

Diamonds are Forever:
Cabinet of Sir Seretse
Khama, 1967

BOTSWANA



MUNUC 36

Model United Nations at the University of Chicago

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CHAIR LETTER

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to MUNUC 36! I am Ritwik Bose, and it's a pleasure to serve as the Chair for Diamonds are Forever: Cabinet of Sir Seretse Khama, 1967. After last year's successful return to in-person competition after two long years, I hope that this edition of MUNUC will be like no other, defined by your individual creativity, excellence, and ability.

Model United Nations is an activity that has played a critical role in my collegiate experience. This often ridiculous activity we call crisis has gifted me newfound skills, confidence, and friendships that will doubtless last a lifetime. I am honored to have the opportunity to share the joy that Model UN has given me with all of you as we explore Sir Seretse Goitsebeng Maphiri Khama's presidency and the formative years of an independent Botswana.

The process of building a nation from scratch is not easy, to say the least. Under Khama, Botswana went from a rural and underdeveloped former British protectorate to one of the strongest democracies and economies on the African continent. Core to this transformation, however, was the discovery of massive diamond deposits. Through this committee, we will examine the ramifications of resource extraction in the process of economic development, as well as the role and responsibilities of democratic government in establishing the institutions of a newly independent country.

As the first government of an independent Botswana, the Khama administration was tasked with helping the nation of nearly one million navigate the massive sea change in fortunes brought about by the discovery of diamond deposits. Going from a largely agrarian economy to a state driven largely by mineral extraction comes with significant complications, and it is up to you as the advisors to President Khama to help guide the people of Botswana through this period of change. Should the diamond industry be nationalized or should contracts be made with foreign corporations? How should the revenue from diamonds be directed to better improve the lives of the Batswana? What position should Botswana take in the intensifying Cold War? The answer to these questions depend on the choices you all make during this exciting weekend.

I am beyond thrilled to have the opportunity to assume the position of Chair and lead you all down the rabbit hole. The path that Botswana takes is up to all of you. I look forward to seeing what twists and turns the new nation takes as it ventures forth into the brave new world of independence.

Sincerely,

Ritwik Bose

ritwikbose@uchicago.edu

CRISIS DIRECTOR LETTER

Dear Delegates,

A very warm welcome to MUNUC 36! My name is Khristian Bass and I will be your Crisis Director for the Cabinet of Sir Seretse Khama, Botswana 1967. I'm from Gun Barrel City, Texas, and I am a Third Year at the University of Chicago majoring in Public Policy and Psychology. Some of my interests include playing the euphonium in the University Wind Ensemble, repairing technology, and making fun coffee drinks.

Since the start of college I have heavily engrossed myself in the world of Model UN. At MUNUC 34, I was an Assistant Chair for the Peru-Bolivia Confederation, 1836, and Assistant Chair for ChoMUN, The University of Chicago's Collegiate Model UN conference. Last year I was a Crisis Director for the Cabinet of Florvil Hyppolite at MUNUC 35 and for a ChoMUN committee. This year I am a chair for ChoMUN and continue to be a member of the University of Chicago's traveling Model UN team as I have been since First Year. Overall, I am very involved with Model UN, and can not wait to share this passion with all of you as we embark on our journey to better the country of Botswana in 1967!

There are many threats to the country of Botswana, both foreign and domestic after the discovery of diamonds within this newly independent nation. As a delegate on this committee, it is your job to navigate the tides of this new era for Botswana. I look forward to seeing everyone try their best to do this. All I ask is that all delegates bring their creativity and have a great time.

All the best,

Khristian Bass

The Cabinet of Sir Seretse Khama, Botswana 1967

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COMMITTEE STRUCTURE AND MECHANICS

This committee will simulate the Cabinet of Sir Seretse Khama. The chair of the committee will assume the role of President Seretse Khama. Delegates in the committee are a mix of ministers and miscellaneous leaders to serve the nation of Botswana in this cabinet. Delegates are encouraged to speak and debate on any topic that they wish to discuss, and should not feel bound by their roles to speak on different issues.

Delegates will be a very key part of Botswana's present and future as they will be tasked with dealing with crises as they arise. As we will go on to show through the rest of this background guide, this era of time in Botswana's history is an extremely exciting period of growth and change. As delegates, we expect you to inspire and create change in Botswana, but to do this respectfully. Absolutely no homophobia, racism, sexism, or justification of these actions by citing "historical accuracy" will be tolerated and disciplinary actions will be taken as needed.

With this being said, we expect delegates to work together to jointly decide how to respond to issues by passing directives. To ensure that committee flows well, delegates should feel as

though every directive that they pass will immediately be taken into effect and have the force of law, however, Sir Seretse Khama does reserve the right to overrule any directive that he sees as destructive. Other than this discretion, which can be exercised at any time, this committee will run with all the other normal elements that are present in a crisis committee.

To further elaborate, this committee will run as a continuous crisis committee, meaning that crisis breaks will be frequent, and a backroom will be present. In the frontroom, delegates will be expected to handle all the topics brought forward in debate, but also all the issues being presented in the crisis breaks. During their responses in speeches, directives, and moderated/unmoderated caucuses, delegates will also be expected to write notes to the backroom and to develop their backroom arc. Actions taken in delegates' backroom arcs can and will impact the frontroom and may be brought into the frontroom through crisis breaks. Delegates should read through the crisis training materials on munuc.org and reach out with any questions.

Statement Of The Problem

Economic Independence

Botswana gained its independence under the leadership of Sir Seretse Khama in 1966. Despite its independence, the nation still relied heavily on the financial support of the British. Because they were reliant on the British, they weren't able to strengthen their government and education systems. Relative to other British colonial territories, Botswana remained underdeveloped and significantly lacked the infrastructure required to provision public services or to secure economic independence. Many towns lack roads, schools, and hospitals, and running water and electricity are rare outside of Gaborone and Francistown. Additionally, Botswana is still a part of the Rand Monetary Area, meaning that the South African rand is the nation's sole currency.¹ In order to advance as an independent nation, asserting economic self-determination and self-sufficiency is crucial and one of the key issues that the Khama administration would need to address.

Smaller, yet equally pressing issues beyond economic independence were present in the

¹ "History of Botswana Currency." Bank of Botswana. Accessed 4 July, 2023. <https://www.bankofbotswana.bw/content/history-botswana-currency>.

nation as well. One of these issues is the fact that while Botswana has important diamond and other valuable resource deposits at the newly discovered Orapa mine, it still lacks the tools to effectively extract these resources to enrich the country. These resources certainly could help the nation come into its own as a more prosperous country. A key question that the Khama government needs to contend with, therefore, is how the exploitation of the mineral resources at Orapa should be conducted. Should foreign companies be contracted to mine diamonds? Some within the government are wary of increased foreign involvement in Botswana's economic affairs following the end of colonial rule, while others see the interest of companies like the DeBeers diamond corporation as a significant opportunity to enrich the country and bring some much needed money into government coffers.

With the discovery of the massive diamond mine in Orapa, however, comes worries that an independent Botswana could hinge its entire economic success on a singular, non-renewable resource. Therefore, there is a need for economic diversification. President Khama's cabinet must find economic opportunities for the country beyond mineral extraction that can enrich the country's people and fund much needed development. The cabinet must also consider

ways in which Botswana can attract foreign investment to boost the local economy. In order to accomplish this, there must be a favorable business environment, internal security, and a guarantee of government stability. As a largely undeveloped country, foreign investors are, as of yet, unconvinced that Botswana is the right place to direct funding.

