

# DAY OF PRAYER IN BOTSWANA AGAINST COVID VIRUS



The Baha'i community of Botswana has invited members of the public for a virtual prayer meeting for the Covid-19 pandemic scheduled for this week Thursday at 7:00 pm Botswana time.

## THE POWER OF PRAYER

Remembrance of God is like the rain and dew which bestow freshness and grace on flowers and hyacinths, revive them and cause them to acquire fragrance, redolence and renewed charm.

"And thou hast seen the earth dried up and barren: but when we send down the rain upon it, it stirreth and swelleth, and groweth every kind of luxuriant herb".

Strive thou, then, to praise and glorify God by night and by day, that thou mayest attain infinite freshness and beauty.

(Abdu'l-Bahá, from a Tablet—translated from the Persian)

It behoveth the servant to pray to and seek assistance from God, and to supplicate and implore His aid.

Such becometh the rank of servitude, and the Lord will decree whatsoever He desireth, in accordance with His consummate wisdom.

(Abdu'l-Bahá, from a Tablet—translated from the Arabic)

"The true worshipper, while praying, should endeavour not so much to ask God to fulfill his wishes and desires, but rather to adjust these and make them conform to the Divine Will. Only through such an attitude can one derive that feeling of inner peace and contentment which the power of prayer alone can confer".

The powers latent in prayer are manifested when it is motivated by the love of God, beyond any fear or favour, and free from ostentation and superstition.

It is to be expressed with a sincere and pure heart conducive to contemplation and meditation so that the rational faculty can be illumined by its effects. Such prayer will transcend the limitation of words and go well beyond mere sounds. The sweetness of its melodies must gladden and uplift the heart and reinforce the penetrating power of the Word, transmuting earthly inclinations into heavenly attributes and inspiring selfless service to humankind.

## THE UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE

### Praying for the sick

Based on Baha'i teachings: "The point of our existence on this planet isn't simply a longer life. The point of our existence is to know God, to worship God, to serve God".

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BOTSWANA POWER CORPORATION

## VACANCY - EXTERNAL JOB ADVERTISEMENT

In its pursuit to become a Competitive Commercial Power Utility within the Region, Botswana Power Corporation invites applications from suitably qualified, highly energetic, dynamic, result oriented, innovative and customer focused individuals, who believe they can be part of a great team that delivers power to Botswana to send applications for the below listed position to [recruitment@bpc.bw](mailto:recruitment@bpc.bw) not later than **13<sup>th</sup> August 2021**.

NB: All Applications should be submitted **via email**.

### GENERAL MANAGER TECHNICAL SERVICES-PROJECTS X1 (HEAD OFFICE)

#### JOB PURPOSE

To plan, organize, direct, control, coordinate and manage the provision of Technical services and projects management throughout the Corporation's operations to maximise availability and utilisation of assets, high value projects for both internal and external stakeholders, its reliability and safe implementation of projects at power plants, transmission and distribution in the most cost-effective manner to contribute to the safe, efficient operation of the Botswana Power Corporation and enhance profitability.

#### POSITION REQUIREMENTS

##### Qualifications

- A degree in Electrical Engineering, or a relevant Engineering degree from a recognised University.
- Project Management Professional Certificate e.g. PMP and or Prince 2 is desirable.
- A master's in Project Management, or Business Administration (MBA) and or any other related master's degree will be an added advantage.
- Professional membership from a relevant credible Institution will be an added advantage.

##### Experience

- At least 10 years post qualification experience, five of which should have been at senior level, in the management of the full cycle of capital projects.
- Management of a portfolio of projects that span across the organisation.
- Understanding of Electrical Power operational rules and regulations is also essential.

