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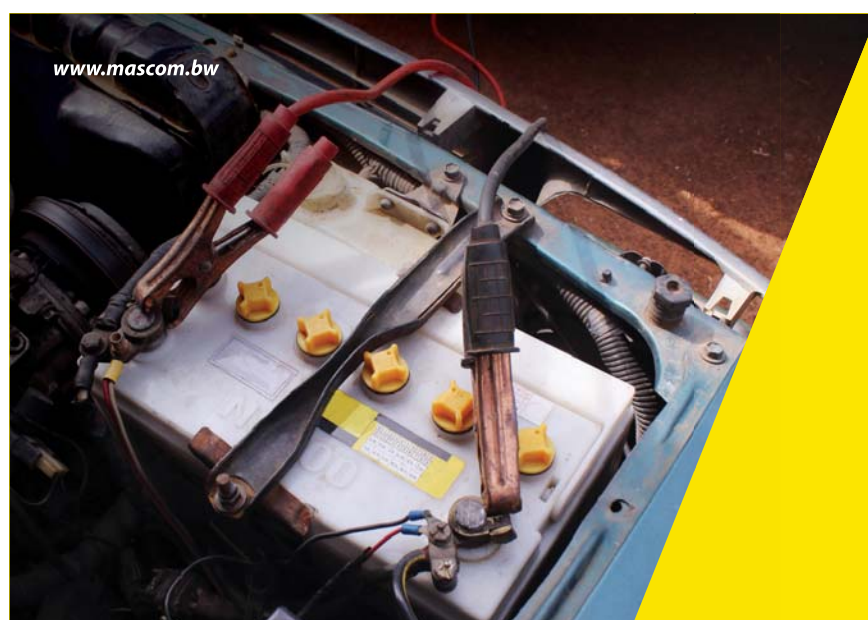
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Gov't seeks P37bn

- Proposes VAT hike to 14% by 2022
- New carbon, sugar tax could add P900m yearly
- Informal sector to receive P1,000 grants
- CEDA, tourism sector relief extended
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PIC: KEOAGILE BONANG



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Mmegi

Editor:
Oarabile Mosikare
Email: omosikare@mmegi.bw

Commercial Manager:
Lone Koosenye
Email: lone@mmegi.bw

Northern Bureau Chief:
Ryder Gabathuse
Email: ryder@mmegi.bw

Business Editor:
Mbongeni Mguni
Email: mguni@mmegi.bw

Sports Editor:
Mogodisi Dube
Email: dube@mmegi.bw

Graphics Head:
Lesego Mogotsi
Email: lesego@mmegi.bw

Supplements Coordinator:
Annah Dedede
Email: annah@mmegi.bw

Arts&Culture coordinator:
Mompoti Tihankane
Email: thankane@mmegi.bw

Photography Coordinator:
Moreni Sejakgomo
Email: moreni@mmegi.bw

Plant Manager:
Owen Ndlovu
Email: owen@mmegi.bw

New Media Coordinator:
Thalefang Charles
Email: charles@mmegi.bw

Local COVID-19 transmission hits DIS offices

TSAONE BASIMANEBOTLHE
Staff Writer

Following reports that Directorate of Intelligence and Security (DIS) headquarters have been closed due to a suspected COVID-19 matter, it has emerged that the case is a close contact to an identified positive one from Masa Primary School.

According to *Mmegi* sources, the suspected DIS officer's wife is a teacher at the school which recently recorded eight positive cases, four being teachers and four students.

This situation forced the spy agency to close its headquarters and two other identified facilities. "It is true that our headquarters and two identified facilities have been closed to allow for fumigation. Once the exercise has been completed then we will open," DIS spokesperson, Edward Robert said in an interview on Wednesday.

"In the meantime the health officials are doing due diligence that include contact tracing and all other health protocols established to deal with the pandemic. Only the COVID-19 task force competently talks to the question surrounding the origin of this case."

Mmegi has established that more than 30 DIS officers are under quarantine, and some of them who have been working closely with the suspect have been tested. It is understood that some officers would be released over the weekend after being given their results and the offices would then open also.



DIS headquarters

Greater Gaborone recently saw a surge in local coronavirus transmissions and the spike forced the Ministry of Health and Wellness to call for lockdown. Meanwhile, in Mogoditshane a patient who was seen at Bokamoso Private Hospital tested positive for COVID-19 and results for contact tracing subsequently led to 21 confirmed cases in the original student's class, with 18 cases across other classes.

The total number of infections from this case

alone so far stands at 46, which translates to 36% of the cases under contact tracing investigation. The remaining cluster from the Mogoditshane case is under quarantine and awaits final assessment.

In the Gaborone case, a Motswana adult male from a family of three was diagnosed with COVID-19 at Gaborone Private Hospital, and consequently the rest of the family tested positive.

COVID-19 non-compliance rocks Mater Spei

LESEDI MKHUTSHWA
Correspondent

FRANCISTOWN: Some parents of Mater Spei College (MSC) students are unhappy with lack of enforcement of COVID-19 regulations at the school.

Their concerns follow a statement from Botswana Sectors of Educators Trade Union which pointed fingers at the Minister of Basic Education, Fidelis Molao and the COVID-19 task force team for their laxity in enforcing adherence to set preventative protocols in schools.

When reaching out to *Mmegi* the parents, who preferred anonymity fearing victimisation of their children, were troubled by an unfolding situation of non-compliance to COVID-19 health protocols at MSC.

According to the parents, the Form 5 students are currently not partaking in the double shift initiative, which was intended for the schools to comply with the social distancing protocols.

The worried parents said their children complained to them that all the Form 5 classes were currently crowded.

They indicated that almost all the classrooms designated for Form 5 students were occupied by close to 40 learners each and they even took afternoon lessons so that they complete their syllabus before the final examinations.

One teacher at MSC confirmed to *Mmegi* that indeed the Form 5 students were not included in the double shift.

The educator said currently the Form 4 students were the ones using the double shift strategy.

The concerned teacher further said they complained to the school management who turned a deaf ear to the matter reasoning that when the same students came to school, they crowded in mini-buses.

The teacher said to make matters worse they were expected to teach classes of 40 students each from morning until evening so that they can push to cover their syllabus.

Asked for comment, MSC school head, Jabulani Munyere dismissed the allegations as false and misleading.

Munyere said as a matter of fact the Form 5 students were currently preparing for the national mock examinations, which were shifted to August 17 due to Greater Gaborone lockdown.

"We cannot conduct a double shift during mock examination because students need to sit for the same examination at the same time. We are currently using large classrooms in order to adhere to the social distancing protocol," Munyere added.

For his part, regional director operations of education (North East), Labane Mokgosi said all the Form 4 and 5 students at MSC were currently on double shift.

Mokgosi said even though most of the classes at the school were small, he was certain that they adhered to all the COVID-19 regulations including the social distancing protocol.

The school has only two Form 5 classrooms.



Mater Spei College students PIC: KEAGILE BONANG

weather update

Maximum & Minimum Temperatures for 07 Aug 2020		KEY:	
Shakawe	30° 19°		Sunny
Maun	29° 12°		Partly Cloudy
Kasane	31° 11°		Cloudy with showers
Pandamatenga	30° 12°		Cloudy
Lethakane	30° 12°		Rain showers
Francistown	22° 19°		Light rain
Selibe Phikwe	21° 10°		Moderate/Heavy rain
Mahalapye	22° 8°		Light rain with storms
Jwaneng	26° 7°		Heavy storms
Werda	23° 8°		Isolated thunders showers
Tsabong	22° 8°		
Tshane	24° 8°		
Ghanzi	27° 18°		

FIVE DAYS FORECAST OF DISTRICTS

Gantsi And Ngamiland Districts:			
Chobe And Northern-Central Districts:			
Kgalagadi District:			
Southern, South-East, Kgatleng, Kweneng, North-East And Southern-Central Districts:			

Information courtesy of: AccuWeather.com

State to close Morupisi trial

- Strikes off key witnesses off the stand
- Charges one key witness

MPHO MOKWAPE
Staff Writer

The State is one witness away from closing its case against former Permanent Secretary to the President (PSP), Carter Morupisi and his spouse, Pinny Morupisi.

This was after the prosecution led by lawyer, Priscilla Israel indicated to court last week it would not be calling some of its key witnesses who were expected to take the stand.

“We are expecting to close the case after the witness on the stand as we have decided not to call our other witnesses,” Israel told the court.

Amongst the witnesses struck off from taking the stand are Trudy Suzanne Marsland, the former wife of Tim Marsland and Lesedi Moakofhi who was at the time of the alleged offences acting chief executive officer/Principal Officer for Botswana Public Officers Pension Fund (BPOPF).

Many had expected that the two would take the stand and shed light on the case because at the time Moakofhi was alleged to have signed a contract together with Morupisi on behalf of BPOPF and Capital Management Botswana (CMB) when such was suspended by an order of court. Now Moakofhi will face the public on the dock not as a witness because the State decided to turn tables and charge her with corruption.

In an interview last week, Moakofhi said she was stunned by the turn of events as she had done things by the book and wasn't sure where the charge emanated from.

It would have been interesting for the public to hear what Moakofhi had to say after being accused of signing the contract despite knowing it was wrong and that it was alleged that she was warned about signing it on many occasions.

Trudy, who seemed to have more knowledge on dealings that went down amongst Morupisi, Rapula Okaile and his former husband regarding the Land Cruiser at the centre of the case, on one hand will not take the stand contrary to expectations.

Trudy had said quite a few in her statement as far as the Land Cruiser was concerned.

Marsland had told the State that as far as she knows the vehicle was bought for Morupisi as a ‘thank you’ gift, which was purchased through CMB.

Trudy noted that she became aware of transaction relating to the vehicle, a Land Cruiser that Tim and Rapula purchased and she came to know that the car was bought for PSP who was also the board chairperson of BPOPF.

However, the State took a different turn when it announced in court that it will not be calling the pair.

Rather the State stated it will close its case with the last witness on the stand being the Directorate on Crime and Economic Crime lead investigator, Kentse Setlaboshane.

The case was adjourned with Setlaboshane still on the stand due to his request, as he told court he was disturbed by a break-in at his residence.



Dr Matsheka
PIC: KENNEDY
RAMOKONE

Gov't seeks P37bn to revive economy

MBONGENI MGUNI
Staff Writer

Government is proposing to increase Value Added Tax (VAT) to 14% in the next two years, while also introducing new taxes such as sugar and carbon, as part of initiatives to boost revenues and support a P36.5 billion shortfall in funds required to lift the economy out of the COVID-19 crisis.

According to documents before Parliament this week, government is proposing P14.5 billion for funding under a final version of the Economic Recovery and Transformation Plan (ERTP) and another P22 billion as the cumulative budget shortfall from 2020/21 to 2022/23.

Finance and Economic Development minister, Thapelo Matsheka is asking legislators to approve the new funding as part of the revised Mid-Term Review of NDP 11, with the ERTP as an addendum. The Mid-Term Review contains government's planned projects and policies for the balance of NDP 11 to March 2023, with the ERTP essentially reprioritising and accelerating these. Members of Parliament (MPs) will on Monday debate the new proposals, which include a list of priority infrastructure projects and policy initiatives designed to promote export-led growth, improve the efficiency of government spending and financing, develop human capital and boost investment in infrastructure.

According to the documents before MPs, the ERTP will require P500 million to be spent this year, followed by P7 billion in 2021/22 and another P7 billion in 2022/23. The Finance Ministry estimates that the budget, meanwhile, will suffer deficits of P13.1 billion this year, P8 billion in 2021/22 and P446 million in 2022/23.

Spending in the period to 2022/23 will be focussed on economic clusters such as agriculture/beef, tourism, financial, business and information technology services. Projects have been identified in digital transition, SME development, health and education as well as productive infrastructure.

Projects include infrastructure and utilities in the area around one of the dams in the north-east Botswana to attract horticulture farmers and livestock feed producers, resuscitating the Zambezi Integrated Agro-Commercial Development Project, tourism facilities around dams such as Gaborone Dam, funding commissioned creative work and supporting manufacturing.

Other projects include maintenance of major roads supporting economic activity, upgrade of Gaborone roads, establishment of dry ports within the country and boosting renewable energy.

The documents propose that a grant of P1,000 be given to informal and small enterprises that did not benefit from other support measures “on condition that they register with the Local Enterprises Authority in the ongoing database exercise”. It is unclear whether the grant will be a once-off or regular affair.

Government is also proposing an additional six-month repayment holiday for CEDA loans to December 2020 and extending the wage subsidy for the tourism sector for another six months. To fund the ERTP and the budget left under NDP 11, government plans to look largely within, doubling the limit for domestic borrowing to P30 billion, while commercial banks have pledged P3 billion.

Government will limit withdrawals from the foreign reserves in order to maintain their use as a fiscal buffer. Funding from external financiers such as the IMF, World Bank and AfDB will be used as a last resort, according to the documents in Parliament.

However, domestic resource mobilisation will underpin government's efforts to raise the P37 billion.

“A considerable portion of the remaining financing gap will need to be filled by domestic resource mobilisation,” reads the final ERTP.

“In addition to raising user charges and fees for public services, there is need to urgently initiate a programme and timetable with respect to the measures to raise additional revenues.”

Government estimates that should it introduce carbon taxes at the levels recently done in

South Africa, it could raise about P300 million from liquid fuels and P400m from electricity annually.

Again, if a sugar tax on sweet drinks was introduced in Botswana at the same rate as has been done in South Africa, the expected revenue raised would be around P150-P200 million annually.

“While these interventions could have negative short-term impacts on employment in certain firms and industries such as coal mining companies and producers of sugary drinks, international evidence shows that this can be offset by the impact of expenditure switching such as to other beverages or using the tax revenues generated to keep other taxes low, leading to increased employment elsewhere,” the documents read.

Besides adjusting VAT, withholding tax will also be raised from April 2021, while electricity and water tariffs will be progressively raised to market levels. Cost sharing and cost recovery will be revamped “without compromising inclusivity”.

“Those able to pay should bear a greater portion of the cost of providing public services by government pay, through means-tested user fees,” the documents read.

“Education is one area that could be considered, but the principle could be extended to some components of health care.”

Presenting the proposals to MPs this week, Matsheka said the size of the adjustments made to revenues and expenditure meant the funding requirements would have to be addressed “up-front”.

“Some money will have to be raised through a combination of increased domestic revenues such as taxes and levies, and borrowing,” he said. “It is important to note that there is little scope to draw down further on the Government Investment Account which is the Government's portion of the foreign exchange reserves, as this needs to be preserved as a financial buffer.”

On Tuesday, legislators were given two “clear” days to study the proposals before debates begin on Monday.

Audited Group Financial Results

for the year ended 30 April 2020 & dividend announcement

Revenue

10% ↑

Gross Profit

14% ↑

EBITA

7% ↑

Final dividend
per share

27.5t

average of

46%

of earnings paid

in the form of dividends
over the last 5 years

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Moswaane resignation attracts mixed reactions

LESEDI MKHUTSHWA

Correspondent

FRANCISTOWN: Francistown West constituents have reacted differently about Ignatius Moswaane's resignation from Botswana Democratic Party (BDP).

Some of the constituents supported Member of Parliament (MP) stating that even if he remained in the BDP he was bond to be sacked while others believed that his tactics so far prove that he long wanted to part ways with the party.

This week *Mmegei* asked some of the constituents their opinion on the matter. Monarch Area 2 location resident Mosetsanagape Petros said Moswaane made a good decision to resign from BDP before he was expelled. She said the controversial Constitution (Amendment) Bill 2020, which was expected to be tabled in Parliament serves to threaten political leaders who wish to reign from BDP. Petros further said Moswaane's days in BDP were long numbered because he was a threat to his own party as he spoke against corruption and abject poverty in his constituency and country as a whole. "Even his suspension was just a warning to silence him about being vocal on corruption issues but the same leaders forget that he was voted by the people in order to represent them before parliament," she said. According to the Francistown West constituent as the westerners they are going with Moswaane where ever he goes because he is a true leader.

Petros further said: "I am even certain that all my family members and neighbors in Monarch Area 2 support the Honorable MP because he has done a lot for us. Moswaane is like our very own angel and lifesaver because he treats everyone equally either poor or rich as people".

She also said that even if Moswaane joins opposition or forms a new party the masses from Francistown West and across the country would follow him because he speaks nothing but the truth.

Another Francistown West constituent from Phase 5 location, Oarata Jusi echoed the same sentiments with Petros.

She said that Moswaane made a good move by resigning from BDP before he could be expelled. She said that the ruling party has a tendency of getting rid of the people who speak on behalf of others because they are perceived as a threat to the party's credibility. She added that the BDP leadership has a tendency of clipping the Mp's freedom of speech hence Moswaane should go where he can exercise his right to freedom of speech.

Jusi further said that Moswaane's cha-

risma to speak about corruption opened a can of worms and hit where it hurts most therefore it was very obvious that the BDP would fire him.

She said that the matter became clear when the party started raising the floor-crossing bill after Moswaane's suspension. Jusi said that even the Francistown West parliamentarian's suspension was not fair because his only crime was to speak on behalf of the people.

The outspoken supporter of Moswaane said that on the ground she was certain that people are going to reign from the ruling party to follow their Honorable MP. She described him as a selfless man with a caring heart and always vocal for his people.

Another resident of Gerald Estate, Dawkins Dinakenyane said that Moswaane should just join the opposition because they have long waited for his move.

He added that he should just unleash his colours so that they can understand the kind of person they are dealing with.

Dinakenyane further said Moswaane had long decided to join the opposition before his suspension but was still under his (Moswaane) shell and playing with people's emotions. He also said that Moswaane deserved his suspension because he was always breaking the BDP's constitution, which he claimed to love.

Dinakenyane added: "I feel like if Moswaane had issues with some of the BDP initiatives, he could have dealt with the matter internally by following the right channel of communications before spilling the beans to the public".

He said that Moswaane has over the years continued to be against the ruling party by breaking all the BDP's rules intentionally for public sympathy.

He gave example that when Moswaane was suspended from the party recently and was directed not to share this internal party communication with third parties.

But only after a few hours that he acted against the directive and spilled the beans on social media.

Moswaane has freedom of association - UB experts

In the wake of the defection of the Member of Parliament (MP) for Francistown West, Ignatius Moswaane, from the ruling Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) on Tuesday, MMEGI Staffer **LEBOGANG MOSIKARE** canvassed two University of Botswana (UB) Political Science experts who are of the view that Moswaane has the right to associate and disassociate.

FRANCISTOWN: While it is a truism that Moswaane's defection from the BDP is a bitter pill to swallow for some of his constituents and general BDP members across the country, lecturers Adam Mfundisi and Dr Leonard Sesa from Department of Political and Administrative Studies at the UB say the MP has done nothing wrong but has merely exercised his constitutional right of associating with and disassociating from the organisation he voluntarily joined.

When asked what may have prompted Moswaane, who for now has not joined any opposition party although rumours are abound that he is likely to join the Botswana Congress Party which is an affiliate of the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC), to defect from the BDP, Mfundisi was blunt in his opinion.

"It was forthcoming that Moswaane will at some point leave the BDP and join the opposition bloc although for now he has not joined any. You will remember that towards the general elections last year, there were rumours that he may be suspended from the party because of his outspokenness, which rankled the powers that be within the BDP. This is coupled with the fact that his launch was postponed until President Mokgweetsi Masisi later launched him. These to me were signs that the BDP did not want him within its ranks," said Mfundisi.

According to Mfundisi, Moswaane is a true representative of his voters and Batswana at large who is forthright and not afraid to speak his mind. The UB politics pundit also posits that although Moswaane was a member of the BDP, the legislator did not did not go to Parliament to advance the interests and aspirations of his party only but those of Batswana as a whole.

"In terms of

articulating the needs of his voters he did so without fear of repercussions from the BDP. On the other hand, you may think that he was a loose cannon who spoke without knowing the limits of his boundaries. Moswaane used to speak without even following the internal procedures and or processes of the BDP, which one must follow when they want to air the grievances. Some within and outside the BDP suspected that he was not a true member of the party," said Mfundisi.

Mfundisi continued: "I also think that because Moswaane may have differed with the BDP caucus, he became a hated figure within then party.

But all in all, we need people like Moswaane who are not afraid of putting national interests ahead of partisan interests. Moswaane is not like most ruling party MPs who put party interests at the expense of their constituents. Moswaane is also a true representative of the have-nots that is why it is not surprising that he got into a collision course with his peers within the BDP who are protecting the interests of the elites. In my opinion there is no intra-party democracy in the BDP."

Quizzed if Moswaane feared that he may lose his seat if he remained within the BDP should the floor crossing bill become law coupled with the fact that he was already on suspension before he defected, Mfundisi noted: "The floor crossing bill is a preemptive sign that there is strife within the BDP. Once the bill is passed into law, it is going to constrain elected members of the BDP both at council and parliament level from differing with their party."

Clarifying the position he stated above, Mfundisi said that people are disgruntled with the BDP because they can see that it wants to prevent them from exercising their constitutional rights of freedom of speech and freedom of association.

Mfundisi was also of the view that the nation will likely see more defections from the BDP particularly from the north of Dibeite and a few from the south before the bill is passed into law. Another UB Political Science Lecturer Sesa also expressed

Mfundisi's sentiments.

He said that just like every citizen of Botswana, Moswaane has the right to exercise his constitutional right of associating and disassociating from the BDP because he voluntarily joined it. Sesa said that despite the fact that Moswaane is a controversial MP, he is a true representative of the people who also researches about what he say.

In Sesa's view, Moswaane deserves to be selected to the position of assistant minister and even a minister because he researches what he says...

However, Sesa is worried that Moswaane just like some elected MPs and councillors in the past may have not fully consulted his constituents before he took the decision to defect from the BDP.

When quizzed what may have influenced Moswaane to jump ship from the BDP, Sesa said: "I think that Moswaane thought that by writing a letter notifying it that he was leaving, he thought that the letter will make the BDP to buckle under his pressure but the BDP did not budge. He thought that the BDP will lift his suspension after he wrote the letter but that did not happen..."

The UB politics expert said that Moswaane should also learn that every organisation has procedures and or processes that one has to follow if they voluntarily join that organisation.

"If Moswaane joins any opposition party in Botswana, it will show him that there are some channels of communication that one has to follow when they want to air their views. Just like in the BDP, Moswaane is going to be constrained to say whatever he wants to say should he join the opposition bloc. Going forward, I think that he is going to struggle because he will not be allowed to say whatever he wants to say," Sesa clarified.

Asked if the public may witness other defections from the BDP before the floor crossing bill is enacted into law, Sesa said that he is disappointed by the utterances of the opposition who had told the public that there was going to be more defections from the BDP but up to now only Moswaane has defected.

"The opposition kept on saying that they had numbers who were going to defect from the BDP especially from the backbench but up to now nothing has happened. He said that what is even disappointing is the fact that if the nation was going to see more defections for the BDP, those who may defect will be taking a unilateral decision because they had not fully consulted their voters," said Sesa.



Moswaane PIC: KEAGILE BONANG

Audited Group Financial Results

for the year ended 30 April 2020 & dividend announcement

Revenue

10% ↑

Gross Profit

14% ↑

EBITA

7% ↑

Final dividend per share

27.5t

Our performance

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Moswaane impending defection riles UDC

CHAKALISA DUBE
Staff Writer

FRANCISTOWN: Botswana Congress Party's (BCP) reported offer to Francistown West Member of Parliament (MP) Ignatius Moswaane who is now independent is likely to rekindle war between the former and the Botswana People's Party (BPP).

Both parties are affiliated to the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC). Moswaane is strongly linked to the BCP. It has also in the recent past been speculated that Moswaane intends to join the Botswana Patriotic Front (BPF). But he is said to have made up his mind to join the BCP. The legislator confirmed that he has started talks with opposition parties with a view to joining one of them soon. The confirmation came moments after he ditched the ruling party.

Mmegi has established that in a bid to lure Moswaane, the BCP has reportedly promised him that he would be allowed to contest the 2024 general election under the UDC banner. It is said under the reported proposal Moswaane would not go through the primaries if his joins the BCP.

However, the stumbling block is that Francistown West constituency was allocated to the BPP under the coalition arrangement. The party contested the constituency (under the UDC) at the last general elections.

That is why many observers believe that the BCP's proposal is likely to cause feuding within the UDC (particularly between the BPP and BCP). Already some within the BPP are said to be aware of the reported BCP proposal to Moswaane something that has irked them.

The BPP and BCP have in the past engaged in verbal wars over the Francistown West. For instance, towards last year's general election the BCP members claimed that they were the right party to contest the wards in Francistown West at the general elections in the constituency. Some BCP members also wanted their party to contest the constituency despite the fact that it was allocated to the BPP.

The argument of the majority at BCP was that the BPP does not have any sound structures to contest all wards and a parliamentary seat in Francistown West. Then, BPP members accused the BCP of big brother mentality. The BPP was later allowed to contest the constituency and some wards despite the disapproval of some BCP diehards.

Yesterday, Moswaane denied the reported BCP offer. "I have contested the primaries most of my political life. I do not fear going through primaries. All I can say is that I am in talks with all opposition parties with the exception of the Alliance for Progressives (AP) and the Botswana Movement for Democracy (BMD)."

Added Moswaane, "I can confirm that I will join the opposition. After joining any party in the opposition that is when we will work on a winning formula for the next general elections." Mbaakanyi Lenyatso the BPP Vice President (VP) also weighed in on reports that the BCP had promised Moswaane that he would be allowed to contest the 2024 general elections in the constituency.

"Francistown West is a BPP constituency. There is no party within the UDC that will contest the constituency unless there is approval from the BPP members," he said.

He continued, "Fresh negotiations on constituencies and wards can only take place when a new party joins the UDC. Moswaane is well a groomed Pan-Africanist. As a Pan Africanist he knows that he should embrace peace at all times. Pan-Africanism is about unity. He should join the BPP if at all he wants to contest the 2024 general elections as well maintaining unity in the opposition coalition." Dithapelo Keorapetse, BCP spokesperson would not be drawn into discussing reports that the party has assured Moswaane that he will contest the next general elections under the UDC banner without even going for primaries.

"We will never share our recruitment strategy with the public or the media. We are in the process of recruiting Moswaane and other BDP MPs. Sharing details about our recruitment strategy towards Moswaane can soil the ongoing talks," he said. "For now, all UDC members should be celebrating that the coalition is being linked with a high profile politician like Moswaane," he said.



Moswaane during his launch in 2019
PIC: KEOAGILE BONANG



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Kekgonegile
PIC: MORERI SEJAKGOMO

No special treatment for plot sellers

PINI BOTHOKO
Staff Writer

There will be no special treatment for Batswana who have 'disempowered themselves' by disposing off their residential plots through beneficial transfer. The Minister of Land Management, Water and Sanitation Services, Kefentse Mzwiniila made the remarks in Parliament recently when answering a question raised by Member of Parliament (MP) for Maun East Goretetse Kekgonegile.

