

## ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW WITH MS TSHIDI YVONNE MOLOISANE

(The interview was conducted by Patrick Letsatsi with Ms Tshidi Yvonne Moloisane at 554 Msimang Street, Batho, Bloemfontein, on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2014. Please note the following: Letsatsi: **Interviewer**; Moloisane: **Interviewee**. Unclear\inaudible speech is indicated by a question mark [?]. [Sic] in most cases indicates a grammar mistake made by interviewee. Text in brackets [ ] is added for clarity. Interview transcribed by K.J. Pudumo.)

**Letsatsi:** What are your full names Mama?

**Moloisane:** I am Matshidiso Yvonne Moloisane.

**Letsatsi:** When and where were you born?

**Moloisane:** I was born in Bloemfontein on 20 May 1955...

**Letsatsi:** 1955?

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** Here in Bloemfontein in the location, in which street?

**Moloisane:** My parents stayed in Mahlomola [an area in Batho] when they moved from there they moved here in Batho Location...

**Letsatsi:** In Batho Location.

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** What are the names of your parents?

**Moloisane:** My mother's name was Joyce Moloisane and my father's name was Mohale Moloisane...

**Letsatsi:** Ok. What were your grandparents' names?

**Moloisane:** My grandparents were staying in Jabavu [street in Batho]. their names were Selabe Mothosi and [?]....

**Letsatsi:** Yes, ok Mama. Where did you spend most of your childhood, which street did you say you grew up in?

**Moloisane:** Msimang Street...

**Letsatsi:** Right here in this very same house? This is where you grew up in?

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** What can you tell me that you remember happening during your childhood?

**Moloisane:** In connection to what, Papa?

**Letsatsi:** Anything that you can remember, that happened while you were growing up? We start first by talking about your history and then we move forward from there. I just want to find out what you did and remembered what happened during that time.

**Moloisane:** I grew up well and played nicely with other children and there was nothing like the things that happen today...

**Letsatsi:** Ok.

**Moloisane:** Luckyboy and I grew up together...

**Letsatsi:** Luckyboy is your brother?

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** How many were you at home?

**Moloisane:** We were three children; however the other one was a still born. Then we were left as two children at home. Our father passed away whilst we were very young. I was five years old and Luckyboy was two years old. So we were raised by a single parent and we did not grow up nicely, my mother was unemployed and she was a person who used to organise and run *Favie* [it is a gambling game that one bets using a number that is translated from a certain dream that a person had and if that is the number that is chosen that person wins some money.] We were brought up with money that our mother made from *Favie*, we were not raised nicely like other kids did but our mother did her best for us to be able to go to school...

**Letsatsi:** You both were able to go to school. Which school did you go to?

**Moloisane:** I started with Mangaung Primary School and afterwards I went to Legae Higher Primary School...

**Letsatsi:** Legae is it in Bochabela [a location in Mangaung] or in Phahameng [a location in Mangaung]?

**Moloisane:** It is in Phahameng...

**Letsatsi:** Phahameng, alright Mama.

**Moloisane:** Bochabela it is...

**Letsatsi:** I see where it is.

**Moloisane:** Then I went to Sehunelo High School and when I completed it there I went to...

**Letsatsi:** What were you doing in Sehunelo, studying?

**Moloisane:** In those times you would leave there after you have done Grade Five. So, I went to Strydom...

**Letsatsi:** What was happening in Strydom?

**Moloisane:** Strydom, it was a Teacher's College...

**Letsatsi:** Where was it?

**Moloisane:** It was in Thaba Nchu [is a town located 60 km east of Bloemfontein]...

**Letsatsi:** Thaba Nchu, ok...

**Moloisane:** When I completed my studies there, in the second year of studying my mother passed away and at least there was some money that she had saved because my little brother was attending school in Sehunelo High School...

