**CITATION: Patrice TLHOPANE Motsepe**

Patrice Tlhopane Motsepe was born on 28 January 1962 in Soweto, South Africa. He is married to Dr Precious Moloi-Motsepe who graduated with an MBBCh in 1987 from the University of the Witwatersrand and they have three children. An alumnus of the University of the Witwatersrand, Motsepe graduated with an LLB in 1988. He also holds a Bachelor of Arts in Law from the University of Swaziland

After graduating, Motsepe joined law firm Bowman Gilfillan where he specialised in mining and business law. He became the firm’s first black partner and was a visiting attorney with McGuire Woods Battle & Boothe in the USA. He is a member of the Gauteng Law Society.

Motsepe is an entrepreneur who through judicious business acumen has created enterprises that positively impact countless South Africans. He founded and chairs African Rainbow Minerals and also chairs Naledi Mining, Future Mining, and TEAL Exploration & Mining Inc. Motsepe is Non-Executive Chairman of Harmony Gold Mining Company and Deputy Chairman of Sanlam. He has served on the board of ABSA Bank. He is President and owner of Mamelodi Sundowns FC**.**

In 1994, Motsepe established Future Mining, a contract mining company that cleaned gold dust from inside mine shafts. In 1997, Motsepe, Nicky Oppenheimer and Mark Shuttleworth formed Green and Partners, a venture capital firm through which Motsepe established African Rainbow Minerals. At this time Black Economic Empowerment and entrepreneurism emerged in the new South Africa. Motsepe pioneered a system where miners’ remuneration combined wages with a profit-sharing bonus. He subsequently acquired several low-yield mine shafts and turned each into profitable enterprises.

In 2002 Chief Executives of the top 100 companies in South Africa named Motsepe the country’s Best Entrepreneur, and Ernst & Young awarded him Business Leader of the Year. He is President of Business Unity South Africa and the National Federated Chamber of Commerce, and Vice President of the South African Chamber of Mines. He also actively participates in international business forums including the World Economic Forum at Davos and its sub forums in Africa.

He is Chairman of Ubuntu-Botho Investments (Pty) Limited a broad based empowerment investment holding company initially created in 2004 as an empowerment partner of Sanlam. The shareholders of Ubuntu-Botho include trade unions, youth, women’s groups, churches, traditional and community leaders in all the nine provinces of South Africa. In 2015 after the empowerment relationship with Sanlam concluded, Ubuntu-Botho has entered a new period in which it is creating investment vehicles the first of which is African Rainbow Capital, launched in 2016, which has recently taken a stake in Metrofibre Worx a company which seeks to provide connectivity to households across South Africa so that they enjoy the benefits that come with digital networks. Through African Rainbow Capital Motsepe seeks to create black owned financial services that rivals and breaks the monopoly of the big four banks that dominate the financial services sector in South Africa.

Renowned as a self-made magnate and as South Africa’s first black billionaire, he is equally lauded for his benevolence. He is the first African signatory of the Giving Pledge; a commitment by the world’s wealthiest to pledge the majority of their *wealth to philanthropy* in their life time.

In 1999 Motsepe and his wife established the Motsepe Foundation, which funds and supports educational, religious, and healthcare projects that combat poverty and improve the socio-economic conditions of the poor, unemployed, and marginalised communities. In 2010, through the Sanlam Kay Motsepe Schools Cup, Motsepe contributed R30-million into a five-year school soccer development programme. More recently, in line with the Giving Pledge in 2013, Motsepe allocated at least half of the funds generated by his family assets to the Motsepe Foundation. In an interview with the British Broadcasting Corporation after joining the Giving Pledge Motsepe was quoted as saying ‘South Africans are caring, compassionate and loving people.’

It has always been part of our culture and tradition to assist and care for the less fortunate and marginalised members of our communities. This culture is also embodied in the spirit and tradition of ‘ubuntu/botho,’ In the same interview his wife Precious Moloi- Motsepe said ‘Yes we've got challenges but we also have an opportunity, particularly in this century, to turn our continent around and portray Africa in a positive light,’ and further that ‘We can begin to do things for ourselves that show the world that not only are we recipients of aid but we can also begin to do things for ourselves.’

Since 2014, the Motsepe Foundation has donated over ZAR 18 million to assist needy students at the University of Witwatersrand. The foundation supports students in other universities across South Africa as well.

In October 2014, Motsepe donated $1-million to the Ebola Fund in the Republic of Guinea to aid the West African country’s efforts to curb the deadly Ebola virus that affected a number of West African countries including Liberia and Sierra Leone.

Motsepe has demonstrated the leadership, energy, drive, innovation and an entrepreneurial spirit needed for South Africa to achieve economic development. His philanthropy has made a difference in the lives of a diversity of local communities and makes a contribution to changing lives. As a leading business person he has created wealth not only for himself which he shares with communities in South Africa and Africa. Motsepe represents some of the best achievers that post-apartheid South Africa has produced in the business and economic spheres of human endeavour. His success and the respect he commands in South Africa and globally is testimony to the innovation, creativity and the ability needed to transcend the limitations of what could be debilitating business and economic environments in Africa.

In recognition of his achievements and contributions to society it is fitting that the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg awards to Patrice Tlhopane Motsepe an honorary doctorate degree.