

# Vuk'uzenzele



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| EyeSilimela 2018 Ushicilelo 2

## From domestic worker to doctor

**A YOUNG WOMAN** who washed dishes throughout high school to supplement her family's income is now a professional who proves that hard work pays off.



■ Dr Pamela Sithole is an example of how resilience and perseverance can help in achieving your goals.

### Nonkululeko Mathebula

**F**ormer domestic worker, Pamela Phumzile Sithole is proof that dreams do come true.

Born and raised in Phoe-

nix in KwaZulu-Natal, the 24-year-old was able to juggle her studies with part-time work over the years having the ability to rise above her circumstances.

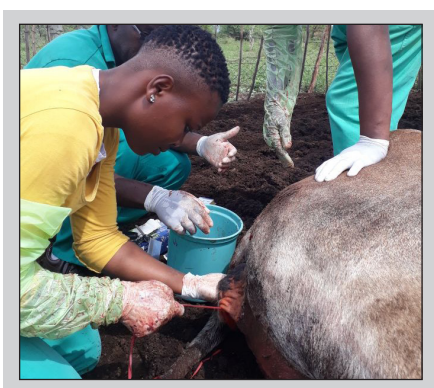
Despite working as a domestic helper from the age

of 14, Sithole's perseverance and determination helped turn her life around and she recently graduated with a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery degree from the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

She is currently doing her internship at the Rahima Moosa Mother and Child Hospital in Johannesburg.

Sharing her story with *Vuk'uzenzele* the inspirational

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***"I pay tribute to the endless heroism of youth.."***

Nelson Mandela



# Ukugququla imfundo ephakamileyo

**UMPHATHISWA NALEDI PANDOR** icandelo lemfundo ephakamileyo ulimisa ngolunye uhlobo ukuze lihlangebezane neemfundo zoqoqosho.

**Amukelani Chauke**

**I**mfundo ephakamileyo yoMzantsi Afrika iyaguquka, yaye lemfundo iphakamileyo ayanelanga nje ukufikeleleka kakhulu, kodwa ikwalungelelaniswa neemfundo zoqoqosho. Inguqu ezi ziyafuneka njengoko ilizwe lisebenzela ukulungiselela abantu ababatsa imisebenzi nokuba negalelo kuqoqosho.

Njengoko eli lizwe libhiyozela iNyanga yoLutsha, i-Vuk'uzenzele iqwalasela indlela

ulutsha lwelizwe olubonelelwa ngayo ngamathuba okuphumelela liSebe leMfundo ePhakamileyo noQeqesho.

Unyulwe ngenyanga yoMdumba njengoMphathiswa weMfundo ePhakamileyo noQeqesho, uNaledi Pandor waza wanikwa umsebenzi wokuqalisa ngenkqubo yemfundo engahlawulelwayo ukulungiselela abafundi abahluphekileyo nabo kuthiwa "bayalengalenga".

Emva koqhankqalazo lukazwelonke oluthathe ixesha elide phantsi komxholo othi: #FeesMustFall, kwaziswe okokuba ngenyanga yoMnga ulutsha oluvela kumakhaya afumana imivuzo engaphantsi kwama-350 000 eerandi ngonyaka luza kufumana imfundo ephakamileyo noqeqesho engahlawulelwayo. Sele izalisekiswa le nto, kwaye kuza kuthathwa iminyaka emihlanu ukungeniswa kwayo.

## Inkxaso-mali yebhasari

UMphathiswa Pandor uqinisekile okokuba uku-



qaliswa kwenkqubo yebhasari kuhamba kakuhle.

"Le nkqubo yebhasari intsha ilinyathelo lokungenelela elibaluleke kakhulu likarhulumente woMzantsi Afrika nelabantu boMzantsi Afrika kuba ziirhafu zabo ezi zihlawula le mali," utshilo.