**Letsatsi:** When you were in Strydom, he was in Sehunelo High School?

**Moloisane:** Yes...

**Letsatsi:** Ok.

**Moloisane:** Then I completed my studies and then went to work...

**Letsatsi:** You went to work and you were able to help your little brother.

**Moloisane:** Yes, I had to work to be able to help him...

**Letsatsi:** Alright.

**Moloisane:** Yes, but then he became involved in politics...

**Letsatsi:** Ok, he became involved in politics, which one did he join?

**Moloisane:** He would not tell me anything, I became aware when he went to the funeral of Mr Robert Sobukwe [Teacher, lecturer, lawyer, Fort Hare University SRC President, secretary of the ANC branch in Standerton, founding member and first president of the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) and Robben Island prisoner]. He told me he came from Graaff-Reinet [is a town in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa] from Robert Sobukwe's funeral.

**Letsatsi:** We are talking about your brother Luckyboy Moloisane?

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** The time your brother left Luckyboy, what were his full names?

**Moloisane:** His names were Luckyboy Cambridge Moloisane, he had not left yet.

**Letsatsi:** How did the people address him, those that knew him?

**Moloisane:** They called him Lucky.

**Letsatsi:** Lucky, was that his nickname?

**Moloisane:** Luckyboy yes.

**Letsatsi:** So, did he tell you before he left that he is leaving, going to Graaff-Reinet or he did not tell you?

**Moloisane:** He did not tell me.

**Letsatsi:** He just left? Where were you at that time, were you at home?

**Moloisane:** I was at home.

**Letsatsi:** Ok, you were working at that time?

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** Which school were you teaching in?

**Moloisane:** In Marang School [school in Bochabela].

**Letsatsi:** Yes...

**Moloisane:** And then when he returned that was when they got arrested. They were detained and a police officer came to me to inform me that he was arrested when he returned from a funeral of Mr Robert Sobukwe.

**Letsatsi:** He was arrested here at home in Bloemfontein?

**Moloisane:** They arrested him on his way back home; he was arrested for a period of five months.

**Letsatsi:** He was in prison, which one?

**Moloisane:** He did not tell me, during that time the police would not tell you which prison your loved one was detained in. So, what he told me was the prison was made out of steel...

**Letsatsi:** So, he also did not know where he was?

**Moloisane:** He said somewhere in Glen [Agricultural College outside Bloemfontein]...

**Letsatsi:** Glen...

**Moloisane:** In Glen there is a police station or [?]

**Letsatsi:** Glen here on N1?

**Moloisane:** I think so, yes.

**Letsatsi:** Alright, yes.

**Moloisane:** You understand? Because we couldn't go see him, and then he was released and then he returned again to prison but before he was released the police used to come here and even the day they arrested him, they came to pick me up at school and they raided the house.

**Letsatsi:** They were looking for things.

**Moloisane:** They were looking for what he could have left behind, he was a Communist.

**Letsatsi:** The house that you used to lived in, what kind of a house was it?

**Moloisane:** It was an old house...

**Letsatsi:** Was it a two or three roomed house and what was it built with?

**Moloisane:** It was built with clay...

**Letsatsi:** With clay and was it a two or three roomed house?

**Moloisane:** We lived in a three roomed house.

**Letsatsi:** Three rooms.

**Moloisane:** Yes. It was four roomed house but it had [?]

**Letsatsi:** Ok, Mama.

**Moloisane:** So, when he returned and he went back to school, he became rough...

**Letsatsi:** He came back to school in Sehunelo?

**Moloisane:** Yes, he went back to school.

**Letsatsi:** When he went to Graaff-Reinet, what grade was he doing and how old was he?

**Moloisane:** I cannot remember clearly.

**Letsatsi:** Yes.

**Moloisane:** It was a long time ago.

**Letsatsi:** Alright.

**Moloisane:** He was doing Grade 9, I am sure because at that time he was not doing matric, he was not a matric at that time. Then came the uprisings, in 1978 or 1977 if I am not wrong.

