

# Vuk'uzenzele

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## Africa's queen of the skies



Dale Hes

**M**ajor Mandisa Nomcebo Mfeka has been reaching for the skies since the age of five, when she watched her first airshow. Today, she is Africa's first female fighter jet pilot, flying for the South African Air Force (SAAF) during the nation's most prestigious events, including the recent

inauguration of President Cyril Ramaphosa.

Born in Ntuzuma, Kwa-Zulu-Natal, Major Mfeka became fascinated with aviation when her mother first took her to an airshow at the Virginia Airport in Durban. At that stage, she had no idea that she would one day take to the skies herself.

When she was 16, however, her life changed forever.

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**Teen joins the fight against crime**

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**Young farmer sows seed for the future**

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# Motjha o nka karolo ntweng e kgahlano le tlolo ya molao



**Mokhomishenara ya Monyenyane wa Sepolesa Felistas Hamba o batla ho Iwantsha tlolo ya molao dikolong na ha ka bophara.**

## Silusapho Nyanda

**T**umelo ya ngwanana wa sekolo sa Pretoria ya hore ho Iwantsha tlolo ya molao ke maikarabelo a batjha le baholo e tlamo kgothaletsa ha a thusa ho etelapele le leng la mananeo a bohlokwa a thibelo ya tlolo ya molao a Tshebeletso

ya Sepolesa sa Afrika Borwa (SAPS) a batjha.

Ka Hlakola, Felistas Hamba (15) le ba bang ba Bakhomishenara ba Banyenyane ba Diporofense ba naha ba ile ba nka karolo tlodisanong ya dingangisano le ho nehelana ka puo ka pela batho, e neng e tjhepa ka botebo mahloko a setjha-

ba ao dikolo di tobang le ona.

Bongangisi bo kgahlisang ba Hamba bo ile ba baka hore lebitso la hae le thongwe ho ba Mokhomishenara ya Monyenyane wa Naha wa Sepolesa sa Afrika Borwa.

Sehlopha sa Hamba se肯yeletsatbatlatsti ba bakhomishenara ba naha ba bane,

ba tswang Leboya Bophirima, Kapa Botjhabelo, Limpopo le KwaZulu-Natal.

Maikemisetso a bona e tla-ba ho netefatsa hore batjha ba nka karolo ho etsa hore dikolo le ditjhaba tsa bona di bolokehe ka ho fetisa.

"Tlolo ya molao e re ama bohole. Haeba o bona tlolo ya molao e etsahala, ka kopo e tlalehe," o ipiletsa ho dithaka tsa hae. "Ho etsa hore dikolo tsa rona di bolokehe ka ho fetisa ho ka qala ka lona."

Ba tla tsepamisa maikutto ho bohlorisi ba dikgoka, thibelo ya tlolo ya molao, boqolwana le bohlorisi ba inthaneteng.

Hamba o nkile qeto ya ho nka karolo lenaneong lena ka mora ho hlokomele hore boholo ba dithaka tsa hae ha di tsebe hore na di shebane le ditlolo tsa molao tse ba amang jwang.

"Jwalo ka motjha, ke moo ho tla ba qalela polatefomo

ya hore ba tle ba kgone ho ba dipulamadiboho tsa ka moso," o rialo.

Moithuti enwa wa kereite ya 10 wa Sekolo se Sephameng se Seholo sa DC Marivate mane Soshanguve o itse ho a hlokeha hore batjha ba nahane ka mokgwa o tla tlisa phetoho ho fokotsa tlolo ya molao ditjhabeng le dikolong.

"Ntle le baetapele ba batjha, naha ena ekeke ya tswe-lapele," Hamba o hlokome-disa dithaka tsa hae.

Ntate wa Hamba ke leponesa mme ke toro ya hae ho latela mehlaleng ya hae.

Mosuwehloooh wa sekolo sa Hamba, John Mangezi, o itse susumetso ya hae e ntle haholo ho susumetsa ba bang sekolong.

"Ho bohlokwa haholo sekolong sa rona ho ba le yena hara baithuti ba rona hobane baithuti ba bang ba batla ho tshwana le yena," ho rialo Mangezi. □

## From page 1

"I was researching careers in maths and science and saw a SAAF advert, outlining the requirements to be a pilot or navigator. I realised that I could potentially have a career in aviation and was so excited that I couldn't sleep," said Major Mfeka, who is now 29 years old.

Straight after graduating from high school, she joined the air force in 2008 as an airman. She officially achieved her SAAF wings in 2011, and progressed quickly through the ranks to become a qualified pilot and then captain. Today, she holds the esteemed rank of major and flies the British-made Hawk Mk120 from the Airforce Base Makhado in Limpopo.