International Relations

Outside of domestic issues, the international community has not yet decided on the best method of approach in delegating relations with the newly independent country. While it has only been close to the United Kingdom in its development, nations such as the USSR and major Western countries are beginning to take notice of Botswana as a place that could possibly be very profitable. One issue that this committee must consider is that the line between foreign assistance and abuse is very thin and the distinction and avoidance of the latter is in the best interest of the new country.

Other than these issues, there are still many other things that the people within the cabinet should keep in mind while developing this newly independent nation. The Cold War had started to heat up in 1967, and as such, Botswana might be forced to choose whether to align itself with the Soviet Union and the expanding bloc of Moscow-oriented African countries that had recently gained independence, or to continue

cooperation with the United Kingdom, the United States, and its allies in NATO. The ruling Botswana Democratic Party has, so far, not embraced the same left-wing ideologies that other pro-independence political movements across Sub-Saharan Africa have made a core part of their identities.

As the Cold War intensified, southern Africa became a major geopolitical battleground. European colonial empires were collapsing across Africa, and conflict had recently erupted in nearby Mozambique and Angola between pro-independence forces and the Portuguese government. South Africa, meanwhile, had instituted the brutal, racist, and oppressive system of apartheid. Zimbabwe, then known as Rhodesia, was undergoing a civil war between a white minority government and pro-independence forces. Khama's cabinet will be tasked with carefully navigating its foreign relations accordingly.²

Internal Development

In the long term, lack of access to education is going to be a key part of the development of future leaders and great minds within the country, as well as economic growth.³ Although

² "Independence and Decolonization in Southern Africa," Encyclopædia Britannica, n.d., <https://www.britannica.com/place/Southern-Africa/Independence-and-decolonization-in-Southern-Africa>.

³ Dini, Lamberto, Brian Quinn, and Lennart Wohlgenuth. "The Economy of Botswana." IMF

the University of Botswana has provided a significant boost to the educational capacity of the country, access to primary and secondary education is limited. The majority of existing schools in the country are run by clergy and missionary groups, and there is little public education. Many, if not most, elites in the country go abroad, especially to South Africa, to gain an education.

In the short term, recovery from some of the things that have affected the nation in the past year must be prioritized. The drought that had been plaguing the nation poses a great threat to the agricultural industry, and consequently, the people of Botswana. Shifting the population away from dependence on cattle herding and subsistence agriculture is important in order to ensure that future droughts and floods do not cause mass economic devastation. However, cattle herding and farming are integral parts of national culture and identity, and promoting such a change will not be easy or simple.

Botswana, as an independent country, needs to develop a range of institutions and governmental structures in order to ensure its survival as a sovereign state. The country lacks a currency of its own, a central bank, and military. As a result, Botswana is largely at the mercy of other, larger, more powerful states. It is up to Khama's cabinet

Staff Papers, vol. 1970, no. 1, Jan. 1970. Accessed August 24, 2023.
<https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/journals/024/1970/001/article-A004-en.xml>.

to provision these services and develop the necessary structures to continue the project of nation building. Overall, while there may be many problems that stand in the way of Botswana becoming a powerful nation as of right now, the possibility to transform Botswana into a very prosperous nation is there so long as there is smart investment, quality leadership, and an ability to face any crisis head-on at all times.

History Of The Problem

Pre-Independence Botswana

The land that is Botswana today is speculated by scholars to have been continuously inhabited since before 17000 BCE. The ancestors of modern Khoisan-speaking peoples have called Botswana home for millenia, but the Bantu expansion that took place between 1000 BCE and the first century CE fundamentally reshaped the region's demographics, as early human migration around Central Africa took place. Proto-Bantu speaking groups, including the ancestors of the modern Sotho and Tswana people, settled in modern Botswana and established decentralized, clan-based political orders. The nomadic, pastoralist herding society of the proto-Khoisan was replaced by proto-Bantu farming communities inhabiting hilltop villages.⁴

⁴ "History of Botswana," Encyclopædia Britannica, <https://www.britannica.com/place/Botswana/History#ref479980>.

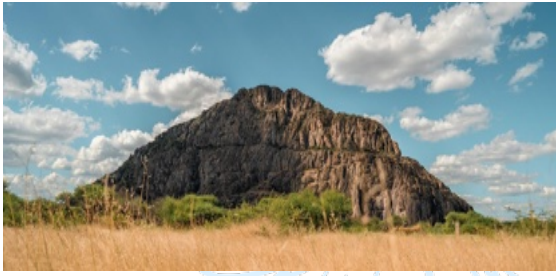


Figure 1. The Tsodilo Hills of northwestern Botswana, home to ancient proto-Khoisan rock art.⁵

Around 1095 CE, the Moritsane culture emerged in southeastern Botswana, and competing states later emerged in the hills of eastern Botswana, including Toutswe and Mapungubwe. In the west, pastoral Bantu communities formed the majority, their livelihoods closely tied to the welfare of their cattle herds.⁶ Cattle held great importance to societies across what is today Botswana, with the fortified hilltop towns of eastern Botswana leaving behind large stone cattle corrals long after their demise. Over time, the political order in Botswana shifted away from decentralization and towards one dominated by dynastic chiefdoms. These powerful chiefs came from the Tswana, a Bantu people that would become the predominant ethnic group in modern Botswana. These Tswana dynasties established numerous, competing states across the region. Hunting grounds, copper production, and most importantly, cattle herding, were the

primary sources of economic power during this period.⁷

The arrival of European colonial powers in southern Africa represented a major shakeup of the Tswana political landscape. By the 1840s, the Tswana states had largely reorganized themselves and began to engage in trade with the Dutch, and later British, Cape Colony that had been established in today's South Africa. What had been a mutually beneficial trade relationship, however, began to sour as white gold prospectors and raiders flooded into Tswana land. There had previously been fighting between Tswana chiefdoms and Boer settlers from modern-day South Africa, and the establishment of a Boer republic in the Transvaal sparked worries among the British that Boer expansion into the Kalahari, which makes up much of Botswana, was next. Furthermore, colonization of modern-day Namibia by a newly unified German Empire in the 1880s caused the British to fear that the Germans would expand into the Kalahari.

⁵ "Tsodilo Hills Tours: Destination Travel Guide," Botswana Experience, March 15, 2023, <https://www.botswana-experience.com/places-to-visit/tsodilo-hills/>.

⁶ "History of Botswana."

⁷ Ibid.



Figure 2. A map of southern Africa during European colonial rule⁸

In 1890, to secure their control and influence over the Tswana and establish a buffer against German expansion, the British South Africa Company established the Bechuanaland Protectorate. White settlement in Bechuanaland was limited and the region was directly ruled by the British Crown rather than the British South Africa Company. The Tswana kings who traditionally governed the area exercised considerable power, preventing the protectorate from being handed over to the Company. Railroads were built through the protectorate to facilitate the British colonization of Rhodesia, modern day Zimbabwe and Zambia. Thanks to the influence of Tswana kings, the Bechuanaland Protectorate was not incorporated into either

⁸ "British Protectorate." Encyclopædia Britannica. Accessed August 24, 2023. <https://www.britannica.com/place/Botswana/British-protectorate>.

Rhodesia or the Union of South Africa, and instead remained the least dense and industrialized of the British colonial possessions in southern Africa.⁹

Politically, the Bechuanaland Protectorate was split into eight nominally self-governing chiefdoms and five areas reserved for white farmer settlement. The rest was directly ruled by the Crown. The imposition of apartheid in the Union of South Africa following the National Party's electoral victory in 1948 scuttled any remaining plans of incorporating Bechuanaland into the South African state. Although not officially part of South Africa, the interests of the white minority and the apartheid government in Pretoria clearly influenced the politics of Bechuanaland. Until 1964, the administrative capital of the Bechuanaland Protectorate was Mafikeng, situated across the border in South Africa.