Kekgonegile had asked the Minister to update Parliament on initiatives by the ministry to facilitate ownership of plots by Batswana who previously sold their plots before the law of banning sale of plots was introduced.

He had also wanted to know the number of residential and ploughing fields whose ownership was changed in Maun, Khwai, Mababe, Sankoyo, Shorobe, Sexaxa, Matapana, Samedupe, Makalamabedi and Matsaudi. Furthermore, Kekgonegile wanted to know the number of households and children affected by the change of ownership.

Responding to Kekgonegile's questions, Mzwiniila said there were no initiatives to facilitate ownership of plots by Batswana who sold their own plots.

"In a free market economy such as ours, it is the right of every plot owner to, within the limits of the law, transact however they want with their property. Transfer of tribal land is not permissible without development. It is however permissible with development to the satisfaction of the Land Board," Mzwiniila said.

Mzwiniila further stated that the transfer of State land also required development while for freehold land, transfers were allowed without development in terms of the law. He said the spirit of the revised Botswana Land Policy as approved by Parliament on August 8, 2019 is to promote equity in access to land and natural resources.

He added that the said policy also stated that each Motswana will be eligible for allocation of one residential plot at an area of their choice within the country, on both State and tribal land.

"Paragraph 58 of that land policy states, 'additional plots may be acquired through the private market, inheritance or other legitimate channels recognised in law and policy. This means that those who have hitherto been allocated residential plots and subsequently disposed the subject plots through sale compromised their eligibility for subsequent acquisition or allocation of residential plots directly from the land authority,' he said.

Mzwiniila further stated that such people could only acquire residential land through other legitimate means and not by direct allocation by land authority. He said paragraph 69 of the same policy further buttresses the above quoted paragraphs by pointing out that 'once allocated land in a particular use category, one may not be eligible for allocation of land in the same category after alienating the plot'.

Addressing change of ownership in Maun East Constituency, Mzwiniila said a total of 828 residential plots and 115 ploughing fields changed ownership in the specified villages from 2017 to date.

"The number of households and children affected by that change of ownership is not known. The ministry does not require applicants who change ownership of their plots to provide information on the number of households or children who reside in that plot," Mzwiniila added.

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Temporary closure of BBSL Gaborone Main Mall Branch

BBS Limited would like to inform its customers and the public that its Main Mall Branch will be closed temporarily from Friday 7 August 2020 until the COVID-19 lockdown of the Gaborone Zone is lifted.

The temporary closure is to enable optimal engagement of BBS Limited employees within the 25% essential services cap imposed by the lockdown. Nonetheless, ATM services at the Main Mall Branch will continue to operate uninterrupted during the period.

In the meantime, BBS Limited customers are advised to utilise our other Branches in Gaborone located at BBSL Head Office in Broadhurst and Thusanyo House along Old Lobatse Road.

A public notice will be issued on the re-opening of the Main Mall Branch.

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Go tswalwa ga lekalana le, go tla letlelela gore babereki ba BBSL ba bo ba le mo palong e laotsweng ya 25%. Le fa go ntse jalo, ATM ya lekalana la Main Mall e tla tswelela e le mo tirisong.

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Kitsiso ya go bula lekalana la Main Mall e tla ntshiwa mo tsamaong ya nako.

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Luck escapes death row inmate

MPHO MOKWAPE
Staff Writer

A death row inmate failed to escape the hangman's noose despite sitting judges in the matter having a different opinion on the sentencing. His sentence was confirmed on majority rule. The inmate, Wedu Mosalagae who was initially convicted on a single count of murdering his live-in girlfriend on or about November 24, 2012 at Nkosho ward in Letlhakane, had his sentenced confirmed by the Court of Appeal on Wednesday on majority rule.

Mosalagae was not fortunate enough to escape despite Judge Gaolapelwe Ketlogetswe having a different opinion from Justice Singh Walia and Leatile Dambe on the sentence and choosing to rather give him (Mosalagae) a 20-year sentence coupled with backdating the punishment to the time he was imprisoned. According to the majority judgement, Justice Walia confirmed Mosalagae's death penalty together with Dambe while Ketlogetswe failed to agree and had a different opinion that a sentence of 20 years was appropriate.

In his judgement, Justice Walia said the submissions made by the appellant's attorney fell far short of the standard and recognised factors required to establish extenuating circumstances.

"I cannot but find that, neither the scanty evidence and submissions advanced before the court a quo, nor the submissions now made before us amount to extenuation," he said.

Walia explained that if any violent response had been triggered in the appellant on seeing the mes-



Court of Appeal building **PIC: MORERI SEJAGOMO**

sage, then perhaps he could have placed reliance on sudden provocation for any reaction but his response was just 'not being on good terms' although he spent the night with the deceased.

He said his actions therefore could not in any way be attributed to any sudden provocation.

"If the killing in this case is to be categorised as a so-called crime of passion, then it fell into the category of cold-blooded rather than a hot-blooded killing," he said. He further pointed out that what stared them in the face was the fact that the de-

ceased's throat had been slit by the appellant.

The judge said jealousy and anger at the presence of another man having been eliminated, the only picture that emerged was that of a cold-blooded killing of a lover and that there was no other explanation. However, Justice Ketlogetswe had a different opinion on the matter and in turn delivered a dissenting judgement.

According to him, the murder was a crime of passion, the accused was at a time aged 25 years and a first time offender.

"In all the circumstances of this case, I think a sentence of 20 years imprisonment will meet the justice of this case. The appellant is accordingly sentenced to 20 years. The period that appellant has spent in prison in relation to the matter shall be deducted from his prison sentence," he said.

Justice Ketlogetswe explained that on the flip-side, the crime was aggravated by the fact that there was a direct intention to kill but went on to say that he found that the murder was attended by extenuating circumstances therefore setting aside the death sentence.

He also said in his view he was satisfied that the absence of premeditation, coupled with jealousy or suspicions of unfaithfulness constitute extenuating circumstances as defined by the law.

"I am of view that although this was aggravated by a clear intention to kill on part of the appellant, the extenuating factors far outweigh the aggravating feature shown by the evidence in this case," he said.

The judge also pointed out that the manner in which the appellant slashed the deceased's throat, cutting it and causing injury to her vital blood vessels was no doubt reprehensible and deserved of not only condemnation but also deserved severe punishment.

However he said the crime did not fall into that category of murders that can be described as cold-blooded and undoubtedly deserving of no punishment other than the death penalty.

Despite his difference Justice Ketlogetswe lastly explained that given that it was a minority judgement, the final order of the court was pronounced in the majority judgement which condemned Mosalagae to the gallows.

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Throughout this excursion there has been some service degradation and connectivity challenges, but this is only temporary as we move to the new infrastructure. We thank you for your patience and urge you to report any network problems by dialing ***123#** and following the instructions to log your complaints so that we can attend to them.

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As Orange Botswana, we believe in always improving ourselves to better serve you. Remember to stay safe and follow instructions shared by the COVID-19 Presidential Taskforce to protect yourself and others.

Kind regards,

Dr. Patrick Benon

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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All other operations including the operations carried out by the two University Centres, Meat Industry Training Institute (MITI) in the Lobatse campus, and Centre for In-Service and Continuing Education (CICE) in the Sebele campus, will also suspended training of short courses until further notice. The revised schedule of programs and courses offered shall therefore be communicated in the near future.

Our stakeholders are duly informed that the University will do all its endeavor to ensure business continuity through the appropriate electronic platforms available. We there wish to encourage all our stakeholders to continue to engage and access BUAN services in the best possible way.

BUAN would like to thank all its stakeholders for their understanding and support as we continue to strive during these challenging times. Let us remain safe and pray to God for our good health, and most importantly adhere to all preventative and precautionary measures to avoid further local transmissions and the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

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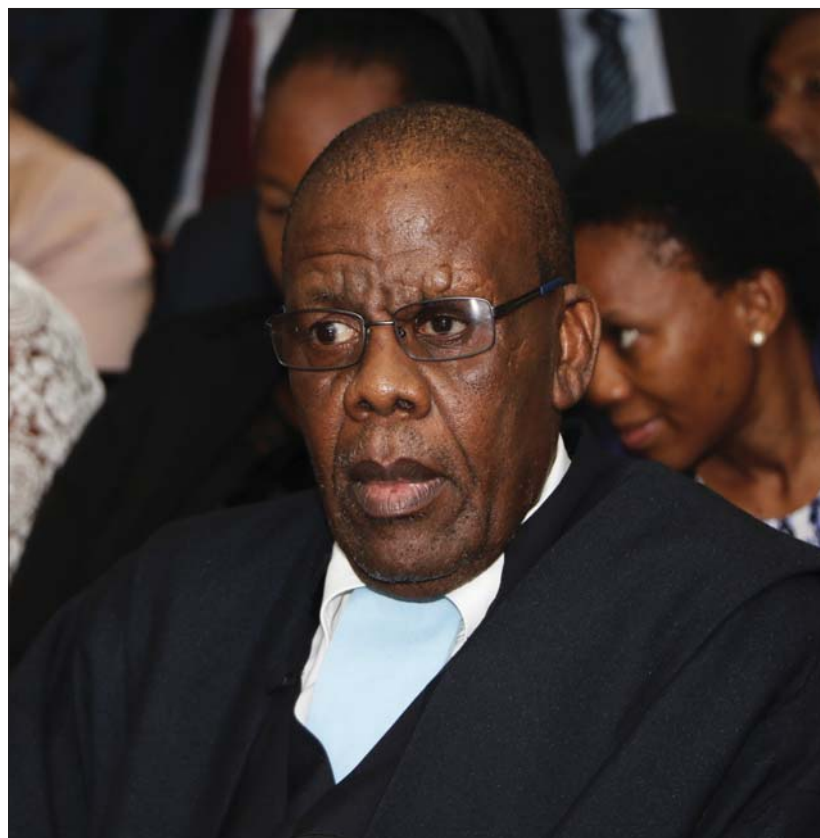
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Gaongalelwe

Shakwe murder accused dodges hangman

PINI BOTHOKO

Staff Writer

Joseph Mmoko, 43, of Makwate village escaped capital punishment by a whisker after the Court of Appeal (CoA) found extenuating circumstances in his case.

Justice Bashi Moesi sentenced Mmoko to death by hanging last year July for the death of his girlfriend, Badiredi Mmampane Tsiapane. According to particulars of the offence, Mmoko murdered Tsiapane on April 9, 2015 at or near Mogothe ward in Shakwe village in the Central District. Passing judgement on Wednesday, CoA judge, Monametsi Gaongalelwe said having looked at the circumstances of the case, he felt the appropriate sentence should be 15 years.

Gaongalelwe also stated that Mmoko is a first offender, that he also cooperated with the police to the extent that according to the investigating officer, he virtually surrendered himself to the police since he directed them to where he was and indeed he was found at the place.

"This is a case of murder with extenuating circumstances in which the court is, in the exercise of its discretion, entitled to impose any sentence other than death. Where the court has found that extenuating circumstances exist, it must go further to put both those extenuating circumstances and the aggravating factors on the scale in order to determine whether to impose the death sentence or any other sentence," Gaongalelwe said.

He added that it was notable that after the defence attorney had addressed the court on extenuating factors, the attorney specially said the court had not found any evidence of aggravation, something which he accepted as correct.

"The final task is to consider the appropriate sentence. I say so because while in terms of section 203 a finding of extenu-

ating circumstances does not necessarily exclude the imposition of a death sentence, in this case no aggravating factors have been shown, which would render the imposition of any other sentence other than death inappropriate," he said.

He said there was evidence that on April 9, 2015 Mmoko and Tsiapane had spent some time at some place of entertainment. Gaongalelwe further stated that in advancing extenuating factors during trial Mmoko's attorney submitted that he (Mmoko) had consumed alcoholic drinks at the said place of entertainment.

"Then, his lordship ruled such to be 'based on an unreasonable inference' with this conclusion I cannot agree. In the circumstances the finding of this court is that there were extenuating circumstances resulting primarily from the absence of premeditation and the fact of consuming alcohol," he said.

Furthermore, Gaongalelwe said there was no evidence showing premeditation and it had been held that the absence of premeditation was an extenuating factor.

He stated that extenuating circumstances were factors, which were operative in the mind of the offender at the time of commission of the offence that probably influenced his mind and not his conduct afterwards.

He said uncontroversial evidence was that Mmoko moved from the scene after committing the offence. He further stated that fleeing the scene might be on account of panic or fear of apprehension.

Gaongalelwe said at the material time, the duo were lovers and cohabiting at Tsiapane's house in Shakwe village.

At the trial stage, delivering a ruling on the extenuating factors and sentence, Moesi had said that the deceased died of asphyxia (suffocation) consequent to her nose and mouth being covered until she suffocated.

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Responding to COVID-19 in the tourism sector: Acknowledging the complexity



Wildlife
at a Game
Park

PATRICIA KEFILWE MOGOMOTSI*

The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) has put the world at a stand-still, creating uncertainty and threatening world economies. The restrictions in movement have not only suffocated the tourism sector through closing out international travellers, but have also limited the room for expanding the already limping domestic tourism. Jobs within the sector are highly threatened and some have been lost. The aftermath of COVID-19 has exposed the social, economic, ecological, and social threads connecting tourism sector to the rest of Botswana's economy and beyond.

Over the years, there has been an increasing interest in complexity analysis approach as a framework for understanding social and economic systems. A complex system is loosely defined as a system that shows emergence behaviour that is more than a sum of the parts of the system alone. In this context, the concept of 'emergence' describes a system that portrays properties such as rich, dynamic and non-linear interactions that often provide output known as feedback. Therefore, a complex system exhibits manifestation of various nascent properties that cannot be merely defined from the behaviour of its component. The interdependencies that characterise the system contribute to the manifestation of emergent properties.

Tourism, by virtue of operating in an interconnected and interdependent system, is a complex system. It is portrayed by complex social, cultural and ecological dynamics and processes, and it cuts across several sectors of the economy locally and internationally. Therefore, tourism sector institutions and decisions are faced with complex natural resource limits that are not necessarily a product of the sector itself. In addition to the natural resource limits, the upsurge of corona virus has exposed the vulnerability of the sector to shocks.

We failed as a country to create cushions to absorb the effects of the shocks by learning that ecotourism specifically, and sustainable tourism generally are not just fancy words we need to throw around in speeches. They are concepts that could have prepared the local economy for ripple effects of COVID-19 if we noticed the depth and true meaning of having locals and local communities at the centre of our tourism sector.

The mistake we often make as a country insofar as tourism is concerned is that we operate like we are in a solo ride in an industry that is largely dependent on the international market. The high-value-low-volume stance is telling.

This needs to change. COVID-19 creates a rare window of opportunity to re-think, re-design and re-establish our tourism institutions as Botswana. It forces us to sell our services to the global market even when the world market is not free to move and to promote it within the local market now when the borders are closed. This requires us to change the tourism language, policy and approach. It necessitates approaching institutional design in the sector with both an inward-looking approach to leverage on the domestic market and a global outlook post COVID-19.

The complexity of the threads between the tourism sector and the rest of the economy entails thinking about its recovery plan in a way that is different from other sectors. The peculiarity of the sector lies on the product it offers. Unlike in other sectors, the consumption of its product is dependent on movement and a layer of services in terms of transport, procurement done by agents, accommodation and hospitality amongst others.

The silence of the Minister of Environment, Natural Resources Conservation and Tourism is deafening and the apparent lack of dialogue between her ministry and academics is worrisome, especially in a country where knowledge-based economy is the chorus and science-best practice should be practiced. The mistake the Minister and her team is making is to be trapped by the status quo, thinking that they can save the tourism sector on their own without first appreciating it as a complex system. The complexity of the sector necessitates the development of institutions and decision-making structures that position tourism as a product of the whole economy, as opposed to governing the sector as a subset of the whole.

***Prof Patricia Kefilwe Mogomotsi, PhD is an Associate Professor (Natural Resources Economics) in the Okavango Research Institute, University of Botswana**

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Constitution takes precedence over parliamentary proceedings

Former finance minister Kenneth Matambo has sought to review and set aside the proceedings of the Select Committee of the National Assembly, and that of the National Assembly itself, primarily on the basis that the adoption of the Committee's report by the National Assembly is a nullity and/or unlawful on account of violation of the principles of natural justice, in particular, the *audi alteram partem* rule.

In December 2011, the National Assembly adopted a resolution that a Special Select Committee of Parliament be appointed to investigate certain allegations relating to the Botswana Development Cooperation (BDC) and the Fengyue Glass Manufacturing Project.

Such committee, known as the Special Select Committee of Inquiry into the BDC project was in due course appointed. The committee carried out its proceedings over the course of 2012. The committee's proceedings culminated in the adoption and issue of a report in December 2012. In July 2013, the Report was presented to and was adopted by the National Assembly.

The Report made findings critical of the applicant and damaging to his reputation. Matambo in court contended that the proceedings and findings of the Select Committee in so far as they damaged his good name and reputation are amendable to judicial review. But the respondents argued that Section 3 of the National Assembly (Powers and Privileges) Act ousts the jurisdiction of the Court to entertain this application.

In the Matambo 'treatise' Justice Professor Key Dingake authored in January 2015, he said Botswana unlike the United Kingdom is not a parliamentary democracy, but a constitutional democracy. Under a constitutional democracy, the National Assembly is supreme only in the exercise of legislative powers. Parliament is not permitted to pass any law that is ultra vires the provisions of the Constitution.

Dingake in his monumental judgement said in Botswana courts of competent jurisdiction are empowered to strike down any legislation passed by Parliament, which is ultra vires the Constitution. "Whilst I accept that the courts should not readily trespass into the province of Parliament, this court should be extremely careful that it does not interpret the separation of powers in such a manner as to unduly deny an individual access to the courts and abdicate its role as the guardian of the rights of all individuals," he said.

He added: "Many of us in the service of the law are familiar with the fact that our jurisprudence drips with phrases such as, 'the court will not interfere with the internal operations of an institution', that it will not 'substitute its judgement' for that of another decision maker. These phrases are an articulation of the principle of deference, which in essence means judicial restraint."

In a constitutional democracy, such as Botswana, characterised as it is by loose separation of powers, deference is often necessary. However, deference, if not properly exercised, may result in fundamental rights of individuals being curtailed by the bureaucratic state and its agencies, resulting in judicial review, an instrument devised to ensure legality and the rule of law being blunted and rendered ineffective.

The realisation that Members of Parliament (MP) may lack profound erudition in the basic legal infrastructure that governs their work is an understatement. The case in point for this apparent lack of understanding of the Constitution in relation to the suspension of the Leader of Opposition (LoO), Dumelang Saleshando by the Speaker of the National Assembly, Phandu Skelemani, recently. Staff Writer **OARABILE MOSIKARE** argues that the Ontefetse Kenneth Matambo versus Speaker of the National Assembly and two other cases could be an induction course for all the MPs



National Assembly PIC: MORERI SEJAKGOMO

tual. "Speaking for myself, judicial review is a necessary check on the decisions of the bureaucratic state and its agencies to ensure that they are lawful."

In my view, Dingake continued, to uphold the respondents' contention that seeks to block the applicant's access to court, undoubtedly degrades Matambo's access to the courts and the rule of law. Parliament like any other entity or individual in this country is subject to the laws of the land and it is not at liberty to unduly and unjustifiably ride rough shod over the rights of individuals as it pleases.

The applicant has both constitutional and common law rights to his good name and reputation, which the court is duty-bound to protect against whosoever - and such protection is not possible if the court's jurisdiction is denied, or the courts develop cold feet when they ought to do what the law requires, without fear or favour.

"The Constitution, in its wisdom, withdrew certain matters from the vicissitudes of political controversy, to place them beyond the reach of elected representatives, and to place them in the hands of the courts, which are oath-bound to be independent and impartial. The courts were created to be an intermediary between the people, the legislature and other entities, in order, among other things, to keep the former within the limits assigned to it."

It is vital to the constitutional health of this republic that the respective branches of government maintain the appropriate separation of functions and powers. Judicial examination must be limited to ensuring that Parliament does not seek to exercise its power in an unlawful way. It is not for the courts to sit in judgement on individual actions taken within the parliamentary process. The courts have a role in assisting the articulation of the extent of parliamentary privilege, but it is for Parliament itself to determine how it exercises that privilege, it being mindful at all times of the constitutional limits of its power and rule of law imperatives.

Which brings us to the issue of Saleshando's suspension. Saleshando was suspended last Tuesday after a vote won by ruling party members.

The LoO had alleged that President Mokgweetsi Masisi's relatives were involved in irregular procurement associated with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic response.

Skelemani challenged Saleshando to provide evidence and subsequently rejected what was produced. Saleshando refused to withdraw his allegations, leading to vote on suspension. The tyranny of the majority prevailed and Saleshando urgently approached the High Court.

On Monday this week Justice Godfrey Radijeng ordered that Saleshando be granted an interim interdict pending the review proceedings to be instituted against Skelemani's decision of July 28, 2020 suspending the LoO from participating in the proceedings of the National Assembly.

The applicant is to expeditiously institute review proceedings within 30 days of 'this order'. The point is if Skelemani and MPs were inducted on the Matambo judgement and other precedents, they could not have wasted the taxpayers' money by voting to suspend Saleshando. Saleshando has since succeeded with costs against respondents and the taxpayer is burdened again to pay for unnecessary expenditure.

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On Gaborone's foreign policy

BAKANG NTSHINGANE*

The proactive Diplomat in Chief, President Mokgweetsi Masisi, has a few paramount questions to nibble on as the world shifts to a new order, both literally and metaphorically.

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and its broad impact on the country will require the presidency to radically rethink and review the strategic underpinnings and operational modalities of Botswana's foreign policy.

Chief amongst these underpinnings, are

two issues, namely, Botswana's place in Africa and as an offshoot of that, its 'Africa Agenda' and multilateral agenda. Secondly, a comprehensive white paper that will inform and drive his economic diplomacy agenda.

As a start, while it has been a challenging period for everyone, the President's time has run out for him to decisively carve out his foreign policy legacy and outlook. I have consistently applauded the President's diplomatic approach and foreign policy priorities in the formative months of his presidency. Taking over and transitioning from Ian Khama's decade of a somewhat

turbulent foreign policy at head of state level, Masisi's job was easily cut out for him in terms of opening up to the world and riding the 'new dawn, new hope' wave.

President Masisi's initial foreign policy priorities were not over the top departures from the five-decade old playbook Botswana already had. The eclectic doctrines informing our foreign policy are still intact and will only need to be refined and perhaps slightly reshaped to accommodate the 'new normal' as we have been accustomed to say.

It isn't yet clear whether President Masisi and his team at Foreign Affairs are more

inclined to 'quiet diplomacy' or are still finding their feet, but the Botswana government's silence on key developments in the region is worrying and indicates Gaborone's reluctance to engage or project its power to impose solutions on African problems.

Simply put, Gaborone is careful not to be seen to be throwing its weight around, particularly by speaking up against African regimes like Zimbabwe, as Ian Khama preferred to do. As a graduate student, we'd joke that Khama's administration would rebuke Robert Mugabe by breakfast, then speak out against the Syrian regime of Bashar al-Assad by dinner.

He was a busy man with his ear to the ground, and although many of his 'rebukes' were mere 'delusions of grandeur' (punching above his weight), the tendency to speak out was still a clear commitment to Botswana's principles of advocating for democracy and the uncompromising protection of human rights.

Again, I will admit, the irony of Ian Khama: the internationally acclaimed human rights advocate and Ian the domestic hardcore president is glaring, but that's a conversation for another day.

Under President Masisi, there seems to be conceptual confusion about how to carve out our place in the world on the backdrop of former president Khama's decade of a mixed legacy in our foreign affairs. The COVID-19 pandemic now provides Botswana with a fresh opportunity to strike a perfect balance between being a 'norm entrepreneur' (defending and advocating for the values we hold dear) and economic diplomacy with a dash of audacity, ambition and unparalleled courage.

This is perhaps the only significant departure between President Masisi and his predecessor: the significant shift away from 'rooftop' diplomacy to a subtle strand of 'quiet diplomacy'. I say subtle because though the President doesn't speak much about what is happening in the region and globally, he isn't afraid to speak up when he has a platform either.

In contrast, and given what is happening in Zimbabwe, former president Ian Khama's administration would've released a statement already, condemning the Mnangagwa administration's predisposition to arresting protestors and journalists.

Masisi prefers a more 'pragmatic' approach to foreign policy: the utilitarian, self-interested, open-



RE-ADVERTISEMENT

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR RESTAURANT WITHIN THE NEW GABORONE CONTAINER TERMINAL (GABCON) FREIGHT VILLAGE BUILDING

Gaborone Container Terminal (GABCON) invites reputable operators, organisations and management companies for an "Expression of Interest" – EOI to provide restaurant services or any related outfit.

GABCON FREIGHT VILLAGE BUILDING

GABCON Freight Village (Corporate Building) housing a restaurant facility and a sitting area, currently under construction and scheduled to be completed by the last quarter 2020. GABCON Freight Village (Corporate Building) that measures at approximately 1236 square metres, houses restaurant space that measures at approximately 295 square metres. This being a one-stop shop logistics hub, it is a multi-use development and is designed to accommodate an array of service providers and consumers. In addition, the dry port/ container terminal already boasts of increased footfall ranging from **Shipping Companies** (mainly shipping lines/ companies housed at GABCON), Botswana Unified Revenue Services to other **commercial players** (Suppliers/ Importers, Exporters). The restaurant will be a multi-functional facility catering for the public, staff, customers and clients from all across the global world.

The appointment of the operator will entail a prequalification process.