Le nkqubo yebhasari inikwa abafundi abalungeleyo abaqala ukungena eyunivesithi kwabafundi beekholeji zemfundo noqeqesho kwezobugcisa (i-TVET), ngayo yonke iminyaka yokufunda.

Kule bhasari urhulumente wongeze imali ezibhiliyoni zeerandi eziyi-7.166 ngowama-2018 – kuyo ezibhiliyoni eziyi-4.581 yeyabafundi baseyunivesithi abafanelekileyo ize

yona ezibhiliyoni eziyi-2.585 ibe yeyabafundi beekholeji ze-TVET.

UMphathiswa Pandor uthe iikholeji ezizincutshe kwizifundo ezizodwa zingangamaziko abalaseleyo afana ngqo nazala ezona zona zakhono kwisigaba esithile semfundo.

Umzekelo, enye ikholeji ingagxila kuphela kubunjini bokulungisa oomatshini nezithuthi ize enye igxile kubuchule bokuhamba ngenqwelo-moya nezokuphapha, uchaze ngelishoyo. "Ndikholelwa ekubeni ikamva leekholeji lisekubeni zibe ziincutshe kwizifundo ezithile," wongeze watsho.

"Sifuna kungafanwa. Asifuni okokuba zonke iikholeji zethu zenze into enye."

Kusenzalo inkqubo yoPhuhliso lwezaKhono zezoShishino kwiMfundo ePhakamileyo, i-Entrepreneurship Development in Higher Education, iphehlelelwe kulo nyaka uphelileyo ukuze ikhuthaze abantu abatsha ukuba baqale amashishini abo.

Le nkqubo injongo yayo kukulungelelanisa uphuhliso lwezakhono zezoshishino kubafundi abafunda kwiiyunivesithi zoMzantsi Afrika. Oku kuquka izifundo zezakhono zezoshishino kuluhlu lwezifundo zaseyunivesithi, uphuhliso lezakhono zezoshishino zabafundi kunye neeyunivesithi ezizincutshe kwizakhono zezoshishino.

UMphathiswa Pandor uthe kuninzi ekusafuneka kwenziwe kungekuko kuphela ukunceda abafundi ukuba bawulungele umsebenzi, kodwa babe kwangabadali bemisebenzi ehlawula ngokufanelekileyo.

Angathanda ukubona amaziko emfundo ephakamileyo efundisa izakhono zezoshishino kuzo zonke izifundo zawo, nto leyo engenza abantu abatsha abanemfundo enomsila baqala amashishini wabo aza kuqaqambisa leli lizwe. **V**



**UMphathiswa weMfundo ePhakamileyo noQeqesho, uNaledi Pandor.**

## ● Cont. from page 1

young woman said her journey was not easy.

"Growing up there were a lot of challenges, including our financial circumstances and my parents' divorce.

"My mother was left to provide for us and she was unemployed for the longest time. As a result we had no choice but to rely on my siblings to put me through school from an

early age up until high school which put a lot of financial strain on them."

Despite these challenges, Sithole was determined to live up to her potential and applied herself diligently to her studies.

"For me giving up wasn't an option."

When she was a young teenager she got the opportunity to help do chores at a home nearby. This led to regular

domestic work during her December holidays and Sithole was able to add to the family's finances and help fund her high school studies.

Despite doing well in matric there was always the chance that she would not be able to study further because of a lack of funding. "I almost didn't go to a medical school," she adds.

Her hard work and commitment to her studies paid off

when she received funding from the National Student Financial Aid Scheme. This helping hand was to prove life changing.

"Even though I was a domestic worker, I didn't shelve my dreams and think that it's over for me. I continued to work hard and I'm glad that I did.

"For me it really was just a lesson in humility and it has enabled me to better under-

stand people from different walks of life and be able to relate to each person.

"I always knew that good things lay ahead for me and it was truly just a matter of time."