**Letsatsi:** When he went to Graaff-Reinet?

**Moloisane:** No. When he returned from Graaff-Reinet, the police arrested him, remember.

**Letsatsi:** Ok.

**Moloisane:** And then he went to prison...

**Letsatsi:** Yes, for five months.

**Moloisane:** Five months and he was released. He went back to school and then they started the uprisings and they were burning schools.

**Letsatsi:** Right here in Sehunelo [secondary school in Batho]?

**Moloisane:** Yes, they burned the school of Sehunelo, the offices of the school and it became rough. Then he [Luckyboy] left for Lesotho. Now, I was left in trouble because, you know when you are family of someone who was active in politics back in those days, the police would assume that you are also involved in politics. That is when I suffered a lot.

**Letsatsi:** And you did not know anything?

**Moloisane:** I knew but...

**Letsatsi:** You were not involved.

**Moloisane:** I was not involved...

**Letsatsi:** Where you not involved in politics?

**Moloisane:** I was not involved, they [police] used to harass me by the way they treated me because they would come to my place of work at school and take me up and down and took me to *Fitzware* [Fountain Building?]

**Letsatsi:** What was happening in *Fitzware*?

**Moloisane:** It was in Fountain Street, that was where the political activists were taken there.

**Letsatsi:** They were taken there?

**Moloisane:** They were taken there. The Boers used to harass me a lot you see, they would say that: "here at my home it was an ANC [African National Congress]" and that was indeed true because the activists that

came after my brother would hold their meetings here at home. I opened up my home for them.

**Letsatsi:** Oh, here at your house?

**Moloisane:** Yes, what was I going to do?

**Letsatsi:** Which means you were annoyed by what the police were doing?

**Moloisane:** Yes, I was annoyed and that pushed me to become involved.

**Letsatsi:** ... [?]

**Moloisane:** Yes, they wanted to know what was going to be done by the activists and so on.

**Letsatsi:** So, every time they held their meetings you were there?

**Moloisane:** Yes, I listened and knew everything. So, each and everything that happened I would know about it before it happened.

**Letsatsi:** So, what can you tell me about the ones you remember from one of those meetings?

**Moloisane:** [Interviewee laughs] I remember one day, it went terrible after Makotoko [Papi Makotoko was the first scholar to be killed by the police during the uprisings of Mangaung] was murdered by the police and he was the first victim to die in Bloemfontein.

**Letsatsi:** What were his names?

**Moloisane:** They used to call him Makotoko that was his surname; he was a scholar from Roma [St Mary's Secondary School in Bochabela Location].

**Letsatsi:** He was a scholar of Roma and he was called Makotoko?

**Moloisane:** Yes, that is his surname...

**Letsatsi:** His surname, yes.

**Moloisane:** So, after he died...

**Letsatsi:** He was killed by the police?

**Moloisane:** Yes, he was killed by the police.

**Letsatsi:** What were the reasons for the police to kill him?

**Moloisane:** The scholars were striking...

**Letsatsi:** Yes.

**Moloisane:** School children were striking so, he came from Roma singing. I think they were trying to go to the police station or to town and the police met up with them and they started shooting. He died and there was another one, his name was Walter Thebe was also killed by the police who lived back opposite my house...

**Letsatsi:** Walter Thebe.

**Moloisane:** They came along with Desmond ... [?], Pitso, to hold a meeting and discuss how were they going to assist the Makotoko family with the burial of their son. So, what they did after they finished organizing, then what happened was that they went to butcheries and demanded the owners to give them their sheep...

**Letsatsi:** They went to black-owned butcheries in the location and demanded them to give them sheep.

**Moloisane:** Yes, they went to black-owned butcheries in the location, they forced them to give them those sheep.

**Letsatsi:** Which ones do you remember, their names? The people who were involved in doing those things, are some of them still alive? The ones that you knew when there was a meeting they would end up fighting?