GABCON therefore invites reputable operators, organisations and management companies to express their interest as follows:

1. GABCON is seeking to engage operators for a restaurant
2. The preferred operators;
 - Will be required to the terms and features as contained in the EOI document
3. The Expression of Interest documents are available at GABCON where bidders will be required to submit;
 - 3.1 Compliance Documents
 - 3.2 Technical Requirements Documents
 - 3.3 Financial Documents

EOI DATES:

The procuring Entity is GABCON

EOI Submission and Opening Area: GABCON, Plot 14415, Maakgadigau Road, P.O Box 504271, Gaborone West

Companies wishing to participate on this EOI are to;

1. send a request for the EOI document to oratileg@gabcon.co.bw with effect from this publication
2. OR collect Hard Copies from

GABCON during working hours from 0800 – 1300 and 1400 -1630 hours with effect from this publication



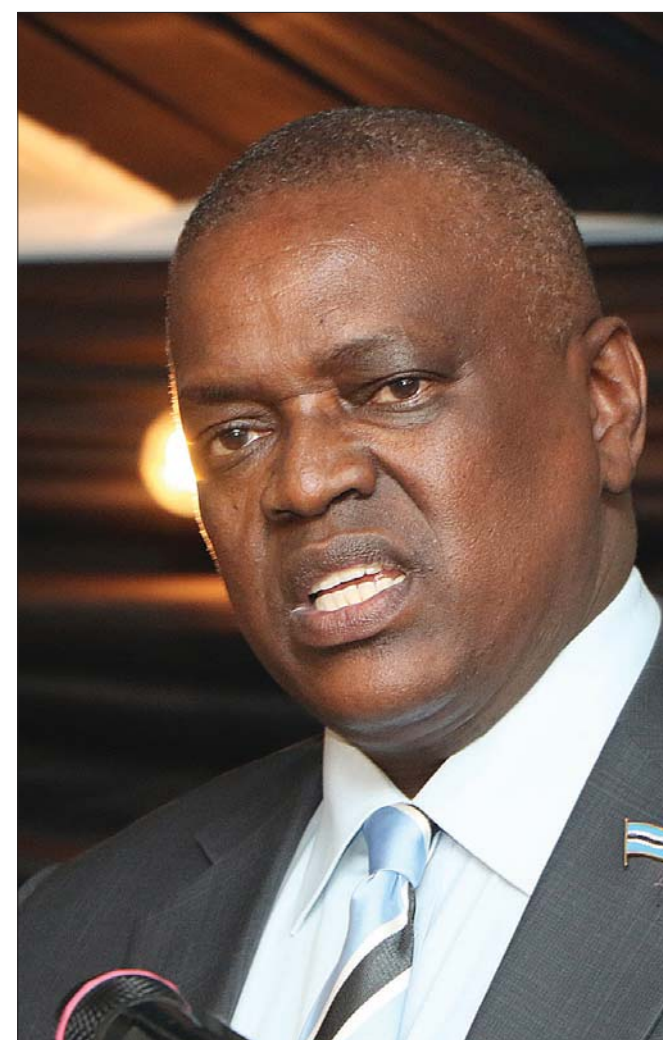
Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing, GABCON is not bound to accept any proposal, nor incur expenses in preparation thereof.

Deadline for submission – 1400hours Thursday, 20 August 2020.

Opening - 1400hours Thursday, 20 August 2020

Managing Director
Gaborone Container Terminal (PTY) LTD
Plot 14415, Maakgadigau Road
P.O Box 504271
Gaborone West

For more information, you may send your inquiries to pearls@gabcon.co.bw.



From the helm: President Masisi is charting the country's foreign policy **PIC:**

during COVID-19 and beyond

for-business, transactional posture that seeks to put economic diplomacy at the forefront. It isn't fair to compare Presidents. It's beyond obvious that the global context that Khama operated in is worlds apart from the current challenges bedeviling the world and Masisi's administration. I'm particularly interested in the COVID-19 global order that President Masisi is operating under and beyond the pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic has shaken up traditional diplomacy in the time of which handshakes; bilateral meetings, multilateral negotiations or international conferences were the norm. As an avid believer in face-to-face meetings himself, this has undoubtedly shaken up the President's streak.

The Africa and Multilateral Agenda

The pandemic has heightened our vulnerability. Multilateralism and increased regional cooperation will matter greatly and will be much-needed shock absorbers for dealing with the impending economic shock that will hit us in the next year or two.

Given the state of the global multilateral system, perhaps we must look to our neighbours first in the region and across the continent and build stronger alliances. But the state of the African Union and Regional bodies is marred in its own challenges. Botswana has signed but is yet to ratify the flagship African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA). COVID-19 has forced all countries to look inwards first and accelerate their industrialisation agenda.

Botswana's trade deficit has shot through the roof during the pandemic. Gaborone will need to carefully assess the prospects of its standing on the African continent and with AfCFTA to position itself to benefit from the enormous potential that the agreement brings while unwavering in its commitment to nurturing its industries to reach competitive export capacity.

Under this new dispensation, Botswana will also need to lend its voice to supporting radical institutional reforms on the continent; particularly issues of peace, security, human rights (and in light of the pandemic), speaking strongly for coordinated continental responses to health pandemics.

As President Masisi will also be preparing to

take over as Chair of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security, this will be a golden opportunity for him to project his and Botswana's vision and authority given the escalating state of affairs in Zimbabwe, Mozambique and the DRC. Whatever the outcome, COVID-19 will be a test for Botswana's Africa and global agenda.

Defining priorities: a foreign policy white paper

The debate on 'codifying' or documenting Botswana's foreign policy is surely older than me. But it has not lost its relevance given the evolving nature of international affairs. This isn't an argument to cast Botswana's foreign policy in stone, leaving it rigid and lacking in imagination. As former Australian prime minister, Malcolm Turnbull once remarked, "change, unprecedented in its scale and

pace, is the tenor of our times." The ongoing changes in geopolitical power dynamics, international trade, technology, COVID-19 and associated health pandemics demand a comprehensive framework to guide Botswana's international engagement over the next 10 years and beyond.

President Masisi must rally his brilliant diplomats in the Foreign Service to put together a 10-year horizon that defines the country's national interests in a rapidly changing world. The white paper must address and capture the above issues of an 'African agenda' and multilateral order. It must address issues of security, trade and cooperation in the region, transatlantic relations, and a nuanced pivot to Asia that goes beyond China.

How do we plan on using our soft power to advance our interests in a contested

world? How do we jump on the bandwagon of technology and innovation? Will we ever address the dual citizenship issue from a constructive forward-looking perspective? How do we view and ensure prosperity of our citizens abroad? Climate change, migration, economic growth, a stable and prosperous region, cross-border infrastructure investments etc.

COVID-19 is a great threat to many aspects of Botswana and the world, but it also presents opportunities to change the style and practice of our diplomacy. There are crucial lessons to be learnt on how we can search for global prestige and respect abroad while achieving prosperity at home.

***Bakang Ntshingane is a Political Economist with interests in politics, foreign policy and international trade. He writes in his capacity as a Motswana.**

We *know* you better

BBSL statement on suspension of the BBSL BBS005 bond

BBS Limited (BBSL) listed a bond BBS005 with Botswana Stock Exchange Limited (BSEL) which has since been suspended effective 03 August 2020. The suspension of BBS005 is due to delays in publishing BBSL annual financial statements. As previously stated, the delays were caused by the upgrade of BBSL core banking system.

Nonetheless, BBSL would like to assure asset managers and their clients that despite the suspension of BBS005, it will continue to pay coupons biannually with the principal amount settled fully upon maturity. Therefore, the suspension of BBS005 only affects its tradability on the BSEL counter not BBSL's obligations to investors.

Having recently concluded the audit for 2018, BBS Limited would also like to confirm that it is now working on the audit for the year ended December 2019 whose completion date will be announced in due course to enable, amongst others, the reinstatement of BBS005 by BSEL.

Lastly, all BBSL stakeholders are assured that the business remains a strong going concern.

Thank you.



*“Working together
towards a common goal”*



The pursuit of social

For some people, one example that illustrates the efficacy of protests is that of Mandela. Away from the limelight, his voice completely censored from reaching the world and for part of the time languishing in solitary confinement, he managed to protest incommunicado from the depth of the dungeons in a way that forced the whole world to pay attention.

He led a decisive campaign of defiance within prison walls. Relating how Mandela earned the respect of his fellow inmates and prison warders, his fellow inmate at the notorious Robben Island maximum security penitentiary Dr. Neville Alexander once said: "He always made the point, if they say you must run, you must insist on walking. If they say you must walk fast, insist on walking slowly."

These protests, coupled with mounting locally and internationally generated pressure resulted in Mandela's transfer from Robben Island to Pollsmoor and ultimately to what some people would argue was an 'upgrade' to a cosy cottage under his sole occupation at the Victor Verster prison near Cape Town.

This is the place where he spent the last 14 months of his confinement.

A few months after the quadtranscentennial anniversary of protests animatedly launched for Segametsi's murder, the nation is still clueless on who the perpetrators of the heinous crime are. Meanwhile, some of the public servants who were heavily punished for participating in the 2011 countrywide protests might still be languishing in a sorry state a tad short of a decade after losing their jobs. Would you subscribe to the narrative that dismisses protests as nothing but theatrical public displays? **KEVIN MOKENTO*** writes

Imagine that! From undignified penal servitude in the most humiliating of environs to the 'luxurious' but of course bugged bungalow with an exclusive swimming pool, a decently sized garden and a dedicated chef.

At this time, one would think he would have forgotten the first phrase apparently uttered to him and his 'partners in crime' by a prison warder upon arrival at Robben Island in 1963: "This is the Island. This is where you will die!" Most people wouldn't quibble with the fact that his protest worked.

His inclination to protest was often readily discernible even in interviews. I remember watching a clip of Edward Koppel, an American journal-

ist then working for *ABC News New York*, interviewing Nelson Mandela in 1990.

This ballyhooed interview took place not so long after his release from prison. Koppel wanted Mandela to comment on internal affairs of Cuba and Libya. Mandela refused to be drawn into that, in the process querying why Koppel didn't challenge him when he had earlier avoided involving himself in the internal affairs of the US.

This was immediately followed by an unexpected brief pause. With his hands clasped and flashing his trademark smile Mandela gave Koppel a good gaze and followed that through with his humorous famed statement,

"I don't know if I have paralysed you."

This evoked sustained applause and whistles from the overly excited audience who were not only impressed by Mandela's eloquence but also by the ease with which he calmly handled Koppel's 'tough' questions. They were also clearly overwhelmed by Mandela's iconic status and bound to burst out with laughter at any spark of humour from him, no matter how dry it could have been.

But it was all too clear to the audience in the City College Hall of New York in Harlem that Mandela had made mincemeat of the confrontational hard hitting interviewer reputedly famed for intimidating his guests with a condescending attitude. Some would argue that Mandela had effectively reduced Koppel to nothing more than a rookie reporter.

We have not really seen many protests in Botswana. Amongst the most notable ones are frequent labour union protests, the February 1995 riots following the murder of the 14-year-old Segametsi Mogomotsi, the April 2011 nationwide strike by public servants and the September 2017 protest by women clad in all sorts of attire in a bid to fight gender-based violence following the stripping and humiliation of a young woman at the Gaborone bus rank.

Were these protests effective? The answer to that question would probably depend on which side of the fence you are sitting. The truth is, a few months after the quadtranscentennial anniversary of protests animatedly launched for Segametsi's murder, the nation is still clueless as to who the perpetrators of the heinous crime are. Some of the public servants who were heavily punished for participating in the countrywide protests might still be languishing in a sorry state a tad short of a decade after losing their jobs. And just two months away from the triennial anniversary of the women's protest, some of our womenfolk still bear the brunt of gender-based violence and many of its domestic abuse offshoots.

In view of the foregoing outcomes, would you subscribe to the narrative that dismisses protests as nothing but theatrical public displays? A notion that suggests with an astronomical degree of certitude that they are an unnecessary waste of time? Some people would vociferously argue that the sentiment of underplaying the importance of protests as nothing but showy displays undermine the value of massive awareness raising endeavours that precede

and follow protests.

Experience demonstrates that the effectiveness or otherwise of any protest largely hinges on the weakness or strength of its opposing party. Where the opposing force is disproportionately stronger than the protesting one, and the protesting force is somewhat deficient in earnestness, resilience and endurance, the mission of the protest is likely to fall flat on its knees.

Of course, in some cases, even where protesters satisfy all the relevant conditions, the mission does not get achieved purely because of the unreasonableness of the opposing force.

All this raises the following questions. Should the effectiveness of protests be evaluated solely on the strength of the parties? Shouldn't there be a more overriding consideration associated with a vigorous and objective assessment of moral perspectives and persuasions as opposed to the willy-nilly herculean flexing of physical or financial muscle? If protests are reduced to tests of strength, isn't it highly likely that the rights of the marginalised, the down-trodden and the minority would always be wantonly trampled on? More akin to repression and its villainous soulmate suppression!

Go-getters would say that for a protest to be effective, it should not go unnoticed, especially by the target group or institution. It should be able to shine the spotlight on the key issue in a laser-focused manner.

The solo protests of Rosa Parks and Muntadhar Al-Zaidi although seemingly unplanned did not go unnoticed. In many other cases though, the efficacy of protests might hinge on the magnitude of the protest, for example the number of participants and or even the demographic spread. Some of the most effective protests have often been marked by some form of pronounced disruption.

Sometimes authorities allow protests to take place without applying their mind to the cost thereof. Often times, authorities fail to appreciate that protests and controversies are bosom companions. Demonstrations are not your normal run-off the mill sponsored walks. And their effectiveness is normally measured post the event, probably by invitation of key organisers to a meeting convened by relevant authorities with a view to reaching a common understanding on key issues.

Or at the very least through the shifting of strongly entrenched views and adoption of a give-and-take disposition by both par-



ADDENDUM 1

BOTSWANA HOUSING CORPORATION

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – CONSTRUCTION OF SHHA TURNKEY PROJECTS COUNTRY WIDE

This serves to inform prospective bidders that Botswana Housing Corporation has made a decision to extend closing date to Thursday 3rd September 2020 at 1400hrs. All else remains the same.



To the streets: Have protests achieved their objectives? PIC: MORERI SEJAKGOMO

justice – Part 2

ties, which would ostensibly narrow the gap between their positions. This calls on organisers to select broadminded astute people who would be able to clearly articulate the mission of the protest in a way that would not only win public sympathy and support, but also hit at the core of the hearts of the targeted decision makers or opposing force with a view to generating constructive and beneficial change.

Selected representatives would do well to avoid getting too close, at a personal level, with members of the opposing force. Perhaps currying favours with them or obsequiously ingratiating themselves to them.

This reminds me of the words of a French philosopher and renowned cultural critic named Julien Benda: “We can serve privilege and power or we can serve justice and truth. And those of us who commit to serving justice and truth, the more we make concessions to those who serve privilege and power, the more we dilute the possibilities of justice and truth.”

In the case of protests, this throws a moral nuance into the mix. Simply put, individuals endowed with the massive responsibility of driving the social justice agenda may not have the best of both worlds. For them to be effective, they would probably need to set clear boundaries and willingly bridle themselves to selflessly toe the self-disciplined route. Where a protest is only limited to an awareness mission, with no inclination to accommodating some if not all views held by protesters, such a protest might be reduced to just another casual nugatory tick in the box.

However, history has revealed that in some cases it would take several protests to open the ears and eyes of relevant authorities. A case in point is the protests that took place over a prolonged period in South Africa.

All of them targeting the collapse of the apartheid regime. International pressure as well as sustained local protests were effective in causing a disruption that ultimately resulted in rendering governance of the country impossible. This does not necessarily suggest that throwing state governance into disarray is an effective means of driving social change! In some cases, this has contributed to compounding matters.

With governance totally dysfunctional, the government of South Africa had no option but to start engaging protesters and finding a way of accommodating them. This is what led to the government of ‘national unity’ with Nelson Mandela ascending to the presidency and Frederik Willem de Klerk stripped of presidential gravitas and relegated to a lame duck deputy.

Some people would argue that the said government was not necessarily given birth to by a change of heart and the willingness to accept change by the Afrikaner-led government. That was clearly demonstrated by the remarks made by the octogenarian politician in February 2020, almost 26 years after the first democratic government was established.

Interviewed by the SABC, FW. de Klerk, the man who to international acclaim ‘deservedly’ scooped the 1993 Nobel Peace Prize, of course sharing it with Mandela, refused to accept that apartheid was a crime against humanity, arguing that it would be disingenuous for Verwoerd’s

euphemistic policy of ‘separate development’ to be placed at the same level with genocides.

Although he eventually retracted following immense socio-political backlash and pressure, what he said is quite instructive. That protesters can achieve their mission without necessarily winning the hearts of individuals charged with the authority to sanction change. Authorities may be forced to take positive action purely as a consequence of the heavy burden of relentless and sustained pressure.

One can argue that protests should not be grand public displays only meant to impress

some people or catapult a few individuals to a position of prominence. Neither should they be a form of half-hearted meaningless cajolery launched by indecisive and indolent individuals.

For them to be impactful, it would be essential to lace protests with a clearly articulated objective. And the underlying mission should be to achieve that objective through targeted engagement and dialogue. Seasoned debaters and negotiators should be carefully selected to engage the opposing party.

Owing to man’s imperfection, there will always be something to protest about. Protesters

themselves might be involved in some acts of injustice. Some might hold the view that protesters should develop an irrepressible thirst for justice and should not give in too quickly to despair even where achievement of the desired outcome might take much longer than envisaged. After all, pursuit of social justice has never been a walk in the park, and given systemic and structural issues, probably never will, at least this side of Armageddon.

***Kevin Mokento is the pseudonym of a Mmegi contributor who has asked for anonymity.**



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – BOTSWANA VIRTUAL TRADE PROMOTION MISSIONS WITH ZIMBABWE AND ZAMBIA

Botswana Investment and Trade Centre (BITC) will host two (2) **Virtual Trade Promotion Missions with Zimbabwe and Zambia**. The trade missions aim to connect Botswana exporters with prospective buyers, agents and distributors from Zimbabwe and Zambia respectively. Companies are invited to participate in the Online Business Seminar and Business to Business matchmaking sessions. BITC will provide an online matchmaking platform through which Botswana, Zimbabwe and Zambian companies can register to conduct business interactions.

The details of the missions are as follows:

Virtual Mission		Date
1	Botswana Virtual Trade Mission with Zimbabwe	20 th – 21 st August 2020
2	Botswana Virtual Trade Mission with Zambia	2 nd – 3 rd September 2020

Targeted Sectors

Areas of interest in Zimbabwe include but are not limited to Fast Moving Consumer Goods, Maize and seed oils, Carrier bags and bin liners, Green bar soaps, Instant noodles, Dishwashing and related cleaning products, Corned beef, Pet food, Beef and beef products, Cosmetics, Blankets, Electrical products, Copper cables, PVC pipes, Door and window fittings and frames, Cans for the fishing and meat canning industries, Chloride batteries, Chemicals and Services.

Areas of interest in Zambia include but are not limited to Safety gear, Mining machinery, Spare parts and consumables, Manhole covers, Solar water heaters, Wooden Fencing, Road repair materials, Furniture, Corned and processed meat, Instant Noodles, Canned and dry Pet Food, Meat Relish, Cheese, Salt, Door and window frames and Protective wear products, and Services.

BITC cordially invites all interested companies to express interest to participate in these virtual missions. The closing dates for the EOI response to participate are 11th August 2020 and 21st August 2020 for Zimbabwe and Zambia, respectively.

BITC will share the detailed mission programmes with respondents to the EOI.

For more information and bookings please contact;

- o Zimbabwe Ms. Itumeleng Teseletso on teseletsoi@bitc.co.bw, Tel: 3633348 Cell: 72 413 269
- o Zambia Mr. Calvin Ketshabetswe on ketshabetswecm@bitc.co.bw, Tel: 3633317 Cell: 75 739 398



Learning from the

NEW YORK: The Kariba Dam is failing. Since the late 1950s, it has sat on the Zambezi River, on the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe, in one of the zig-zagging gorges that ripple the land there. It provides 1,830 megawatts of hydroelectric power to both countries and holds back the world's largest reservoir.

For the last decade, scientists and reporters have issued warnings about the dam's potential to cause ecological disasters of opposite kinds. On one hand, low rainfall has yielded water levels that barely reach the minimum necessary to generate electricity. On the other hand, heavy rainfall has threatened to flood the surrounding areas. When the floodgates were opened in 2010, 6,000 people had to be evacuated.

Climate change catastrophises the weather and when it comes to such extremes, dams are, well, inflexible. They cannot be narrowed enough to eke more force from less water during droughts, and far worse, they cannot be expanded enough to accommodate floods. The only other ways to handle floods are to let the water flow over the top of the dam or to open up a spillway for controlled release. Neither of these measures is foolproof at the Kariba Dam because of how the passage of time has worn it down. The dam was built on gneiss and quartzite and is made of concrete 80 feet at its thickest point. But over six decades of the waters' rushing through it, tumbling over it and crashing down on its other side have eroded the dam's foundations and carved a pit at its base. Its plunge pool is now a 266-foot-deep crater.

As the stony facade continues to crumble, the likelihood rises that the Kariba Dam will not just fail but fall. If the dam collapses, the *BBC* reported in 2014, a tsunami would tear through the Zambezi River Valley, a torrent so powerful that it would knock down another dam a 100

miles away, the Cahora Bassa in Mozambique twin disasters that would take out 40% of the hydroelectric capacity in all of southern Africa.

At the same time, longer hot seasons have drained the reservoir to record lows, and drought-induced power cuts have become a daily reality for homes and businesses. The World Bank is supporting efforts to secure the Kariba Dam, but any attempts to fix or expand it risk weakening it further, which would be disastrous in the event of a flood. Whether the water is too high or too low, the lives of millions of people are at stake, to say nothing of the natural ecosystem. It's a familiar, seemingly inevitable tale of human folly: One of our most ambitious efforts to harness the power of nature has left us exposed to nature's vagaries.

Is this just a failure of our power of prophecy? When we talk about climate change, we talk about our inability to predict and control what's coming, to step into the same river twice. We're out of time, in more than one sense: We've fallen out of rhythm with the circulatory relations between sun and rain and earth.

We've damned ourselves, foreclosed some of the future's forking paths this is the aspect of time we call the subjunctive, the grammatical mood for what is imagined or wished.

A river's branches suggest to us what could, would, should be. But the subjunctive mood when it comes to rivers, when it comes to time doesn't move in only one direction. If we look back, it's clear: It didn't have to be this way.

The history of the Kariba Dam is the story of a war over the past and the future of a river. That war was fought in the 1950s between European colonial powers and the local people in a place then called the Central African Federation or the Federa-

tion of Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

The federation was a short-lived colonial experiment or fiasco, depending on your perspective that merged three adjacent territories with historically disparate relationships to the British Empire. Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) was a self-governing colony founded by the British South Africa Company; Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia) and Nyasaland (now Malawi) had been demarcated as British protectorates. The decision to conglomerate the three territories into one came from the colonialists, whose motivations were exploitatively economic and crudely economical.

Colonial officers had brought some of the tribal chiefs in line by appointing them to largely nominal positions in the native authorities. But the younger, educated, radical Africans some of whom fought for the British in World War II wanted more say in their fate. They resisted federation fiercely. They spoke up from their positions on local councils.

They staged protests and boycotts: "Down with federation! To hell with federation!" They were worried by the fact that federation would move the centre of power to Southern Rhodesia, whose more deeply entrenched system of segregation, the Jim Crow-like "color bar" Africans couldn't go to bars, hotels or movie theatres at the same time as Europeans seemed destined to seep into the neighbouring territories if they were merged.

The choice of where on the Zambezi River to build a dam was dictated by the same gravitational shift. The river's source was in the northwest of the nascent federation, near the border with Angola and what was then the Belgian Congo.

It curled down through Northern Rhodesia before heading east, following in fact constituting its border with Southern Rhodesia, then slanting across Mozambique to its mouth in the Indian Ocean.

The largest tributary of the Zambezi was the Kafue, which flowed into it from the north at the centre of the segment of the river between the two Rhodesias. Just south of that confluence of currents was a gorge known as Kariba. From the mid-1940s on, there was debate about whether to build a dam on the Kafue or at Kariba. Northern Rhodesia had decided to begin construction on the Kafue, which was closer to the Copperbelt, a valuable mining hub and urban centre. The Kafue runs through natural floodplains. A dam there which was eventually completed in the 1970s would be smaller and more complicated to build but cause far less trouble for the people and the environment. After the federation was formed in 1953, however, Southern Rhodesia fought for the Kariba Dam to be built first. At that crucial juncture, why did the federation's government follow the Kariba fork?

It was a question of power. A French engineer, André Coyne, advocated the Kariba site because it would supply more power, at greater value for the cost. The Southern Rhodesians also wanted the dam to be closer

to the new seat of political power in the federation's capital, Salisbury. The larger Kariba Dam would be a technological triumph and a grand imperial project, raising the reputation of the backwater colonies. *Newsweek* later described it as a monument to "the know-how of Western capital": "When the Zambezi River was harnessed, the queen mother cheered."

Coyne's French company designed the double curvature dam; an Italian company, Impresit, was hired to build it; the World Bank granted a loan to pay for it. The Kariba Lake Development Company largely made up of British personnel was established in 1957 to conduct research and piece together some ad hoc environmental and social regulations. There was barely any assessment of the potential ecological impact of the dam, much less the human costs.

So it was only in the middle of construction that the federation's government began to take seriously the question of what to do with the 57,000 people who lived in the Gwembe Valley that was to be flooded to build the dam a place where, for centuries, they'd fished in the Zambezi and farmed on soil made rich by seasonal floods, a place they called home. The word *kariba* was a corruption of *kariva* or *kaliba*, a local term meaning "trap." It already named a place on the river, a massive stone slab that jutted out of the water at the opening of the gorge. One legend amongst the local Tonga people claimed that this rock was one of three that had once formed a kind of bridge across the river a lintel that resembled the animal traps they used until a flood washed the other two away. It was the sole remnant of a geological event and from another point of view, a warning.

Other legends said that this was the home of a river god named Nyaminyami, with the head of a fish and the twisting whirlpool-like body of a snake. The British took one look at that big rock and decided it was the best place to build a dam, and the best word mispronounced because they couldn't wrap their lips around the soft "b" and "l" common in Bantu languages to explain to the Tonga exactly what a dam was.

Trap a river? The notion was so outlandish that the Tonga began to ignore the district commissioners, who despaired of convincing the villagers only a few of whom had ever even witnessed electricity that the dam was really going to be built, that their ancestral homes would soon be underwater.

As David Howarth puts it in his blinkered but engaging 1961 history of the Kariba, "The Shadow of the Dam," "the whole idea of stopping the river was absurd" for the Tonga: "Most of them admitted that the Europeans would probably try, but the Europeans did not know the river as the Tonga knew it; and the old men argued that if anyone thought he could stop the river by building a wall across it, it only showed he had no idea how strong the river was. Let them try ... the river will push the wall over, or run round the ends of it."

This is exactly what happened. Seasonal rains can swell the Zambezi up to 20 times its dry-season size. In late 1956, news came from upriver that an "exceptional flood" so exceptional it would come to be called the Hundred Years' Flood was on its way. The water rose 66 feet and drowned the cofferdam that was in place for construction. When the waters finally subsided, only a crane had been lost, but the engineers were shaken by the unexpected and awesome sight of the torrential deluge.

They built a second cofferdam higher but not high enough. The very next rainy season, the tributaries joined forces once more. This time the chances were deemed one in a thousand. The Thousand Years' Flood of 1958 swept away a suspension bridge, which "writhed like a snake when the water touched it."

The river rose 116 feet to the top of the second cofferdam and poured over it, creating a waterfall 28 feet high. The Tonga had been roundly mocked for superstitious predictions that the "huge serpent" living in the Zambezi would "be angry with the white man's wall and knock it down." Now, the journalist Frank Clements declared: "Nyaminyami had made good his threat. He had recaptured the gorge."