#### COMPETENCIES

##### Technical

- Commercial Awareness • Problem Solving • Continuous Improvement • Strategic Thinking • Process Management
- Drive for Results

#### Behavioural/Leadership

- Dealing with Ambiguity • Decision Making • Leadership
- Management Excellence • Values ethics and Integrity
- Stakeholder Management

#### KEY PERFORMANCE AREAS

1. Strategic Management (Establishment of departmental objectives and performance standards).
2. Technical Services Management (Innovative development of technical services and projects solutions to power generation problems. Implementation of planned maintenance programmes).
3. Projects Management: Setting up and implementation of corporate projects and quality management structure, systems, programmes, controls to ensure alignment of projects capital management effectiveness and value optimisation.
4. Financial Management (Cost effective management of budget in order to reduce operating and maintenance costs. Completion of engineering projects within time scales and budget).
5. Human Resources Management: (Training and development of staff, Performance Management, Industrial Relations, Recruitment).
6. Continuous improvement (Provide continuous strategies on improvement business processes within the environment to improve service quality, Project Management and Implementation of Asset Management and Care).
7. Safety Health and Environment (Understanding of SHE requirements, Systems, Protocols and Promote SHE Environment at strategic level).

Interested candidates should apply and send a cover letter, comprehensive and up to date, Curriculum Vitae (CV), Certified copies of Certificates, National Identity Cards (Omang) or Passport and at least three (3) work related references from current or previous employers. The application should be addressed to the address below and emailed to: [recruitment@bpc.bw](mailto:recruitment@bpc.bw)

**General Manager Human Resources  
Botswana Power Corporation  
P O Box 48 Gaborone, Botswana**

NB: Applicants should Indicate the position applied for on the cover letter and email subject line. Only shortlisted candidates will be responded to. Closing date **13<sup>th</sup> August 2021**.

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Powering Botswana To Prosperity

# NGO CALLS FOR VIGILANCE

## Movements of people testing positive for Covid must be strictly observed

BY LAME CHABA

The government has been urged to monitor the movements of Covid-19 patients at testing centres after they have tested positive for the virus.

President of Palace of Hope Boniface Marudu this week said this is important because most Batswana use public transport to take them home after receiving their COVID-19 positive results.

This according to Marudu compromises the health of other people as there is no one to monitor whether they actually go straight home for quarantine or linger around malls or even check their unsuspecting lovers or family members living in other villages or towns.

"What really inspired us to urge the government to monitor transportation for people who test positive is that most individuals who go for tests at hospitals mix with other patients who came for their normal check-ups and after they test positive they are told to go home and isolate themselves and that is an easy way of spreading COVID 19", Marudu said.

Palace of Hope is a non-governmental organisation that helps the old aged people and empowers vulnerable groups of people with life skills and knowledge for survival

Marudu urged the government to buy more ambulances to avoid the emergency line that keeps notifying people to use public transport as ambulances are not available.

He urged those who test positive for Covid 19 to tell their families and friends, including their workmates the truth.

They should take proper medication and try, by all means, to avoid elderly people because they are the most vulnerable to the virus.



**CONCERNED :** President of Palace of Hope Boniface Marudu said it is important for those that have tested positive for COVID 19 to protect other members of the public

## Day of prayer in Botswana against COVID 19 virus

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The Baha'i writings include the following: "Worship thou God in such wise that if thy worship lead thee to the fire, no alteration in thine adoration would be produced, and so likewise if thy recompense should be paradise."

Baha'u'llah, the founder of the Baha'i Faith who is considered by His followers to be a Messenger of God, instructs people to resort to "competent physicians" in times of sickness, but He also reveals prayers containing supplications for healing.

Some of the prayers for healing were described in the following way by 'Abdu'l-Baha, the son of Baha'u'llah and appointed interpreter of His teachings:

"The prayers which were revealed to ask for healing apply both to physical and spiritual healing. Recite them, then, to heal both the soul and the body. If healing is right for the patient, it will certainly be granted; but for some ailing persons, healing would only be the cause of other ills, and therefore wisdom doth not permit an affirmative answer to the prayer."

This quotation is from 'Abdu'l-Baha: "Ask whatsoever thou wishest of Him alone.... With a look He granteth a hundred thousand hopes, with a glance He

healeth a hundred thousand incurable ills, with a nod He layeth balm on every wound".

'Abdu'l-Baha talks specifically about prayer and healing: "Disease is of two kinds: material and spiritual. Take for instance, a cut hand; if you pray for the cut to be healed and do not stop its bleeding, you will not do much good; a material remedy is needed".

And more: "Illness caused by physical accident should be treated with medical remedies; those which are due to spiritual causes disappear through spiritual means.... Both kinds of remedies should be considered.

