

News from the DLN

Issue number 64 is here. Hope you will enjoy reading and looking at the photoes.

The seasons do not mind virus. It comes as usual. Winter followed by spring, summer and autumn. Here is the apple tree blossoming inviting the bees so people, birds and worms can get food.



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Membership of DLN

News from the Board, May 2020

By Karina, Ruby

Since we issued the last newsletter the world has changed dramatically. Our daily lives have almost been put on halt, and we stay at home and look after ourselves. It was already like

Nyt fra bestyrelsen, maj 2020

Af Karina Ruby

Siden sidste nyhedsbrev er verden ændret markant. Vores daglige liv er nærmest sat på pause, og vi bliver hjemme og passer på os selv. Sådan var det allerede i Kina i

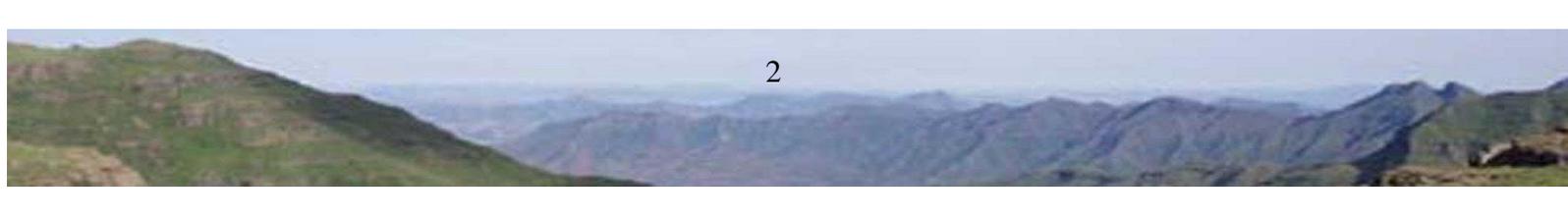
that in China in the beginning of the year. We probably thought that this was only an Asian problem that would remain so. Now we have certainly become wiser! Corona virus has also reached Europe and Africa. Many countries in Europe are badly hit. In Denmark we have the virus too, and at the moment of writing (May 10th) about 200 people are hospitalised with Covid-19, out of which 35 are in respirator and a total of 529 persons have succumbed to the disease. This is not so bad compared to many other countries in Europe. There are 5,8 million inhabitants in Denmark, and when the pandemic peaked there were 540 people hospitalised.

The pandemic is on its way to the African continent. Fortunately, it seems that Lesotho has not been hit too badly in terms of persons ill with Covid-19. However economically all countries have been hit hard due to the national and international lock down. Increasing unemployment is seen in all countries. A rich nation like Denmark will get through without people starving, but in DLN we are very worried about the people of Lesotho. We know that food shortage is already a serious problem now. We are also concerned that democracy and human rights could fall victim to the Corona pandemic. Hopefully development in these areas will not be weakened during the pandemic.

The AGM of DLN was scheduled for March 21st, but had to be postponed until further notice. We will have to wait until assemblies of more than 10 people are allowed again. And we can get together in a responsible way with sufficient distance and appropriate hygienic precautions. The Board continues to meet via Skype, so everything doesn't need to come to a complete standstill at the moment. We have decided to donate money to our three partners in Lesotho to cover extraordinary expenses for activities directed towards prevention of the spread of the Covid-19 and coping with the consequences of the pandemic.

begyndelsen af året. Vi troede vist, at det bare var et asiatisk problem, som ville forblive i Asien. Nu er vi sandelig blevet klogere. Coronavirus er også nået til Europa og Afrika. Mange lande i Europa er hårdt ramt. I Danmark har vi coronavirus, og i skrivende stund (d. 10. maj) er der løbende ca. 200 personer indlagt på sygehus med Covid-19, heraf ca. 35 i respirator, og i alt 529 personer er døde med sygdommen. Det er slet ikke slemt i forhold til mange andre lande i Europa. Befolkningen i Danmark er på 5,8 mio. indbyggere. Da epidemien toppede i Danmark, var 540 patienter indlagt på sygehusene. Pandemien er på vej ind over det afrikanske kontinent. Heldigvis ser det ud til, at Lesotho indtil nu ikke er hårdt ramt i forhold til antal syge med Covid-19. Økonomisk er alle lande dog hårdt ramt som følge af national og international lock down. Stigende arbejdsløshed ses i alle lande. Et rigt land som Danmark vil klare sig uden, at folk kommer til at sulte, men vi er i DLN meget bekymrede for befolkningen i Lesotho. Vi ved, at mangel på mad er et alvorligt problem i Lesotho nu. Vi kan også være bekymrede for, om demokrati og frihedsrettigheder vil blive ofre for coronapandemien. Forhåbentlig vil udviklingen på disse områder ikke blive svækket under epidemien.