**Moloisane:** It was Daddy Moelesi...

**Letsatsi:** Daddy?

**Moloisane:** Daddy Moelesi, Pitso Melamu.

**Letsatsi:** Pitso Melamu.

**Moloisane:** Walter Thebe, the one who was the organiser but he was murdered by the police...

**Letsatsi:** Walter Thebe.

**Moloisane:** Because whenever the police raided his house, he would run to our house and hide here. Then we realised that they were aware that his house and my house are close, sometimes he would run and hide at the graveyard.

**Letsatsi:** Those are the people that you remember? Now, can you tell me about Mr Walter, is his siblings alive?

**Moloisane:** His sisters are around and his brother but during that time they were not involved because they were scared.

**Letsatsi:** Ok.

**Moloisane:** They did not want to get involved in politics and even his [Walter Thebe's] funeral was just an ordinary funeral; they did not want freedom songs sang at the funeral. They were cowards.

**Letsatsi:** When did Walter pass away?

**Moloisane:** I do not remember the year; it did appear in the newspaper...

**Letsatsi:** It was long time ago?

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** What was the cause of his death?

**Moloisane:** He was killed by the police...

**Letsatsi:** Wow [the interviewer expressing shock.]. This means they killed Makotoko, referring to the time of the uprising: Makotoko, Walter Thebe and?

**Moloisane:** Then there was this boy that was shot by the police and he was admitted to Pelonomi Hospital [hospital in Mangaung]. They had a security guard placed in his hospital room. What was his name? [Interviewee trying to remember the name of the person she is talking about.]...

**Letsatsi:** Yes, so the security was meant to guard him?

**Moloisane:** Yes, the police guarded him...

**Letsatsi:** Then he died there in hospital?

**Moloisane:** Yes, he died in hospital.

**Letsatsi:** Can we go back to the one of your brother, Luckyboy.

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** During the time of the meetings Luckyboy...

**Moloisane:** He was not around because he had skipped the country to Lesotho.

**Letsatsi:** Which year was that?

**Moloisane:** It was in 1978.

**Letsatsi:** It was in 1978?

**Moloisane:** Yes. He left the country in 1978.

**Letsatsi:** In 1978, that was when he left, even when he left did you know about that or you only heard that he already left?

**Moloisane:** Let me tell you, these children [referring to her brother Luckyboy and his comrades] were '*Skelms*' [when a person does things in secret without making people aware]. There were things that they did that I did not know of because they belonged to the class of 1976. They were up against the system of apartheid. He was elected a chairperson of the Bloemfontein Student League [BSL] in 1977. I was not even aware that he was president of BSL, he kept that from me. He was also an ANC underground member and I did not know about that. I was surprised when I found out about that at his funeral in Lesotho when that was mentioned.

**Letsatsi:** Now, can we go back a little, let us say it was in 1978 and he is about to leave. The time he left, how did you find out about him skipping the country?

**Moloisane:** I only found out through rumours from those that did not skip the country.

**Letsatsi:** Rumours that he had left?

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** Did the police not [?]

**Moloisane:** Yes, they came here to ask me where was he and I told them I do not know where he was.

**Letsatsi:** After he left did he communicate with you?

**Moloisane:** He used to phone me at school.

**Letsatsi:** He phoned you when you were at school?

**Moloisane:** Yes, he would phone me there.

**Letsatsi:** Then you would talk with him.

**Moloisane:** We would talk, yes.

**Moloisane:** Did you not ask him about his reasons for skipping the country?

**Moloisane:** He told me he was fighting for liberation, so, I asked him if I wanted to see him what must I do and he said I should arrange a passport and visit him in Lesotho...

**Letsatsi:** You should go to Lesotho.

**Moloisane:** I would cross and go to Lesotho...

**Letsatsi:** You would go to Lesotho?

**Moloisane:** Yes, I would go to Lesotho.

**Letsatsi:** Which place did he live in while he was in Lesotho, can you explain about the place where he stayed and how was it like there?

