

CHIEF JUSTICE MOGOENG MOGOENG



Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng is the 4th Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa since the dawn of democracy.

Synopsis

The life of Chief Justice Mogoeng is like a fulfilment of the scripture in Zechariah 4:10 which reads “*despise not the day of small beginnings*”. Chief Justice Mogoeng was born in a small village called Goo-Mokgatlha (Koffiekraal), in the North West Province of South Africa. He is married to Mmaphefo and they were blessed with three children: Johanna, Mogaetsho and Oteng.

Educational Background

Mogoeng holds the B Juris and Bachelor of Laws (LLB) degrees from the Universities of Zululand and Natal respectively. He also holds a Master of Laws (LLM) degree from the University of South Africa. In October 2013, the University of the North West awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws (LLD) degree to him.

Professional History

Mogoeng Mogoeng started his professional career as a temporary interpreter and was later appointed as High Court prosecutor from March 1986 to February 1990 in Mafikeng. Mogoeng did pupillage at the Johannesburg Bar and practised as an Advocate at that Bar from June 1990 until the end of 1991. He left to become a member of the Mafikeng Bar from January 1992 until May 1997. He later served as the Deputy Chairperson of that Bar Association until he was elevated to the Bench. Mogoeng was elected Chairperson of the Chapter of Lawyers for Human Rights for about 75% of the region now known as the North West Province in the democratic South Africa. In June 1997 he was appointed a Judge of the North West High Court and in April 2000 a Judge of the Labour Appeal Court. In October 2002, he was then elevated to the position of Judge President of the North West High Court.

Mogoeng was requested by fellow Judges President to serve as a member of the five member committee led by the then Chief Justice Pius Langa. That committee investigated racial and gender discrimination within the Judiciary and recommended the necessary remedial action. He was also identified by Judges President to be their representative in the Council of the South African Judicial Education Institute (SAJEI) in 2009.

He was appointed to the Constitutional Court of the Republic of South Africa in 2009 and subsequently elevated to the position of Chief Justice of the Republic of South Africa on 8 September 2011. In that capacity he leads both the Constitutional Court and the Judiciary of the Republic.

The Chief Justice chairs the following bodies:

- Judicial Service Commission (JSC)
- South African Judicial Education Institute (SAJEI) Council,
- National Efficiency Enhancement Committee (NEEC);

He is also one of the Vice Presidents of Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa (CCJA).