"Moreover, they are not contradictory, and thou shouldst accept the physical remedies as coming from the mercy and favor of God, who hath revealed and made manifest medical science so that His servants may profit from this kind of treatment also.

"Thou shouldst give equal attention to spiritual treatments, for they produce marvellous effects."

Let us offer these prayers for our nation in this difficult time of Covid Virus.

"Thy name is my healing, O my God, and remembrance of Thee is my remedy. Nearness to Thee is my hope, and love for

Thee is my companion.

"Thy mercy to me is my healing and my succour in both this world and the world to come. Thou, verily, art the All-Bountiful, the All-Knowing, the All-Wise". Baha'u'llah

Lord! Pitiful are we, grant us Thy favor; poor, bestow upon us a share from the ocean of Thy wealth; needy, do Thou satisfy us; abased, give us Thy glory.

The fowls of the air and the beasts of the field receive their meat each day from Thee, and all beings partake of Thy care and loving-kindness.

Deprive not this feeble one of Thy wondrous grace and vouchsafe by Thy might unto this helpless soul Thy bounty.

Give us our daily bread, and grant Thine increase in the necessities of life, that we may be dependent on none other but Thee, may commune wholly with Thee, may walk in Thy ways and declare Thy mysteries. Thou art the Almighty and the Loving and the Provider of all mankind. —'Abdu'l-Bahá

**Zoom Meeting Link:**  
**Meeting ID: 839 2930 6557**  
**Passcode: 123668**  
**The Office of Public Affairs of the Bahá'ís of Botswana**  
**Phone: (+267)3952532 Email: nsa@bahai.org.bw**  
**Website: www.bahai.org.bw**

## Delta variant in 26 African countries



**ADDRESSING COVID 19 :** Dr Matshidiso Moeti, newly named as Regional Director for World Health Organization, WHO's Africa Region, speaks to the media, during a press conference, at the European headquarters of the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2015. (AP Photo/Keystone, Salvatore Di Nolfi)

BY IRENE SHONE

The highly transmissible Delta variant of Covid-19 virus has been found in 26 African countries, including Botswana.

World Health Organisation (WHO) Regional Director for Africa, Dr Matshidiso Moeti revealed this during a recent virtual press conference.

She said 21 African countries have seen cases rise by over 20 percent for at least two weeks running, which is an increase of three countries over that previous week.

Although there has been notable decline in new Covid-19 cases in Africa, following the eight consecutive weeks of a fast-moving surge WHO notes that this development may be short-lived.

Botswana recorded 4008 positive cases from July 13th and 834 positive cases were recorded since July 17th according to a July 19th report.

Dr Moeti highlighted that new case numbers in Africa dropped by 1.7 percent to nearly 282 000 in the week ending July 18th, although it is still on the peak in South Africa.

"The current peak is 80 percent higher than Africa's previous peak when data from South Africa is excluded. Without the data from South Africa, cases rose in Africa by 18 percent to over 182 000 in the week ending on July 18", Dr Moeti said.

"Be under no illusions, Africa's third wave is absolutely not over. This small step forward offers hope and inspiration but must not mask the big picture for Africa.

"Many countries are still at peak risk and Africa's third wave

surged up faster and higher than ever before. The Eid celebrations which we marked this week may also result in a rise in cases.

"We must all double down on prevention measures to build on these fragile gains", Dr Moeti appealed.

Meanwhile, Botswana Forum For Action And Reform (B-FAR) urges the government of Botswana to rethink its Covid-19 response strategy.

They are advocating for inclusion of Ivermectin in the treatment protocol of Covid-19 in Botswana to prevent the spread of the virus before the Delta variant could do any further damage.

Research Scientist at Botswana Covid-19 Ivermectin Intervention Group (BCIIG), Dr Maikutlo Kebaetse said their review of scientific literature and data on the use of Ivermectin for the prevention of Covid-19 has led them to the conclusion that it offers some hope because studies show some benefit.

BCIIG believe that the treatment strategies currently used are not working.

"The vaccine rollout is painfully slow, and our national economy has been greatly impaired, and our people continue to die so we must look for any possible prevention and treatment strategies", Dr Kebaetse said.

While WHO and other scientists have advised that Ivermectin should be used for Covid only under clinical trials because of the limited quality of the studies conducted, BCIIG is appealing to government to change direction.

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