The dam seemed cursed. Late in the construction, some scaffolding gave way. Seventeen workers fell into a hole and were buried in wet concrete. Some say their remains were picked out, others that they remain entombed in the dam. When the floods receded, the engineers rushed to make sure the dam was complete before the following rainy season.

This meant that the wildlife now urgently needed to be rescued before the Gwembe Valley became the largest man-made lake in the world.

"Operation Noah," as it was messianically named by white conservationists, managed to capture and remove 6,000 animals, though thousands more died in the floods. (This focus on the wildlife as the principal victims has persisted as the central story of Kariba; a recent *BBC* article about the dam revolves around a lone baboon "marooned" on an island in the Zambezi.)

The people proved to be more intransigent than the animals when it came to forced resettlement. The government determined that the Tonga were to move to Lusitu, an area to the north, and began resettling 193 villages one at a time, carting the people and their property there in trucks.

These new lands had poor, stony soil. There was an almost immediate outbreak of dysentery. The Tonga way of farming, which relied on seasonal floods and leaving land fallow, wasn't possible here. The ratio of population to land was radically unbalanced. Traditional laws regarding the distribution of property were upended.

Those who had not yet left the Gwembe Valley, already concerned about the disruption of ancestral shrines and the lack of adequate compensation for the loss of their homeland, now had even less rea-



PEACE CORPS BOTSWANA VACANCY HIV Coordinator

OPEN TO:	Qualified Botswana Nationals and Permanent Residents
DEADLINE:	21 August at 12:00PM Local Botswana Time
WORK HOURS:	Full-time – 40 hours/week
REMUNERATION:	Starting at BWP 388,140 basic salary per year; annual performance-based increases possible. Please note: Gaborone-based housing and transportation to/from Botswana is not provided.

Qualifications:

- **EDUCATION:** University degree required in a relevant field, such as health, public health, social work or other social science.
- **WORK EXPERIENCE:** Minimum of five years of work experience in HIV-related work in Botswana.
- **KNOWLEDGE:** Experience in assessing and approving small grants. experience with non-formal training methodologies and experience in conducting training using these methods, understanding of participatory development issues,
- **LANGUAGE:** Strong working knowledge and proficiency (written and oral) in English and at least one local Botswana language is required
- **OTHER:** Expert understanding of Microsoft Office (Outlook scheduling, advanced Word editing, Excel spreadsheet and PowerPoint slide development). Candidates may be tested for competency in any of the above areas during the interviewing process.

Level of Effort

Regular work hours for Peace Corps Botswana are 07:30 – 17:00 Monday through Thursday, and 07:30 – 13:30 Fridays. Staff may be required to work longer hours, weekends, or holidays during Volunteer training periods and site visit travel throughout Botswana to accomplish the tasks required.

APPLICATION BY EMAIL REQUIRED

Interested Parties must obtain full Statement of Work and Application Instructions from the Peace Corps Botswana website: <https://www.peacecorps.gov/botswana/contracts>

HAND DELIVERED APPLICATIONS AND PHONE INQUIRIES ARE NOT ACCEPTED. APPLICATION CONFIRMATIONS OF RECEIPT AND UPDATES ON APPLICATION STATUS ARE NOT PROVIDED.

Kariba Dam

son to leave. Some had been radicalised by the African National Congress a nascent, nonviolent political party whose members agitated for the breakup of the federation and later led the movements that decolonised its three nations. The congress encouraged civil disobedience in the face of the relocation. As is often the colonial way, over time the federation’s persuasion campaign gave way to insistence, then violence. The laws of Northern Rhodesia in fact prohibited forced removal, so the Tonga Native Authority was persuaded to approve a legal order, which was translated and broadcast to the people: “The Government is quite satisfied that the Lusitu plan is in your best interests and now intends to carry out this move without delay. Those who resist will be moved by force, using the police you see here today.... Anybody who obstructs the move will be prosecuted. When people have moved from a village, the huts will be destroyed.”

The people rebelled. The villagers of Chisamu, who were governed by a chief named Chipeco, made a series of charges at the police, shouting and gesturing with their spears, playing drums and singing war songs. The stand-off lasted for days, the police conducting drills, Chipeco’s people imitating them.

“They marched and countermarched in single file,” Howarth writes, “carrying their spears like rifles on their shoulders, and instructors marched at the sides of the columns like sergeants or platoon commanders. Sometimes it looked like a parody, but perhaps they did it to convince themselves.” The governor of Northern Rhodesia was brought in for an indaba with the leaders, but to no avail. When the constables moved in on the villagers, violence broke out. Eight Tonga were shot and killed. The people relented.

The dam was completed. The valley was flooded. Nowadays, fishing boats and “sunset cruises” slip up and down the dwindling lake above the dam. The eeriest, most beautiful thing about Lake Kariba its main attraction for tourists is that the submerged trees of the Gwembe Valley still grow. You can see them reaching up from the depths, branching up out of the water, forking against the sky.

“The whole might of modern technology was nearly caught by the primeval, savage forces of Africa,” Clements wrote of the Kariba in 1959. With this Manichaean hyperbole, he tidily conflates the power of nature, the myth of Nyaminyami and the resistance of the Tonga, even as he diminishes all three. In the end, the might of modern technology won, escaped the trap or perhaps became one. Many historians cast the story of the Kariba Dam as a paternalistic tale about how a zealous belief in “progress” overwhelmed a hapless tribe of what David Livingstone once called a “degraded” people. Another way to see it is that the building of the Kariba Dam redirected enormous wealth to colonial parties at the expense of the rightful dwellers of the Gwembe Valley, who are now considered “development refugees” and lack adequate access to water and electricity. As late as 2000, three of the nearby districts where the Tonga now live were still not connected to the national grid lines.

This dam business now directs wealth to neocolonial parties. The China National Complete Engineering Corporation is building another \$449 million megadam on the Zambezi, closer to the Copperbelt though they’ve recently had to halt construction, because of either delayed payments from the Zambian government or heavy rainfall. Within its own borders, the Chinese government is turning away from hydroelectricity and toward solar and wind energy. They know that, in the midst of a global climate-change crisis, finding alternatives to dams is better than trying to fix them.

Africans know it, too. In 2014, Partson Mbiriri, then the chairman of the Zambezi River Authority, told the BBC, “It’s equally important to think about solar on the assumption, of course, that we’ll continue to have sunshine.” While various figures of authority colonial, governmental, environmentalist, journalistic; then and now, well-meaning and mercenary have all been deeply concerned to explain to Africans what will happen to us if we do not move out of the path of progress, they have never really bothered to listen to us.

The Africans of the federation did in fact articulate a set of prescient questions and demands subjunctive possibilities. In 1955, the Northern Rhodesian African National Congress leader, Harry Nkumbula, wrote to the queen of England, asking her to appoint a commission including

Africans “to determine whether it is just that the people should be dispossessed of their land”; whether the power generated by the dam “could not be better generated by nuclear energy”; whether the compensation the people received was sufficient and whether “the lands to which the people are being moved are equal in value” and fertility to those that would be flooded. Perhaps human folly is culturally relative.

When they were first informed about the dam, the Gwembe Native Authority made a set of 24 demands respecting their rights to land,

property, reparations, protection, information. The 11th was: “That in moving people, their choices shall be seriously considered before they shall be ignored.” And when Chipeco’s people staged their ultimately futile uprising, they wrote messages in English, which they sent to the district officers and the native authorities or nailed to trees on the battlefield: “We shall die in our land.... We don’t want to be removed to Lusitu or to any place. We will not go home until you dismiss your army of policemen. We will not fight with weapons but with words.”

What would paying attention and respect to their words have made possible?

The Tonga knew the Zambezi. They knew that a river keeps time, not like a clock but like a chronicle. They knew its sediments and grooves, the patterns of the beings dwelling within it and nearby, its might and its tendencies. Kariva rock itself was testament to a river that had knocked away its stony triplets, a river so powerful that it seemed that a god must live inside it.

A river can channel water into an immense power. A river can also flood, spread into the spaces open to it. A river is both a singular, driving force and a distributive, branching one. The Tonga had long lived peacefully on both sides of the Zambezi, crossing back and forth to court brides, borrow food, visit relatives. They knew that you don’t stop a river; you move over, through and with it. You follow its paths. You may step into it as often as you wish, but you do not stay. **(New York Times)**



VACANCIES

Applications are invited from suitably qualified citizens of Botswana to fill the following positions in the Bank.

1. SYSTEMS ANALYST

(a) **Main Purpose of the Job:**

To undertake and supervise the installation, operation and maintenance of the Bank’s physical and electronic security systems network.

(b) **Job Requirements:**

Bachelor’s Degree in Electrical Engineering, Telecommunications Systems or Computer Science plus two years post qualification work experience.

OR

A Technical Diploma in Electrical, Electronic or Telecommunication Engineering with at least four years post qualification work experience in related field like electronic/electrical systems maintenance e.g. CCTV camera systems, access control systems, fire detection systems, X-Rays, radio communication systems, etc.

(c) **Required Skills and Competencies:**

Initiative;

Excellent communication skills (verbal and written), especially report writing;

Results focus and performance driven;

Good customer service and interpersonal skills;

Leadership and people management;

Planning and organising;

Integrity and trustworthiness; and

Problem solving and decision making skills.

2. INTERNAL AUDITOR (INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND PROJECTS)

(a) **Main Purpose of the Job:**

To conduct internal audit, reviews of risks and controls and undertake inspections in accordance with approved audit programmes and special investigations to ensure compliance with the Bank’s Information Technology, Computer Systems and Projects Management, accounting and business policies, procedures and practices in order to safeguard the information assets of the Bank and promote effectiveness, efficiency and economy.

(b) **Job Requirements:**

Bachelor’s Degree in Information Systems/Computer Science/Information Technology or related field plus a recognised professional Certification in Information Systems (CISA/CISM/CISSP) or equivalent plus atleast two years post qualification experience in Computer Information Systems Audit or Information Security control. Knowledge of script writing using any script language will be an added advantage. Membership of an internationally recognised institution such as Information Systems Audit and Controls Association (ISACA), is desirable.

(c) **Required Skills and Competencies:**

Initiative;

Excellent communication skills (verbal and written), especially report writing;

Results focus and performance driven;

Good customer service and interpersonal skills;

Leadership and people management;

Planning and organising;

Integrity and trustworthiness; and

Problem solving and decision making skills.

REMUNERATION PACKAGE AND BENEFITS

- Attractive Salary;
- Contributory Pension Scheme;
- Various Staff Advance Schemes (e.g. Motor Vehicle and Housing Loans);
- Group Life Assurance, Group Accident, Disability and Dread Disease covers;
- Relocation Expenses, where applicable; and
- Medical Aid Scheme.

Applications, including curriculum vitae, certified copies of certificates, transcripts and at least two most recent references should be sent by **August 14, 2020** to:

Director
Human Resources Department
Bank of Botswana
Private Bag 154
Gaborone

NB: The Bank will only contact shortlisted candidates.

Where are you Mr President?

Mpuru o haretswe. Mr President, it did not take you long to address the nation following the initial lockdown back in March. You did not just address the nation, you sow seeds of hope, you counselled your people, and even announced interventions to help your people through, including the infamous *Mma Boi*.

You are probably working hard with your Cabinet and COVID-19 Task Team on how to help Botswana get through the pandemic. You are surely concerned about Botswana, their jobs, their companies, their health and we expect you to address us soon!

But where are you when your neighbour, Zimbabwe is burning down my President? *Mpuru o haretswe* in case you are not aware, Mr President. Your counterpart, Edson Mnangagwa and his cronies are brutalising our fellow brothers and sisters. Remember how they are so dear to us? You know they always run to us right when they are troubled. If we do not tell Zimbabwe that we are not happy and act, do you know they will border jump and our battle against COVID-19 could face greater resistance?

Mr President, yourself, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the African Union should urgently and publicly speak out against Zimbabwe government's crackdown on peaceful anti-corruption protests that took place on July 31, 2020.

In case you are not aware, Zimbabwean authorities have arrested at least 60 people, including novelist Tsitsi Dangaremba and the opposition MDC Alliance spokesperson, Fadzayi Mahere in connection with the protests.

Subsequently, 16 people were injured and required medical attention. Dangaremba was released on bail the next day. This was not the end of it as many influential people including journalists continue to bear the brunt of Mnangagwa's misrule.

We have seen various players, civil society and many others speak out on the tragedy, but we are worried that our leader is stone silent. And we know how much you hate corruption at least in terms of your political public pronouncements. You mentioned it many times that you would crack a whip on corruption and we expect you to speak out against it even in Zimbabwe.

Southern African Anti-Corruption Network is one network of civil societies that see that yourself and other SADC heads are turning a blind eye on the situation and therefore call on you to lead our nation "to stand in solidarity with the people of Zimbabwe at this time and express support for those in the media and civil society who continue to act in the best interests of a country and people already struggling under the yoke of a weak economy, prolonged food security, runaway inflation, high unemployment and rampant poverty".

Mr President, just tell Mnangagwa that he cannot achieve peace and unity by brutalising his fellow citizens. *Tanki Tautona*.

Today's thought

"Anyone who unleashes soldiers on innocent unarmed people would have declared those people an enemy of the State. You don't deserve my respect,"

— Julius Malema



The alcohol ban is unsupportable

A regionalised approach to dealing with COVID-19 outbreaks, seemed somewhat logical. In fact, the current lockdown of the Greater Gaborone Area, was almost universally approved by the citizenry, including the hard-hit Greater Gaborone Area. That is testamentary to Botswana's preparedness to be part of the national effort towards fighting the virus. Driving through Gaborone, it is quite clear that most people have remained at home. Shops generally observe COVID-19 protocols. I get very concerned when the irresponsibility of a few is used as an excuse to punish, or manipulate the law-abiding many, especially where that can be avoided.

For many, so long as other regions were trading, the collapse of the national economy could be avoided. The last substantive address by the finance Minister, painted a gloomy picture of the national economy.

Our resources are dwindling and government may not be able even, to extend the social security net for long. As it is, the current lockdown was declared without any arrangement in that regard, being put into place. The longer this war rages on, the more there will be a need to adopt a balanced approach that can minimise the health risks to the public, and the possible collapse of the economy.

I have generally been very appreciative of government efforts in that particular regard. It is just some decisions, that I find really disappointing.

When questioning the sensibility of government approaches, the pedestrian answer invariably received is that the virus has no respect for politics and legal opinions.

This is a statement made to avoid a debate of the merits and demerits of the government policy in question. It promotes the COVID-19 effort into an entirely health issue, where politicians might as well sit home and hand over government to the medical fraternity. Of course, politicians are the ones who peddle the refrain the most, purely to avoid the answers. I am of the firm belief that all policy that impacts

chief
on Friday
■ kgosi ngakaagae



on the citizenry, especially COVID-19 related policy, must be honed and perfected through honest and rigorous criticism.

When Honourable Minister, Peggy Serame, announced the countrywide public ban of alcohol for an indefinite period, I wondered what government was actually trying to achieve. I must state, with respect, that the decision is altogether unsupportable.

We seemed to have graduated from a panic approach to a more nuanced approach based on both health and economic realities. It is fair to say that this decision on the part of government, is unmerited. For a start, there is no evidence that any of the current cases have anything to do with alcohol consumption. Quite apart from that, the reason given was always extant, even at the period of the unbanning of alcohol sales. It is not a new discovery.

There must be a connection between the measure taken by government and the problem sought to be addressed. As it is, such a connection does not exist. The decision is either simply convenient or emotional. Even supposing, that any of the recent outbreaks had been traceable to alcohol consumption, such would not warrant wholesale industry closure.

We cannot, and will surely not, be closing whole economic sectors just because four or five people within such have failed to adhere to protocols. The measure constitutes an abuse of State power and it is the economy that will pick the bill for such indiscretion.

It is fair to say that in some cases, alcohol consumption can lead to people being rather

lax, in terms of adhering to COVID-19 protocols. Even if such a point was to be conceded, it still begs the question as to whether the response is proportionate to the problem. Why for example, are businesses not being allowed to do home deliveries of limited quantities to keep the sector alive.

Is it impossible to come up with customised measures that would ensure a balance between health and industry concerns? Why has the government decided to extend the ban, indefinitely, even to areas where there is no lockdown? So much of the economy is being affected unnecessarily, including the hospitality sector. Businesses, are finding it hard to pay rent and are running up debts. It's a mess, and government is not helping the situation with unmerited decisions.

It is important, again to ask why the mischief cannot be dealt with through available law enforcement interventions as well as further public education.

Let us remember, that this is happening at a time when government has been blowing hot and cold over COVID-19 scorpions. Government has not even tried to raise a volunteer army from the civilianry, to augment law enforcement efforts. I regret to opine that the closing of the alcohol industry, has nothing to do with COVID-19. On the contrary, alcohol is being used as a power tool to manipulate the public the same way Somali war lords used hunger to control the public. The question is as to why government needs to do that. It makes no sense.

Make no mistake about it, the prohibition of alcohol will not stop the consumption of alcohol. On the contrary, it will only make alcohol expensive and put thousands of people out of jobs.

Further, it will only serve to reactivate the black market and to divert revenue from the fiscus. Moreover, important law enforcement resources will be diverted to chasing bootleggers, as opposed to ensuring protocol adherence. The decision is unsupportable.

What is Dyslexia?

Dyslexia, also known as reading disorder, is a language-based learning disability characterized by trouble with reading despite normal intelligence. Different people are affected to varying degrees.

Problems may include difficulties in spelling words, reading quickly, writing words, “sounding out” words in the head, pronouncing words when reading aloud and understanding what one reads. Often these difficulties are first noticed at school. When someone who previously could read loses their ability, it is known as “alexia”. The difficulties are involuntary and people with this disorder have a normal desire to learn.

People with dyslexia have higher rates of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), developmental language disorders, and difficulties with numbers. It is estimated that as many as one in five kids has dyslexia and it affects boys and girls equally.

Classification

Dyslexia is divided into developmental and acquired forms. Developmental dyslexia begins in early childhood whilst acquired dyslexia occurs subsequent to neurological insult, such as traumatic brain injury and or stroke. People with acquired dyslexia exhibit some of the signs or symptoms of the developmental disorder, but requiring different assessment strategies and treatment approaches.

Causes

The exact causes of dyslexia are still not completely clear, but anatomical and brain imagery studies show differences in the way the brain of a person with dyslexia develops and functions. Moreover, most people with dyslexia have been found to have problems with identifying the separate speech sounds within a word and or learning how letters represent those sounds, a key factor in their reading difficulties. Dyslexia is not due to either lack of intelligence or desire to learn; with appropriate teaching methods, students with dyslexia can learn successfully.

Dyslexia occurs in people of all backgrounds and intellectual levels. People with dyslexia can be very bright. They are often capable or even gifted in areas such as art, computer science, design,

educationally speaking
■ **mmaotho segotso**



drama, electronics, math, mechanics, music, physics, sales, and sports. In addition, dyslexia runs in families; having a parent or sibling with dyslexia increases the probability that you will also have dyslexia. For some people, their dyslexia is identified early in their lives, but for others, their dyslexia goes unidentified until they get older.

Misconceptions

As is the case with any disorder, society often makes an assessment based on incomplete information. Before the 1980s, dyslexia was thought to be a consequence of education, rather than a neurological disability. As a result, society often misjudges those with the disorder. There is also sometimes a workplace stigma and negative attitude towards those with dyslexia. If the instructors of a person with dyslexia lack the necessary training to support a child with the condition, there is often a negative effect on the student's learning participation.

There are great misconceptions and myths about dyslexia which make it that much more difficult for someone with dyslexia to receive help and generally be understood.

It is a myth that individuals with dyslexia “read backwards.” Their spelling can look quite jumbled at times not because they read or see words backwards, but because students have trouble remembering letter symbols for sounds and letter patterns in words.

Dyslexia is not a disease and, therefore, there is no cure. With proper diagnosis, appropriate and timely instruction, hard work, and support from family, teachers, friends, and others, individuals who have dyslexia can succeed in school and later as adults. Individuals with dyslexia do not have a lower level of intelligence. In fact, more often than

not, the complete opposite is true.

Signs

- A young person with dyslexia may:
- Struggle with learning even simple rhymes
 - Have a speech delay
 - Have trouble following directions
 - Repeat or omit short words such as *and, the, but*
 - Find it difficult to tell left from right
 - In school, children with dyslexia are likely to:
 - Have difficulty sounding out new words
 - Lack fluency compared to other children their age
 - Reverse letters and numbers when reading (read *saw* as *was*, for example)
 - Find it difficult to take notes and copy down words from the board
 - Struggle with rhyming, associating sounds with letters, and sequencing and ordering sounds
 - Stumble and have difficulty spelling even common words; frequently they will spell them phonetically (*hrbr* instead of *harbor*)
 - Avoid being called on to read out loud in front of classmates
 - Become tired or frustrated from reading
 - Dyslexia affects children outside of school as well. Kids with dyslexia may also:
 - Find it difficult to decode logos and signs
 - Struggle when trying to learn the rules to games
 - Have difficulty keeping track of multi-step directions
 - Struggle with getting the hang of telling time
 - Find it especially challenging to learn another language
 - Become incredibly frustrated, which can affect their mood and emotional stability

Tips on teaching dyslexic children

Praise Gives Power Criticism Kills: A person with dyslexia needs a boost to their self-confidence before they can learn to overcome their difficulties. They have already experienced failure and deep down they often don't believe they are capable of learning. To re-establish self-confidence, provide the opportunity to succeed and give praise for small achievements.

Don't ask a person with dyslexia to read aloud: Words are likely to be misread or skipped, causing embarrassment.

Don't give a punishment for forgetting books or sports kit: Offer positive strategies such as having one place to put things away.

Don't use the word 'lazy': People with dyslexia have to work harder to produce a smaller amount. They will have difficulty staying focused when reading, writing or listening.

Expect less written work: A person with dyslexia may be verbally bright but struggle to put ideas into writing. Allow more time for reading, listening and understanding.

Prepare a printout of homework and stick it in their book: Provide numbered steps, e.g. 1. Do this. 2. Do that etc.

Do not ask them to copy text from a board or book: Give a printout. Suggest they highlight key areas and draw thumbnail pictures in the margin to represent the most important points.

Accept homework created on a computer: Physical handwriting is torture for most people with dyslexia. Word processors make life much easier. Allow them to use the Spell Checker and help with grammar and punctuation so that you can see the quality of the content.

Discuss an activity to make sure it is understood: Visualizing the activity or linking it to a funny action may help someone with dyslexia remember.

Give an opportunity to answer questions orally: Often people with dyslexia can demonstrate their understanding with a spoken answer but are unable to put those ideas in writing.

Whereas a difficulty can be overcome, a disability describes a lacking ability that remains with you for life. When you see dyslexia as a difference instead of a mental deficit, it is easier to look at the positive aspects it brings.

For example, dyslexic people are often extremely creative individuals who excel at seeing the big picture, finding patterns and bringing together information from different domains.

They may be spatially oriented and are often talented artists or musicians. They also tend to be dynamic problem solvers and “think outside of the box.”

“The advantage of dyslexia is that my brain puts information in my head in a different way.” Whoo-pi Goldberg, Actress and Singer.

Source: International Dyslexia Association

A lefoko leo le katoge

Go ntse go bonala e kete kgwedi ya Hirikgong ke kgwedi ya mapalamente go tshwara diphuthego tsa kgotla mo dikgaolong tsa one, e le mapalamente, tsa bone, e le batho, ka go farologana. Re setse re fetile ka dipolelo dingwe tse di neng di kaya fa e ne ya re ka yone kgwedi e, ka dingwaga tsele, mapalamente mangwe a tshwara diphuthego tsa go nna jalo.

Gompieno re ne ra kopana le polelo nngwe ke eo, e bolela fa e rile ka yone kgwedi ya Hirikgong, ngwaga ono, mopalamente wa Nkange, Rre Never Tshabang, a tshwara phuthego ya go nna jalo kwa Goshwe le Magapatona kwa Tutume. Go bonala fa phuthego e, e ne e le phuthego ya ntlha ya ga Rre Tshabang mo kgaolong ya gagwe mme mosepele e ne e le go ya go lekola kgaolo le go itsanyele le morafe wa yone, kana, batlhophi ba gagwe. Gape, a ne a batla go tsaya dikopo dingwe tse morafe o ka neng o ne o na le tsone, a di fetsetsa pele; a di isa palamenteng.

Fa re ntse re tla le polelo re utlwa fa morafe wa kgaolo ya Nkange o ne o ntse o sa robale; ke gore o tshwenyega, o tshwenngwa ke diphologolo. Molato? Molato e le gore ga go na metsi kwa nageng jaanong, go tshaba lenyora, di tshalegela mo gae go batla metsi, go nwa, mo gare ga metse. Se, ya bo e se seemo se se monate. Seemo se

mmua
-lebe
■ **sebofo motshwane**



befile jalo, puso ya tsaya dikgato dingwe go se hema. Jalo he, re bona fa kwa phuthegong ele, mafoko a a neng a nametsa morafe, a ne a tla ka mogolwane wa lephata la diphologolo kwa Tutume, Mme Ketimeletse Mondiya.

Ga twe Mme Mondiya o boletse fa puso e epile didiba di le pedi kwa Ngwasha go nosa diphologolo. Polelo yone ya re go tlaa bo go nosiwa diphologolo tsa naga mme rona re re, ga go tlhokane le gore go tlhalosiwe gore diphologolo tseo, ke dife. Re re, ka tlhomamo, diphologolo tsotlhe ke tsa naga. Mo gongwe mo bangwe ba tle ba re ke diphologolo, e le podi, nku, kgomo, le tse dingwe fela jalo, ga se diphologolo. Moo,

ke leruo la rona, loruo lwa rona, kana, diruiwa tsa rona; re di ruile, re nna le tsone mo gae, ga di nne mo nageng.

Gape, a re tlhalose gore, gone kwa nageng kwa, mo go tlhako jaaka kgama le nare, ke phologolo mme mo go leroo jaaka phokoje le nkwe, gone ke sebatana. Fa phologolo e hula bojang, sebatana sone se ja nama. Jaanong, a dilo tse di ne di farologanngwa, e se re ka tsotlhe di nna mo nageng, ga gobokwa fela ga twe, gotlhe ke diphologolo jaaka bangwe ba tle ba bue. Nnyaa, go na le phologolo le sebatana. A rotlhe re farologanye dilo tse.