Independent Botswana

The British colonial government started to push the Bechuanaland Protectorate on the pathway to full self-governance and eventual independence by the 1950s. Nationalist sentiments and limited political organizing had already begun among the Ngwato tribe and followers of Seretse Khama. In

⁹ "History of Botswana." History of Botswana | Embassy of the Republic of Botswana in Washington, D.C. Accessed August 24, 2023. <http://www.botswanaembassy.org/page/history-of-botswana>.

1961, local elections were held, and two main political parties were established—the Bechuanaland People’s Party and the Bechuanaland Democratic Party (BDP), the latter led by Khama. In 1964 the capital was shifted from Mafikeng to the city of Gaborone, and in 1965 self-government was established with Khama as prime minister and the Bechuanaland Democratic Party in power.



Figure 3. A session of the first Parliament of Botswana, elected in 1965 and led by President Khama¹⁰

In 1966, full independence was achieved. Seretse Khama became the first president of the Republic of Botswana with a government led by the Botswana Democratic Party (a renamed BDP). Although independent, the largely agrarian and sparsely populated nation was severely underdeveloped and lacked significant infrastructure required for an economically self-sufficient country. The discovery of diamonds in 1967, however, changed everything. A team of geologists from the DeBeers Diamond Company unearthed a massive diamond deposit

¹⁰ “First Parliament of Botswana.” Botswana Parliament. Accessed August 24, 2023. <https://www.parliament.gov.bw/index.php/about-parliament/history/first-parliament-of-botswana>.

at Orapa, one of the largest in the world. The size of the diamond deposit has the potential to reshape Botswana, but questions remain about whether the diamond mine should be directly operated by DeBeers, nationalized by the new Botswana government, or operated jointly.



Figure 4. Mechanized mining at the Orapa diamond mine, discovered in 1967¹¹

Although independent, Botswana lacked many of the hallmarks of a sovereign state. It did not have a currency of its own during the first few years following independence, instead relying on the South African rand. The country did not have a standing military either, and the Botswana Police Force, which succeeded the colonial Bechuanaland Police Force, filled in the role of self-defense in the meantime. Debates over the role of the chiefs in an independent Botswana’s political system continue to rage, with many activists seeing the preservation of noble power as a relic of an undemocratic past, while proponents

¹¹ “Orapa: A Place Where Botswana’s Diamond Story Began,” Sunday Standard, August 5, 2019, <https://www.sundaystandard.info/orapa-a-place-w-here-botswanaocos-diamond-story-began/>.

of the current system see it as a matter of cultural importance.

Culture And Society

The name 'Botswana' means 'Land of the Tswana' in the Tswana language. People from Botswana are called 'Batswana,' and an individual from Botswana is a 'Motswana.' The Tswana are the dominant ethnic group in the country, making up almost two-thirds of the national population. The Kalanga, who live primarily in the northern part of the country, are the second largest ethnic group, making up around eleven percent of the population. Their language is closely related to Shona, spoken in Zimbabwe, and there is a significant Kalanga population across the border in the Zimbabwean region of Matabeleland. The San, who speak a language belonging to the Khoisan family and live primarily in the Kalahari, are the third largest ethnicity in Botswana, at around three percent. There are small minorities of white Batswana of European descent and Batswana of Indian descent as well. Christianity is the dominant religion in Botswana, with various denominations of the religion being practiced. Traditional religious beliefs, referred to under the umbrella term of 'Badimo,' are common among Batswana as well.¹²

¹² "Botswana - Country Summary." Central Intelligence Agency. Accessed August 24, 2023. <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/botswana/summaries>.

Soccer, cricket, and rugby are the most popular sports played in Botswana, having been introduced to the country by the British during the era of colonial rule. Sports clubs are popular in major towns like Gaborone, Francistown, and Serowe. Boarding schools play an important role in Botswana's sporting culture. Many Batswana, including members of President Khama's cabinet, learned to play sports during their time at boarding schools in Botswana and across the border in South Africa. Additionally, there is a fledgling literary and artistic culture in Botswana, with major writers and historians from the country including Leetile Disang Raditladi, Thomas Tlou, and Bessie Head. The University of Botswana, as well as schools in South Africa, have produced many intellectuals and scholars who call Botswana home.

In 1967, the majority of Batswana lived in rural areas, with the capital city of Gaborone being the only major urban area. Having been established as the administrative capital by the British in 1964 to prepare the Bechuanaland Protectorate for independence, the city is relatively new and as such is quite small compared to the capitals of neighboring countries. Francistown is the second largest city in the country, situated near the border with Zimbabwe. Most Batswana are cattle herders or subsistence farmers, and much of the country does not have running water, electricity, or basic government services.



Figure 5. An aerial view of the capital, Gaborone, in 1966¹³

Botswana's Economy

For millennia, cow herding and subsistence agriculture have been the primary livelihood for people living in Botswana.¹⁴ Historically, trade between inland regions of southern Africa and coastal areas has run through Botswana. Early Tswana kingdoms regularly fought over control of trade routes, and during the Protectorate period the British built railroads through Botswana to connect the more densely populated regions of Rhodesia and Nyasaland (modern day Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Malawi) with cities in South Africa. Due to objections from Tswana kings against authority over the Bechuanaland Protectorate being granted to the British South

Africa Company, the British colonial government had minimal involvement in shaping Botswana's economy. Small tracts of land were set aside for white farmers, but otherwise the British largely pursued a policy of non-engagement in Bechuanaland's economic affairs. The economic colossus of the British Empire in Africa, South Africa, was a major destination for Botswana migrant workers.

On the eve of independence in 1966, Botswana was one of the most underdeveloped parts of southern Africa. Basic infrastructure like roads, public schools, and hospitals was limited in its scope, and the society was predominantly agrarian and pastoralist. The discovery of diamonds at Orapa in 1967, at the beginning of the 1970s, fundamentally reshaped the economy of Botswana. The deposit was one of the largest ever discovered, and the potential revenue of the mine was enough to catapult Botswana into middle-income economic status. Major questions hung over the discovery of diamonds: who should run the mines? Would mineral extraction rights be granted to a private company or would the Botswana government nationalize mining operations themselves? Geologists from the DeBeers Diamond Corporation had discovered the diamonds, and as such they were the company most likely to operate the mine if given

¹³ Keiner, Marco and Branko I. Cavric. "Managing the development of a fast growing city: A case of Gaborone, Botswana." ETH Library. Accessed August 25, 2023. <https://doi.org/10.3929/ethz-a-004644558>.

¹⁴ "Botswana," Encyclopædia Britannica, August 21, 2023, <https://www.britannica.com/place/Botswana>.

ownership rights.¹⁵ Having just achieved independence, however, worries about the influence of a foreign, European company over such a critical resource are pervasive among many Batswana.

