

PROFILE OF FORMER PRESIDENT KGALEMA PETRUS MOTLANTHE

Mr Kgalema Petrus Motlanthe (commonly known as Mkhuluwa, the elder one) is the Former President of the Republic of South Africa. He was born on 19 July 1949 in Alexandra Township, Johannesburg. Motlanthe had been a student activist, trade unionist and member of the ANC's military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe, during the struggle against apartheid

In April 1976 he was charged with furthering the aims of a banned organisation, possession of explosives and of having undergone training for sabotage. He was kept in detention for 11 months and in 1977 he was found guilty on these charges under the Terrorism Act, and was sentenced to an effective 10 years imprisonment on Robben Island Prison.

After his release in 1987, Mr Motlanthe was tasked with strengthening the trade union movement in the country. To this end, he worked for the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) as a national coordinator responsible for education and was later elected as its General Secretary.

In 1990 when the banning on the ANC and other political organisations was lifted, Mr Motlanthe was tasked with re-establishing the legal structures of the ANC in the Gauteng Province. From December 1997 to December 2007 Mr Motlanthe served two five-year terms as **Secretary General of the ANC** and was responsible for the overall operations of the organisation.

During the period December 2007 – December 2012 Mr Motlanthe was the **Deputy President of the African National Congress and** served as President of South Africa between 25 September 2008 and 9 May 2009, From May 2009 until May 2014, he served as the Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa.

Mr Motlanthe is presently the Patron of the Kgalema Motlanthe Foundation that was established in 2015 when he left office of government. He was appointed by Parliament of the Republic of South Africa to head the High-Level Panel on the assessment of key legislation and the acceleration of fundamental change. Mr Motlanthe is actively continuing to serve the development of communities and society at large through the following Organisations and Foundations:

- The Nelson Mandela Foundation;
- The Ahmed Kathrada Foundation;
- The Liliesleaf Museum Trust;
- The Institution for African Alternatives;
- The Brazzaville Foundation;
- Independent director of the Advisory Board of Ivanhoe International Mines.

Mr Motlanthe serves a second term as the Chancellor of the University of Venda in South Africa.

He recently received an honorary doctorate from Monash University in Australia and he also accepted the invitation from the African National Congress to serve as the Chairperson of the Board of the OR Tambo School of Leadership.