

Celebration of the Basotho Bicentennial

Setting

**Venue: University of the Free State:
Albert Wessels Auditorium**
Date: 1 August 2024

Venue: Centenary Complex
Date: 2 August 2024

CLICK RSVP ICON to RSVP
Sesotho Language
Colloquium



CLICK RSVP ICON to RSVP
Book Launch
and Literary Festival



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Invitation to join us as we celebrate the Basotho Bicentennial

The University of the Free State Library and Information Services (LIS), in partnership with PanSALB, the Free State Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation, SADiLaR and COGTA, is proud to announce its ambitious two-day project dedicated to celebrating the Basotho Bicentennial, marking 200 years of rich Basotho history and culture. This initiative aims to promote, preserve, and publish high-quality original African language monographs and research, actively contributing to the restoration of dignity for marginalised African indigenous languages as part of the broader decolonisation agenda.

On behalf of the University of the Free State, it is with great enthusiasm that we extend an invitation to you to join us as a participant in our upcoming Basotho celebratory events. We believe that your participation will enrich our conversations on cultural heritage, the preservation and evolution of the Sesotho language.

We are thrilled to announce a series of events aimed at promoting and preserving the Sesotho language and culture. These events will take place on the Bloemfontein Campus on 1 and 2 August 2024.

1 August:

- Sesotho Language Colloquium: In partnership with PanSALB, this event will explore the linguistic heritage and future of Sesotho as written language in both Lesotho and South Africa.
- Theatre Production: In collaboration with Bahale Arts Academy (Lesotho), we will present the play Bitla la Marena, written and directed by Liatile Mohale.

Sesotho Language Colloquium RSVP link:

- <https://ufs.libwizard.com/id/ca95a03ffb8e221f3cd9782e747f1914>

2 August:

- Literary Festival: This festival will include a book launch, poetry readings, and storytelling sessions, celebrating Basotho literature and oral traditions.
 - Public lecture with the College of Chiefs – Lesotho
- Book Launch and Literary Festival RSVP link:
- <https://ufs.libwizard.com/id/0c7c7732b5b7b8d1fc1e912e7f8965a>

With exhibitions outside in a marquee

Sesotho Language Colloquium: In partnership with PanSALB, this event will explore the linguistic heritage and future of Sesotho as written language in both South Africa and Lesotho.

Programme Director: UFS representative: Dr Roseline Sebolao

9:30-10:00	Arrival, registration and tea	All
10:00-10:10	Opening and welcoming	Prof Mogomme Masoga: Dean Faculty of The Humanities
10:10-10:20	Message of support	Morena Neo Mopeli: Ntlo ya Marena Free State Provincial House of Traditional and Khoi San Leader
10:20-10:30	Message of support	Morena Lerotholi Mathealira Seeiso: Chairman of the Basotho College of Chiefs Morena Qeto Sekonyela: Principal Chief of Malinganeng
	Message of support	Dr Buhle Mbambo-Thata: Director – National University of Lesotho Library
10:30-10:45	Presentation on the history of the Basotho, a journey of 200 years	K Ramakhula: Mohoo wa Moshoeshoe Heritage Productions
10:45-11:00	Presentation on the history of Sesotho orthography	TWD Mohapi

DISCUSSIONS 11:10-11:25

BREAK 11:25-11:40

Sesotho Language Colloquium

11:40-12:00	CASAS model for harmonisation of orthographies	Prof Mantoa Motinyane: University of Cape Town
12:00-12:20	Possible harmonisation of South African and Lesotho orthographies: challenges beyond the borders	Dr Ditshepiso Matlosa: National University of Lesotho
12:20-12:40	Current project on cross-border collaboration between SA and Lesotho, decolonisation of education, and recommendations: terminology and lexicography	Dr Possa: University of Cape Town

DISCUSSIONS 12:40-12:55

12:55-13:10	Basotho cultural practices: Basotho cultural heritage	Lebo Nyenye: Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation
13:10-13:25	Closing remarks	Nikiwe Mathebula: PanSALB
13:25-13:30	Vote of thanks	Jeannet Malopyane: UFS Director of Libraries

LUNCH

Proceeding to the theatre: Bitla la Marena theatre production

13:30-14:00

Bitla la Marena Theatre Production

Bitla la Marena Theatre Production: Written and directed by Liatile Mohale (UFS alumna), founder of Bahale Arts Academy in Lesotho.