**Moloisane:** The first time there was somewhere where they lived as a group...

**Letsatsi:** They were in a group?

**Moloisane:** Yes, they used to call them there *Baphaphathi*...

**Letsatsi:** *Baphaphathi*.

**Moloisane:** It was the place where they all lived there together, then the government of Lesotho became aware that they are in danger if they are in groups and they then moved them in to communities.

**Letsatsi:** They put them in the society?

**Moloisane:** By the government doing that, it would prevent people and the South African government to get them easily.

**Letsatsi:** Now, when you went to see him the first time they were in that place and the second time you went to visit him they were moved into the society?

**Moloisane:** They were moved to *Kgubetswane* [small village in Lesotho]...

**Letsatsi:** *Kgubetswane*.

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** Was he alone or?

**Moloisane:** There was someone who lived with him.

**Letsatsi:** Ok, so every time you went there you were not regarded as a suspect by the police?

**Moloisane:** Every time I returned from there I would find police waiting for me at the border...

**Letsatsi:** And you did not know how they knew that you went to visit your brother?

**Moloisane:** I still do not know how they found out when I crossed the border.

**Letsatsi:** Did they ask you or not?

**Moloisane:** They arrested me.

**Letsatsi:** What was their reason for arresting you?

**Moloisane:** They wanted to know who did I meet up with in Lesotho and what those people said. So, I had nothing to say to them and I did not say anything to them.

**Letsatsi:** Then when you remained silent what did they do to you, did they abuse you or fight you, what did they do to you?

**Moloisane:** Yes, they did hit me one time and a lot. I ended up running away from home and not staying here at home because of them and I lived with relatives. They even harassed the people who were our tenants in this house.

**Letsatsi:** Who lived here, ok. Can you tell me, Mama, a little about Mr Luckyboy, when did he pass away?

**Moloisane:** He passed away in 1982.

**Letsatsi:** Oh, in 1982. He was not in Lesotho for a long time.

**Moloisane:** Yes. He passed away in 1982.

**Letsatsi:** His death was also caused by the police or what happened?

**Moloisane:** No, they were killed by the SADF [South African Defence Force] the military.

**Letsatsi:** Yes, which means they were killed by the government?

**Moloisane:** Yes, it was the government that killed them.

**Letsatsi:** Yes, the apartheid government.

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** So, they went in to Lesotho or what happened?

**Moloisane:** They [SADF soldiers] came in at night while they were sleeping.

**Letsatsi:** There where he stayed?

**Moloisane:** They had informers who knew their movements and where they lived, you understand. So, when they [police] raided houses they knew which ones to raid. Where they stayed most unfortunate in

*Kgubetswane* they did not arrive there because he had slept over at his friend's place.

**Letsatsi:** At his friend's place.

**Moloisane:** His friend had a new baby so they were celebrating the child's birth. They forced him to sleep over and that is how they got him.

**Letsatsi:** Which means there was an informer among them who took information to the police.

**Moloisane:** Yes, there was an informer among them, yes.

**Letsatsi:** Now, after that when did you get the news that your brother was dead?

**Moloisane:** No, he had told me that whenever I hear news that there were people who were killed there [in Lesotho], I should go and inquire whether he was one of the victims or not.

**Letsatsi:** He had already told you that if something happened to them...

**Moloisane:** Yes, if something happened to them...

**Letsatsi:** That you should go check if he was not included there.

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** Then you went to Lesotho and you found out that it was true, he was killed.

**Moloisane:** Yes, I hiked to Lesotho.

**Letsatsi:** You hiked.

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** You got hikes from here to Lesotho?

**Moloisane:** Yes, I hiked from here to Lesotho and then I arrived there and I inquired about that and they said the only mortuary was the hospital one. I went to Lesotho hospital...

**Letsatsi:** Yes, but how did you know that he was dead, did you go to Lesotho straight after you heard about the killings in Lesotho?

**Moloisane:** I did not know that my brother was dead...

**Letsatsi:** Ok, yes.

**Moloisane:** I only went there to check who were killed and then when I arrived and on my way to the mortuary to check if my brother is there. The people who he had left with his fellow MK's [Mkhonto we Sizwe] they saw me...