Mme ga se ka ga felela fela ka gore go epilwe didiba. Re utlwa gore a fetela pele, Mme Mondiya a bolela fa puso e rekile dikoloi di le pedi tse di tlaa gang metsi go nosa diphologolo tseo. Godimo ga moo, a supa fa puso e buletse letsomo, se e le go leka go fokotsa diphologolo go tlatlala fa gare ga metse di tshwenya batho. Tsela ya nna ya tswela pele ka gape, re utlwa gore Mme Mondiya o ne a re kwa Nkange go agilwe kampa ya badiro ba lephata la diphologolo ba le lesome le bone. Re re, tse tsotlhe, ke dikgato tse di molemo mme re dumela fa jaanong morafe wa Nkange o tlaa bona boroko.

E rile re ntse re sesela, ra kopana le **Dikgang**

(Daily News) **Hirikgong 14 2020** mme ra sela polelo ele ya phuthego ya mopalamente wa Nkange foo.

Fa e bua ka fa e reng kwa Magapatona batho ba ne ba lela ka metsi ka teng, polelo ya re;

‘Kwa Magapatona banni ba ne ba lela ka metsi a a letswai a ba a anwang, ba re gape motse o fetogile makadiba’

Potso e nne ya gale gore a fa godimo fa, o bona phoso nngwe, kana, ga o bone sepe? Fa o re ga go epe phoso ke eng o rialo? Mme gape, fa o re phoso nngwe e teng, ke efe, ke eng e le phoso, mme o ka e baakanya jang? Re nne re re, ga re itse gore o tlaa araba o reng, fela rona re bona phoso e le lefoko ‘anwang’

Gongwe o botse gore, ke eng re re lefoko leo ke lone phoso e e leng fa godimo fale.

Re re, jaaka re a tle re nne re bue ka mafoko a mangwe, lefoko le, le tshwaragantse mafoko a le mabedi, a a neng a sa tshwanela go tshwaragana. Mme ga nna jang? Ga felela go dirilwe lefoko le Setswana se se nang nalo. Phoso e foo. Gongwe o botse gore, go baakanya phoso eo, ke go dirwe jang?

Go go araba re re, lefoko lele, le tlhalosa metsi a go buiwang ka one; le tlhalosa gore metsi ao, ke afe. Jalo he, go baakanya phoso ele, ke gore lefoko leo, le le ka bong le sa tshwaragana le le lengwe, le katoge, le eme fale le le nosi. E le lefe lefoko leo? E le ‘a’. A ‘a’ yoo, a sute, a se tshwaragane le lefoko ‘nwang’ mme polelo e re;....metsi a ba a a nwang....’ Go kwadilwe jaana, go tlhamalale, polelo e arabe sentle potso e mongwe a neng a ka e botsa gore metsi ao, ke metsi afe.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT GABORONE

CASE NO: CVHGB-000984-16

In the matter between:

BOTSWANA BUILDING SOCIETY

Plaintiff

and

MALEBOGO RANKEKE

Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION


BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the judgment of the above Honourable Court, the following will be sold by auction by **Deputy Sheriff Molebi Gaseitsewe** to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE: 21st August 2020
TIME: 10:30 hours
VENUE: Lot 96, 4999, Extension 15, Gaborone;
SITUATE: Gaborone Extension 15;
MEASURING: 4016m2 (Four Thousand and Sixteen Square Meters)
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD: Lot 4999, Extension 15, Gaborone held under Deed of Transfer No. 3084/2006 dated 19th day of December 2006 made in favour of **LEABANENG RODNEY RANKEKE** together with developments thereon being 3 bedroomed house with a servant's quarters

CONDITIONS OF SALE: Conditions of sale will be viewed at the Deputy Sheriff Molebi Gaseitsewe's Office, contact numbers 3912734/75664765/ 71632036

TERMS OF SALE: CASH OR BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 9TH DAY OF JULY 2020.



DEPUTY SHERIFF MOLEBI GASEITSEWE
c/o: MINCHIN & KELLY (BOTSWANA)
The Fields Precinct, Lot 54349 CBD,
Office Block B, 3rd Floor
P O Box 1339
GABORONE
(FR/oak/1002001)

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT GABORONE

CASE NO: CVHGB-003624-2018

In the matter between:

BARCLAYS BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED

Plaintiff

and

FELISTAS RATSHOSA
ALBERTINA SEGOKGO

1st Defendant
2nd Defendant


SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the judgment of the above Honourable Court, the following will be sold by auction by **Deputy Sheriff Opele Mothibi** to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE : 9th September 2020;
TIME : 10:00 hours;
VENUE : Tribal Lot 418, Ramotswa;
SITUATE: at Ramotswa in the Bamalete Tribal Territory;
MEASURING: 900m2 (Nine Hundred Square Meters)
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD: Tribal Lot 418, Ramotswa in the Bamalete Tribal Territory held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No TL 70/2007, dated 12th February 2007 made in favour of **ALBERTINA SEGOKGO** together with developments thereon being 4 Bedrooms fitted, sitting room, dining room, fitted kitchen, toilets and bath, store room, veranda, TV room, pavement in front of the house, poultry, with store room and screen wall.

CONDITION OF SALE: CASH OR BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 13TH DAY OF JULY 2020.



DEPUTY SHERIFF OPELO MOTHIBI
CONTACTS: 3912734 / 72234419
c/o MINCHIN & KELLY (BOTSWANA)
The Fields Precinct, Lot 54349 CBD,
Office Block B, 3rd Floor
P O Box 1339
GABORONE
(FR/oak/1010489)

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT LOBATSE

CASE NO: CVHGB-003782-2018

In the matter between:

BARCLAYS BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED

Plaintiff

and

TEEDZANI ROBERTS

Defendant

SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the judgment of the above Honourable Court, the following will be sold by auction by **Deputy Sheriff Opele Mothibi** to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE: 10th September 2020;
TIME: 10:00 hours;
VENUE : Lot 34292, Gaborone West Extension 38;
SITUATE : Gaborone Administrative District;
MEASURING : 1117m2 (One Thousand One Hundred and Seventeen Square Meters)
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD: Lot 34292, Gaborone in the Gaborone Administrative District held under Deed of Transfer No. 3174/2008 dated 15th day of December, 2008, made in favour of **TEEDZANI CHIPUKA** together with developments thereon being 4 Bedrooms fitted, fitted kitchen, two guests toilets, 2 sitting rooms, dining room, servant squatters, double door garage, swimming pool, pavement in front of the house, screen wall with electric fence, veranda, car shade.

CONDITION OF SALE: CASH OR BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 14TH DAY OF JULY 2020.



DEPUTY SHERIFF OPELO MOTHIBI
CONTACTS: 3912734 / 72234419
C/o: MINCHIN & KELLY (BOTSWANA)
The Fields Precinct, Lot 54349 CBD,
Office Block B, 3rd Floor
P O Box 1339
GABORONE
(FR/oak/1010490)

GABANAGAE J.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT GABORONE

CASE NO: CVHGB-002442-19

In the matter between:

BOTSWANA BUILDING SOCIETY

Plaintiff

and

THE HIVE HOTEL (PTY) LTD
DABILO CHIPUKA
TEEDZANI CHIPUKA
TIKONKO BUSINESS SERVICES


1st Defendant
2nd Defendant
3rd Defendant
4th Defendant

SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the judgment of the above Honourable Court, the following will be sold by auction by **Deputy Sheriff Nonofu Mabina** to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE: 27th August 2020
TIME: 10:30 hours
VENUE: Tribal Lot 96, Nkoyaphiri, Mogoditshane;
SITUATE: Bakwena Tribal Territory;
MEASURING: 1635m2 (One Thousand Six Hundred and thirty five Square) Meters)
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD: Lot 96, Nkoyaphiri, Mogoditshane in the Bakwena Tribal Territory held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. TL 435/2014 dated 4th day of April 2014 made in favour of **THE HIVE HOTEL (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED** together with developments thereon being 10 bedrooms, 1 office, reception area, Dining room, kitchen, boardroom, storeroom, screen wall with sliding gate.
CONDITIONS OF SALE: Conditions of sale will be viewed at the Deputy Sheriff Nonofu Mabina's Office, contact numbers 3912734 /71657100/73280689
TERMS OF SALE: CASH OR BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 19TH DAY OF JUNE 2020.



DEPUTY SHERIFF NONOFO MABINA
CONTACTS: 3912734 /71657100/73280689
c/o: MINCHIN & KELLY (BOTSWANA)
The Fields Precinct, Lot 54349 CBD,
Office Block B, 3rd Floor
P O Box 1339
GABORONE
(FR/oak/1018294)

KETLOGETSWE J.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT GABORONE

CASE NO: CVHGB-002764-19

In the matter between:

BOTSWANA BUILDING SOCIETY

Plaintiff

and

BENJAMIN NYUMBU BAELETSE

Defendant


SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the judgment of the above Honourable Court, the following will be sold by auction by **Deputy Sheriff Nonofu Mabina** to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE: 3rd September 2020
TIME: 10:30 hrs
VENUE: Lot 55209, Gaborone;
SITUATE: Gaborone Administrative District;
MEASURING: 657m2 (Six Hundred and Fifty Seven Square) Meters)
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD: Lot 55209, Gaborone in the Gaborone Administrative District held under Deed of Transfer No. 1040/2012 dated 4th day of May 2012 made in favour of **BENJAMIN NYUMBU BAELETSE** together with developments thereon being Double story of 5 bedroom, 2 sitting room, kitchen, 3 toilets, 3 bathrooms, servants quarter, swimming pool, screen wall.

CONDITIONS OF SALE: Conditions of sale will be viewed at the Deputy Sheriff Nonofu Mabina's Office, contact numbers 3912734 /71657100/73280689
TERMS OF SALE: CASH OR BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 23RD DAY OF JUNE 2020.



DEPUTY SHERIFF NONOFO MABINA
c/o: MINCHIN & KELLY (BOTSWANA)
Contact: 3912734 /71657100/73280689
The Fields Precinct, Lot 54349 CBD,
Office Block B, 3rd Floor
P O Box 1339
GABORONE
(FR/oak/1019695)

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT GABORONE

CASE NO. CVHGB 000788-19

In the matter between:

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA

Plaintiff

and

CAPRI BAKERY (PTY) LTD

Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the Judgment by the Honourable Court, the following movable property will be sold by auction by **DEPUTY SHERIFF NONOFO MABINA** to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE: Friday 19th August 2020


TIME: 10.30 AM

VENUE: Barclays bank of Botswana, CPC, Hyundai circle, along western bypass, Gaborone

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD: 1x 2018 Kia K2700, Truck, white in colour, registration No. B 193 BHE);
1x 2018, Kia K2700, Truck, white in colour, registration No. B 200 BHE;
1x 2018, Kia Truck, white in colour, registration No. B 196 BHE;
1x Kia Truck, white in colour, Registration No. B 195 BHE

CONDITIONS OF SALE: CASH OR BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 31st DAY OF JULY 2020.



DEPUTY SHERIFF NONOFO MABINA
72234419 / 3912734
C/o: MINCHIN & KELLY (BOTSWANA)
Plaintiff's Attorneys
The Fields Precinct, Lot 54349 CBD
Office Block B, 3rd Floor
P O Box 1339
GABORONE
(Ref: FR/oak/1020685)

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CONTACT 3912667

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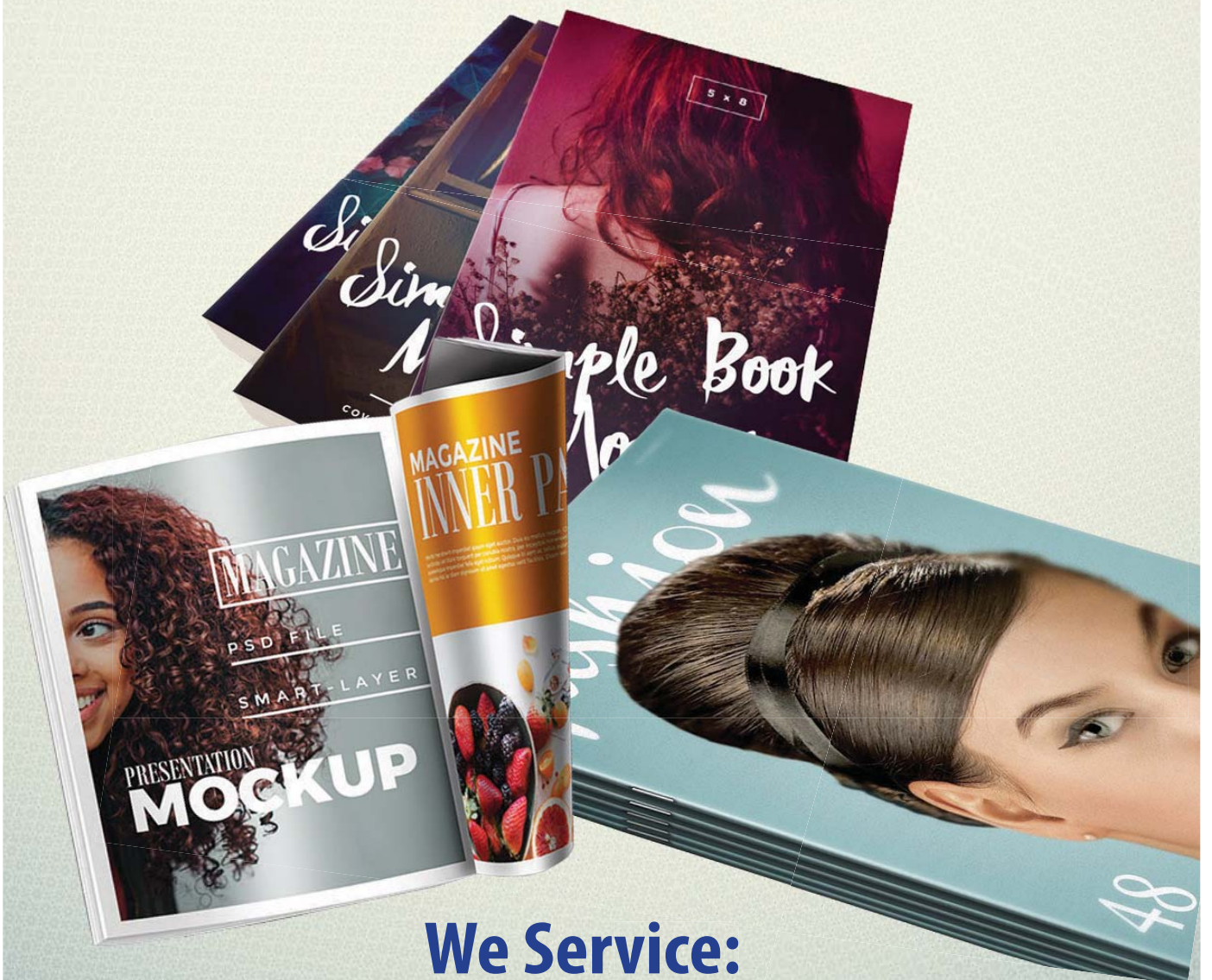
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Contact - 3919458 or admin@sfbuctions.co.bw

Gaborone North

Bids start at P2.2 million



Plot - 1,602m²; Built - ca. 857m²
• Large property, formerly adapted and used as a school
• 5 bedrooms (4 with bathrooms)
• Guest toilet, two lounges, dining area, study, storage room
• Exquisite fitted kitchen, walk-in pantry and laundry room
• Two attached guest wings, changing room and a triple garage. **Call 76220907.**

Auction: Friday 14th August 2020 at 10:30am at the Property

Francistown, Selepa

Bids start at P640,000



Plot - 607m²; Built - ca. 275m²
• 3 bedrooms (master ensuite), air-conditioned
• Common bathroom
• Lounge (air-conditioned), dining
• Exquisite fitted kitchen
• Guest wing with 2 flats (bedroom, bathroom, lounge and kitchenette)
• Boundary wall with electric fence
• Motorised gate, paved driveway
Call 71782168.

Auction: Tuesday 18th August 2020 at 10:30am at the Property

Francistown

Bids start at P1.6 million



Plot - 5,220m²; Built - ca. 568m²
• Large plot situated in a prime area close to the Tati River
• Three bedroom family home
• Guest accommodation – five rooms with ensuite bathrooms
• Thatched gazebo, swimming pool, storage building, carports/ sheds
• Boundary wall, electric fence, motorised gate with intercom. **Call 71782168.**

Auction: Tuesday 18th August 2020 at 2:30pm at the Property

Selebi Phikwe

Bids start at P150,000



Plot - 420m²; Built - ca. 69m²
• 3 bedrooms (master ensuite)
• Common bathroom
• Lounge
• Fitted kitchen
• Fenced, utilities connected
• Easily accessible, central location
• Close to amenities
• Ample space for future developments
Call 71782168.

Auction: Wednesday 19th August 2020 at 10:00am at the Property

Selebi Phikwe

Bids start at P220,000



Plot - 420m²; Built - ca. 172m²
• 4 bedrooms
• Common bathroom, guest toilet
• Spacious lounge
• Dining area with a bar counter
• Kitchen, storeroom
• Separate staff building with two bedrooms and a bathroom
• Centrally located, close to amenities
Call 71782168.

Auction: Wednesday 19th August 2020 at 2:30pm at the Property

Shashe

Bids starts at P1.4 million exc. VAT



Plot - 7,185m²; Built - ca. 1,519m²
• Large commercial property situated in a prime position, easily accessible from the A1 highway
• Commercial building with four retail units
• Office/ storage space, ablution block and ample parking
• Currently ca.75% leased, highly reputable anchor tenant
Call 71782168.

Auction: Thursday 20th August 2020 at 10:30am at the Property

Rasesa

Bids start at P360,000



Plot - 1,076m²; Built - ca. 156m²
• Great opportunity at a great value
• 3 bedroom family home (master en-suite)
• Bathroom and guest toilet
• Lounge, dining and a kitchen
• Integrated single garage
• Fenced, utilities connected
• Large property, ample space for future developments, easily accessible.
Call 76220907.

Auction: Thursday 3rd September 2020 at 10:30am at the Property

Chadibe

Bids start at P120,000



Plot - 1,682m²; Built - ca. 91m²
• Large property comprising of a commercial building with two open plan retail units
• First unit - tiled, open space, wash-hand basin, fitted counter and shelves
• Second unit - tiled, open space, 2 wash-hand basins
• Separate ablution block (male and female toilets) and a storeroom
Call 71782168.

Auction: Thursday 10th September 2020 at 10:30am at the Property

Maun

Bids start at P620,000 exc. VAT



Plot - 2.0907 Hectares
• Large industrial property with great development potential
• Easily accessible, situated in a relatively new industrial area
• Steel structure, incomplete building, boundary wall/ fencing
• Utilities connected
• Good truck access and ample yard space for parking. **Call 71782168.**

Auction: Friday 11th September 2020 at 10:30am at the Property

RADIOGRAPHER

Storkfort Health, based in Gaborone, Botswana, exists to provide robust but cost effective occupational health and wellness services and consultancy. We are recruiting for a **Radiographer** and invite applicants who are interested and meet the stated requirements to kindly apply by email attaching certified copies of your educational certificates to: **hr@storkfort.com.**

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Experience:

- Minimum of 2 years relevant working experience.
- Competencies:
- Excellent knowledge of techniques in general and specialized Radio diagnostics, Computed tomography (CT) and Fluoroscopy.
- Quality Orientation
- Time Management

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Only candidates who are shortlisted will be contacted **by Monday 24th August 2020.**



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CONTACT
3912667

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT LOBATSE

CASE NO: CVHGB-003421-19

In the matter between:

BARCLAYS BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED

Plaintiff

and

CAPRI BAKERY (PTY) LTD
KAGO ASHLEY PHETHU
SOUTHERN HOLDINGS


1st Defendant
2nd Defendant
3rd Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the judgment of the above Honourable Court, the following will be sold by auction by **Deputy Sheriff Nonoyo Mabina** to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE: 28th August 2020
TIME: 10:30 hours
VENUE: Lot 54183, Gaborone and Lot 54184, Gaborone
SITUATE: Gaborone Administrative District
MEASURING: 4325m2 (Four Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty Five Square Meters).
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD: Lot 54183, Gaborone and Lot 54184, Gaborone, in the Gaborone Administrative District held under Deed of Transfer Number 835/96 dated 4th day of November 1996 made in favour of **SOUTHERN HODINGS (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED** together with developments thereon comprises of warehouse with eight office spaces, female toilets and male toilets.
CONDITIONS OF SALE: Conditions of sale will be viewed at the Deputy Sheriff Nonoyo Mabina's Office,
TERMS OF SALE: CASH OR BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 17TH DAY OF JUNE 2020.



DEPUTY SHERIFF NONOFO MABINA
CONTACTS: 3912734 /71657100 /73280689
C/O: MINCHIN & KELLY (BOTSWANA)
The Fields Precinct, Lot 54349 CBD,
Office Block B, 3rd Floor
P O Box 1339
GABORONE
(FR/oak/1020083)

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT LOBATSE

CASE NO: CVHGB-003421-19

In the matter between:

BARCLAYS BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED

Plaintiff

and

CAPRI BAKERY (PTY) LTD
KAGO ASHLEY PHETHU
SOUTHERN HOLDINGS


1st Defendant
2nd Defendant
3rd Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the judgment of the above Honourable Court, the following will be sold by auction by **Deputy Sheriff Nonoyo Mabina** to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE: 28th August 2020
TIME: 14:30 hours
VENUE: Lot 6396, Extension 20, Gaborone
SITUATE: Gaborone Administrative District
MEASURING: 3500m2 (Three Thousand Five Hundred Square Meters).
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD: Lot 6396, Gaborone, in the Gaborone Administrative District held under Deed of Fixed Period State Grant No. 319/78 dated 22nd day of November 1978 made in favour of **CAPRI BAKERY (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED** together with developments thereon comprising of warehouse with four office spaces, female toilets, male toilets and boundary wall.
CONDITIONS OF SALE: Conditions of sale will be viewed at the Deputy Sheriff Nonoyo Mabina's Office.
TERMS OF SALE: CASH OR BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 17TH DAY OF JUNE 2020.



DEPUTY SHERIFF NONOFO MABINA
CONTACTS: 3912734 /71657100 /73280689
C/O: MINCHIN & KELLY (BOTSWANA)
The Fields Precinct, Lot 54349 CBD,
Office Block B, 3rd Floor
P O Box 1339
GABORONE
(FR/oak/1020083)

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT LOBATSE

CASE NO.: CVHGB-000501-16

In the matter between:-

BARCLAYS BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED

Plaintiff

and

KEBATSHABILE MOTSWASELE


Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the judgment of the above Honourable Court the following will be sold by auction by **DEPUTY SHERIFF BATHUSI BILLY** to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE: Monday 31st August 2020;
TIME: 10.30 am;
VENUE: Lot 10663, extension 17, Selibe Phikwe;
SITUATE: Extension 17, Selibe Phikwe;
MEASURUNG: 405m2 (Four Hundred and Five Square Metres);
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD: Piece of land being Lot 10663, Extension 17, Selibe Phikwe.
WHICH PROPERTY : held under Deed of Transfer No. FT 55/2011 registered in favour of **KEBATSHABILE MOTSWASELE** dated 7th February 2011, together with developments thereon being Lounge, dining Room, fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms, storeroom, servants'quater with 2 bedrooms, kitchen and walled with electric fence;
CONDITION OF SALE: Cash or Bank guaranteed cheques

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 14TH DAY OF JULY 2020.



DEPUTY SHERIFF BATHUSI BILLY
c/o: MINCHIN & KELLY (BOTSWANA)
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Contacts: 3912734 / 71607940
The Fields Precinct Lot 54349 CBD
Office Block B, 3rd Floor
P O Box 1339
GABORONE
REF: FR/oak/1018904

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT GABORONE

CASE NO: CVHGB-001293-18

In the matter between:

BOTSWANA BUILDING SOCIETY

Plaintiff

and

TEEDZANI CHIPUKA


Defendant

SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the judgment of the above Honourable Court, the following will be sold by auction by **Deputy Sheriff Opelo Mothibi** to the highest bidder as follows:-

DATE OF SALE: 18th August 2020
TIME: 10:30 hours
VENUE: Lot 33969, Extension 36, Gaborone.
SITUATE: Gaborone Administrative District.
MEASURING: 405m2 (Four Hundred and Five Square Metres).
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD: Lot 33969, Extension 36, Gaborone in the Gaborone Administrative District held under Deed of Transfer No. 681/2003 dated 8th day of April 2003 passed in favour of **TEEDZANI CHIPUKA** together with developments thereon being 3 (three bedrooms with fitting room, bathroom with toilet and 1x bathroom with toilet, kitchen, sitting room, dinning room, paved yard, screen wall with electric fence.
CONDITIONS OF SALE: Conditions of sale will be viewed at Deputy Sheriff Opelo Mothibi's Office.
TERMS OF SALE: CASH OR BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 23RD DAY OF JUNE 2020.



DEPUTY SHERIFF OPELO MOTHIBI
CONTACTS: 3912734 /72234419
c/o MINCHIN & KELLY (BOTSWANA)
The Fields Precinct, Lot 54349 CBD,
Office Block B, 3rd Floor
P O Box 1339
GABORONE
(FR/oak/1020083)

JUDGE: SEGOPOLLO J
IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT GABORONE

CASE NO. CVHGB-004119-19

In the matter between:

DEBSWANA DIAMOND COMPANY (PTY) LIMITED

Plaintiff

and

CLASSIC WOOD HOLDINGS (PTY) LIMITED
PELOYAME NTATSI
BARULAGANYE MOGOTSI

First Defendant
Second Defendant
Third Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION IN RESPECT OF MOVABLE PROPERTY


BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to a Judgment of the above Honourable Court, the following movable property of the abovenamed Defendants will be sold by **Deputy Sheriff Molebi Galeitsiwe** in the manner herein set out.

DATE OF SALE: Friday, 28th August 2020
TIME OF SALE: 09:00 A.M.
VENUE OF SALE: Broadhurst Police Station

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD: 1 x white Toyota Land Cruiser Registration B457AUG; engine 1GLA385080; chassis JTELU71J0040069221
1 X black Mercedes Benz car Registration B900ARG; engine 27295231405025; chassis WWDD2120542A130966 (engine not working)
1 x grey Nissan Station Wagon 3.5 Registration B220AWN; engine VQ35134671C; chassis JNITAW25020601825 (engine not working)


TERMS AND CONDITIONS: 10% of accepted bid on acceptance. Detailed conditions may be inspected at the offices of Deputy Molebi Galeitsiwe. The Deputy Sheriff shall not be obliged to accept any bid made.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 16th DAY OF July 2020.



ARMSTRONGS ATTORNEYS
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Prime Plaza, Plot 74538
2nd Floor, Acacia House
Western Commercial Road
Central Business District
P O Box 1368
GABORONE
[Ref: JCH/tw/43373]
Deputy Sheriff Molebi Galeitsiwe
Cell No. 71632036

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Closer: Borussia Dortmund’s Jadon Sancho looks set to sign a five-year deal at Manchester United PIC: LARS BARON/EPA

Solskjær needs more than Sancho

Jadon Sancho has 11 England caps. He was in the Bundesliga team of the season at 19. He makes in-game decisions as prescient as a teenage Wayne Rooney. He is a two-footed, goalscoring assist maker with a Harry Houdini array of tricks.