Her parting words are wise: "Never despise humble beginnings but equally, don't let them define where you will be in five or 10 years' time. With God, everything is possible." **V**



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# Umqhubi kadokolwane ushukumisa umzi



■ Umqhubi kadokolwane, uLindile Mdletshe, ungumzekelo omhle.

Allison Cooper

**N**jengomqhubi kadokolwane wakwa-Transnet uLindile Mdletshe (ominyaka ingama-30 ubudala) uqhuba oodokolwane abanamandla abasetyenziswa ekuncediseni iinqanawa ukuba zikwazi ukungena kwiZibuko laseDurban. Noxa bebancinci, oodokolwane banamandla ngolona hlobo kwaye ukuqhutywa kwabo kufuna ubunono nobuchule.

UMdletshe wazalelwa wakhulela ePort Shepstone, wafunda eSt Faiths.

“Akukho nto sasingadibani nayo ngethuba sisakhula ePort Shepstone. Kwakungekho loyiko, njengoko kunjalo kule mihla, kwaye ilali yonke yayifaka isandla kumba wokukhuliswa kwabantwana.”

UMdletshe uphumelele imatrikhi yakhe ngowama-2006, phambi kokuba asingise kwiDurban University of Technology ukuya kufundela iDiploma kwi-Maritime Studies ngowama-2007.

Akugqiba i-S1 yakhe ngowama-2007 ne-S2 yakhe ngowama-2008 waqalisa uqeqesho lwakhe elwandle oluthatha iminyaka emithathu phantsi kwenkampani yakwaSafmarine Shipping Company. Apha wafunda ukuqhuba inqanawa ethwala impahla phakathi elwandle, kwaye emisa kumazibuko ngamazibuko e-Europe, e-Afrika

nase-Asia ukuze ajongane nemisebenzi yemithwalo yempahla nokufunda ngezokhuseleko.

Isifundo sakhe sokuqala sesidanga usiphumelele eneminyaka engama-25, kwangelo xesha linye egqibezela izifundo zesidanga se-Master's kwi-Port Operations. Esi sesibini isidanga siqinisekise okokuba ukulungele ukuba ngumqhubi kadokolwane osemthweni. “Le nto yayingowona mngeni mkhulu kuba ukuba ngumqhubi kadokolwane akufuni mntu unamfundo yasidanga. Kufuneka i-S1, i-S2 nokuqeqeshwa elwandle kuphela. Kusemva koku kuphela apho abantu badla ngokubhalisela ukuba ngabaqhubi bakadokolwane. Ndizenze zombini ezi zinto ngexesha elinye. Ukuphuma kwam emsebenzini, ndandiye ndiye esikolweni ndileqe umsebenzi wesikolo waloo mini,” utshilo.

UMdletshe uyakuthanda ukuba semanzini. “Amanzi angakuxelela izinto ezininzi ngento eza kwenzeka ebudeni bemini. Ngezinye iimini kuyazola, ngezinye ulwandle luyalwa. Kanti ngezinye iimini ulwandle luba namaza amakhulu. Ngoko ke ulwandle awunakuligqiba. Kwakhona iinqanawa azimilanga ngokufanayo kwaye zithwala imithwalo eyahlukene, nto leyo etheetha ukuba ziqhutywa ngenindlela ezahlukene,” utshilo uMdletshe, umntu oyil-

vuyelayo into yokusebenza nabasebenzi beenqanawa abazintlanga ezahlukeneyo futhi bephuma kumazwe ngamazwe.

## Umsebenzi onemingeni

Ukuba ngumntu obhinqileyo kwicandelo laselwandle kunemingeni futhi akululanga kwaphela utshilo uMdletshe, obalula imiba engqiyame ngesini njengomnye weyona mingeni mkhulu ngolona hlobo kuba umsebenzi onjengalo usathathwa njengomsebenzi wamadoda.

“Imfundo sisixhobo esilixhadi ongenakusixuthwa mntu. Izinto eziphathekayo zingaphephetheka nomoya, kodwa yona imfundo iya kusoloko inawe.”