Biography Of Sir Seretse Khama

Sir Seretse Khama was born on July 1, 1921, in Serowe, Bechuanaland. He was the grandson of Khama III the Good, an individual who is known for allying the kingdom of Bechuanaland with the British in the 19th century. Seretse Khama became the chieftain of the Ngwato people, succeeding his father at the age of four. Seretse Khama studied in South Africa and then went to the University of Oxford to pursue a degree in law where he met Ruth Williams, a British woman whom he married in 1948. This wedding; controversial in both Britain and Bechuanaland, was part of the reason that the British forced his exile from Bechuanaland. To return, Khama was required to renounce his chieftainship of the Ngwato people, which he did in 1956. After this, Khama returned to Bechuanaland as a citizen rather than as a leader and quickly founded the Democratic Party in 1962, becoming prime minister in 1965. From this position of power, Khama was able to sit at the head seat at the negotiation tables during talks of Botswana's

¹⁵ "Orapa Mine," Debswana, accessed August 24, 2023, <https://www.debswana.com/Operations/Pages/Orapa-Mine.aspx>.

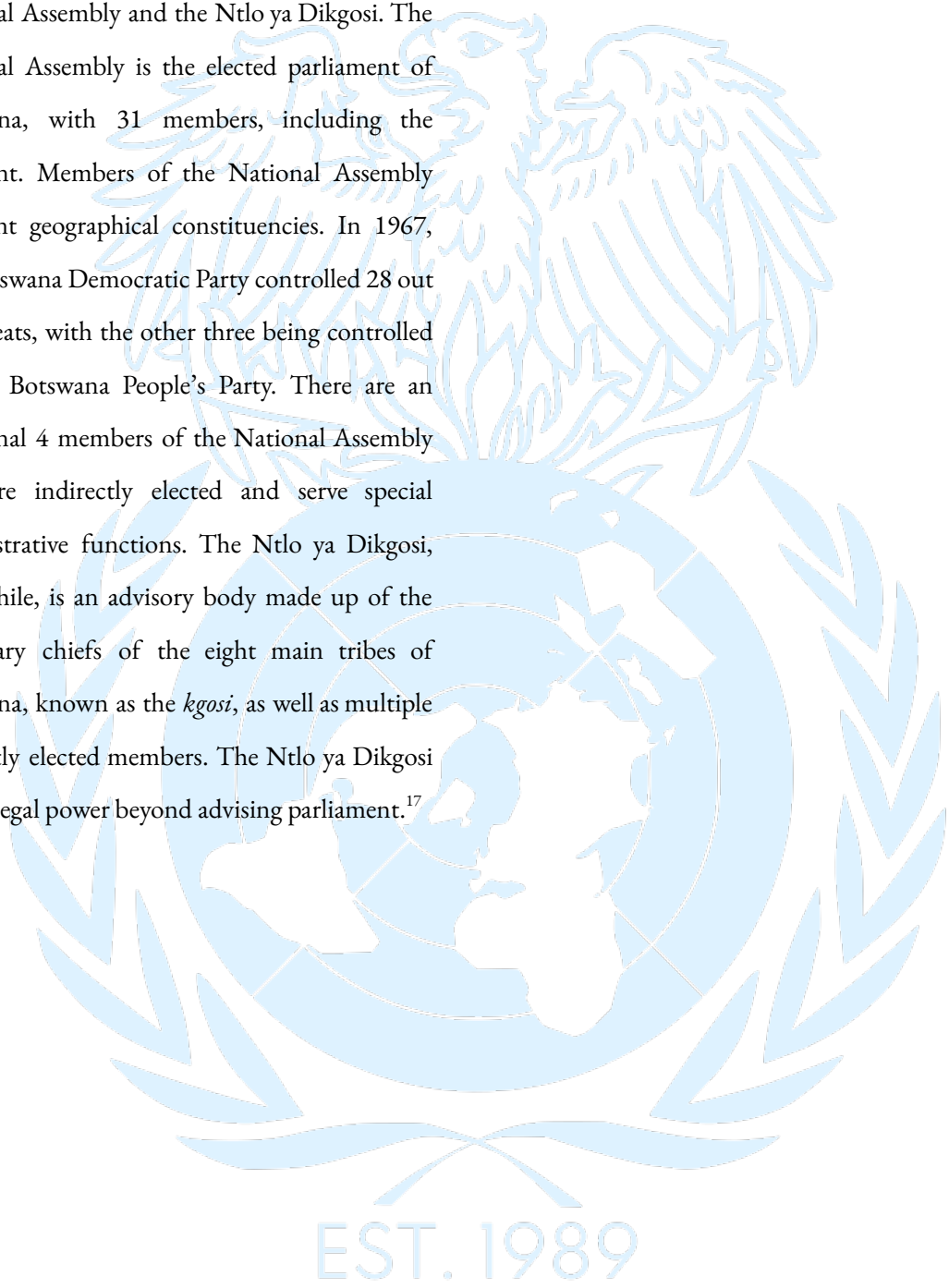
independence, of which he guaranteed in 1966.¹⁶ Now as president of the nation of Botswana and with a highly qualified cabinet at his side, Sir Seretse Khama wishes to continue leading the nation of Botswana to meeting its true potential. Khama is heavily engaged within projects that will ensure the nation is able to continue its development from education to infrastructure.

System Of Government

Following independence, a distinct parliamentary system of government was established, with a strong executive presidency. Although Botswana has a parliament, the head of state and government is a president elected by the legislature who holds a seat in parliament, rather than a prime minister. Members of the cabinet are, as a result, also members of the National Assembly. Parties run in general elections with the understanding that if they win a parliamentary majority, their leader will be elected president. This differs from presidential systems of government, where the chief executive is directly elected by the voting population. During the general elections of 1965, for instance, the Botswana Democratic Party won a significant majority of seats in the National Assembly, which allowed them to elect Sir Seretse Khama as president.

¹⁶ "Sir Seretse Khama | Botswana Leader, Independence & Legacy | Britannica," July 9, 2023. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Seretse-Khama>.

The legislative branch of Botswana’s government is made up of two constituent bodies—the National Assembly and the Ntlo ya Dikgosi. The National Assembly is the elected parliament of Botswana, with 31 members, including the president. Members of the National Assembly represent geographical constituencies. In 1967, the Botswana Democratic Party controlled 28 out of 31 seats, with the other three being controlled by the Botswana People’s Party. There are an additional 4 members of the National Assembly who are indirectly elected and serve special administrative functions. The Ntlo ya Dikgosi, meanwhile, is an advisory body made up of the hereditary chiefs of the eight main tribes of Botswana, known as the *kgosi*, as well as multiple indirectly elected members. The Ntlo ya Dikgosi has no legal power beyond advising parliament.¹⁷



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¹⁷ Pearl Lowani, “Who Are We,” Parliament of Botswana, n.d., <https://www.parliament.gov.bw/index.php/about-parliament/who-we-are>.

CHARACTER BIOGRAPHIES

Quett Masire – Vice President

Quett Masire was born in 1926 to a family of cattle farmers in the town of Kanye. He distinguished himself as a student at a young age and won a scholarship to be educated in South Africa's Tiger Kloof Institute. Before entering into politics, Masire was a school headmaster and a journalist. In 1961 he became a founding member of the Botswana Democratic Party, serving as the first Secretary-General of the party. Following the first round of general elections in 1965, Masire was named Vice President by Khama. Masire is one of Khama's close advisors and holds significant respect and power within the Botswana Democratic Party and Botswana's political establishment. He is an avid soccer fan, having been a star attacking player for his school team at Tiger Kloof. Masire is additionally a strong advocate for education, due to his time as a teacher.

