a corner.

The second half began with further chances for Vinicius and Rodrygo, which were both saved by Garcia, but Raphinha decided the game in the 73rd minute when he turned on the edge of the area and his shot took enough of a deflection off Raul Asencio to wrong-foot Courtois.

There was still drama as Madrid went in search of an equalizer, and Barcelona ended with 10 men after Frenkie de Jong was sent off for a high challenge on Mbappe, who came on for the closing minutes.

With Barca sitting deep in injury time, both Alvaro Carreras and Aurelien Tchouameni had chances to level for Madrid, but their efforts went straight at Garcia and Barcelona were finally able to celebrate a hard-won but deserved title.

Xinhua

# DailySport

## BTA assembles strong junior tennis teams

By Anastacia Sibanda

GABORONE

The Southern African Junior Tennis Championships team event starts today and is expected to run for five days.

A total of 11 Southern Africa countries being Botswana, eSwatini, Lesotho, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa,

Mozambique, Madagascar, Angola, and Mauritius, will participate in the event.

Botswana Tennis Association (BTA), vice president, Nonofo Othusitse, said the team event would see countries go head to head in the singles and doubles.

They will have an opportunity to field four teams of boys and girls Under 14 and 16,

Othusitse said, adding that the event offered a golden opportunity to qualify for the African Junior Team Championships (AJTC) in both age categories.

Othusitse said the team underwent training camps from December 15 to 19, and January 5 to 8, allowing them adequate preparation for the task ahead.

The under 14 team's girls team is

made up of Malak Macheng, Angel Chakanyuka and Camilla Seetso, while the Under 14 boys team has Tinashe Phatshwane, Francesco Brink, and Lebone Tlape.

In the under 16 girl's category, they country has pinned its hope on Rerolthe Kgannyeng, Ateng Rankunyane, Rethabile Gontlafetse

While the under 16 boys team is made up of Kgots

Kejakang, Ivan Pribil and Wincott Samaka, the coaching team include Wellington Sibanda who will be taking care of under 14 girls

Kagiso Kelebeile is tasked with under 14 boys, Kelebogile Monnayoo is responsible for under 16 girls while Lefa Sibanda will coach the under 16 boys. **BOPA**



Tinashe Phatshwane

Malak Macheng

Francesco Brink

Lebone Tlape



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