### Flying above gender and race barriers

Major Mfeka is humble about the incredible achievement of being the first female black African fighter jet pilot.

"I know I am representing a lot of people, but I have achieved this because this is the direction I wanted to go. At the SAAF, I have been surrounded by people who are professionals, people who are ambitious and want to be the best, so I wanted to embody that and be an expert in my career," she said.

Major Mfeka added that she hasn't felt intimidated by the male-dominated nature of the field.

"I just had to be more assertive and grow a thicker skin

emotionally. But the SAAF strives for professionalism at all times, so they view men and women as equals," she said, adding that she sometimes outperformed the men in training or on the academic front.

### Career highlights and soaring higher

Major Mfeka has flown jets at some of South Africa's most prestigious events. A few years after getting her wings, she was tasked with flying at the funeral of former President Nelson Mandela.

She also fondly remembers being part of a flying formation for Freedom Day in Port Elizabeth, which was led by one of her idols.

"The lead plane was flown

by Colonel Musa Mbhokota, who was the SAAF's first black fighter jet pilot. He is somebody I look up to very much and I draw such inspiration from him, so it was an honour flying in formation with him."

Mfeka's biggest dream is to become the commander of a Gripen jet, the SAAF's premier fighter jet.

"When I see myself flying that jet, I get extremely excited. I would be so honoured if I could reach that milestone – it would be a dream come true."

### Major Mfeka's message for Youth Month

Major Mfeka said that the youth should never let their circumstances stand in the



way of becoming a success.

"Your dreams and passions are an indication of what you can achieve and what you can become. Your potential is not determined by your background. Some people from very impoverished areas have achieved really great things; they did not let their circumstances dictate to them what their life was going to be like." □



"JWALE KE NAKO YA HORE BOHLE RE SEBETSENG MMOHO, TLOTLONG YA NELSON MANDELA, HO AHA AFRIKA BORWA E NTJHA, E BETERE BAKENG SA BOHLE."

MOPRESIDENTE CYRIL RAMAPHOSA

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RE O AHOLA BOKAMOSO BO BETERE  
RE ITHUTA HO TSWA HO MADIBA



# Ho aha bokamoso bo betere molemong wa batjha ba rona

**K**gwesti ya Batjha e ketekwa ka Phuptjane selemo le selemo ho tlota moya wa ho ba sebete wa batjha ba ileng ba ipiletsa ditselfeng ka 16 Phuptjane 1976 ho lwana kgahlano le tshebediso ya Afrikaans jwalo ka puo ya thuto dikolong tsa rona.

Ke dumela hore moya oo wa bolwanedi o ntse o phela lelokong le letjha la batjha, bao ha jwale ba lwanang kgahlano le sephadi sa bofuma, tlhoko ya mesebetsi le ya tekatekano.

Batjha bana ba nang le mai-kemisetso a nyoretsweng bophelo bo betere, ba bo-ntshitse botshepehi le mammello ya bona ka ho ba ngata na e nngwe ho boipiletso ba bona ba thuto e phahameng ya mahala.

Katleho ya Afrika Borwa e tsitsitseng e atlehileng ka moruo o kenyaletsang bohole e ka sehloholong ho lenane-tsamaiso la mmuso ho netefatsa hore ho ba le bophe- lo bo betere molemong wa bohole. Re ile mme re tla tswe- lla ho matlafatsa maiteko a rona a ho ntshetsapele le ho matlafatsa batjha hore ba kgone ho ba le seabo kgolong ya naha ya rona.

Ho sa natswe hore ba etsa boholo ba baahi ba Afrika Borwa, batjha ba ntse ba tswe- lla ho hahlamelwa ke tlhoko ya mesebetsi, bofuma le tlhoko ya tekatekano. Ke bona ba ntseng ba otlwa ha- holoh ke mafu, tlolo ya molao



ka dikgoka, tlheketso ya dithethetfatsi le ntshetsapele e tlase.

Jwalo ka mmuso o kgathallang, re sebetsa ka thata ho netefatsa hore batjha ba fumana boitsebelo le boiphihlelo, le ho boela ba fuman- tshwa tshehetso e hlokehang ho kena lefatsheng la dikgwebo jwalo ka bathehi ba mesebetsi ho ena le hore ba batle mesebetsi.

Selemo se fetileng, ke ile ka thakgola lenaneo la Tshebeletso ya Ntshetsapele ya Mesebetsi ya Batjha (YES), leo le ikemiseditseng ho loketsa batjha mesebetsi le ho ba nehela ka boitsebelo ba tshebetso bo hlokehang ho tshehetsa phetolo ya moru ka diindastri.