**Letsatsi:** Oh, he was also MK?

**Moloisane:** Yes, he was MK in Lesotho.

**Letsatsi:** He had joined MK.

**Moloisane:** Yes, he was trained there. Then they made way for me and then I asked them why, when they saw me, they did that. I called out to them...

**Letsatsi:** They already knew you by then?

**Moloisane:** They knew me.

**Letsatsi:** Are they the ones who came from Bloemfontein or other places?

**Moloisane:** Yes, and some of them came from other places...

**Letsatsi:** They knew you?

**Moloisane:** Yes, they knew me because my brother and I looked alike.

**Letsatsi:** Oh, yah yah.

**Moloisane:** So, their reaction gave me a feeling that my brother was killed.

**Letsatsi:** Now, when you arrived here in Bloemfontein, where was he buried, here or in Lesotho?

**Moloisane:** He was buried in Lesotho.

**Letsatsi:** In Lesotho, where in Lesotho?

**Moloisane:** They called that place *Pitso* ground.

**Letsatsi:** *Pitso* ground.

**Moloisane:** Yes, it was called that back then. So, this paper is of his reburial the day when they exhumed him from Lesotho to be buried here in South Africa.

**Letsatsi:** They brought him here to Bloemfontein.

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** Where did they bury him?

**Moloisane:** In Heroes Acre [special cemetery in Phahameng]...

**Letsatsi:** Heroes Acre here oh, ok.

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** I will make time to go there and see his tombstone.

**Moloisane:** I was there visiting him on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June.

**Letsatsi:** Oh, during the youth day.

**Moloisane:** Yes, because he belonged to the class of 1976.

**Letsatsi:** Yes.

**Moloisane:** Maybe I might still be working because I lost my job in 1982.

**Letsatsi:** In 1982, that was when you lost your job?

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** You were a teacher?

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** The reason you lost your job was because of your brother's political activity and yours too?

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** Oh, no.

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** Now, I want us to talk about the park that was named after him.

**Moloisane:** It was named after him.

**Letsatsi:** The name of the park, what is it exactly?

**Moloisane:** It is Cambridge Khanyile Lesedi Moloisane.

**Letsatsi:** Oh, so those are his full names?

**Moloisane:** When he was in exile he was given those names K. L.

**Letsatsi:** Oh, I see. So K.L. stands for Khanyile Lesedi.

**Moloisane:** Yes, Khanyile Lesedi.

**Letsatsi:** Oh, alright. That was his MK name?

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** When the park was named after him and before it was made, did they [municipality] contact you and speak to you about it?

**Moloisane:** They did not tell me anything, I was even shocked when they told me the day they decided about that. How they told me was that they told me today whilst tomorrow they were opening that park.

**Letsatsi:** Oh, no.

**Moloisane:** I am telling you.

**Letsatsi:** When that park was done and even before they planned to name it after your brother, they never consulted with you?

**Moloisane:** They never did. I was not told about that. I heard from Mr Pule who sent you here...

**Letsatsi:** Mr Pule Moeng.

**Moloisane:** He phoned me and said he heard about that and phoned me, and said: "Tshidi's little brother is on ... [?] apparently there was a list"...

**Letsatsi:** Oh, there was a list of?

**Moloisane:** A list of people that were chosen.

**Letsatsi:** Ok.

**Moloisane:** And then they nominated him...

**Letsatsi:** Him.

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** Alright.

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** The park was to be called Cambridge Moloisane. Now, when they came to you, they came the day before the opening of the park?

**Moloisane:** Yes, I was not happy because...

**Letsatsi:** Who were those people, municipality or people from the office of the Premier?

**Moloisane:** The person who came was the councillor of the area I live in.

**Letsatsi:** The councillor of here?

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** Who is your councillor?