Yet if Ole Gunnar Solskjær’s pursuit of the Borussia Dortmund forward is not backed by further transfers then Manchester United have only a distant hope of being contenders next season.

Phase One was a rebuild of ethic and talent in the United tradition. A corralling of players of the ilk of Marcus Rashford, Harry Maguire, Anthony Martial and Mason Greenwood, who fitted the culture and could cast off the sluggish mode of Solskjær’s immediate predecessors – José Mourinho, Louis van Gaal and David Moyes – for a progressive style that would garner results.

This ended with United’s third-place finish and could bring success in the Europa League, which resumes on Wednesday. Phase Two has to be a ruthless build on momentum and Champions League qualification that makes the targeting of Sancho the start of a wholesale strengthening of Solskjær’s squad. Here the prime focus must be the rearguard and, specifically, an unwanted issue bequeathed by Sir Alex Ferguson on retirement in 2013 to Moyes and since unaddressed: central defence.

A frontline with the firepower of Sancho, Rashford, Martial and Greenwood will be of scant use if a faultline that began with the ageing Rio Ferdinand, ran through Daley Blind and continues with the vulnerability of Maguire and Victor Lindelöf to speed is not finally ended.

As a combination Maguire and Lindelöf are not pacy enough against teams who turn them, as Bournemouth demonstrated last month. United won 5-2 but not before Junior Stanislas opened the scoring and the Lindelöf-Maguire axis was torn at through the middle and down the channels.

Just as Manchester City’s powder-puff title defence was down to having only Aymeric Laporte of requisite quality at centre-back, so Solskjær’s side may suffer if Maguire cannot on occasion be paired with a faster partner than Lindelöf or vice versa. On this the manager says: “We want to be a high-pressing team and if you don’t take risks you won’t improve. Once in a while there’s been some space found behind us but I’m not concerned about it.”

Yet being exposed far up the field would seem precisely why a centre-back who can perform a rescue act is required. Kalidou Koulibaly would be ideal but whether Ed Woodward, the executive vice-chairman, will sanction an £80 million-plus deal for the 29-year-old Napoli player to follow the expected £100 million on Sancho remains to be seen.

Related here is a lack of competition in the position. Eric Bailly is injury prone, and although Solskjær’s hopes for Axel Tuanzebe were shown by naming him captain for the Carabao Cup game against Rochdale in September the 22-year-old also struggles to stay fit.

Since December 2018 four injuries have cost Tuanzebe 257 (and counting) days of football, and he is unavailable until next term.

Brandon Williams had a breakout season at left-back for Manchester United and can also play on the right. With Jones struggling to make the matchday squad, and Chris Smalling and Marcos Rojo favourites to leave, the inclusion of the 18-year-old Tendi Mengi in United’s 30-man Europa League selection emphasises Solskjær’s threadbare options. Clearer is this: in Sancho’s expected arrival United have a golden chance to firmly reestablish themselves as a force.

Solskjær is set to acquire a footballer whose attacking menace is augmented by a mentality that will enhance the side. With him Solskjær will have added to his leader class that numbers Maguire, Fernandes, Pogba, Nemanja Matic and Martial. Now is the time for the manager to be truly backed. (The Guardian)

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Naledi TuckShop
Chedu Chonga
Roadway west
Khan Khan
Erietta Café
Choppies Loja Mall
Tinkane investment
Bonanza
Phumulane
Shell Service Station
Selepa S/market
Tati river s/market
Satellite S/Market
B.D.F Donga
Shell Haskins
Lexus Stationers
Book world
Meriting Mall (Spar)
Spar Nswazi
Supa Spar Marang

Botswana Book Centre
Pick N Pay (FNB Mall)
Pick N Pay (Galo centre)
Total Galo filling Station
2Inn General Dealer
B.D.F Area S
Borakanelo
Manyanda filling Station
Mering Area W
Phokeng General Dealer
Prarick F/ Station
Precious Filling Station
Savuti
Shashe River
Tombola Café
Cityway Filling Station
Spar Nzano
Engine south Bridge
Engen Satellite
Street Sales 1

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Todomore Choppies (Maruapula)
Tswana Spar (Blk 3)
Uplift Choppies, Namantle
Xinny B/hurst
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Bala Books (Rail Park)
Ben Mart
Bissimila Take Away (G-West)
Block 9 Supermarket
Bonanza (Blk 9)
Bontleng Co-operative
Bontleng Filling Station
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BP Kgale

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Dahal
Delux Ok
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Jarapino (Choppies Village)
Jeff More (Tlokweng)
Keyone BP (Fair Grounds Mall)
Lerakwa Gen Deal (Tlokweng)
Marina Restaurant
Pick & Pay (South Ring Mall)
Pick N Pay
Plaza 14 (EXT 14)
Pop Inn
Southing Filling Station

Skylab
Thamaga Choppies
KANYE
Bangwaketse
Civil Service
(Main Mall Choppies)
Choppies BG
Lawrence
Malek
Mmaseapi
Muslim
Saverite Supermarket
Total Filling Station

KASANE

Chobe River G/Dealer
Choppies Kasane
Kasane Spar
The King Can Coca Cola

LOBATSE

Botswana Book Centre I
Cumberland Kiosk
Danna / B.M.C Tuckshop
Engen
Hillside Choppies
Keitumetse
Kenelwe Molapo
L.M. Store
OK Foods Lobatse (Choppies)
Lobatse Value
Moeding Tuck Shop
Pick N Pay
Sesarona Shell Tuckshop
Taj Pitsane (Choppies)
Tikonoko
Tshipidi Butchery (G.hope)
Wayside Supermarket (Choppies)
Woodhall Value Store

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Bosele Store
Bothaba Supermarket
Jobfine Holdings (Pty)Ltd (Ramotswa Choppies)
Kagiso Centre Tuck Shop
Marang Supermarket
Save-Rite Ramotswa
Tidimalo Mmabatho
Zafa Cash Store

MAUN

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Ausi Holdings
Bestlite
Delta Spar
Maun Book Centre
Mchanga Enterprises
Monlek Invest
Parkview
Pototo (Choppies Shakawe)
Riley's Garage
Safari Spar
Velocity Choppies Maun

MOCHUDI

Agisanang Supermarket
Choppies Mochudi
Choppies Phakalane (Gabs)
Engen Phaphane
Engen Kgatleng
Glen Valley
Good Hope Supermarket
Ipopeng s/g Dealer
Isago Books
Mafila Holdings
Mochudi Book Shop
Mochudi Spar
Monnakgomo
My Chemist
Nna Restaurant
North End F/Station
Phakalane Spar (Gabs)
Pick-N-Pay (Sebele)
Pilane Fresh Produce
Splendid Book Shop
Star Shop
Stone House (F/Station Phakalane)
Tshephe F/Station (Gabs)
Tihotsapele
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MOGODITSHANE

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Joe's Fruit Shop
Karr Choppies
Kay Tee Book Seller
Kays F/Station Shop
Keletso F/Station
Lerotse Catering
Miles (Filling Station)
Mogoditshane Spar
OK Foods (Choppies)
Smooth Sale Choppies
Supa Save
Supa Save (SSKB)
T & T Supermarket II
Top Center
Tshwaragano
Engen Mmopane
Japs F/Station (Metsimothabe)
Kebo Desh (Metsimothabe)

GABANE

Copy Shop

MOLEPOLOLE

Engen Moleps
Fashion Care
Fountain Plaza
Hollistic
Infinity Book Shop
Kweneng Rest
Mafenyatlala Spar
Molepolole Choppies
Molepolole Spar
Moleps Co-op
Perekisi
Spar
Star Shop
Supa Save
Taj Select
The Big Six
The Gateway

ORAPA

Boasa (Lethakane)
Botshelo (Sebina)
Chibelo Take Away
Choppies Lethakane
Come Again (Masunga)
Cross Roads Sebina
Dikgomo Supermarket
Engen Nata
Lethakane Spar
Mamasani
Mojanaga Investment
North Gate
Orapa Spar
Raffels Bar
Save More
Shalala
Smuts Caravan
Tsose Muuda

SELEBI-PHIKWE

BDF Canteen
Best Deal
Bobonong Choppies
Boikhutso
Botshabelo Pharmacy
Daily Needs
Engen Selebi-Phikwe
Ikanyeng
Kebosa Investment
(Bobonong)
Legwatagwata
Leseding
M & H S/Market
Make My Day
Motswedi
OK Grocery
Choppies
Phikwe Choppies
Pic N' Save
Pick N' Pay Selebi Phikwe
Pioneer Stationers
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Bekker makes swimming waves

CALISTUS KOLANTSHO
Staff Writer

Andile Bekker recently announced his arrival on the swimming grand stage when he bagged an incredible 10 medals at the 2020 Confederation Africaine de Nation (CANA) Zone IV Swimming Championships held at University of Botswana Aquatic Centre in February.

Despite his tender age, the 17-year-old Maru-A-Pula student told *Mmegi Sport* that he has been swimming competitively for almost 11 years. He is part of the Botswana Junior National team.

“I first started swimming in pre-school, where we would go and practice water safety, but I started training with a club when I was about six years old. My brother, Zinhle, began swimming with the club before me and I guess he was the reason I wanted to start swimming as well,” he said.

His older sibling encouraged him to, like a duck, take to water. “I wanted to be like him and do the same things that he was doing, so I think that is what first attracted me to the sport of swimming,” he said.

Bekker got his big break in 2015 when he was selected to represent Botswana at the CANA Zone Three and Four Championships in Luanda, Angola.

“I was 12-years-old and being selected to the team was extremely exciting for me. It was something I was always hoping for, but I do not think I really understood what it meant,” he said.

The Form Five student said looking back now, he appreciates what it meant and it was the beginning of a long journey ahead. Bekker had good competition clocking Personal Best (PB) in all his races. He won four medals, three bronze and a silver.

“In swimming, we do not necessarily have categories, but instead we put things into different strokes (freestyle or front crawl, backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly and individual medley). At that competition, I swam all four strokes over several distances and I also swam a few relays with other people of my age group. I swam 14 events and the team came in fourth,” Bekker said. His biggest achievement was when he competed at the FINA World Junior Championships in Bu-



Swimming against the tide: Bekker has excelled in swimming

dapest, Hungary in 2019.

Bekker said it was an eye-opening experience for him. At 16 years, he had an opportunity to see the best youth swimmers in the world all competing at the same stage.

“I swam well and got my PBs in most events, but I think the biggest take away for me was being able to see and make a debut at such a high level,” he added. In February, Bekker was a force to reckon with during the CANA Championships at the UB.

“Competing on home soil is always very exciting for me as my family and friends are all there to watch me swim, and of course having all the support from the locals too. We prepared for the competition just like any other. Training as hard as we could everyday whilst making sure we stay injury-free,” he said.

Bekker said they trained at the UB swimming pool, which made him to be comfortable swimming in a long course (50 metres) before the competition.

“Overall, the experience was good because I got to enjoy support from the public and my fellow teammates. By the way, the gala was on my birthday, which made it extra special,” he said.

Bekker scooped 10 medals, three gold, five silver and two bronze medals.

He said such competitions are always fun because he gets an opportunity to meet his friends from Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mauritius.

Regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, Bekker said he has not been able to swim properly for about two months.

“I did what I could do at home, using a rubber stretch cord attached to a pillar, so that I could

swim in my swimming pool at home. I also did squats, push ups and pull ups. Fortunately, training resumed and it was great to get in the pool again as well as the gym,” he said.

However, Bekker has been focusing on school examinations forcing him to cut on his training schedule. The Gaborone-born swimmer said he

FACT FILE

Full names: Andile Bekker
Date of birth: February 21, 2003
Place of birth: Gaborone
Sporting code: Swimming
Biggest achievement: FINA World Junior Championships debut
Club: Darrel Morton School of Swimming (DMSS)

Mudongo makes 9th Olympiad appearance

CALISTUS KOLANTSHO
Staff Writer

Woman International Master (WIM) Boikhutso Mudongo will make her ninth appearance when the Olympiad kicks off today (Friday). The 2020 edition is being played online due to the global outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mudongo would be leading a side that has other decorated players such as International Master (IM) Providence Oatlhotse, WIM, Onkemetse Francis and Woman Grand Master, Tuduetso Sabure.

The team also has an interesting young talent in reigning National Champion, Woman FIDE Master (WFM), Besa Masaiti, WFM Naledi Marape and WCM Refilwe Gabatshwarwe.

In the last Olympiad, Mudongo was forced to quit the competition after a close relative passed on, leaving the team in the hands of Francis. After the bereavement, Mudongo has been missing in action, only to bounce back this year.

Mudongo told *Mmegi Sport* that she expects a different game all together because it is the first time Olympiad played under a virtual set-up.



Experienced: Mudongo will lead a talented Botswana side in the Olympiad **PIC:**

“It is a challenge because we are doing this for the first time. One needs to be extra careful, especially with how we move pieces. Incomplete moves are likely to happen,” Mudongo said.

The Botswana Chess Federation (BCF) secretary general, Mokwaledi Tingwane said having a

young player in the team such as Marape adds an exciting tilt.

Tingwane said Marape has shown consistency both on the local and international scene at a young age. “This Olympiad team was selected based on FIDE ratings and she is one of the six

reserves. Under normal circumstances, there is a qualification process through the national championship, being highest rated and trials,” he said.

Naledi’s father, Marape Marape said they are excited about Naledi’s Olympiad debut. He said all the years of hard work were finally paying off.

“She would be playing against international players and it is the exposure that she needed. I hope she would make the team again for the next Olympiad. We also hope this is the beginning of bigger things for her,” he said.

Meanwhile, Botswana takes on Nigeria in the first match today. Team coach, Ivon Makabe said the team has been training hard although from different areas.

He said FIDE organised a friendly match for the team as a way of checking if all systems were in place.

Players from Greater Gaborone would be playing at Botswana National Sport Commission (BNSC) warm up area where laptops have been set up and internet provided by Nashua Botswana.

Other team members are FM Thato Olebile, CM Thato Elias, Monnaatsheko Keletshabile, Gomolemo Rongwane and Othato Selogelo.

Women gain ground, but remain on the periphery

As the Botswana Football Association (BFA) prepares for its elective congress on August 22, 2020 the number of women contesting has caught the eye. There have been amplified calls to have more women participate in decision-making positions, but in football, they remain on the periphery, rather than the core of the contest, writes **MQONDISI DUBE**



Women of steel: Okie, Magang and Setshedi are contesting from different camps

Women's participation in football has gained traction over the years, and so have their involvement in leadership roles.

Not too long ago, football was considered a male preserve, with fewer women involved. However, FIFA's deliberate programmes have catapulted women to the limelight, with particularly the girl-child allowed a fair share of a stake in the game.

The decision to allow women to play the game has seen countless stars produced, with Brazil, Germany and the United States, the dominant forces on the global stage.

Botswana has made steady, but unspectacular progress. The Mares, in particular, have progressively raised their hand within the region, becoming a constant irritant to COSAFA powerhouses, like South Africa.

It was only last year that The Mares, the women's senior team, brewed a shocker, when they defeated a South African side. Banyana Banyana were fresh from the World Cup and the Mares had not been given an iota of chance.

The Under-17 held the nation spell-bound, walloping Zimbabwe 7-0 in the World Cup interest, to continue an upward trajectory for women's football.

Women's football has thrived, despite falling far behind their male counterparts in terms of financial support.

Recently, FIFA gave the Botswana Football Association around P6 million, dedicated to women's football.

The world soccer governing body has been unequivocal that there is need for a deliberate acceleration of the women's game.

With action on the pitch heating up, there has been considerable interest from women administrators.

The upcoming BFA elections have seen a spike in women's interest as six female candidates from across the three camps have raised their hands for consideration.

Itsholeng Disang, Joy Setshedi, Lobito Ncube, Tsoseletso Magang, Kesego Okie and Theresa Hirschfeld, find themselves amongst 23 names in the hat for consideration when delegates cast their vote on August 22, 2020.

While there is increased interest it, however, remains relatively low, at 26%. The position of female representative in the BFA National Executive Committee (NEC) largely contributes to a higher number of women participants.

Four of the six candidates are contesting for the 'reserved' female representative seat. It leaves only two women, Hirschfeld and Okie

to contest against their male counterparts for the ordinary member position.

Okie attributes interventions like the United Nations' HerForShe project for opening doors for women.

"I am confident that voters will base their decision on capability and not on gender. Even then, time is now for Botswana football to benefit immensely from hardworking and passionate women. The desire is to restore the credibility and image of the game locally, and transport it optimally and grow it exponentially," she said.

Women still find themselves having to scratch the barrel while men get the fattest cut.

The top positions are still contested for by men, and no woman has ever held the presidency.

Game Mothibi, International Working Group (IWG) on Women and Sport executive board member, believes the representation of women in the elections is too low.

"I think the most important thing is interest from the sport leadership. We have tools to use to make sure women's sport takes shape but someone needs to use the tools and monitor progress.

"We need effort from BNSC, BNOC and MYSC. There is Women and Sport Botswana (WASBO), but how much work have they done.

Is the environment conducive to effect change? Botswana hosted IWG, and then

what? The Sport Act of 2014 has created a WASBO seat on the board, to do what exactly?" quizzed Mothibi.

She argued, there is a lack of political women to ensure women are afforded equal opportunities.

"But since we are where we are and nothing is moving, we can start with a quota system. Women are there, they are capable but the system makes it difficult for them to serve," Mothibi said.

She acknowledged that there has been an increase in the number of women contesting the BFA elections, but added there was lack of strategy and communication within the contesting female candidates.

"Had they communicated their desire to stand for office, they could have spread themselves across all positions to increase their chances of going into office," Mothibi said.

Location of Makwala Stadium divides Tutume

CALISTUS KOLANTSHO
Staff Writer

The site of where the Isaac Makwala Stadium is to be built in Tutume remains a divisive matter within the village, which has led to delays in the construction of the facility.

Organiser, Christopher Nyanga said as festive tournament organisers, they had written to Tutume authorities over the matter.

"The letter has not been delivered to the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sport and Culture Development (MYSC)," he said.

"It has only been delivered to authorities in Tutume who have influence in ensuring that the issue is expeditiously resolved, being the Council, District Commissioner's office, Member of Parliament's office and Tutume Kgosi. Remember, the issue is about resolution of where in Tutume should the facility be built."

Nyanga added they could only go to MYSC if the issue of location was finalised and funds are available. He added that for now their focus is looking for a solution at home.

Nyanga admitted that there are divisions amongst villagers about the location. In the letter, he requests that villagers should focus on the bigger picture and bury the hatchet for the sake of development.

Regarding the naming of the sta-

dium, Nyanga said they heard of reports of divisions, but dismissed them as false.

"Our position is that such is even more disturbing. We believe that it is not an issue of debate. A decision was taken that the facility be named after Isaac Makwala as an honour to him and the people of Tutume who raised him. That should continue like that," he said.

Nyanga said he is aware that some people might say Makwala is not the only one from Tutume who has hoisted the village's name high.

"That is true, but now it is Makwala whom the government has chosen to recognise through this stadium. We should accept that and then initiate the recognition of other deserving Tutume legends later. Our view is that we should not distract a noble initiative like this through internal issues that cannot take our village anywhere," Nyanga said.

He said although the government has prioritised the stadium for the next financial year, it might be deferred due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Meanwhile, MYSC assistant minister, Billy Buti recently told Parliament that the funds that were to be used to build the Makwala Stadium were transferred to a similar project in Chobe. He said the Makwala Stadium will be given priority in the next financial year.



Divided: Tutume has not settled for the exact site for Makwala Stadium **PICTURE: KENNEDY RAMOKONE**

blast from the past



No way through: Notwane's Thazo Tiwayo (right) is challenged by BDF XI's Ezekiel Buisanyang in a league encounter in this undated photo. BDF XI won the tie 2-1



Struggling for game time: Kgospula has not featured much for Rollers **PIC: KEOAGILE BONANG**

What should Rollers do with fringe players?

Township Rollers are on a mass wage bill reduction process. The club, from making a P6 million profit in 2015, is battling to stay afloat. The chop will hit hard the playing personnel and Mmegi Sport Correspondent, **KABELO BORANABI** gives his verdict on who the club should keep or release

Goalkeepers

Kabelo Maphakela

The young goal minder completed his second full season with the Blues without making a competitive appearance. He was given playing minutes in a pre-season international friendly against South African giants, Mamelodi Sundowns in July 2019. He has made a couple of appearances on the bench, but the Under-20 goalkeeper is unlikely to claim the number one jersey soon.

Verdict: Loan

Keeagile Kgospula: 'Skheza' was a regular in the history-making Rollers side of 2018, but he has since fell down the pecking order behind Kabelo Dambe and Wagarre Dikago. His off-field issues with the club are not helping his cause.

He was earlier this year suspended for missing training. Kgospula possesses all the ingredients of a modern day sweeper-keeper. Once tipped to make the Zebras number one jersey his, and at the age of 24 he should be getting regular game time either at Popa or anywhere else. Champions Jwaneng Galaxy are said to be keen on his signature.

Verdict: Sell

Defenders

Brian Botsang

After impressing at Notwane for three seasons, Botsang's progress at Rollers was halted by injuries. The young centre back was seen as a long-term replacement for Mosha Gaolalwe, who left Rollers for TS Galaxy in South Africa. However, an injury has kept him out of action for almost half a year. His quality is

undoubted and once he gets back to full recovery he will be a beater in the heart of the Blues' defence. He faces competition from Arnold Mampori, Ofentse Nato and Simisane Mathumo.

Verdict: Keep

Jackson Lesole

The flying full back's time at Rollers is almost over. His two-year contract ended in June. Since his arrival at Rollers from cross-town rivals, Gaborone United (GU), Lesole has never made the right full back spot his own. Of recent, wingers Kamogelo Matsabu and Motsholetsi Sikele have been converted to the defensive role as Lesole watched from the stands for most part of the season. At 28, he should weigh his options and look for a regular spot elsewhere.

Verdict: Sell

Midfielders

Phenyo Serameng

Serameng has not enjoyed his first season with Rollers. Popa clinched his signature ahead of GU in the off-season after he impressed at BDF XI. He showed all the characteristics of a traditional Rollers' winger, speed, trickiness and an eye for goal. He, however, struggled to break in to the Rollers starting XI, or even making the bench. With attackers, Lempoye Tshireletso and Edwin Moalosi past their prime, Serameng's chance could be fast approaching.

Verdict: Keep

Mooketsi Gareonne

He moved from being a hero at Miscellaneous to just another squad

member at Rollers. Gareonne has failed to convince the Rollers coaching team of holding the midfield role.

Ugandan, Ivan Mbowa has been preferred in the position, as centre backs Nato and Mampori have occasionally got the nod ahead of Gareonne. He cannot keep warming the bench and at 32 he looks to be on his way out of Popa with just a year in to his two-year deal.

Verdict: Sell

Forwards

Kitso Mpuisang

The 23-year-old striker finished with 13 goals for Prisons XI before making the switch to Rollers. Just four goals for the Blues this season, the striker has not done enough to claim his spot in the starting XI.

He, however, has the qualities of a 15-plus goals a season striker. He is good in the air, has a powerful shot and his positioning is one of the best in the league. A loan move could help him get his confidence back.

Verdict: Loan

Francis Afriyie

To be fair the Ghanaian has to be given a chance at Rollers. Six goals in 11 appearances in the Kenyan League say a lot about the January recruit.

He is not an out-and-out striker but he knows how to get into goal scoring positions. Who can forget the scene he caused at Royal Aria in a league game in February. The hope is that he has put the incident behind him and is focusing on getting goals.

Verdict: Keep

Clubs freeze plans as wait drags

KABELO BORANABI
Correspondent

Local clubs face prolonged uncertainty, as there has been no decision on the resumption of football activities.

Action was suspended in March following the outbreak of the coronavirus (COVID-19), and teams have not taken to the field since.

The clubs face dilemma on players' salaries and contracts while the pre-season preparations and recruitment has also been affected.

Morupule Wanderers' general manager, Kitso Maswena said the club is dealing with a financial situation and has resorted to paying players 75% of their salaries.

He said they await guidance from the Botswana Football Association (BFA) on the relief fund before a decision on the running players' contracts can be made.

"We were playing a league without prize money. We had to rely only on the grants and gate takings. So you can imagine how much we made this past season. It is not really much; this has affected us a lot. Since April we had decided that the players would get 75% of their salaries and the decision still remains as we try to minimise the costs," Maswena said.

"We also have players whose contracts ended in June and July and we de-

cided against renewing them because we are not sure when the league will start. Until then we would not make any decision. We hope to get direction from the mother body, in terms of how much the players would get from the relief fund maybe we would come up with a plan. Hopefully, we will get the answers at the assembly on August 22, from then we can map a forward as a club."

Gunners' communication manager, Gerald Mahumba said the management was scheduled to discuss players' future this week. He, however, said the break provides an opportunity for the club to fix its administrative issues.

"For now we have not engaged that far in terms of players' contracts. We were supposed to have a meeting on the issue on Tuesday, but had to postpone because of the lockdown. We are dearly affected, but we see this as an opportunity to get our house in order administratively. As we await the green light we should be in a position to compete both on and off the field," he said.

The same sentiments were shared by Jwaneng Galaxy's spokesperson, Tankiso Morake.

"From where we are standing we have frozen all the plans now and next season. We do not know what is going to happen. The best thing is to wait for direction from the BFA, everything has been put to a stop," Morake said.



Disrupted plans: Most clubs have to put their plans on hold due to COVID-19 **PIC: MORERI SEJAKGOMO**



swimming



Bekker makes swimming waves

25



UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FIXTURES				
Fri, 7 Aug 2020 Last 16				
Real Madrid	vs	Man City	Etihad Stadium	21:00
Juventus	vs	Lyon Allianz	Stadium	21:00
Sat, 8 Aug 2020				
Bayern Munich	vs	Chelsea	Allianz Arena	21:00
Barcelona	vs	Napoli	Camp Nou	21:00

chess

Mudongo makes 9th Olympiad appearance

25



Gov't stays out of BFA 'wars'

GOITSEMODIMO KAELO
Correspondent

Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sport and Culture Development permanent secretary, Kago Ramokate says they cannot intervene in the 2020 Botswana Football Association (BFA) Presidential Elections, as that would be treated as government interference.

The campaign battles for football's highest seat recently reached fever pitch, with the vetting out of two presidential hopefuls, Tebogo Sebego and Ookeditse Malesu.

Opposing camps also challenged sitting president, Maclean Letshwiti's candidature. The BFA events have attracted much publicity as the association prepares for a crucial election on August 22.