Lenaneo la YES, ke boiteko ka kopanelo ya mmuso, me-

kgatlo ya basetsi le dikgwebo ba ho nehela ka boiphihlelo ba mesebetsi e lefang ho milione e le nngwe ya batjha ba Afrika Borwa dilemong tse tharo tse tleng. Ho ya ka dipuputso, ho 15.5 milione ya batho ba dilemo tse dipakeng tsa 18 le 34 Afrika Borwa, ba 5.8 milione ba hloka mesebetsi.

Ka dikgwebo tse kgolo tse mmalwa tse santseng di nka karolo, boiteko bona ba YES, ho fiha ha jwale bo se bo kgonne ho fihlella menyatla ya mesebetsi e 17 000 molemong wa batjha ba hlokan mesebetsi.

Molemong wa batjha ba nang le ditabatabelo tsa ho kena kgwebong, mmuso o thehile Kemedi ya Naha ya Ntshetsapele ya Batjha (NYDA), e nehelanang ka

thupello ya ntshetsapele ya boitsebelo, ntshetsapele ya ditjhelete, boeletsi, tshehetso le ho amantsha dimaraka.

Dikhamphani tse thuthuhang tse fetang 2 500 di se diile tsa nehelwa matlole, mme tsa theha mesebetsi e fetang 10 000 moruong.

Haeba re batla ho fihlela tse ngata ka selekane dipakeng tsa mmuso le lekala le ikemetseng, re hloka ho netefatsa hore batjha ba ma-Afrika Borwa ba rupellwa hantle hore ba tle ba kgone ho nka karolo makaleng ohle a moru. Ke ka hona re tsetelang thutong ya batjha.

Re ikemiseditse ho netefatsa hore bana bohole, ho sa kgathaletsehe maemo a ba

bona a bophelo, ha ba tingwe phumantsho ya thuto e nang le boleng. Sena se phethahatswa ka tsela ya rona ya ho ntlaatsa boleng ba ho ruta le ho ithuta dikolong tsa rona le ditheong tsa dithuto e phahameng.

Maqalong a selemo sena, Lefapha la Thuto e Phahameng le Thupello le ile la tsebisa ka nehelo ya R967 milione ya ho lefella baithuti ba nang le dikoloto tsa ditefello tse saletseng morao.

Tjhelete ena e tla thusa baithuti ba kolotang ditefello tsa selemo se fetileng ka ho netefatsa hore dikoloto tsa bona ha di ba thibele ho fuman- tshwa thuto e phahameng.

Ka matsete ohle a entsweng ke mmuso ho ba matlafatsa,

batjha ba tlameha ho bapala karolo ya bona kgolong ya Afrika Borwa. Ba tlamehile ho dula ba shebane le dintho tse tla etsang naha ya rona e be tulo e betere e boloke-hileng ho bohole ba phelang ho yona. Ba bang ba batjha ba rona ba nka karolo maanong a hlollang, dikgwebong tse thuthuhang le mapolasing a ditjhaba tsa bona.

Ba nkile qeto e batsi ya ho bapala karolo e bohlokwa ya ho ntshetsa naha pele le ho hodisa moruo. Re tlameha ho kgothaletsa batjha ba bang hape hore ba shebe mekgwa ya ho sebedisa ditalente le boitsebelo ba bona ho qala dikgwebo le ho theha mesebetsi.

Maikarabelo a ikgethileng a kenyaletsa ho ila tahi le tlheketso ya dithethetfatsi, ha mmoho le ho se nke karolo tlolong ya molao le bobodu.

Mme ho fetisisa mona, batjha ba tlameha ho itshireletsa ka dinako tsohle kgahlano le HIV le mafu a tshwaetsang ka thobalano ka ho sebedisa khondomo, ho ila diketso tsa thobalano dilemong tse tlase le ho etsa diteko kgafetsa.

Bokamoso ba Afrika Borwa bo matsohong a batjha ba itlammeng ka ho aha setjhaba se fapaneng le sela seo batjha ba 1976 ba neng ba etswa ho sona. Ha re sebetseng mmoho hore re be le bokamo bo betere molemong wa batjha ba rona. **V**

# NSFAS le UIF di thehela baithuti ba nang le mangolo a dithuto tse phahameng menyetla ya mesebetsi

**MORERO O MOTJHA** wa ho matlafatsa o tla tsebisa baithuti ba nang le mangolo a dithuto tse phahameng tikoloho ya mesebetsi hore ba tle ba kgone ho ntlaufatsa menyetla ya bona ya ho fumana mesebetsi ya meshwelella.