**Moloisane:** What is the name of this man, [interviewee calls her daughter asking her what is the name of their councillor] [**daughter Rea:** It is Mr Sphethe.] Mr Sphethe.

**Letsatsi:** Sphethe?

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** Where is Mr Sphethe's office?

**Moloisane:** I know where it is, it is that side.

**Letsatsi:** Mr Sphetho?

**Moloisane:** They call him Sphetho I think.

**Letsatsi:** Which street is his office situated?

**Moloisane:** It is that side, in Cape Stands [an area in Batho].

**Letsatsi:** Cape Stands.

**Moloisane:** Yes, where payments for houses were paid. They turned that into an office.

**Letsatsi:** Ok, I do not know Bloemfontein well, I will try and go there and inquire about it.

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** Ok, where in Cape Stands?

**Moloisane:** It is in the old main road, there you will find Phahamisang School.

**Letsatsi:** The road that goes to the taxi rank?

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** Ok, so I can ask people, what are the offices there for, is it municipality?

**Moloisane:** There is a crèche there and the office of the councillor is at the back of the crèche.

**Letsatsi:** Ok, alright. So, the councillor came to your home and informed you about that tomorrow?

**Moloisane:** The park will be opened.

**Letsatsi:** And the park will be named after your sibling.

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** Then, when they named it, were you there and did they call you and sit you down and what did they do?

**Moloisane:** They never sit me down and told me that, they never mentioned that my brother was nominated from a list of comrades. I was shocked and I was not even given the correct time on when it was going to start.

**Letsatsi:** You just went there?

**Moloisane:** My child and I we went there using public transport and we to Glass House [Bram Fischer Building in Bloemfontein].

**Letsatsi:** The same day?

**Moloisane:** No, not the same day. They told us and then we went there the following day.

**Letsatsi:** What were you going to do in 'Glass House'? I want to know because you said you were told his name was nominated and then a day before the park was opened, so, you went to 'Glass House' on the day of the opening of the park?

**Moloisane:** Yes, on the day of the opening.

**Letsatsi:** Were you instructed to go there ['Glass House']?

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** What were you going to do there?

**Moloisane:** [?]. We had breakfast because we were the family of Cambridge Moloisane and it was the two of us.

**Letsatsi:** Oh, no.

**Moloisane:** We were only two because my daughter had to go ask for a day off from work to be able to attend. You understand what they did, it shocked me.

**Letsatsi:** Were there no relatives that came?

**Moloisane:** No, I did not have time to inform them. Where was I going to get time to do when I myself was told of it the way I was told about it?

**Letsatsi:** Because people had to go to work and you need to inform them in time...

**Moloisane:** I did not even have airtime [airtime is the actual time spent talking on a cell phone. When they calculate your bill it is typically measured in minutes for voice calls.]...

**Letsatsi:** It was going to be impossible for them to be able to ask for time off work. It was immediately tomorrow the opening.

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** When you arrived there they did not explain anything, they just said have breakfast?

**Moloisane:** Yes, we ate breakfast. They were sure that the councillor told me, the family of Moloisane it was Tshidi and her child, they had their speeches and then afterwards we all went to the park.

**Letsatsi:** Now, where was the name of the park written at the park?

**Moloisane:** It is written there...

**Letsatsi:** At the gate?

**Moloisane:** No, not at the gate because that gate it was going to be changed because that one has faults. It falls over; there is a little house in the park...

**Letsatsi:** Oh, that is where the name is written. I will make time to go and check it.

**Moloisane:** There is a little house there and you will find a rock there that has his name written there.

**Letsatsi:** Ok, alright Mme. I will go and ask about it then. Thank you so much Mama for the information but if there is something that you want to talk about you can talk about it. Like the games you used to play when you were little and the stories that you were told.

**Moloisane:** To tell you the truth I was a tennis player.

**Letsatsi:** You were a tennis player?

**Moloisane:** Yes a lot.

**Letsatsi:** Do you still have the photos of the time you played tennis?

**Moloisane:** I have a picture of it.

**Letsatsi:** A picture of you playing tennis?

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** I am going to ask for it to go scan it and I will bring it back to you.