Moutlakgola P.K. Nwako – Minister Of Foreign Affairs

Moutlakgola P.K. Nwako was born in September 1923 to a cattle farming family within a village in the Ngwato district of what was the Bechuanaland Protectorate. Growing up learning how to raise the family cattle ranch, he was taught at a young age the importance of hard work, a trait that he kept with him as he rose to be one of the top members of his class within the Tiger Kloof Institute where he received his secondary education. This institute connected Nwako with many of his associates who would help him secure a role within the Bakwena and Bamangwato Tribal Authorities as treasurer. In 1954, he accepted a role as secretary and treasurer of Moeng College, a role that he was part of for ten years, even creating a Model United Nations team at the college of which competed locally with great success.

March 1st of 1965 was the day when his political career began, as he won a seat in the Assembly for Tswapong North and moved into the government as Minister of Agriculture on March 5th of the same year. This seat gave him great partnership with Sir Seretse Khama, eventually being promoted to Minister of Foreign Affairs within his cabinet where he finds himself now.¹⁸ In his off-time, Nwako enjoys tending to his small cattle ranch where he and his show winning cow "Betsy" have lived for the past few years.

Archelaus Tsoebebe – Minister Of Labor And Social Services

Born into a family of Sotho origin, Archelaus Tsoebebe was raised and educated in South Africa before moving to the Bechuanaland Protectorate in 1932. Tsoebebe is one of the few prominent politicians hailing

¹⁸ "Moatlakgola P. K. NWAKO." Accessed August 13, 2023.
https://prabook.com/web/moatlakgola_p.k.nwako/1346384.

from Botswana's north, and his involvement in national politics significantly predates the establishment of the BDP. He is considered an advocate for the non-Tswana tribal population of Botswana, and is often disappointed by the lack of support within the BDP for the causes of non-Tswana minorities. His constituency of Bobirwa is culturally close to Lesotho and the Sotho regions of South Africa. In his limited free time, Tsoebebe is a skilled golfer, having gained an appreciation for the sport during his youth in the Cape Colony.

James G. Haskins – Minister Of Commerce

James G. Haskins was born on April 24, 1914, within Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, which was then known as Rhodesia to a family that left England in favor of starting a farm within the country. James was a sporty youth, excelling at both cricket and rugby and was good enough to earn a sports scholarship to the J.W. Jagger Business Training College, then learning more about the world of business from 1935 to 1942, when his studies were interrupted by World War II; he joined the African Service Corps and lost an eye in the process.

After the war, James was able to become a company director of a business in the city of Francistown, where he gained many ties across what would become Botswana and specifically the city of Gaborone, also founding the Francistown Chamber of Commerce.¹⁹ After 30 years of business, James entered government in 1966 as the Minister of Commerce, having been brought on by Sir Seretse Khama after a friendly chess match between the two that some say lasted for three days and ended in a draw. As Minister of Commerce, he serves to ensure that Botswana grows its trade relationships and improves its standing within the South African Customs Union. When Haskins is not working within the chamber of commerce he can often be seen swimming laps in the Gaborone dam, or walking one of his two dogs, Quanco and Kookaburra.

Tsheko Tsheko – Minister Of Local Government

Born in the northwestern region of Botswana, known as Ngamiland, Tsheko Tsheko made a name for himself as a successful businessman exporting goods to South Africa. In 1945, Tsheko entered politics, becoming a member of the local government of the Bechuanaland Protectorate that predated home rule. Tsheko's constituency is one of the few competitive seats in Botswana's parliament, making him an especially pragmatic politician. His home district is part of the Okavango Delta, a massive inland delta home to elephants, rhinos, lions, leopards, and wildebeest. As a result, he is a fierce proponent of animal welfare

¹⁹ "James HASKINS." Accessed August 14, 2023. <https://prabook.com/web/james.haskins/1304196>.

and environmental preservation. Tsheko is known to paint beautiful watercolor landscapes of the Okavango Delta in his down time.

Edison Masisi – Minister Of Education

Edison Masisi was born on March 31, 1921, within the village of Moshupa in the Southern District of what is now Botswana to a family of teachers within the village. From a young age, Edison loved to learn and teach, becoming a part-time coach for his town's youth football team at the age of 13, coaching the Angry Aardwolves to their first youth football title in history. Edison would travel to South Africa to learn how to be a teacher at the Tiger Kloof Institute and Teacher's Training College in Vryburg in 1949, after which he returned to his hometown to teach at the Moshupa Primary School, becoming head teacher in 1957. Edison served in this role until 1964, and was able to meet many large personalities in his time teaching across Botswana and southern Africa. He took to the road for many seminars on teaching, meeting the likes of Nelson Mandela and other South African Communist Party members, as well as many headmasters of universities across the country.

Edison started a career in politics when he was elected to the Assembly of Moshupa in 1965, then taking another study tour to Britain and West Germany. After this tour, Edison returned for a meeting with Sir Seretse Khama after which he was appointed as Minister of Education. Within this role, Edison has continued his frequent meetings with members of the community, and has become an investor and lover of the newly founded Gaborone United Sporting Club within the city.

Gaefalale Sebeso – Deputy Speaker Of The National Assembly

Gaefalale Sebeso was born in 1908 and served as the headmaster of the elite Shoshong School before joining the British military during the Second World War. Sebeso was an early member of the Botswana Democratic Party, and appointed Deputy Speaker upon his election to the National Assembly. In his role as Deputy Speaker, Sebeso is an outspoken advocate for the power of the legislature and has actively warned against the growing power of the presidency. On weekends, he meets up with his army buddies to play poker, a game that he is renowned for his skill at. He represents a district in the Tswapong Hills that includes the town of Palapye, which was once an old Tswana hill fort and is now home to a coal mine crucial to Botswana's energy grid.

Dr. Alfred Merriweather – Medical Advisor To The President

Dr. Alfred Merriweather was born in 1918 and raised in Edinburgh by a religious family. Growing up with a church-involved father and studying under Dr. Casa House at Edinburgh University, he aspired to become a

medical missionary. This inspired him to join the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society, allowing him to grow to be a fine professional and big personality in many circles around the world, which would lead him to being hand selected to serve in the Indian Army from 1941 to 1944. His time as a medical officer in the war would allow him to showcase his skills. He was awarded for his devotion by being released by the British High Commissioner to transfer to Bechuanaland. Until 1948, he worked with Dr. P. M. Shepherd at the Scottish Livingstone Hospital before taking over his duties as head caretaker.²⁰ From this position, Merriweather became a household name, beloved for his kind heart, great leadership of the hospital, and impeccable skills on the hospital tennis court.

His fame and experience as head caretaker led him to be connected to Sir Seretse Khama, where he has since served as Medical Advisor, allowing him to be at the forefront of ensuring the medical needs of the people of Botswana. Merriweather works to ensure the hospitals of the nation are as advanced as they can be, collaborating with medical heads of other nations to share information and technology. Dr. Merriweather is rarely not serving the people of Botswana, but on the weekends he can be found horseback riding with some of his buddies, be they professors at local medical schools or colleagues of other professions.

Motsamai Mpho – Leader Of The Botswana Independence Party

Motsamai Mpho is a political pioneer in Botswana. He is widely credited for using the name ‘Botswana’ as an alternative to ‘Bechuanaland.’ He went on to establish the Botswana People’s Party, the first political party in the Bechuanaland Protectorate. However, Mpho eventually left the party and founded the Botswana Independence Party in 1964. He was one of the few non-BDP politicians to be elected to the National Assembly following the 1965 elections, and as such has become one of the most prominent opposition politicians in the country. Mpho is known among his colleagues as a phenomenal singer, a talent he has honed since childhood.