Venue: Albert Wessels Auditorium

Programme: 14:30–15:30

Bitla la Marena Synopsis

In Thaba Bosiu, far away from the Lifaqane wars battleground, the nation of the Basotho is preparing to welcome the return of Mohato from initiation school. The preparations are suddenly interrupted by the news that Mohato, heir to the throne, cannot return from initiation school because the family is still mourning ntaate Peete, grandfather of King Moshoeshoe I. Peete was killed and eaten by a gang of cannibals led by Rakotsoane on the journey from Menkhaneng to Thaba Bosiu. According to tradition, the mourning period will only come to an end when a burial ritual is performed on the grave of the deceased. But due to the nature of his death, marking a grave for Peete was impossible. For this to happen, Rakotsoane would have to be captured, brought before the family, killed, and have the necessary ritual performed on him.”

**Topic of public lecture: Queen Manthatisi – Lessons and Reflections over 200 years.
Presented by Ms Malerotholi**

Mofumahali Malerotholi Mathealira Seeiso.

Ms Malerotholi is the Mother Chieftainess of Mokhotlong District. Her family is the second tier of the Royal family of Lesotho. She is His Majesty's first aunt.

Mofumahali Malerotholi's husband, the late Morena Mathealira Seeiso, was the brother of His Majesty Moshoeshoe II, the father of His Majesty Letsie III.

She is an advocate at law by profession and has worked for, among others, the Lesotho National Development Corporation and the Lesotho Highlands Authority. She serves on several boards in Lesotho.

Time: 10:00-11:30

Venue: Centenary Complex

Public lecture with the College of Chiefs

With exhibitions in the foyer

Programme Director: Dr Nomalungelo Ngubane

9:30-10:00	Arrival, registration and tea	All
10:00-10:10	Welcome note: Bicentennial present the 2024 Commemorative project	Dr Qhobela: Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Institutional Change, Strategic Partnerships and Societal Impact
10:10-10:15	Dithoko (call to gather for prayer)	Praise poets: Ncheme Likoche Sekhobo wa ha Moshe
10:15-10:20	Master of ceremonies introduction	Dr Nomalungelo Ngubane UFS Academy of Multilingualism
10:20-10:30	Introduction of the keynote address	Dr Anastacia Motsei: UFS Department of African Languages
10:30-11:10	Keynote address	Mofumahali Malerotholi Mathealira Seeiso: Mother Chieftainess of Mokhotlong District
11:10-11:20	Respondent	Prof Neo Lekgotla Laga Ramoupi: UFS Department of History
11:25-11:25	Vote of thanks	Dr Nomalungelo Ngubane

BREAK 11:30-11:40
We proceed to the Book Launch

Literary Festival
Programme Director: Nthabiseng JahRose Jafta

Book launch: Basotho, Seho se Llile

11:50-12:00	Opening and welcoming	Programme Director
12:00-12:10	Message of support	Prof David wa Maahlamela: Ditsong Cultural Museum
	Book readings: Authors:	Dr Kganyetsi 12:10-12:20 Ncheme Rethabile Likotje 12:20-12:30 Lethabo Kgalalelo 12:30-12:40 Maleshoane Mphutlane 12:40-12:50
12:50-13:00	Book review	Dr Mohatlane
13:00-13:15	Q&A	Nthabiseng JahRose Jafta

Lunch 13:15-13:50

Poetry readings and storytelling sessions celebrating Basotho literature and oral traditions.

Poets/Storytellers:	Modiehi Motseko 14:00-14:15 Lesika wa Dipholo 14:15-14:30 Matsemela Setenane 14:30-14:45 Mphutlane wa Bofelo 14:45-15:00
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15:00

Vote of thanks

Nthabiseng JahRose Jafta

Memo ya ho tla keteka dilemo tse makgolo a mabedi setjhaba sa Basotho se thehilwe

Yunivesithi ya Freistata (LIS) ka kopanelo le PanSALB, Ntlo ya Marena a Khoi-San Provenseng ya Freistata le Lefapha la Dipapadi, Bonono, Botjhaha le Boikgathollo le SADIaR, COGTA: e motlotlo ho le tsebisa ka projeke ena e hlwahlwah ho keteka sehopotsa sa dilemo tse 200 tsa botjhaha le nalane e nonneng ya Basotho. Lenanetsamaiso lena la matsatsi a mabedi le reretswe ho hopola dilemo tse 200 tsa botjhaha le nalane e nonneng ya Basotho. Maikemisetso ka boiteko bona ke ho phahamisa, ho boloka, le ho phatlalatza dingolwa tsa mmakgonthe tsa boleng bo hodimo tsa Dipuo tsa Maafrika le diphuputso, ka ho kenya letsogo pusetsong ya seriti sa Dipuo tsa Maafrika tsa matswallwa tse neng di kotetswe ebole e le karolo ya morero wa ho fedisa bokolone.

