



TRIBUTE TO QUEEN MOTHER DR SEMANE BONOLO MOLOTLEGI

Her Majesty the Queen Mother of Royal Bafokeng whom we affectionately called Mmemogolo "Our Great Mother", was a special star and guide for the International Women's Forum South Africa ("IWFSa") where she championed the role of women in leadership. As an organization dedicated to the promotion and development of women in leadership, we found in Mmemogolo an inspiring mentor, leader and outstanding role model. We are deeply saddened by her passing however we will continue to treasure the many lessons she taught us.

Mmemogolo was a shining star of leadership through action. President's and Board members of IWFSa fondly remember how, as our esteemed honorary member, she would make time to come to Johannesburg to attend events of IWFSa, even in the evenings, reflecting her passion for the mission of developing women. Whenever she spoke, she would highlight the importance of resilience, and commitment to sustainable development. She shared with us how she gained courage and vision for development of her community from the difficult challenges during the years of repression, when survival of her people was under threat. We were moved on an occasion when after speaking eloquently, she sang "I Did It My Way" by Frank Sinatra. A wonderful message that stayed on our minds, acknowledging the journey she travelled and the achievements she made against all odds!

It was the spirit of commitment to development of communities and women that drove her education and community projects in Royal Bafokeng and beyond and that inspired her partnership with the role of leadership development within the IWFSa. Not only did the Queen Mother attend IWFSa events, she also extended invitations to IWFSa and hosted us at Royal Bafokeng. Through the visits to Royal Bafokeng we deeply appreciated the pioneering programs she had initiated to extend education, economic empowerment and quality of health for the people. Her vision has found remarkable meaning in these great projects which will continue to be leading models of sustainable development for communities. For us in the IWFSa, we have lost, a wise guide and mentor, but the great lessons she shared with us will keep us connected with her. She remains for us a Star of leadership that transcends self, a Star that shines across the country and the world!

May Mmemogolo's Soul Rest in Eternal Peace.

Past President's, President, Vice President, Board and members of International Women's Forum South Africa. www.iwfsa.co.za