Kgosi Seepapitso IV – Chairman Of The House Of Chiefs (Ntlo Ya Dikgosi)

Kgosi Seepapitso IV was born in October 1933 in Thaba Nchu, South Africa, to a well-off family who owned the town’s largest supermarket. Working for his parents as a child, Kgosi learned about business ownership and administration and was inspired to one day become a figure who could manage on his own. Kgosi attended the Tiger Kloof Institute from 1946 to 1955, eventually going to Moeng College. He transferred to South Devon Technical College in the United Kingdom, where in 1960 he gained his diploma

²⁰ HeraldScotland. “Rev Dr Alfred Merriweather,” November 13, 1999.
<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/12206709.rev-dr-alfred-merriweather/>.

in Public Administration. During his stay in the UK, he made many friends, such as a member of the royal guard for the Queen of England and several physics professors who he played cricket with on the weekends.

Upon his return to Africa, Kgosi bounced around several jobs in public service, first as a District Development Officer in Serowe, Bechuanaland, then as Deputy Town Clerk on the Gaborone City Council. From there, he eventually landed himself the role as the Chairman of the Ntlo ya Dikgosi (House of Chiefs), the house in Botswana politics that advises on matters of tribal law and custom.^{21,22} As the head representative of the eight Tswana tribes on this council, Kgosi is responsible for representing these tribes well to his good friend Sir Seretse Khama who he met during his time as Deputy Town Clerk. When he is not doing this task, Kgosi can be seen with his recreational cricket team that meets every weekend, or deep in conversation at his favorite coffee shop, “Mike’s Coffee.”

Mompoti Merafhe – Commander Of The Botswana Police Force

Mompoti Merafhe was born in 1936 in the town of Serowe, a town known for being the birthplace of many important political leaders, including Seretse Khama. Merafhe attended college in Botswana before joining the Bechuanaland Protectorate Police Force. Following independence, Merafhe rose through the ranks to become one of the Botswana Police Force’s key leaders. In a time when Botswana lacked a cohesive military, the Botswana Police Force was key to national self-defense; therefore, Merafhe is considered one of the main military specialists and leaders in the country. Having been born in the same hometown as President Khama, Merafhe is fiercely loyal to the president, but at the same time harbors slight jealousy.

Gape “Granny” Teko - President Of Botswana Farmers And Ranchers Association

Gape Teko was born in rural Eastern Bechuanaland in 1889. Her father was one of the best farmers in the region while her mother was one of the most accomplished ranchers. All Teko ever knew for her childhood was farming and ranching. Because of familial troubles, Teko spent her weekends on the farm and her weekdays on the ranch, which left little time for school, resulting in her homeschooling by her brother. When it was finally time for her mother and father to retire, she happily picked up the job of caring for both properties. Despite only being 30 years old, she named the land “Granny’s Franch” after the nickname that her family had assigned her.

²¹ Morima, Ndulamo Anthony. “Remembering the Unwanted: Kgosi Seepapitso IV.” Weekend Post, May 2, 2016. <https://www.weekendpost.co.bw/25357/columns/remembering-the-unwanted-kgosi-seepapitso-iv/>.

²² “Botswana - Democracy, Tribalism, Wildlife | Britannica.” Accessed August 23, 2023. <https://www.britannica.com/place/Botswana/Government-and-society>.

Granny's Franch would continue to grow over the years; by the 1950, the land had quadrupled in value and size. Because of this, Granny's land began to near borders with other farms and ranches, which was troubling to these workers as they feared that she would attempt hostile takeovers on their lands. Fortunately for these farmers and ranchers, Granny preferred collaboration to competition and invited various agrarian workers to join the Bechuanaland Farmers and Ranchers Association (BFRA).

With Granny heading BFRA, she continued expanding the association's reach, ensuring that she protected as small as the subsistence farmer to as big as the big name rancher. The BFRA's reach and Granny's notorious personality led to Sir Seretse Khama seeking her out for his cabinet. Despite being 78, Granny is as active as ever, managing her land as much as she can at her age, while still heading her newly renamed *Botswana* Farmers and Ranchers Association. When Granny has time off, she enjoys spending time with her grandchildren, teaching them the ways of farming and ranching, just as she learned.

Philip Matante – Founder Of The Botswana People's Party

A key opposition leader in post-independence Botswana, Philip Matante hails from the second most important city in the country, Francistown. Matante was a prominent pro-independence activist, addressing the United Nations twice in 1962 and 1963 to advocate for decolonization. Matante became one of the founding members of the Botswana People's Party prior to independence, leading demonstrations against the colonial government. The Botswana People's Party would become the largest opposition party after the 1965 elections, making Matante the official leader of the opposition in the National Assembly. Matante is greatly opposed to the power of the *dikgosi* (traditional chiefs) in the current system of government in Botswana and fights against policies seen as appeasing business interests. He is considered a political firebrand in the legislature.

Amos Dambe – Minister Of Mines

Amos Dambe was born in May of 1911 at Mswazi in the Ngwato district. The oldest of six children, Amos helped his busy parents raise his brothers and sisters as they ran the family bakery, which sold the best cookies in town. Learning from his family responsibilities, he sought to become a teacher. He first went to Vryburg, where he studied from the same teachers that would later teach fellow minister Edison Masisi, but finished his studies in Adams College in South Africa. Amos returned home and became a successful teacher, eventually moving to Tati Training Institution to serve as headmaster. However, this headmastership would be short lived; a year later in 1939, he joined the High Commission Territories Corps in the British 8th Army, bringing him to the Middle East theater of World War II. Just like everything else in his life, he quickly rose the ranks to become a sergeant.

Upon his return post-war, Amos continued to grow the Tati training program, expanding the Teachers' Association and becoming treasurer, a position that allowed him to meet Sir Seretse Khama.²³ This meeting would result in an invitation to serve as Minister of Mines in 1965, where he has served since. While Amos is committed as Minister of Mines to ensure that the strong resources of the new nation are running smoothly, he continues to give talks at local colleges and universities on the importance of education, which has allowed him to be seen by thousands and make many powerful allies in the field.

Motlatsi Segokgo – Minister Of Finance

Motlatsi Segokgo was born to a moderately wealthy family in October of 1928, east of the city of Gaborone in the village of Tlokweng. He was inspired at a young age by both his mother, who was a school teacher, and his father, who was a successful banker. His father spent long nights with him speaking about money and finance; Motlatsi thought that his future was to teach others about economics and finance, so he pursued a career as an educator, attending Teachers' Training College in Tlokweng and starting his teaching career in 1947. He would rise to become assistant master at St. Joseph's College and head teacher at Batlokwa National School. But while he was a good teacher, he was even better at administration and money management. Many of his peers and students would come to him for his golden advice that he could provide for all of their various ventures; by the time he was running for election of the Batlokwa Tribal Council in 1961, he was a shareholder of around 27 various small businesses from "Gaborone Toys Emporium" to "Medical Devices, Donuts, and More, Inc." By the end of his time on the tribal council, half of his investments had failed and the other half had flourished. He decided to enter the National Assembly at the recommendation of Sir Seretse Khama, whom he met through a mutual friend, and became Parliamentary Secretary in 1965. Just a year later, he became the Minister of Finance.²⁴ Motlatsi's love of service to Botswana's economy is only matched by his determination to continue making great investments and ensuring that his various business partners are able to flourish, just as he hopes the country will.

