

THE ADDRESS BY THE MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS, MR JERRY NDOU, ON THE OCASSION OF THE FUNERAL OF THE LATE KGOSHIGADI MANKGATHO MASHUNG, ON THE 10TH MARCH 2019, GA-MATLALA RAMOSHEBO, SEKHUKHUNE.

Motsamaishi wa lenaneo

The Royal Family

Kgoshi Dikgale le Maaparankwe kamoka

Executive Mayor

Local Mayor

Councillors

Members of the Bakone Traditional Council

Leadership of Contralesa

Baruti ba bagolo ba kereke ya Sione le dikereke tse dingwe

Babina Tlhantlhagane!

Bakone re kwele mokgoshi!

Mmu o utswitswe Matlala Ramoshebo!

Ka nnete re paletswe ke go disha.

Our faces are becoming waterfalls as our tears water down the soil to accept our heartfelt pain on behalf of the heavens. The pain of Bakone, babina-Tlhantlhagane, is the pain of the people of Limpopo and South Africa as whole.

Rere homotsegang!

Today, we are all gathered here to pay our last respect to Mme wa setshaba. Mme wa Babina tlhantlhagane! Mme wa Bakone! Rere mogopo o mogolo o wele setshaba se ya lla.

Bakone! the reality and sad part of the whole cry by the community ya Babina Tlhantlhagane is that the heir to the throne, Kgoshi Mokgoma Joseph Mashung passed on after a brief spell on the throne. This after he ascended to the throne taking over the reigns from his mother Kgoshigadi Mankgatho Mashung, whom we are sadly bidding our final farewells to, today.

In her absence we should remind our people that ditaba tsa go bea Kgoshi, ke moshomo wa Royal Family. Which means we should give the family an ample time to take the decision without creating any problems for them. The Traditional Council, should know and respect their role in society, in allow the Royal Family to make a decision. We should keep to our lane, and work for the development of our people.

Baledi 'a Ngwato, worked hard for the development of this community. She made sure her children preserve and acquaint themselves with the standards, beliefs, morals and values of the Bapedi culture. We need to instil this culture into the hearts and minds of our people, especially the young ones.

Today, we remember Baledi 'a Ngwato for the sterling job she did for this community, working well with the Local Government, to ensure that services like electricity and roads are prioritised and implemented for the better of our people and community. In her memory, we should work hard for the community, not only of Ga Matlala-Ramoshebo, but for the whole of Limpopo to achieve their desired goals.

Baledi 'a Ngwato, has left us when the country is marking and celebrating the 25th Years of Democracy. The building blocks have been visible for us to see. The structures of development are visible for those with eyes to see. The voices of development are loud and clear for many with ears to hear. She is not going to be with us when we make a mark for the renewal of mandate during the new electoral cycle, but, we know she would have loved to see us working together as we grow South Africa.

We must, as a community, remind ourselves, that Baledi 'a Ngwato, loved development, and for her people to be successful, education is the major key to success and development, as we unite to construct and build a united, non-racial, non-sexist, democratic South Africa. A South Africa, that is prosperous and caring. That is why we must, as people, join hands as masters of our own fate to grow South Africa together, to achieve more and care for the poor and destitute. We must work together, for the elderly, women, children, youth and people with disabilities.

As a community of thought and development, we must always remember that my neighbor's wellbeing is also important to me. A community that has no regard for the poor, is not a healthy society in which the caring and prosperity of the country can rely on. If a community has a child-headed family and all systems are there but cannot detect such an important aspect

of intervention, then our society is not ready and willing to be part of the solution to care for the elderly, children, women and people in distress.

As a community of thought and development, ours is to ensure there is no gender-based violence in our community. We have to make sure we are there for our people, whatever the status. Our people should know and understand that still water runs deep, and as such if the community finds itself in trouble, we should always be there and guide. As a caring society our deeds have to be well documented to say we worked and are working well with authorities to root out a scourge in society where women are being violated and murdered in the worst manifestation of patriarchal relations.

We need a multi-sectoral approach that responds to the need to step up the fight against gender-based violence and strengthen the broader interventions that address the causes and effects of such violence. That is what Baledi 'a Ngwato would in her resting place wants us to work on and achieve.

Babina Tlhantlhagane, we are here to be with you during this time of need, but we should not let your faces to continue being waterfalls, you should live and learn because, there is too much life in those eyes. You are the change the community needs. Let's work together for a better a South Africa, free of crime, corruption and other societal ills.

Through the wisdom of Baledi 'a Ngwato, our deeds, have to be known as those that raise voices, in the dark and stormy nights, to say "You are not alone". We have to be there for child-headed families. We have to be there for the elderly, without the wisdom of mahlako a matala in society the future is doomed, and we will never be humane anymore.

We say don't let sun go down on Babina Tlhantlhagane, what we must do is to understand that the sun doesn't shine for ever, so when it rises and shines, we should and must rise and shine with it and claim the throne of success.

Babina Tlhantlhagane we are under no illusion when we say, as we renew the contract of development for the new electoral cycle, that road might have difficulties and obstacles, but the future has always been certain under this government to better the lives of our people. Ours is to continue and fast track the promotion and implementation of the indigenous language programmes, including finalisation of language legislation in provinces for inclusion in the school curriculum.

As a caring society, we should work well, together as both Institution of Traditional Leadership and Government, thus promoting co-operative relations between government in all spheres and traditional authorities and leadership, including in relation to economic development and land use management. We should work together to investigate a special cooperative governance dispensation that will effectively manage the relationship of municipalities and traditional authorities.

Bakone mmu o utswitswe, what we have to be united for and about is that Bakone Ba Matlala Mashung Traditional Council, together with the Local Municipality should in the memory of our beloved mother work for the success story that must narrated for generations to come. There will always be those who sling mud into your good work, use that to build huts of success for a future we all want to be part of.

Bakone gadi lebogwe!