

KGOSI LUCAS MANYANE MANGOPE
DOCTOR OF LAWS, LLD
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Chief Mangope was born in 1923 at Motswedi, north of Zeerust in the Transvaal. In 1946, after more than a decade in schools run by the order, Mangope obtained a senior certificate (equivalent to an American high school diploma) from St. Peter's School in Rosettenville, and then a junior teaching diploma at the Diocesan Teachers' Training College near Pietersburg. Meanwhile, he had been advancing in traditional rank, having become the leader of the Mathlatlhowa regiment of his own Tswana group.

Between 1947 and 1949, he worked in the Department of Native Affairs. But in 1951, he returned to school, attending Bethel College near Lichtenburg in order to obtain his Higher Primary Teachers' Diploma. Having taught primary school in the 1940s, during most of the 1950s he taught in a secondary school in Motswedi (serving for several years as its principal) and in other secondary schools in Mafeking, Potchefstroom, and Krugersdorp.

By this time Mangope had enrolled for his BA degree which he could not complete because of his father's death in 1959 thus for calling for his immediate installation as chief of the Motswedi-Barutshe-Boo-Manyane tribe and joined the Zeerust Regional Authority. With him becoming more heavily involved in administration and politics, he was appointed to the Bantu Education Advisory Board and the Advisory Council of the University of the North. When the Tswana Territorial Authority was formed in 1961, became vice-chairman, advancing to chairman in 1968 and chief minister in 1972 with the evolution of his homeland.

In these positions he steadily gained stature, employing solid, and until recently, dramatic qualities of patience and persistence in the pursuit of his own and Tswana ends. Much of his strategy has been based upon the acquisition of medium- or long-term rather than short-term results.

Mangope has a significant advantage in his dealings with the Republic that is shared by few of the other homeland executives. As a school teacher Mangope specialized in the teaching of Afrikaans, his pupils one year even proving more proficient than all others in the Transvaal examinations.

This university owes its existence to him for it was formed during his tenure as president of the Bophuthatswana.

He currently resides in Motswedi, Lehurutshe. He was married to Leah who died in March 2003.