When appearing before the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), which had raised concern over the turn of events at the BFA, Ramokate said they are aware but could only watch as things unfold. Ramokate said while the cam-



Staying away: Ramokate says the BFA campaigns are democratic and within set standards **PIC: PHATSIMO KAPENG**

paings have intensified and there being attempts by interested parties to get the upper hand, the ministry is barred from intervening.

The government official explained that the BFA elections are very competitive and democratic. Ramokate stated that despite all that is happen-

ing, he appreciates that the BFA statutes and processes are being followed.

"BFA has its statutes, which explains how the elections should be conducted or any change of executive should be undertaken. We have interested parties who are standing for those positions," Ramokate said.

"They are elections in [a] true sense and [are] competitive. There are attempts by parties to get the upper hand, but as long as they stick to what the statute says, then they are transparent. As long as they follow the procedures, that should be okay."

Ramokate explained that although there is no salary associated with the BFA executive positions, the positions are prestigious and internationally recognised.

According to PAC members, the BFA elections' atmosphere presented to be undemocratic for some parties, especially when some candidates are vetted out on the eve of elections.

The members also wondered why the elections were highly contested despite the lack of monetary incentives.



Out-of-contract: Boti's deal with Notwane has ended

Out-of-contract players in the cold

KOKETSO KGOBOGE
Correspondent

PALAPYE: Out-of-contract players from various clubs across the local leagues face a cold end to the season, with football only expected to return next year. The Botswana Football Association (BFA) has hinted the league might kick-off next year February. The out-of-contract players face an anxious wait before their next pay cheque.

Footballers Union of Botswana (FUB), however, has negotiated with the BFA for the players' financial relief.

FUB president, Onalethata Tshekiso said the association could assist through relief funds from FIFA. The Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sport and Culture Development recently aided players with three months allowances. Indefinite delay of activities due to the pandemic compound the situation.

Some teams have already released the players,

but the transfer window remains closed. "We are expecting that the BFA through FIFA and CAF COVID-19 relief funds would aid players with allowances until the time the transfer window is open for them to start making their moves," Tshekiso said.

He added the agreement was that the funds would be channelled through the clubs the players were previously contracted to.

Most of the contracts expired in June. Clubs have been equally affected by the inactivity and face financial challenges.

Clubs have delayed offering players new contracts due to uncertainties over the start of the new season. Township Rollers and new kids on the Premiership block, Sua Flamingoes recently moved to freeze existing contracts, but would continue to assist players with allowances.

Mahalapye Railways Highlanders' 13 out of their squad of 26 players are out of contract. The club's general manager, Ernest Oabile said they had interest in keeping some of the players, but

could not commit to new contracts under the current situation. He said the current situation had brought confusion and they had approached FUB to assist. He said it was difficult for the sponsor to continue paying players without contracts.

"We wish to renew some (contracts), but at the moment the situation does not allow. We hope to get assistance from FUB on how we can handle the situation," Oabile said.

"We might also move to freeze the contracts of the other 13 players we still have on contract and assist them with allowances like other clubs until we get a date for resumption of football activities," he added. Flamingoes have released four players that were out of contract, and the rest of the squad signed new deals.

"It is a bad situation for everyone. We were faced with difficult situations on renewing the contracts in this period, but our good relationship with the players pulled us through. They were understanding," Flamingoes chairperson, Tirelo Thebe said.



SEZA pushes
for high-income
economy status

B3



How to prevent
the looming
sovereign-debt crisis

B2

Despair as BTCL withholds dividends to store cash

PAULINE DIKUELO

Staff Writer

The Botswana Telecommunications Corporation will not pay a final dividend to shareholders this year, and instead conserve cash as it faces an uncertain trading period due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, directors have said. The decision has triggered despair amongst the corporation's retail investors, many of whom have remained faithful to the group despite the fall in the value of their shares from the P1.15 listing price in 2016 to the current 86 thebe.

In financials released last week, the BTCL recorded comprehensive income of P106.4 million for the year ended March 31, 2020, down from P162 million for the previous year. Earnings per share were pegged at 10 thebe compared to 15 thebe the previous year.

Directors, however, said tough decisions had to be made. "Due to the uncertainties presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, the board has recommended that out of prudence no final dividend be declared in order to retain cash in the business," directors said in a statement accompanying the final results. Shareholders will have the opportunity to scrutinise the results and vote on the dividend decision at BTCL's upcoming annual general meeting.

BTCL has the highest density of retail or individual shareholders on the Botswana Stock Exchange, following a successful Initial Public Offer in 2016, which marked its privatisation. Of the 1.05 billion shares listed, individual

Batswana hold 32%, many of them holding less than 1,000 shares individually. At least 80% of shareholders hold less than 5,000 shares each, with many looking forward to the biannual dividends for extra income. Since its listing, the corporation has faithfully declared dividends, despite fluctuating results which include a P371 million loss in its first year as a listed company. Tselanngwe Matlhaku, who bought shares in BTCL at its listing, told *BusinessWeek* he was 'seriously considering' disinvesting despite the fact that the shares are presently trading at less than the price they listed at.

"BTCL has let us down because there has been no growth over the whole period that we have been invested with them," he said. "If they are not paying dividends, it's farewell because we put our monies there, not to pay salaries and others, but to get something out."

"It's been a total disaster and I foresee many withdrawals. "We hear about the investments in landlines and mobile and the revenues, but we are not seeing that value. "Why should we hold on?"

BTCL directors said they would strengthen the group's financial position by improving on product offerings/service areas, reviewing capital investment and strict monitoring of cash flow projections monthly.

"The recoverability of the current assets is dependent on the financial health of the companies using BTC products and services. As at March 31, 2020 the current assets far exceed the current liabilities and thus BTC can meet its working capital requirements," the directors said.



Weighing options: Matsheka PIC: MORERI SEJAKGOMO

Gov't mulls IMF budget bailout

MBONGENI MGUNI

Staff Writer

Government is considering an approach to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) or the World Bank for support in raising the estimated P10.8 billion required for the 2020-2021 budget deficit, *BusinessWeek* has established.

About 40 African states, including nearly all in Southern Africa, have applied for special coronavirus (COVID-19) funds from the IMF. Officials at the institute told *BusinessWeek* that the applications thus far totalled \$16 billion, with about \$14.3 billion approved.

South Africa finalised a \$4.3 billion loan last week, while on July 30, eSwatini and Lesotho secured \$110 million and \$49.1 million respectively. Mozambique secured \$309 million in April, while Namibia has applied for \$273 million.

The size of the IMF loans are also based on Special Drawing Rights quotas from the IMF, of which Botswana has a healthy balance. *BusinessWeek* estimates, from IMF figures, suggest Botswana could borrow \$266 million at 100% of its quota. The IMF allows members to borrow up to 145% of their quota, meaning Botswana could seek nearly \$386 million in funding or nearly P4.7 billion.

This week, Finance and Economic Development minister, Thapelo Matsheka said no final decision had

been taken on whether to approach the external lenders. "We have not firmed our position as yet on the borrowing," he told *BusinessWeek*. "We are looking at options regarding COVID[-19] funds by IMF and World Bank with budget support, but nothing is conclusive yet."

According to the last estimates made by Matsheka, from an initial deficit of P5.2bn, government now expects a shortfall of P10.8bn for 2020-2021. Revenues have been revised downwards from P62.4bn to P48.8bn while expenditure has been shaved to P59.6bn from P67.2bn.

In brief remarks made in Parliament on Tuesday, Matsheka hinted that the numbers for 2020-2021 had been revised upwards, but did not provide any details. The initial economic contraction of 13.1% for 2020 was recently revised to a contraction of 8.9 percent.

Government has traditionally been wary of external borrowing, preferring to initially dip into its reserves, or raise capital domestically. Much of the fear stems from the 'original sin' a term coined by economists to roughly describe a situation where countries find themselves stuck with high foreign debt obligations.

With the IMF loans, politicians have also cautioned that while interest rates are as low as zero for the COVID-19 packages, the institute generally enforces tough conditions which may compromise countries' ability to independently conduct

their own fiscal and monetary policy.

IMF spokesperson, Meera Louis told *BusinessWeek* the focus of the funding was to help countries out of the crisis created by the pandemic.

"Our goal is to provide countries with the financial support they need in times of economic hardship," she said in a written response.

"At the same time, we put in place checks and balances to help support successful reforms, while also safeguarding the fund's resources, so we can continue providing support in the future."

"Although our emergency lending does not involve ex-post monitoring, countries have committed to ensure accurate accounting, frequent and timely reporting, and adopting procedures to ensure ex-post evaluation."

She added: "The key is to balance efficient spending with appropriate controls and accountability mechanisms that are tailored to country circumstances."

Analysts point out that unlike other troubled African economies, Botswana would have little trouble adhering to the IMF's accounting, transparency and reporting protocols.

The institute has, however, frequently expressed concern about the size of the public service and would be expected to ensure any disbursed funds do not find their way to supporting the civil service wage bill.



Saving up: The BTCL's headquarters in Gaborone

How to prevent the looming sovereign-debt crisis

NEW YORK: While the COVID-19 pandemic rages, more than 100 low-and middle-income countries will still have to pay a combined \$130 billion in debt service this year – around half of which is owed to private creditors. With much economic activity suspended and fiscal revenues in free fall, many countries will be forced to default.

Others will cobble together scarce resources to pay creditors, cutting back on much-needed health and social expenditures. Still others will resort to additional borrowing, kicking the proverbial can down the road, seemingly easier now because of the flood of liquidity from central banks around the world.

From Latin America's lost decade in the 1980s to the more recent Greek crisis, there are plenty of painful reminders of what happens when countries cannot service their debts. A global debt crisis today would likely push millions of people into unemployment and fuel instability and violence around the world.

From Latin America's lost decade in the 1980s to the more recent Greek crisis, there are plenty of painful reminders of what happens when countries cannot service their debts. A global debt crisis today will push millions of people into unemployment and fuel instability and violence around the world.

Many will seek jobs abroad, potentially overwhelming border-control and immigration systems in Europe and North America. Another costly migration crisis will divert attention away from the urgent need to address climate change. Such humanitarian emergencies are becoming the new norm.

This nightmare scenario is avoidable if we act now. The origins of today's looming debt crisis are easy to understand. Owing to quantitative easing, the public debt (mostly sovereign bonds) of low- and middle-income countries has more than tripled since the 2008 global financial crisis. Sovereign bonds are riskier than "official" debt from multilateral institutions and developed-country aid agencies because creditors can dump them on a whim, triggering a sharp currency depreciation and other far-reaching economic disruptions.

Back in June 2013, we worried that "shortsighted financial markets, working with shortsighted governments," were "laying the groundwork for the world's next debt crisis." Now, the day of reckoning has come.

This past March, the United Nations called for debt relief for the world's least-developed countries. Several G20 countries and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have suspended debt service for the year, and have

From Latin America's lost decade in the 1980s to the more recent Greek crisis, there are plenty of painful reminders of what happens when countries cannot service their debts. A global debt crisis today would likely push millions of people into unemployment and fuel instability and violence around the world. **JOSEPH E. STIGLITZ** and **HAMID RASHID** write

called upon private creditors to follow suit.

Unsurprisingly, these calls have fallen on deaf ears.

The newly formed Africa Private Creditor Working Group, for example, has already rejected the idea of modest but broad-based debt relief for poor countries. As a result, much, if not most, of the benefits of debt relief from official creditors will accrue to the private creditors who are unwilling to provide any debt relief.

The upshot is that taxpayers in creditor countries will once again end up bailing out excessive risk taking and imprudent lending by private actors. The only way to avoid this is to have a comprehensive debt standstill that includes private creditors.

But without strong action from the countries in which debt contracts are written, private creditors are unlikely to accept such an arrangement. These governments therefore must invoke the doctrines of necessity and force majeure to enforce comprehensive standstills on debt service.

But standstills will not solve the systemic problem of excessive indebtedness. For that, we urgently need deep debt restructuring. History shows that for many countries, a restructuring that is too little, too late merely sets the stage for another crisis. And Argentina's long struggle to restructure its debt in the face of recalcitrant, shortsighted, hard-headed, and hard-hearted private creditors has shown that collective-action clauses designed to facilitate restructuring are not as effective as had been hoped. More often than not, an inadequate restructuring is followed by another restructuring within five years, with enormous suffering on the part of those in the debtor country. Even creditors lose, over the long run.

Fortunately, there is an underused alternative: voluntary sovereign-debt buybacks. Debt buybacks are widespread in the corporate world, and have proved effective both in Latin America in the 1990s and, more recently, in the Greek context. And they have the advantage of avoiding the harsh terms that typically come with debt swaps.

A buyback programme's principal objective would be to reduce debt burdens by securing significant discounts (haircuts) on the face value of sovereign bonds, and by minimising exposure to risky private creditors.

But a buyback program could also be designed to advance health and climate goals, by requiring that the beneficiaries spend the money that otherwise would have gone to debt service on creating public goods.

As we explain in a recent paper published by the Centre for Economic Policy Research, a multilateral buyback facility could be managed by the IMF, which can use already available resources, its New Arrangements to Borrow function, and supplemental funds from a global consortium of countries and multilateral institutions.

Countries that do not need their full allocation of Special Drawing Rights, the IMF's unit of account, could donate or lend them to the new facility. A new issuance of SDRs, for which there is a clear need, could provide still additional resources.

To ensure the maximum debt reduction for a given expenditure, the IMF could conduct an auction, announcing that it will buy back only a limited amount of bonds.

In the long term, a predictable, rules-based debt-restructuring mechanism, modelled after the United States' municipal bankruptcy legislation ("Chapter 9") is needed. That would be in keeping with the recommendations of the post-2008 UN Commission of Experts on Reforms of the International Monetary and Financial System.

The usual objection to such proposals is that they would destroy the international capital market. But experience shows otherwise. One can't squeeze water from a stone. There will be restructuring – the only question is whether it will be orderly. Our proposals would aid in achieving this objective, and thus strengthen capital markets. Ultimately, though, our concern should not be with the health of capital markets, but with the welfare of people in developing and emerging-market countries. There is an urgent need for debt relief now, in the midst of the pandemic. It has to be comprehensive – including private creditors – and more than just a stay of debt. We have the tools to do it. We only need the political will.

(Project Syndicate)



business
briefs

MBONGENI MGUNI

Staff Writer

BSE rebounds after losses

The Botswana Stock Exchange's main platform, the Domestic Companies Index (DCI) kicked off August by recording its first positive trades after a period of retreat. The DCI has been on a downward trajectory since late March, after having enjoyed a positive start to the year, a period in which it ran counter to other global equities, which collapsed as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. However, since March, the DCI faced south, led by share price falls of major counters such as banks and property groups. The steady fall was broken briefly in mid-May, mid-June and most recently on July 28, all the instances comprising marginal and fleeting gains in the DCI. However, since July 31, the DCI has gained 0.03% on the back of gains in counters such as Sefalana and gentler depreciations in other share prices. In the year to date, the DCI has fallen by 5.2 percent, still a better performance than its peer exchanges where returns continue sliding due to the pandemic's effects on the business environment.

Letlole surges to the lead

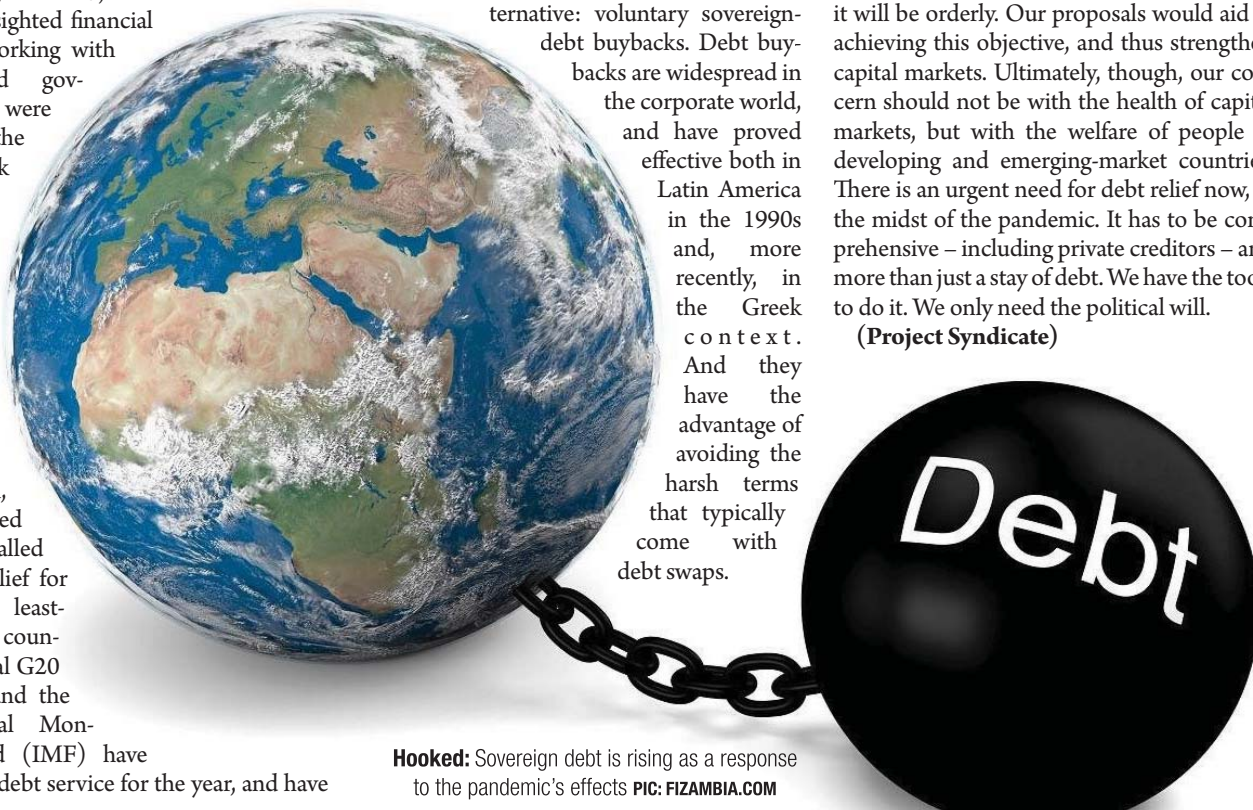
Property group, Letlole la Rona is leading gainers on the Botswana Stock Exchange's main platform, the Domestic Companies Index (DCI) with four months left in the year. By Wednesday, Letlole's shares had gained 2.2 percent in the year to date, followed by Sefalana with two percent and Cresta Marakanelo with 0.75%. The three companies are the only DCI counters to record gains in a forgettable year for the local bourse where nearly all companies have seen their share prices drop. Letlole's performance thus far this year was helped by a huge jump in its share price towards the end of March, which appears to have helped ameliorate the drops that occurred later in the year. The property group began the year priced at P2.25, before jumping to P2.35 in March. By Wednesday, Letlole was trading at P2.30. In absolute terms, Sefalana has gained the most thus far on the DCI, as its share price has put on a net of 18 thebe since January, compared to five thebe for Letlole and one thebe for Cresta.

Sefalana breaks into Australia

Local diversified trading group, Sefalana Holdings, has taken up 40% equity in an Australian Fast Moving Consumer Goods business, which owns a chain of seven supermarkets in the Brisbane area. Directors commenting in Sefalana's results announcement for the year ended April 30 said the total purchase price for the equity was about P70 million. Sefalana expects the investment to generate core earnings of P15 million for the year ending April 2021. Directors said the investment value was considered fair and was part of a group strategy to diversify Sefalana's income stream and foreign exchange exposure. Directors said further expansion in Australia would be considered in 'due course' with other suitable sites identified to complement the investment in the Brisbane chain.

Choppies bemoans lockdowns

Choppies CEO, Ramachandran Ottapathu says the April/May lockdown cost the group about 10% of its turnover, a reflection of the impact the pandemic is having on the retail sector. Ottapathu told BusinessWeek the impact of the lockdown would not be known until Choppies unveils its results for the full year ended June 30, 2020. The results are expected within three months after June 30, according to the Botswana Stock Exchange's listing rules. Ottapathu said while Choppies had been able to retain workers and their pay rates this year, there were no guarantees for the balance of the year and this would depend on the group's profitability. In Botswana, Choppies employs about 7,000 people and is the single largest private sector employer.



Hooked: Sovereign debt is rising as a response to the pandemic's effects **PIC: FIZAMBIA.COM**

SEZA pushes for high-income economy status

STAFF WRITER

The Special Economic Zones Authority (SEZA) has adopted a new strategy that will focus on reinvigorating key sectors in a bid to drive Botswana to high-income economy status, in line with the ideals of Vision 2036.

SEZA chief executive officer (CEO), Lonely Mogara revealed in an interview this week that the authority's new strategy seeks to diversify the economy and improve output in key sectors such as agro-business, financial services, applied ICT, health, manufacturing, energy and water management.

"By so doing, we believe SEZA will be able to tackle some of Botswana's long-standing challenges; amongst them unemployment, poverty, high import bill as well as water and energy insecurity," he said. Last year, SEZA launched key projects that were meant to spur infrastructure development at its portfolio of SEZs: Sir Seretse Khama International Airport (SSKIA), Fairgrounds, Lobatse, Pandamatenga, Palapye, Francistown, Selebi-Phikwe and Tuli Block.

These included a P100 million project at the flagship SSKIA, awarded to Bothakga Burrow for the detailed design, infrastructure development and construction of a 1.8-kilometre road.

The project also incorporated an urban design scheme for provision of underground services like water, fibre, power, lighting, smart city ducting and CCTV. SSKIA has been zoned as a mixed use SEZ with core activities being aviation, pharmaceuticals, engineering and electronic equipment, diamond beneficiation, specialist automotive and plastics injection moulding.



At the helm: Mogara

tion moulding.

"We believe the manufacturing of pharmaceuticals, medical devices and equipment will grow our health sector. Manufacturing in general drives industrialisation and innovation, thereby creating jobs, fighting poverty and reducing the import bill," Mogara said.

The masterplan tenders for Gaborone Fair-

grounds and Francistown SEZs are also underway. Francistown will focus on mineral beneficiation, freight and logistics while Fairgrounds is anticipated to be a financial services hub.

Local company, Gabana Architects Consortium has been awarded master plan tenders for the Lobatse and Selebi-Phikwe SEZs. Lobatse

has been earmarked as a dairy and leather industry SEZ, while economic activities in Selebi-Phikwe will include medical services, agro-processing and metal beneficiation.

SEZA has targeted 40,000 hectares of land for allocation to commercial farmers in Pandamatenga.

The authority will also construct an additional 12 silos to remove storage capacity constraints at Botswana's agricultural hub.

Pandamatenga will also benefit from the Zambezi Integrated Agro-Commercial Development Project, which will avail water from the Chobe/Zambezi basin for use in agriculture projects. Additionally, the Kazungula Bridge, as well as Mosetse-Kazungula and Mmamabula-Lephalale railway lines will provide alternative modes of transport for produce from Pandamatenga.

Through these agro-business projects, SEZA will be able to reduce Botswana's high food import bill, which stood at P9 billion in 2019.

"We also want to improve water and energy security for domestic, industrial and agricultural use," Mogara said.

The authority has also approached key organisations to act as Zone Management Companies at its various SEZs. Botswana Innovation Hub has been earmarked for SSKIA, SPEDU for Selebi-Phikwe and Botswana Agricultural Marketing Board for Pandamatenga.

"We have also identified the Local Enterprise Authority as a potential Zone Management Company for the Lobatse SEZ, where the leather park is being set up. Fairground Holdings will be the Zone Management Company for the Fairgrounds FinTech SEZ," Mogara added.

Mupane hits paydirt as gold price soars

MBONGENI MGUNI
Staff Writer

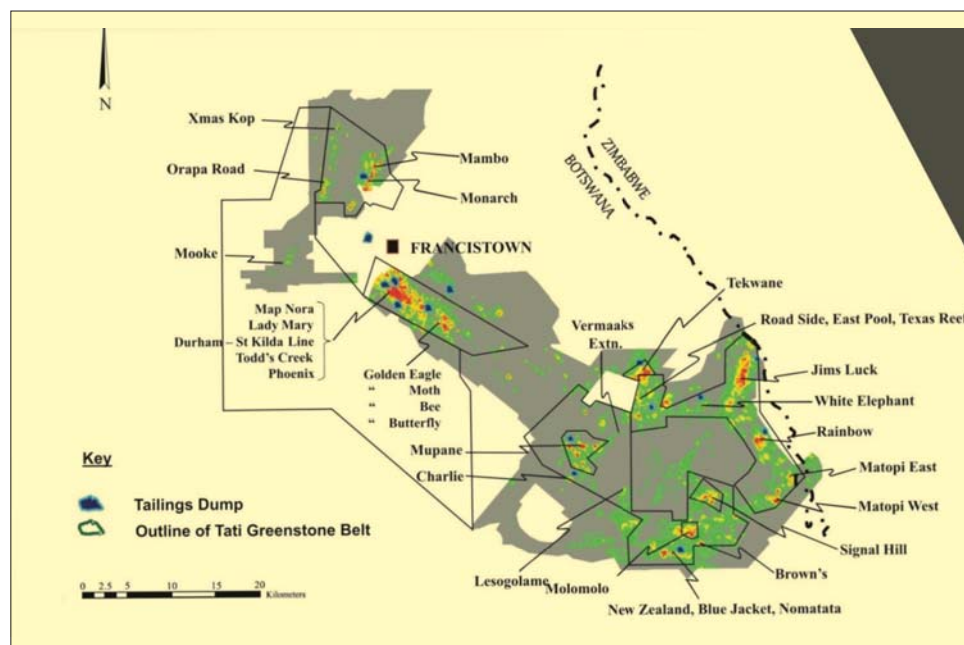
The country's sole gold producer, Mupane Gold, is eyeing strong returns, as the price of gold hits uncharted territory, this week soaring past US\$2,000 per ounce for the first time in history.

Gold, seen as a safe haven investment in turbulent times, has risen by more than 30% this year, as investors seek it out to secure value and also buffer themselves for the expected rise in inflation later, when the trillions of dollars being pumped in COVID-19 responses by countries push prices up.

Galane Gold, which took over Mupane in 2005 from IAMGold, changed the operation from hedged to unhedged and is set to reap the rewards of the latest gold rally.

Hedging means the price of Mupane's gold would have been previously set, denying the producer the benefit of rising spot prices.

While hedging allows producers to protect revenues, forecast future earnings and even raise funds accordingly, it precludes them from benefiting when prices rise above the hedge price. "We are 100% unhedged," Galane officials told *BusinessWeek* this week.



Fired up: Galane Gold plans to further develop its lease area

"Our view is that investors are seeking direct leverage to gold price.

"If they want to hedge the gold price, then that is up to them, but we will remain unhedged."

Mupane Mine, which processes ore from

several leases near Francistown, produced 6,818 ounces in the first three months of 2020, compared to 6,326 ounces in the corresponding period last year.