“Nanjengoko abantu ababhinqileyo bezama ukungena kulo msebenzi kwaye besebenza nzima ukubonisa ukuba abantu bayaphazama kwezi nginga, umsebenzi lo wona unayo indawo yokubanzima. Le nto ndiyoyise ngokuphola, ukucinga ngendlela eyakhayo nokusebenza nabantu ngenhlela eyenza ukuba bandihloniphe. Ngokuthi gqolo uzama kwaye ukhuthele, le miqobo ungayoyisa,” utshilo. Impumelelo kaMdletshe

yokoyisa le miqobo ingqinwa yimbasa awayifumanayo njengebambela lomphathi wezobugcisa kwezolwandle. “Ndafumana le mbasa ngokuba ngoyena mntu ubalaseleyo kumsebenzi wam ngexeshana elifutshane kuba iziphumo zophitho-zincwadi zomsebenzi wam zabuya zingenachaphaza iveki yokuqala ingaphelanga ndilibambela esikhundleni.” Waphinda wafumana imbasa “yokuba ligorhakazi” kweyeDwarha ngowama-2017 ngenxa yokusindisa iinqanawa kwesona siphango sakha sabonwa nesakha sasibi eDurban.

“Ukuba ngumqhubi kadokolwane kuthetha ukuba kufuneka ube ngathi uyintombi endala kwaye ube nesibindi,” utshilo.

Ukuphumelela kwakhe isifundo sesidanga se-Master's kwenza umahluko omkhulu. “Ukuphumelela kwam imfundo yesidanga kwaqinisekisa okokuba ndihlonitshwa ngakumbi ngoogxa bam abangamadoda. Yonke imihla bandibuza okokuba ndixakeke yintoni kuba sibabini kuphela abahambe lo mgama kwaye ndaba ngowokuqala ukuphumelela i-Maritime Diploma kwiZibuko laseDurban. Le nto iyodwa nje indenza ndibalasele,” utshilo, echaza nokuba izifundo zolwandle azilulanga.

## Umsebenzi womqhubi kadokolwane

UMdletshe uchaza athi umqhubi kadokolwane nguye

olawula noqhuba udokolwane nabantu abakhweleyo.

Kufuneka aqinisekise ukuba ukhuseleko lukho kwaye izixhobo zokucima umlilo zikwimeko entle, ziqinisekisiwe. Kufuneka avavanye ukhuseleko emsebenzini, enze uvavanyo lonyaka lomsebenzi, aqinisekise ukuba abasebenzi benqanawa bafumana ukuqeqeshwa ngendlela eyiyo kwaye bayazityikitya iincwadi zabo zoqeqesho. Kwakhona kufuneka ahlaziye ulawulo lwendlela yokusebenza, kwayeancedise abasebenzi bakhe baqulunqe inkqubo yokuziphuhlisa ehambelana nomsebenzi wabo. Omnye umsebenzi wakhe kukuqinisekisa ukuba imigaqo-nkqubo yenkampani iyathotyelwa, ukulawula impahla egcinweyo nokwenza i-odolo yezi-xhobo zokusebenza.

Ngokwesiqhelo usuku lukaMdletshe lomsebenzi luqala ngokwenza uluhlu lweenqanawa ezifikayo nezihambayo, nto leyo ekufuneka yonke igqitywe phambi kokuphela kwexesha lomsebenzi. “Siqala ngomsebenzi weenqanawa ngo-06h00 kusasa sitshayise ngentsimbi ye-17h50 emalanga. Ngokwesiqhelo, oodokolwane ababini basebenza kunye, kwaye emnye kubo ugqiba imisebenzi engasibhozo. Emva koko kufuneka siwugqibe wonke umsebenzi ofuna ukubhalwa phantsi. Ngamaxesha kaxakeka umsebenzi siwugqiba kuphela emva kwentsimbi ye-21h00 ebusuku,” utshilo. ■