Boemong ba Yunivesithi ya Freistata, ke ka tjheseho e kgolo re o memang hore o tle o be le rona ho ba le seabo diketsahalong tse tlango tsa ho keteka Basotho. Re dumela hore seabo sa hao se tla notsha dipuisano tsa botjhaha, poloko le phetoho ya puo ya Sesotho.

Re motlotlo ho etsa tsebiso ya letoto la diketsahalo tse tla tshwarwa ho phahamisa le ho boloka puo le botjhaha ba Sesotho. Diketsahalo tsena di tla tshwarelwia Khemphaseng ya Bloemfontein ka la 1 le 2 kgwedding ya Phato 2024.

1 Phato:

- Kholokhiamo ya Sesotho:** Ka kopanelo le PanSALB, ketsahalo ena e tla lekola botjhaha ba puo le bokamoso ba Sesotho jwalo ka puo e ngolwang dinaheng tse pedi e leng Afrika Borwa le Lesotho.
- Papadi ya kalaneng:** Ka kopanelo le Bahale Arts Academy (Lesotho), re tla le hlahietsa papadi ya "Bitla la Marena," e ngotsweng le ho hlophiswa ke Liatile Mohale.

Sesotho Language Colloquium RSVP link:

- <https://ufs.libwizard.com/id/ca95a03ffb8e221f3cd9782e747f1914>

2 Phato:

- Mokete wa Dingolwa:** Mokete ona wa ditletle o tla kenyelsetsa kgakolo ya buka, palo ya dithothokiso le ho pheta ditshomo, ho keteka dingolwa tsa Basotho le dipale.
- Thupelo ya setjhaha le Lekgotla la Marena – Lesotho**

Book Launch and Literary Festival RSVP link:

- <https://ufs.libwizard.com/id/0c7c7732b5b7b8d1fc1e912e7f8965a>

Ho tla ba le dipontsho kantle tenteng

Kholokhiamo ya Sesotho: Ka kopanelo le PanSALB, ketsahalo ena e tla lekola botjhaba ba puo le bokamoso ba Sesotho jwalo puo e ngolwang Afrika Borwa le Lesotho.

Motsamaisi wa Mosebetsi: Ngk. Roseline Sebolao

9:30-10:00	Ho fihla, Boingodiso le Tee	Bohle
10:00-10:10	Pulo le kamohelo	Prof Mogomme Masoga: Dini, Fakhalthi ya tsa Botho
10:10-10:20	Molaetsa wa Tshehetso	Morena Neo Mopeli: Ntlo ya Marena a Khoi-San Provenseng ya Freistata
10:20-10:30	Molaetsa wa Tshehetso	Morena Leretholi Mathealira Seeiso: Modulasetulo wa Lekgotla la Marena Morena Qeto Sekonyela: Principal Chief of Malingoaneng
	Molaetsa wa Tshehetso	Ngk. Buhle Mbambo-Thata: Mookamedu – Yunivesithi ya Naha ya Lesotho
10:30-10:45	Nalane ya Basotho, leeto la dilemo tse 200	K Ramakhula: Mohoo wa Moshoeshoe Heritage Productions
10:45-11:00	Nehelano ka nalane ya mongolo wa Sesotho	Ntate TWD Mohapi

DIPUISANO 11:10–11:25

KGEFUTSO 11:25–11:40

11:40–12:00

Moralo wa CASAS wa ho kopanya mengolo

Prof Mantoa Motinyane: Yunivesithi ya Kapa Bophirima

12:00–12:20

Kgonahalo ya ho kopanya mongolo wa Afrika Borwa le wa Lesotho: diphepheto tsa moedi

Ngk. Ditshepiso Matlosa: Yunivesithi ya Lesotho

12:20–12:40

Projeke ya selekane dipakeng tsa Afrika Borwa le Lesotho, ho fedisa bokolone thutong le dikgothaletso: marello le lekshikhografi

Ngk. Rethabile Possa: Yunivesithi ya Kapa Bophirima

DIPUISANO 12:40–12:55

12:55–13:10

Ditlwaelo le Meetlo ya Basotho

Lebo Nyenye: Lefapha la Dipapadi, Bonono, Botjhaba le Boithapollo

13:10–13:25

Mantswe a kwalo le kgatelopele

Nikiwe Matebula: PanSALB

13:25–13:30

Matswe a teboho

Jeannet Malopyane: Mookamedi wa Dilaeborari UFS

PHOMOSETSO

13:30–14:00

Re ya sebakeng sa papadi ya kalane: Bitla la Marena Papadi ya Kalaneng

Papadi ya Kalaneng, Bitla la Marena

Papadi ya Kalaneng, Bitla la Marena: Bongodi le Bohlahisi ba Latile Mohale (UFS Alumni) Mothehi wa Bahale Arts Academy Lesotho.