Bathoen Gaseitsiwe – Leader Of The Botswana National Front

Bathoen Gaseitsiwe is the *kgosi* of the Bangwaketse tribe, having assumed the role in 1928. He was initially a member of the Botswana Democratic Party, but left the party after independence due to his belief that the power of the *kgosi* and the traditional tribal structure was being eroded by the Khama government. Alongside other *kgosi*, Bathoen established the Botswana National Front to oppose the BDP in the National

²³ "Amos M DAMBE." Accessed August 14, 2023. https://prabook.com/web/amos_m.dambe/1346309.

²⁴ "Motlatsi Keseabetswe Segokgo." Prabook. Accessed August 14, 2023. https://prabook.com/web/motlatsi_keseabetswe.segokgo/1346397.

Assembly, with plans to run against Quett Masire for the seat of Kanye South in 1969. Bathoen is considered the foremost advocate for the preservation of the Ntlo ya Dikgosi and enjoys support among many other *kgosi* and traditionalists in Botswana.

Bessie Head – Writer And Activist

Bessie Head was born in Pietermaritzburg, Natal, in South Africa in 1937. Her mother was a very wealthy woman of Scottish descent while her father was native to South Africa. Despite having a difficult childhood, Head was able to pursue an education to become a teacher, finally getting a job as a teacher in Durban, South Africa. Despite making many connections to the teachers and people of the town, she realized that teaching was not her calling, leaving 18 months later for Cape Town. She found a job as a freelance reporter for the Golden City Post before taking a position as a permanent member. She would then move to Johannesburg where she would work at a subsidiary of the Golden City Post, the Home Post. From this position, Head's ability to touch her readers with her thoughtful words led her to prominence throughout the state.

Things did not continue to be smooth sailing, however, when after mental health concerns she decided that she needed a change. She left for Bechuanaland for a position as a teacher in Tshekedi Memorial Primary School, which led her to take an exit permit that barred her from re-entering South Africa due to passport issues. Now in Bechuanaland, her teaching career would again hit a dead end, as she was forced to resign from her post. It was at this time that she began to seriously write, so she moved to a small village.²⁵

In that same year, 1966, her writing was picked up by New York Publishers, who finally gave her a steady income. After her politically-charged pieces about the daily lives of ordinary people in Africa gained national attention, she was specially invited by Sir Seretse Khama to this council as a member who can bring in everyday experience. When she isn't writing, she continues to tend her farm with her husband, and has organized a small farmers union in the small town where the couple met each other.

Ramsey D. Molefe – Minister Of Agriculture

Ramsey D. Molefe is a unique political figure in Botswana, as a member of the National Assembly who was indirectly elected. Molefe gained considerable expertise in agriculture from his upbringing as the son of a farmer in the Southern District. He is an advocate for modernizing Botswana's agricultural sector, and is an outspoken voice for increased foreign investment in the country's farms and ranches. Currently residing in

²⁵ "Bessie Amelia Head | South African History Online." Accessed August 23, 2023. <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/bessie-amelia-head>.

the southern city of Kanye, he is known for his lavish dinner parties, where he showcases the ingredients of Botswana's agricultural sector. He dreams one day of running a restaurant in Gaborone, pioneering the 'farm-to-table' style he learned during a sabbatical in San Francisco.

Itumaleng Moloji – Editor-In-Chief Of Botswana Daily News

Itumaleng Moloji was born in Salisbury, Rhodesia, in 1925. His father and mother were both practicing doctors in the city after their extensive study in England; wanting their child to follow their same path, they offered Moloji the opportunity to be sent to England. Disliking change and wanting to be more connected with his home, Moloji stayed in Salisbury, taking extensive English classes and becoming a fine writer, rather than attending a college. Moloji was always interested in documenting local issues from his point of view, and from the age of 19 was pursuing whatever story was going on in his town. Moloji would become his own publisher, creating the small business that he called "*Moloji News*."

Despite no economic backing, *Moloji News* was able to yield Moloji enough of a living to continue with the business just on his passion alone, and the people of Salisbury began to be quite loyal to supporting his paper. This business would continue a steady but small rise until war had taken away many of his readers to lands far away, and he was unable to support himself. Those years marked Moloji's reliance on his parents' home, as they kept pushing him to attend university. Instead of yielding to their wishes, Moloji would continue practicing his craft so that the next product he could push would be better content than ever. This would come in the form of a piece in 1954 entitled, "Big Business Big Problems," detailing how businesses in Salisbury were being strong-armed by foreign investors in a deep-dive investigation. For this, Moloji was given a news award from the city.

Knowing this was the peak of his potential, Moloji wanted a change of scenery and moved to Bechuanaland as a traveling writer, staying in any place he could find a story. This would continue until 1964, when the government of Bechuanaland were seeking writers who were accomplished enough to run the state-owned newspaper *Daily News*.²⁶ First on their list was Moloji, who happily accepted the position and has ever since been the foremost writer and editor-in-chief in Botswana. Now the transition of power means more news for Moloji that he's happy to take on while alongside Sir Seretse Khama in his new cabinet. When he is not pursuing stories, Moloji enjoys traveling around the country on his bike and seeing what kind of trouble he can find.

Dendy Young – Botswana Chief Justice

²⁶ "DailyNews." Accessed August 23, 2023. <https://dailynews.gov.bw/>.

Dendy Young was born in the Humansdorp District of Cape Colony in September 1907 to a family of lawyers who all wanted him to follow in their footsteps. Young also wanted this path for himself, but was more concerned with public service, joining the Public Service of Southern Rhodesia in 1926. At the same time, he studied law at the University of South Africa. In 1934, Young resigned from the public service in favor of practicing as a barrister in Salisbury, Rhodesia, until World War II began. The war occupied him in North Africa until 1945, when he returned to practice law in Rhodesia. In 1949, he would become a member of the prestigious King's Counsel, placed into power by King George VI after repeated recommendations for his skill as a lawyer in Salisbury. This time period also marks Young's parallel attempts at politics, when in 1948 he was elected to the United Rhodesia Party and eventually as a member of the Southern Rhodesian Legislative Assembly until 1953. Young would then become a part of the Federal Assembly of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland as the MP of the confederate party.

Stepping down from this position in 1956, he became a judge in the High Court of South Rhodesia, where he worked alongside his colleague John Fieldsend, an ally who would later become the first Chief Justice of Zimbabwe. Young would then leave the high court in protest after they rejected Rhodesia's call for independence, being picked up by Sir Seretse Khama to become the first Chief Justice of Botswana. Taking on this large challenge in a land that he has not spent most of his time in, Young keeps his close ties to the many people he has worked with over the years from Rhodesia as well as his close allies in high places back in the King's Counsel. When he is not working he can be found spending time with these allies, whenever they are able to visit him in Gaborone.²⁷

John Gandee - High Commissioner Of The UK To Botswana

John Gandee was born in December 1909 in the city of Dorking, England, to a wealthy British family of bankers. Gandee was always a middle of the pack as a student, bored with what he learned in class, and only satisfied with the prospect of seeing the world. Gandee would seize the opportunity to meet his dreams when he first took a job with the British Post Office, a position that allowed him to make many connections in local government. He was then able to transfer to the India Office in London, which oversaw the administration of India, until it was closed down in 1947 upon Indian independence. Hoping to stay within the realm of Commonwealth relations he took various British posts for relations with Ottawa, Basutoland, and Swaziland, all in attempts to finally get the chance to travel, which were in vain.

²⁷ Gauntlett, Jeremy. "The Late J R Dendy." *CONSULTUS* 11, no. 2 (November 1998): 118. <https://www.gcbasa.co.za/law-journals/1998/november/1998-november-vol011-no2-p118.pdf>.