Revenue for the period was US\$9.5 million from 6,105 ounces sold, compared to US\$8.5

million from 6,565 ounces sold in the first three months of 2019.

Galane Gold paid government US\$900,000 in royalties in for the first quarter of the year, US\$400,000 of that being deferred royalties under an agreement made previously.

In an emailed statement, the World Gold Council said all indicators were that prices of the precious metal would remain robust for the rest of the year, bringing relief to producers such as Mupane at a time when COVID-19 is blighting most other sectors.

"COVID-19 created the perfect storm for gold investment as historic liquidity injections and record low interest rates significantly cut the cost of carrying gold," said Louise Street, market intelligence at the World Gold Council.

"The consumer-focused sectors of the market will likely remain subdued for the next six months, but ongoing uncertainty and the threat of further waves of the pandemic mean that gold's safe haven status will appeal to investors for the foreseeable future."

Analysts say the rising tensions between America and China will further drive investors to gold as a safe haven against trade disruptions.

Shoprite shops for Nigerian takeover partner

LAGOS: Shoprite Holdings has begun shopping for Nigerian investors to take over operations of its outlets in the country as the South African parent company yesterday unfolded plans to divest its stake in the local branch.

The parent company had earlier yesterday signified its intention to pull out of Nigeria, but walked back its decision a few hours later following a rash of reactions, the announcement generated in the business community.

In a follow-up statement yesterday, the group explained that its divestment plan from its Nigerian subsidiary will not lead to the closure of its business in the country.

However, the group, in a memo to its Nigerian employees dated July 31, 2020, that was signed by the General Manager, Shoprite Group of Companies, Carl Erickson, a copy of which was obtained yesterday, said: "We have identified interested Nigerian investors that share in this vision and we will now explore various possibilities of making it a reality."

It stated that the divestment move was to open the business to Nigerian investors.

"The expansion of the food retail business in Nigeria to a greater consumer market should remain everybody's shared vision. It has, however, become apparent that the best manner in which to do this is by engaging Nigerian investors who share in this vision.

"In so doing, we will be creating a truly Nigerian business run and owned

by Nigerians for the Nigerian market," it explained.

However, as the news of the divestment plan broke yesterday, the share price of Shoprite Holdings rose by over 11%.

The company had unveiled plans to divest its majority stake from its Nigerian subsidiary, Retail Supermarkets Nigeria Limited, 15 years after it entered the country, in a statement titled: "Operational and Voluntary Trading Update (52 Weeks Ended June 28, 2020)", obtained yesterday. The company owns more than 2,800 outlets across Africa.

"Following approaches from various potential investors and in line with our re-evaluation of the group's operating model in Nigeria, the board has decided to initiate a formal process to consider the potential sale of all, or a majority stake, in Retail Supermarkets Nigeria Limited, a subsidiary of Shoprite International Limited," the company said.

"As such, Retail Supermarkets Nigeria Limited may be classified as discontinued operation when Shoprite reports its results for the year. Any further updates will be provided to the market at the appropriate time."

It added that its international supermarkets (excluding Nigeria) contributed 11.6 percent to the group's sales and reported 1.4 percent decline in sales from 2018. But the South African operations contributed 78 percent of overall sales and saw 8.7 percent rise for the year. **(This Day)**

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YOUR WEEKLY

BUSINESS GUIDE

Updated as at:05/08/2020

EXCHANGE RATES: 1EUR=P13.79 ■ GBP=P15.27 ■ 1USD=P11.67 ■ 1ZAR = P0.67 ■ INTEREST RATES: BANK RATE: 4.25 % ■ PRIME RATE: 5.75 % ■ INFLATION 0.9 %

BOTSWANA STOCK EXCHANGE

Domestic Equity													
Security	Trading Status	Bid	Offer	Last	Low	High	Volume	Transactions	Turnover	Closing Price	Closing Price Change	Issued Securities	Market Cap (Millions)
Main Board													
ABC	-	-	-	2.00	-	-	-	-	-	2.00	-	725,000,000	1,450.00
ABSA	-	5.45	-	5.45	-	-	-	-	-	5.45	-	852,161,252	4,644.28
BIHL	-	-	17.50	17.50	17.50	17.50	73	3	1,277.50	17.50	-	282,370,652	4,941.49
BTCL	-	-	0.86	0.86	-	-	-	-	-	0.86	-	1,050,000,000	903.00
ENHOB	-	9.50	9.90	9.90	-	-	-	-	-	9.90	-	89,439,642	885.45
CHOPPIES	DB	0.60	0.67	0.67	-	-	-	-	-	0.67	-	1,303,628,341	873.43
CRESTA	CA	-	-	1.35	-	-	-	-	-	1.35	-	184,634,944	249.26
ENGEN	-	-	-	10.37	-	-	-	-	-	10.37	-	159,722,220	1,656.32
FNBB	-	2.40	-	2.40	-	-	-	-	-	2.40	-	2,543,700,000	6,104.88
FPC	-	-	-	2.40	-	-	-	-	-	2.40	-	426,530,831	1,023.67
G4S	-	-	-	3.40	-	-	-	-	-	3.40	-	80,000,000	272.00
LETLOLE	CA	-	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	956	2	2,198.80	2.30	-	280,000,000	644.00
LETSHEGO	-	0.55	-	0.63	0.60	0.63	16,711,464	17	10,476,931.08	0.63	0.03	2,144,045,175	1,350.75
MINERGY	-	-	0.85	0.85	-	-	-	-	-	0.85	-	469,975,134	399.48
NAP	CD	-	3.23	3.23	-	-	-	-	-	3.23	-	604,397,124	1,952.20
OLYMPIA	-	-	-	0.16	-	-	-	-	-	0.16	-	28,600,000	4.58
PRIMETIME	CA,CD	2.90	-	2.92	-	-	-	-	-	2.92	-	244,650,684	714.38
RDCP	CD	-	2.24	2.24	-	-	-	-	-	2.24	-	353,448,157	791.72
SECHABA	-	21.60	22.05	21.60	-	-	-	-	-	21.60	-	110,616,859	2,389.32
SEEDCO	CA	-	-	2.62	-	-	-	-	-	2.62	-	380,816,577	997.74
SEFALANA	CD	9.30	9.41	9.30	-	-	-	-	-	9.30	-	250,726,709	2,331.76
STANCHART	CA	-	-	1.38	-	-	-	-	-	1.38	-	298,350,611	411.72
TURNSTAR	-	1.40	-	2.79	-	-	-	-	-	2.79	-	572,153,603	1,596.31
Venture Capital Board													
AFINITAS	-	0.15	-	0.99	-	-	-	-	-	0.99	-	213,946,250	211.81
DOMESTIC EQUITY SUMMARY							16,712,493	22.00	10,480,407.38			13,648,914,765	36,799.55

Foreign Equity													
Security	Trading Status	Local Asset Status	Bid	Offer	Last	Low	High	Volume	Transactions	Turnover	Closing Price	Closing Price Change	Market Cap (Millions)
Main Board													
ANGLO	-	Yes	-	-	218.00	-	-	-	-	244.95	-	1,363,067,592	333,883.41
CA SALES	-	Yes	3.75	-	3.77	-	-	-	-	3.77	-	452,135,508	1,704.55
INVESTEC	-	Yes	-	-	53.15	-	-	-	-	53.67	-	318,904,709	17,115.62
SHUMBA	-	Yes	-	0.95	0.95	-	-	-	-	0.95	-	291,819,493	277.23
TLOU	-	Yes	-	-	0.32	-	-	-	-	0.33	-	506,927,062	167.29
Venture Capital Board													
A-CAP	-	Yes	-	-	0.39	-	-	-	-	0.39	-	871,884,866	340.04
BOD	-	Yes	-	-	0.13	-	-	-	-	0.13	-	671,221,902	87.26
LUC	-	Yes	-	-	6.69	-	-	-	-	6.69	-	396,896,733	2,655.24
FOREIGN EQUITY SUMMARY							-	0	-	4,872,857,865			356,230.62

EQUITY MARKET SUMMARY							16,712,493.00	22	10,480,407.38		18,521,772,630		393,030.17
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Foreign Exchange Traded Funds													
Security	Trading Status	Local Asset Status	Bid	Offer	Last	Low	High	Volume	Transactions	Turnover	Closing Price	Closing Price Change	Net Asset Value (Millions)
NEWFUNDS*	-	Yes	43.73	44.73	46.20	-	-	-	-	100,000	46.20	-	40
NEWGOLD*	-	Yes	218.80	224.40	212.70	-	-	-	-	2,950,000	212.70	-	18,062
NEWPLAT*	-	Yes	106.30	109.50	93.20	-	-	-	-	2,600,000	93.20	-	7,029
TOTAL MARKET SUMMARY							16,712,493.00	22	10,480,407.38				

NB. All values are quoted in BWP

*NAV converted from ZAR to BWP using the prevailing exchange rate as published on the Bank of Botswana website

#These values represent the aggregated registers in all the markets where security is listed

UPDATED AS AT: 05/08/2020 18:02

THIS WEEK'S QUOTE:

"Never tell your problems to anyone ... 20 percent don't care and the other 80 percent are glad you have them."

-LOU HOLTZ, FOOTBALL COACH

REGIONAL INFLATION

Country	Inflation(%)
ANGOLA	21.8 May
BOTSWANA	2.4 May
MALAWI	9.5 April
MAURITIUS	2.1 May
NAMIBIA	2.1 May
SOUTH AFRICA	3.0 April
TANZANIA	3.2 May
ZAMBIA	15.9 June
ZIMBABWE	786.6 May
MOZAMBIQUE	3.02 May

BSE INDICES

DCI	7,116.00	FCI	1,550.11
Last	7,103.57	Last	1,550.11
Net Change	12.44	Net Change	0.00
% Change	0.18	% Change	0.00

WORLD MARKETS

NAME	VALUE	NET CHANGE	%CHANGE
DOW JONES	26,828.47	+164.07	+0.62
S&P 500	3,306.51	+11.90	+0.36
CAC 40	4,924.78	+35.26	+0.72
HANG SENG	25,102.54	+155.91	+0.63

Mmegi Arts & Culture

entertainment and leisure section of mmegi • **friday 07 august 2020** vol 37, no. 27 **Page A1**



Rediscovering Kgalagadi on 4x4

Driving through this route with a powerful four-wheel drive vehicle inspires thoughts of proposing to Dakar Rally to bring the race to Kgalagadi desert in Botswana **Story on page A4**

PIC: THALEFANG CHARLES

Accounts graduates turn to catering

NNASARETHA KGAMANYANE

Correspondent

Two young ladies each holding accounting qualifications have decided to join hands and turn their mutual love for cooking into a business. The decision came after the pair did not find jobs after graduation due to high unemployment rate in the country.

In an interview with one of the co-owners of their business, Talita Pitso, she said Banting Foodie was a registered catering company owned by two young Batswana ladies based in Gaborone. She explained that they started their company early this year with a vision to turn their passion for cooking into a business.

“Banting is simply reducing carbs and cutting out unhealthy and heavily processed foods. Due to lack of employment in the country, we teamed up to start a low carb diet business. Banting Foodie started after we realised that there were no enough low carb foods in the market and we found it fit to do something about the void. We serve ultra low carb, tasty, convenient, healthy affordable banting foods including everything you had to throw out of your pantry or kitchen when you started banting,” she further explained.

She further stated that their foods were prepared according to their four guiding principles being nutrition, convenience, taste and affordability. Their banting meals are designed to fit a busy lifestyle, can be made on a pinch and easy



Pitso and Rakgare's banting plate starts from P30 because they strongly believe that no one should be priced out of eating well

to store. The duo make a variety of foods and their ingredients are often more expensive than the high carb diet. Pitso said they are always working to make sure their meals are more affordable. She added that their banting plate starts from P30 because they strongly believe that no one should be priced out of eating well.

“Since banting requires commitment, determination and discipline, we have monthly and weekly subscriptions, which cost P800 and P200 respectively inclusive of delivery fee. Batswana have shown us enormous support ever since we started this business and as a way of giving back to the community we stock mostly from Batswana-owned companies. We buy vegetables from Yamikani and meat from Lesego and Meat Hub,” she revealed.

Pitso further explained that their main business challenge is transport as they do office deliveries. She added that they operate using a cab and that is costly. As Banting Foodie grew, she said they introduced chopped veges suitable for those with busy lifestyle but the core values of nutrition, convenience, taste and affordability remains the same.

“The biggest highlight of our business was making a low carb platter for 20 guests and the feedback was amazing. Banting Foodie also

serves high carb meals (starch) on regular basis, we also have subscribers under these meals,” Pitso further revealed.

Pitso is an Associate Accounting Technician from Botswana Accountancy College. She also holds a certificate of Proficiency in short term Insurance. For her, cooking has always been a passion and she finds joy in the kitchen because it has been therapeutic to her.

Her partner Tebogo Rakgare on the other hand holds Bachelor of Sciences (honors) in Accounting from Botho University. Cooking to her was a hobby which has now turned into a passion driving their business to succeed.

FNBB boosts FAM online workshop

LESEDI MKHUTSHWA

Correspondent

FRANCISTOWN: Francistown Arts Meeting (FAM) over the weekend held a capacity building virtual art lesson in collaboration with First National Bank Botswana (FNBB) and the FNBB foundation. Last month, FAM won the ‘FNBB Bodiragatse Jwame, Lentswe Lame’ competition under the fine arts category.

The competition was an initiative aimed at supporting the creative arts during the COVID-19 pandemic. As a reward for winning the aforementioned competition, FNBB decided to back an online capacity building workshop organised by FAM.

The online lesson, which was live streamed on YouTube and other different social media platforms such as Facebook attracted 10 out of 15 target participants. Many people continue to view some snippets of the online lesson in the social media.

The online art lesson was held under the topic; ‘Building the artist profile’ and was facilitated Lawrence Thomas who is an Art teacher by profession.

The main topic was divided into four headings. The headings focused on how artists can build their curriculum vitae (CVs), artwork statement, biographies and portfolios.

Mpho Hakim, one of the co-directors at FAM said that the main goal for hosting the workshop was to capacitate visual artists with the ability to brand themselves and their work. He added: “During the FAM exhibition last year we noticed that most of the upcoming visual artist don’t understand the art of branding themselves and packaging their work.

It is important for visual artists to understand the concept of selling themselves and their artworks to attract more consumers for their products.” Hakim further said the on-



The online art lesson was held under the topic: ‘Building the artist profile’ PICS: KEOAGILE BONANG

line art lesson also equipped the artists with skills that would enable them to be ready for the second annual FAM visual arts exhibition billed for October this year.

On a different note, Hakim explained that they were not able to reach their targeted number of participants because some of those who had expressed desire to be part of the workshop were not well versed with technology.

“Most Batswana are yet to fully embrace the idea of holding and participating in online workshops,” he said.

He indicated that they would continue sourcing out funds for projects related to empowering local visual artists to help them improve their craft.



Gov't to realise dream to promote local talent through TV

MOMPATI TLHANKANE
Staff Writer

Celebrating and honouring Botswana's talent through television (TV) seems like a distant dream for the country. Despite that fact, Minister of Youth Empowerment, Sport and Culture Development (MYSC) Tumiso Rakgare recently assured Batswana that would soon change as government focuses on promoting local talent through TV.

Rakgare admitted that TV plays a major role in getting talent out there. "We want to see our own talent on television and we want our creatives to get rich. TV plays a vital role because for our talent to reach far places television has to play its part," he said.

Furthermore, he said government has observed how creatives from all sectors went all out on social media during lockdown to ensure that their work reaches Batswana. He cited hot comedians Mhele Productions as one of the creatives that turned something like traditional game into a moneymaking business.

"There are soapies and dramas so our lifestyle can be expressed through arts. In the near future we should not depend on watching foreign soapies but we should watch our own.

There are many potential jobs in this sector," he highlighted.

Rakgare's announcement comes barely two months after government revealed that the 2020/21 – 2022/2023 Economic Recovery and Transformation Plan (ERTP) will target local film, programme and documentary producers. The focus is to ensure that *Btv* content is predominantly local such as the case in South Africa and Nigeria where the local film industry has grown considerably over the years.

"To improve quality and ability to compete with external content, there could be segregation between prime and non-prime time content to engender competition for the former," read part of the plan. As such,



Ranthoyakgale

Btv as a national broadcaster is expected to provide the platforms for Batswana stories to come alive.

Developments in the country are such that Batswana's love for their talent is certainly in the air. Hence most creatives are ready to tell authentic stories that resonate and connect with the people of Botswana. For instance, in an interview with *Arts & Culture* local film and television industry professional Thabiso Ranthoyakgale said they have an array of local talent, from both actors and technical crew, some of whom studied in the best schools abroad and even locally.

Ranthoyakgale was concerned that tendering doesn't help much as they rarely come. "Buying off the shelf also puts upcoming creatives in the shadows because making TV is expensive, we need local broadcasters to be able to commission and even co-produce, we need to be able to pitch our ideas to them. There's potential but systems of acquiring content make it hard for growth," he said.

The AFDA film school alumni added that instead the government should look at the systems in place and help enable creatives to produce more. "Also the Film Commission would come in handy, yes the TV industry is striving when tenders are out but the Film side is non-existent and overlooked, MYSC could tap into that space to enable more local feature films that not only represent the country but even creatives," he



Rakgare PIC: MORERI SEJAKGOMO

highlighted. The filmmaker and lecturer at Awil College added that Batswana are ready to see their own in TV. "Have you felt the joy of seeing someone you relate to on a bigger screen, the feeling of having a close contact make it to Netflix. Batswana are receptive to TV, look at the strands local comedians made during the first lockdown, it goes to show how bad we want this, now imagine all those comics coupled with quality productions," he further said.

Ranthoyakgale who has made a number of films and documentaries locally also said he believes that Batswana can possibly go in head to head for that spot with South Africa because the latter work with big budgets. "Skillwise we are at par with SA, we went to school with these guys, we are in talks with these guys, they're not far fetched," he stated.

Compared to other countries like South African and Nigeria, Botswana has not yet reaped the rewards of its investment in local talent. MYSC on the other hand is yet to substantial investment in locally produced content. MYSC is the same ministry that established NOW! TV few years back to promote and showcase local talent and also to grow Botswana Film and Television industry.

More is expected from MYSC to empower a new generation of young talent in the film and TV industry, which will see critical growth and sustainability of the country's video entertainment industry.

Martha the Dancer lives dance

NNASARETHA KGAMANYANE
Correspondent

Martha the Dancer is one of the few talented women who live and breathe dancing. Her passion landed her into doing dance as a career.

The young dancer who is based in Gaborone started her vocation and took dance seriously in 2009 when she was 12 years old. The dance style she started with was Latin American Dance with Exotic Twist Dance Sport Club founded by Amogelang Mothibi and Mpho Thapo.

"My aunt, Letlhogonolo Khutswane known as Fitt Letty started dancing before me and I would always watch her go for dance rehearsals while I stayed behind at home. She then invited me to come join her, so one time I accepted the invitation and I was asked to join the group. I actually never stopped since," she told *Arts*

& Culture in an interview.

She added that she started learning dance particularly Latin American Dance, from Mothibi and Thapo of Exotic Twist Dance sport Club back in 2009. She also pointed out that she learnt other dance styles by watching a lot of dance videos and attending dance sessions and competitions in Botswana and South Africa. She also worked with a number of local artists such as Amantle Brown,

Bouncy, K-boss, Han-C, Sereetsi at the BNSC Awards, MMP FAMILY, Charma Gal just to name but a few.

Furthermore, she explained that she started actively shooting her dance videos and posting them on social media during the first national lockdown. She added that she did so because she saw the lockdown as an opportunity for her to grow her talent.

"The reason why I shot these videos was so that I keep track of my growth as a dancer and sharing them with people was just so that whoever likes them could watch. I had to perfect my craft if I intended to take this route. So honestly, it was not more about entertaining people but the focus was growth and making a living out of doing something I really love and enjoy doing," she explained.

She further pointed out that dancing had recognition locally

even though it was not so common. She also said dancers could make a living out of their skills if they were in places where there were more opportunities for them to use their talent. She also said they could make a living if they were innovative enough to build dance schools and studios. This dancer has performed in a number of big events like Fables in 2016, which featured Rick Ross from American, YAMA Awards, BNSC Awards and many others.



Martha the Dancer started learning dance particularly Latin American Dance, from Mothibi and Thapo of Exotic Twist Dance sport Club back in 2009

Creatives do not bring much value to Botswana

GOITSEMODIMO KAELO
Correspondent

Whilst the arts and creative industries in the developed world are big revenue earners, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sport and Culture Development Kago Ramokate has conceded that they were not satisfied with the value the two bring to Botswana.

With the envisaged depletion of diamonds, the creative industry has been hailed as the next 'real diamonds' that would move Botswana's economy forward. However, the situation according to Ramokate does not look pretty well.

Ramokate conceded before the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) that despite several efforts by industry players to turn the situation around, the sector is "not where we wished it to



Ramokate PIC: KENNEDY RAMOKONE

be". Ramokate said it is government's wish that the sector could be in a position to add value to the economy such as create employment, though nothing seems to be falling into place.

"A lot has happened in terms of participation

and activity but in terms of translating this into an industry that is able to create employment for role players, that is still very low," Ramokate said. Ramokate said the situation is made worse by the state of television and media coverage in the

country. "In Botswana in terms of television, we have a national broadcaster. The way it is set up compared to other countries how it contributes to growth of creative and sport sector is different. For example, in other countries 90% of their revenue in sport comes from television deals.

Ramokate admitted that when the national broadcaster, *Btv*, is unable to buy broadcasting rights for local programmes, such entities do have nowhere else to go.

He said broadcasting or TV deals could be the catalyst for development for this sector. He disclosed that the establishment of Arts Council Bill is intended to address some of these challenges and propel the creative industry. Committee member and Member of Parliament for Mochudi East Mabuse Pule had expressed concern about the slow growth of the creative and cinematography industry in the country.



Rediscovering Kgalagadi on 4x4

THALEFANG CHARLES
Staff Writer

Two herdboys in Mara hear the roaring vehicle engines from a distant. That is when they run up to their highest sand dune to watch out who is coming.

From their vantage point view they could see four approaching vehicles coming their way. Inside the vehicles is yours truly in the leading vehicle, trailblazing through the high dunes of the Kgalagadi Desert for the three vehicles that are part of an epic Rediscover Botswana expedition.

Dubbed "Big Big Roadtrip", Rediscover Botswana is an initiative by fellow media practitioner, Sonny Serite and I, supported by Botswana Tourism Organisation (BTO) to promote domestic tourism.

The expedition involves five members travelling 8,000km throughout Botswana for 27 days with four vehicles. Other expedition members are filmmakers Donald Sejo and Bashi Kikia and Dawson Ramsden from BTO.

The expedition began with an exploration of the Kgalagadi Desert. Our first night stop was out at Tsabong Camel Park, the home of 587 camels. In the morning the team witnessed the milking

of the camels before hopping on two of them for a short ride. Riding a camel feels like a waist exercise. The camel shakes your bum and waist as if you are twerking in slow motion.

We also got to taste the highly sort after fresh camel milk.

From Tsabong, the team headed deep South into the Kgalagadi.

We detoured from the Trans-Molopo Highway to Khawa village. Khawa, the little previously unknown village next to the picturesque sand dunes shot to fame through a dune challenge event named after the village. It was interesting to see the people of Khawa playing on the sand dunes without the crowds of the Khawa Dune Challenge.

From Khawa we went to the southernmost tip of Botswana where we literally touched the corner of Botswana at Bokspits. Our travel plan also took us to the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park (KTP) on our way to Mabuasehube.

At Two Rivers Gate the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP) informed us of a Covid-19 roadblock at Nossop Gate that would block us from reaching Mabuasehube. They allowed us inside the Park to camp at Rooipots campsite next the Rooipots Lodge while we read-

just our travel plans.

The guides at Rooipots showed us an alternative route and helped us by guiding us on our detour. The detour from the roadblock uncovered an amazing route that I would love to travel through once again.

This scenic route is popularly known as "Tsela ya di plaas" (Farms, road). It connects Two River and Khawa and passes through number of farms on the sand dunes.

Mara, where we met the herdboys on the top of the highest dune after they heard roars of vehicles approaching, is one of these farms.

The desert farms in the middle of nowhere, with some odd windmill for the well pumping water for the livestock (mostly sheep and cattle) makes picturesque landscape.

The herdboys speak about the peace of the place. They have no cellphone connection but they are content in their modest lives in the desert.

Driving through this route with a powerful four-wheel drive vehicle inspires thoughts of proposing to Dakar Rally to bring the race to Kgalagadi desert in Botswana.

The Rediscover Botswana expedition is supported by BTO, Mascom and Engen Botswana.

Kate the Aesthete hopeful for a big break

NNASARETHA KGAMANYANE
Correspondent

Optimistic about a possible big break in the music industry, upcoming artist Kate the Aesthete has released a single called *Ke Mrepa Dawg* feat CoolNerrd. The offering is part of her upcoming EP scheduled for release later this year.

"I have two singles out. *Ke Mrepa Dawg* is my first rap song and so it had to make a statement because I have so much love for Hip Hop. Then there is *Summer '19 (Woosah)*, which is a nostalgic feel type of song. It's reminiscent of the last fun summer before the COVID-19 pandemic, in a feel good mood," she told Arts & Culture in an interview.

Kate the Aesthete also said she is working on her EP, "Scars and Torn Jeans" that will be released either end of this year or early next year.

She pointed out that *Ke Mrepa Dawg* was released on April 25, 2020 while *Summer '19 (Woosah)* came out on June 8, 2020. Both singles were produced by January Thevibe. Even though

she said she does not look up to any local talents, she stated that Veezo View and Ice Cold Mob were doing well. She however, said she looks up to Kanye West because his music was an extension of his emotions adding that that was how she wants her to music be.

"I want people to resonate with every emotion. I want to put my country on the map, that's all. The only plan I have is to put out good, beautiful music and in future help grow the industry in Botswana. Botswana has so much talent to offer," she said. Her singles are on iTunes, Deezer and all digital stores. She said one could stream her music on Sound Cloud and YouTube and @KatetheAesthete on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter. Kate the Aesthete defines herself as the new vibe, saying her musical direction is spontaneous and organic.

Her music is artistically fluid because she draws her inspiration from a lot of genres, moods and spaces. "The music I put out could range from an emotive R&B song to a completely polar hard hip hop song. It all depends on the vibe or energy. Kate the Aesthete is the new face of the authentic modern female in Botswana," she said.

Kate the Aesthete has been active in the local music industry since 2015, and officially put out music 2018. She added that her inspiration comes from her family as she was born in a family where music was to some extent fundamental. Kate said music became an important part of her life, and just like many artists she explained that she have been singing since the Sunday school days.



Kate The Aesthete