**Moloisane:** Ok, yes.

**Letsatsi:** I will bring it back. Can you tell me in the evenings when you sat with your mother, what were you doing with her and your brother, Mr Luckyboy?

**Moloisane:** My mother liked to tell us stories, she loved making jokes and teased people [Interviewee laughs].

**Letsatsi:** [Interviewer laughs].

**Moloisane:** She loved her son a lot...

**Letsatsi:** Luckyboy.

**Moloisane:** There is a card that she bought her son...

**Letsatsi:** He was the last born.

**Moloisane:** Yes, she gave it to her son and the message of it I cannot forget it. It was written: "No one can measure up to be a perfect son like you." My mother loved her son a lot.

**Letsatsi:** She loved him a lot, alright Mme. What did you do over weekends, you said you played tennis and were there tennis games?

**Moloisane:** There were tennis games.

**Letsatsi:** Did you play here in Bloemfontein or somewhere else?

**Moloisane:** In Bloemfontein and we did go out of Bloemfontein also. I was a very good tennis player. There is nowhere in South Africa I did not go to through tennis.

**Letsatsi:** Did you win trophies?

**Moloisane:** They are at BSI [Bantu Social Institute]...

**Letsatsi:** The trophies are there?

**Moloisane:** Yes, they have been there since a long time ago.

**Letsatsi:** Oh.

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** Now, what kind of transport was used back in those days?

**Moloisane:** We used buses...

**Letsatsi:** Buses, how much would bus fare cost you?

**Moloisane:** Half cent.

**Letsatsi:** Half cent, do you still have that half cent?

**Moloisane:** I had it but I do not know where I put it.

**Letsatsi:** Alright, can you tell me what were the major challenges in the locations back then, when you were growing up? Those same challenges could have been the reason why others were motivated to join the liberation struggle.

**Moloisane:** There were alot of challenges in the location, people were unemployed and like I said, my mother was unemployed and made a living out of *Favie*. When we did not have money we slept without eating...

**Letsatsi:** That is true.

**Moloisane:** There was some day that we fought for a slice of bread, my brother and I. We lived a tough life, seriously. I would sometimes go to school without having shoes and not eaten.

**Letsatsi:** That is true. But you did manage to study and completed your studies and became a teacher.

**Moloisane:** What was I supposed to do?

**Letsatsi:** Now, that is the thing that I am asking myself about today's children, why they cannot do that.

**Moloisane:** I do not know.

**Letsatsi:** Because you had to fight for a slice of bread but you managed to become a teacher.

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** How come these days that the children that sleep with their stomachs full, even if it was *mieliepap* and milk or mielie pap with potatoes or *mieliepap* with cabbage, at least they have eaten. According to you, what do you think it is that makes the youth of today not fight to get ahead?

**Moloisane:** It is because they are living nicely...

**Letsatsi:** They are living nicely.

**Moloisane:** We tried by all means as their parents that they sleep with their stomachs full...

**Letsatsi:** Because when you hear a person say they are struggling however, they always go to bed having eaten every night and yet there are other people who are struggling and went to bed on an empty stomach...

**Moloisane:** And we went to school without having shoes on.

**Letsatsi:** But today's children, they fight to get expensive clothes and then I ask myself why today's black youth cannot learn from our elders.

**Moloisane:** I ask myself that very question.

**Letsatsi:** Mama, thank you so much. Oh, I am so sorry, can I ask you about the Blockmen that you still remember?

**Moloisane:** They are all deceased, Mr Melesi, Mr Swanepoel is retired, he is tired, Mr...

**Letsatsi:** It does not matter even if they are deceased; all I need is their names.

**Moloisane:** Mr Letshabo is also deceased.

**Letsatsi:** Alright, I thank you so much Mama.

**Moloisane:** Yes.

**Letsatsi:** Thank you.