In 1961, he would then land a job as the Head of the Administration Department at the Commonwealth Relations Office where he worked until 1964, which finally allowed him to gain enough notoriety within England to be appointed as the High Commissioner of the UK to Botswana. With this appointment, he was finally able to travel and he quickly hopped on the first ship to Botswana to maintain British relations with the nation, who was quickly on the road to independence. With Botswana's independence in 1966, Gandee has continued his job of maintaining relations with the United Kingdom, which has brought him to this cabinet of Sir Seretse Khama. While he is most known for taking frequent breaks to play croquet or lounge around, his position as High Commissioner has allowed him to take many city development projects on, such as working closely with various members of the cabinet to oversee the development of the dam in Gaborone.

Setshaba Mykel – Principal Of The Tiger Kloof Institute

Setshaba Mykel was born in Vryburg, South Africa, in 1913. His mother and father both worked at the Tiger Kloof institute as teachers of math and science. Because of his parents, Mykel was able to attend the school for free, and thanks to his grades Mykel was able to attend university overseas at Oxford in 1933. During Mykel's time at Oxford, he fell in love with teaching and always dreamt of being a big-time dean of a university. Mykel gained a top education that could put him on the path to working as a professor and dean in the next ten years, but unfortunately tragedy struck when he was forced to return home after flooding destroyed all of his family's property. With all of his money now gone, he was forced to return home and take up a job as an English teacher at the Tiger Kloof institution in 1937. Mykel always dreamt of more than his life in his hometown, but he continued to work as a teacher, rising the ranks to eventually become principal of the institution in 1956. Mykel would remain principal of this institution for years longer, making many connections with countless students and teachers who passed through the doors to do great things.

Unfortunately, seven years later tragedy reared its head yet again when a significant portion of the institution burnt down in 1963.²⁸ Despite no injuries, the amount of money that it would have taken to repair the university took a heavy toll on Mykel, requiring him to give up much of his own savings as well as many staff members. Knowing he had to adapt, Mykel sold the rest of the property and went to Gaborone to begin a new Tiger Kloof Institute in what would soon become the new nation of Botswana. Now in 1966 and with Sir Seretse Khama, who is partially backing the development of the new location as an alumni of Tiger Kloof, Mykel hopes for a better future for the institute and the ability to be as good of a headmaster as he

²⁸ Tiger Kloof. "HISTORY." Accessed August 23, 2023. <https://www.tigerkloof.org/history>.

can be. Mykel's position of headmaster comes with great connections to the world of education and his very loyal staff which are sure to bolster his ability to improve to be the institution that he wants to have. When he is not dealing with his many duties Mykel can be seen taking photos around Gaborone of whatever beautiful thing that he happens upon.

Sewelo Gosiamé - Minister Of Transportation And Infrastructure

Sewelo Gosiamé was born in Johannesburg in August 1920. Her father and mother owned a business that would pick up people by car and take them to a desired location for a fee, an innovative idea for that time that inspired Gosiamé that transportation was the future. Gosiamé would be sent to the Tiger Kloof Institute where she rose to be one of the top members of her year and afterwards sought an education in city planning. After studying at some of the top institutions in South Africa, Gosiamé would eventually gain a PhD in city planning with honors from the University of Natal in 1948. Always being on the go, Gosiamé would then seek out a job in Bechuanaland, far from her family. Gosiamé would secure a job as a secretary to the mayor in the city of Francistown in 1949, helping the mayor with her overqualified knowledge in matters of city planning. Gosiamé would stick by the mayor's side until a role opened up as transportation advisor in the city, which she happily took in 1954. She worked at this role for many years, helping plan many road paths within the city and a direct route to the city of Gaborone.

During this planning, a chance encounter with one of her old professors would land her a dinner with Sir Seretse Khama, who would never forget her quick wit and wealth of knowledge. Gosiamé would stay with the city of Francistown until 1962, when she was able to get a change of scenery and moved to the city of Gaborone and become the head of transportation of the city development committee. She would stay in this position for a few more years until Bechuanaland's independence. The fateful dinner paid off, and Sir Seretse Khama asked her to be a part of his cabinet to help the further development of transportation within Botswana, with hopes that she can optimize roads and bus services in the nation. Gosiamé is excited to work alongside this man that she greatly respects, and hopes that she can take Botswana into the future with her ideas on transportation. When she is not attending to her duties she can be seen speeding on the open roads with the 1964 Aston Martin DB5 that her parents imported for her, and loves to take fellow cabinet members on joy rides.

Grace Dambe - Deputy Mayor Of Gaborone

Grace Dambe was born in Northeast Bechuanaland to a family of miners. While mining was not so profitable to her family when she was a child, her parents always had big dreams for her to make a name for herself, prioritizing her education and growth over everything. This would lead them to tearfully send Grace

away to the Tiger Kloof institute in South Africa, where she gained a superb education and rose to the top of her class. Graduating with honors in administration and business in 1940, she then set out to fulfill her family's wishes that she would be able to make a name for herself by working alongside her best friend, who she called "Good Man Saul," to create a laundry business for miners in the North of Bechuanaland. After years of success Saul showed his true colors by taking most of the profits for himself and leaving Grace out to dry. This would turn out to be a blessing in disguise, when one of the miners who she had helped connected her to the leadership of the town of Mswazi, getting her a job as the secretary for the town. From secretary she rose to become the mayor's right hand until 1964, when she found out that things were changing for Bechuanaland and a new capital city, Gaborone, was in the works.

She would then get into contact with one of the leaders on this project, and was quickly ushered into a role on the town's council. From there she would only continue to show her worth, eventually being appointed as Deputy Mayor of the first Town Council of Gaborone. Grace continues to work hard, but when she is not doing her role as Deputy Mayor—which takes up so much of her time, from speaking with her constituents to city planning—she can be found giving speeches at various universities or working alongside miners to ensure that they are treated fairly.

David J. C. Morgan - Minister Of Works And Communications

David Morgan was born in the city of Wrexham, Wales, in 1919. His father was a tailor in the city who produced fine fabrics for the town's government and local football team, Wrexham AFC. Morgan was able to use his family's wealth to leave Wales in search of an education in England. Morgan worked hard in high school and was able to secure a partial scholarship to Cambridge University, studying city development and technology which he began attending in 1941 and was forced to put on hold to serve as an officer in the Mediterranean theater. Returning after the war, Morgan finished his studies with tuition fully paid for and a war certificate, and was ready to jump into the jobs field.

Unfortunately for Morgan, he was not able to put his degrees to use and was instead forced to return to Wrexham to assist his father's tailor shop. Morgan's luck would turn around, however, when a fellow Welshman wandered into the shop looking for a shirt of his favorite Wrexham player. This stranger, who went by the name H. M. Specter, was associated with the development of a couple of villages across Southern Africa; noting Morgan's education and intellect, he invited Morgan to join him in future ventures. With his new business partner, Morgan continued to learn about the various ways to administrate cities and villages and learned extensively about the developing technologies of landline telephones and satellite

research. Wanting to make his own way, Morgan gracefully left the business and in 1960 landed in the village of Molepolole.

Contracted by the city, Morgan was able to expand communications networks from Molepolole to Gaborone and assist with further development. This was not unnoticed, as years later in 1966, his work was brought to the attention of Sir Seretse Khama, who upon visiting Molepolole, asked for Morgan by name for his developing cabinet. Morgan continues to keep in touch with Specter, with whom he cites for helping his career, as well as the various cities and villages that he has helped develop over the years. When not working, Morgan has proven to be a bit of a cat person, owning 6 cats and taking care of them as his children.



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