Sebaka: Albert Wessels Auditorium

Nako ya lenaneo: 14:30-15:30

Kgutsufatso ya Bitla la Marena

Thaba Bosiu, hole kwana le lepatlelo la dintwa tsa Lifaqane, setjhaba sa Basotho se ne se itokisetsa ho amohela Mohato ya tswang mophatong. Ditokisetso di sitiswa hanghang ke ditaba tse reng Mohato, mojalefa wa setulo sa borena, a keke a kgona ho kgutla Mophatong hobane lelapa le nakong ya bofifi ba Peete eo e leng ntatemoholo wa Morena Moshoeshoe wa pele. Peete o ile a bolawa mme a jewa ke seholpha sa madimo a neng a eteletswe pele ke Rakotsoane leetong le tswang Menkoaneng ho ya Thaba Bosiu.

Ho ya ka moetlo, nako ya bofifi e tla fela kamora hore ho be le moetlo o etswang lebitleng la mofu. Empa ho latela mokgwa oo a hlokahtseng ka ona, ho ne ho sa kgonehe ho tshwaya lebitla la Peete. Hore sena se etsahale, Rakotsoane o ne tla lokela hore a tshwarwe, a tliswe ka pela lelapa mme a bolawe hore ho tle ho be le moetlo o etswang ka setopong sa hae.

Thupelo ya Setjhaba: Mofumahadi Manthatisi: Thuto le ho hetla morao dilemo tse 200.
Puo ka: 'Me 'Malerotholi

Mofumahali 'Malerotholi Mathealira Seeiso.

Mme Malerotholi is the Mother Chieftainess of Mokhotlong District. Her family is the second tier of the Royal family of Lesotho. She is His Majesty's first aunt.

Mofumahali Malerotholi's husband, the late Morena Mathealira Seeiso, was the brother of His Majesty Moshoeshoe II, the father of His Majesty Letsie III.

She is an advocate at law by profession and has worked for, among others, the Lesotho National Development Corporation, and the Lesotho Highlands Authority. She serves on several boards in Lesotho.

Nako: 10:00-11:30
Sebaka: Centenary Complex

Ho tla ba le dipontsho sebakeng se bulehileng

Motsamaisi wa Mosebetsi: Ngk. Nomalungelo Ngubane

9:30-10:00

Ho fihla, Boingodiso le Tee

Bohle

10:00-10:10

Mantswe a kamohelo

Ngk. Qhobela: DVC Institutional Change, Strategic Partnerships and Societal Impact

10:10-10:15

Dithoko (Pitso ya thapelo)

Diroki: Ncheme Likoche |
Sekgobo wa ha Moshe

10:15-10:20

Tsebiso ya motsamaisi wa mosebetsi

Ngk. Nomalungelo Ngubane
UFS Akhademi ya Botemengata

10:20-10:30

Tsebiso ya puo ya sehlooho

Ngk. Anastacia Motsei
UFS Lefapha la Dipuo tsa Maafrika

10:30-11:10

Puo ya sehlooho

Mofumahali 'Malerotholi Mathealira
Seeiso: Mofumahadi wa Setereke
sa Mokgotlong

11:10-11:20

Karabelo

Prof. Neo Lekgotla Laga Ramoupi:
UFS Lefapha la Histori

11:25-11:25

Mantswe a teboho

Ngk. Nomalungelo Ngubane
UFS Akhademi ya Botemengata

KGEFUTSO 11:30 – 11:40
Re ya kgakolong ya buka

Mokete wa dingolwa: Motsamaisi wa Mosebetsi: Nthabiseng JahRose Jafta

Kgakolo ya buka: 'BASOTHO, SEHO SE LLILE'

11:50-12:00

Pulo le kamohelo

Motsamaisi wa Mosebetsi

12:00-12:10

Molaetsa wa tshehetso

Prof. David wa Maahlamela:
Ditsong Cultural Museum

12:50-13:00

Manollo ya buka

Ngk. Mohatlane

13:00-13:15

Dipotso le dikarabo

Nthabiseng JahRose Jafta

12:10-12:20

12:20-12:30

12:30-12:40

12:40-12:50

Phomosetso 13:15 – 13:50

Palo ya dithothokiso, nako ya ditshomo, keteko ya
dingolwa tsa Basotho le dipale

Papadi ya Kalaneng, Bitla la Marena

Dithothokisi/Bapheti ba dipale:

Modiehi Motseko **14:00-14:15**

Lesika wa Dipholo **14:15-14:30**

Matsemela Setenane **14:30-14:45**

Mphutlane wa Bofelo **14:45-15:00**

15:00

Mantswe a teboho

Nthabiseng JahRose Jafta

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