## More Matshediso

**L**e ha feela tlhoko ya mesebetsi ke batjha e ntse e tsweilla ho ngongorehisa Afrika Borwa, Sekema sa Naha sa Thuso ya Ditjhelete ho Baithuti (NSFAS) o e ntse selekane le Letlole la Inshorene ya Batho ba Felletsweng ke Mosebetsi (UIF) ho thusetsa phephe-tseng ena.

Ditheo tsena tse pedi di ile tsa thakgola lenaneo la baithuti ba nang le mangolo a dithuto tse phahameng haufinyana tjena ho nehela baithuti ba nang le mangolo a dithuto tse phahameng ba hlokang mosebetsi ba 50 boiphihlelo ba mosebetsi makaleng a fapaneng, ka

nako ya dikgwedi tse 12. Bakopi ba mosebetsi ba atlehileng ba ile ba kengwa dikantorong tsa NSFAS tse Kapa Bophirima.

Motsamaisi wa NSFAS, Ngaka Randall Carolissen, o itse boiteko bona bo tla thusetsa diphephetsong tsa tlhoko ya mesebetsi e tobanteng le batjha ka hara naha, haholoholo ba unang melemo ho morero wa thuso ya ditjhelete.

"Jwalo ka NSFAS, re ka sehloohong ho thusa [baithuti] ka pherekano ya bona mme re ba pele ho bona kgahlamelo eo tlhoko ya mesebetsi e bang le yona ho baithuti ba nang le mangolo a dithuto tse phahameng," o rialo.

E mong wa ba unang melemo ba 50 ke Luchu-

lumanco Nanto (24), ya phethetseng National Diploma ya hae ya Accounting mane Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT) ka 2018.

O re o tsebile ka lenaneo lena seholopheng sa bona sa marangrang a dipuisano ka inthanete sa khampaseng, moo yena le baithuti mmoho ba arolelanang menyetla ya mesebetsi.

"Ke tlo fumana boiphihlelo ba tshebetso ka seo ke ithutileng sona mme sena se tla ntukisetsa ho kena tikolohong ya sebaka sa tshebetso," ho rialo Nanto, eo ha jwale a ithutelang lengolo la B-Tech ya Taxation CPUT.

Nanto le bana babo ba bane ba hodisitswe ke

mme wa bona a le mongeo a neng a sa kgone ho lefa ditefelo tsa hae tsa yunivesithi.

"Ntate wa ka o ile a hlokahala ha ke ne ke le 10 feela," ho rialo Nanto, ya tswang King William's Town e Kapa Leboya.

Ka lehlohonolo, o ile a fumana basari ya Lekgotla la Mmuso la Theknoloji ya lesedi.

Nanto o kgothaletsa batjha hore ba nahane ka ho kena lenaneong lena la baithuti ba nang le mangolo a dithuto tse phahameng pele ba kenyanya dikopo tsa mesebetsi ya meshwelella hobaneletlaatolosa boitsebelo ba bona le maitswaro mosebetsing ka nako e tshwanetseng, ba

ntse ba natefelwa ke melemo ya ho tsebisa tikolohong ya mosebetsi. ▀



Luchulumanco Nanto.

# Eastern Cape school better equipped to teach

**THE STATE-OF-THE-ART COMPUTERS** donated to a small school in Mama Albertina Sisulu's home village will open up a world of opportunity for the learners.

## Silusapho Nyanda

**P**pupils of a rural school in the Eastern Cape rejoiced when their school was given a facelift and received computers.

The 213 pupils of Albertina Sisulu Senior Primary School in Xolobe village in Tsomo, will benefit from the donation of 30 computers, refurbishments and safer classes, thanks to the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) and the Eastern Cape Department of Education.

"The pupils had to share the old computers we had but now they will be able to work on their own and easily become computer literate," said the school's principal, Nomfuneko Somlotha.

She said the pupils will be better able to access information for their school work and for research, whereas before they relied only on textbooks.

"Visual learning is important because it is easier to remember something that you have seen," Somlotha told Vuk'uzenzele.

She said the equipment would also help speed up teaching because pupils could be referred to websites as another mode of learning.

The school was also given added security and furniture upgrades.

Somlotha said the school will use the donated equipment to develop pupils' knowledge beyond the classroom and to open their eyes to the many career paths available to them. ▀



Computers donated by the Eastern Cape Department of Education and the Industrial Development Corporation to the Albertina Sisulu Primary School in Tsomo in the Eastern Cape.