I Denmark Lesotho Network skulle vi have afholdt vores årlige generalforsamling d. 21. marts, men den er udskudt på ubestemt tid. Vi må vente, til vi igen må samles mere end 10 personer, og til vi kan samles på forsvarlig vis med tilstrækkelig afstand og passende hygiejniske forhold. Bestyrelsen afholder møder via Skype, så alt behøver ikke at gå helt i stå i denne tid. Vi har bl.a. besluttet at donere penge til vores tre partnere i Lesotho til brug ved ekstra udgifter til aktiviteter, som er målrettet forebyggelse af spredning af covid-19 pandemien og håndtering af følgerne heraf. Vores partner Development Peace Education (DPE) arbejder med oplysning til befolkningen om vigtigheden af at holde afstand, grundig



Our partner, Development for Peace Education (DPE) is working hard to provide information to the people about the importance of keeping distance, thorough hand hygiene and other preventive measures. In addition they keep a watchful eye on the government's handling of the crises to see if human rights are still respected. Rural Self-help Development Association (RSDA) is working to support vulnerable kids and their families by providing nutritious school meals consisting of beans and eggs bought from local farmers, who are members of RSDA. Lesotho Evangelical Church in Southern Africa (LECSA) runs two hospitals and some health clinics in the country, which are involved in information, preventive measures as well as treatment of ill citizens. DLN has decided to support their efforts to educate more health workers. The DPE project group had a monitoring visit to Lesotho planned for April, and a delegation of four people from RSDA were supposed to visit Denmark on a study visit, also in April. Understandably both these travels had to be cancelled or postponed indefinitely as foreign travel is not possible at the moment. Nothing can be planned right now. We wait and watch the development of the Corona pandemic, and for the time being we stay at home, wash our hands and keep social distance.

An experience for life

By nurse student Camila Maria Kofoed Jensen & Karoline Schjerlund Johannesen

At last we are heading towards Thaba-Tseka! We are so excited as we have been looking forward wildly to this adventure that we will be part of! We arrive at the airport and there is our driver who will take us to Paray Mission Hospital in Thaba-Tseka. Wauw, what a thump in the stomach we had. The scenery is really fantastic. Mountains as far as the eye reaches, beautiful blue skies, children playing at the

håndhygiejne og andre forebyggende tiltag. Desuden holder de et vågent øje på regeringens håndtering af situationen i forhold til om menneskerettighederne stadig overholdes. Rural Selfhelp Development Association (RSDA) arbejder på at støtte sårbare børn og deres familier med nærende måltider i skolen bestående af bønner og æg, som opkøbes fra lokale landmænd, som er medlemmer af RSDA. Den evangeliske kirke i Lesotho (LECSA) driver to hospitaler og flere sundhedsklinikker i landet, som arbejder med både oplysning, forebyggende tiltag og behandling af syge borgere. DLN har valgt at støtte deres tiltag i uddannelse af flere sundhedsarbejdere. DPE-projektgruppen skulle have været på et monitoreringsbesøg i Lesotho i april. En delegation på 4 personer fra RSDA skulle have været i Danmark på studiebesøg i april. Begge rejser er naturligvis blevet aflyst eller udskudt på ubestemt tid, fordi man jo ikke kan rejse til udlandet for tiden. Intet kan planlægges lige nu. Vi afventer corona-situationens udvikling, og foreløbig bliver vi hjemme, vasker hænder og holder social afstand.

En oplevelse for livet

Af sygeplejerskestuderende Camilla Marie Kofoed Jensen & Karoline Schjerlund Johannesen

Endelig går turen mod Thaba-Tseka! Vi er spændte og har glædet os helt vildt til det eventyr, vi nu skal være en del af! Vi ankommer i lufthavnen og der står vores chauffør, som skal bringe os til Paray Mission Hospital i Thaba-Tseka. Wauw en mavepuster vi fik os. Landskabet er helt fantastisk. Med bjerge så langt øjet rækker, den smukkeste blå himmel, børn der leger i vejkanten, og lokale

roadside and locals riding on horseback and donkeys. We are quiet in the car as we are simply enjoying this cultural experience.

After nearly four hours of driving we finally arrive at Paray Mission Hospital where we will spend the next three weeks. We were met with open arms by the sisters who manage the hospital. What a welcome! After 27 hours of travelling from Copenhagen we were tired, but before tugging in an opportunity to taste a delicious local dish was organised. Uhhh!



The following day we met with the hospital's doctors, nurses, midwives and other staff. The Chief Physician, Dr Peter Zenda, gave us a tour of the premises, but we had hardly finished before we were called in to a woman in labour, and we are allowed to assist in the birth of her beautiful little girl.

So we were really kick-started! And what a life-affirming experience to be allowed to share. Life-affirming and enriching are probably the expressions that best describes our stay in Thaba-Tseke. Our impression of the Basothos is that they always try to take a light perspective on things. This is really something that the Danes could learn from. For our own part we can say that we have become much more appreciative of the Danish health care system, and also wiser about the way in which we want to approach our future work as nurses. The stay has been fantastic all the way through, educative and identity forming for us as human beings and

som kommer ridende på heste og æsler. Der er stille i bilen, fordi vi bare nyder denne kulturoplevelse, der har ramt os.



Efter små fire timers køretur, ankom vi endelig til Paray Mission Hospital, hvor vi skulle tilbringe de næste tre uger. Vi blev mødt med åbne arme af nonnerne, som bestyrer hospitalet. Sikke en velkomst! Efter en 27 timers tur fra København var vi trætte, men inden vi gik i seng, blev der sørget for, at vi fik afprøvet et lækkert lokalt måltid. Mums! Dagen efter mødte vi hospitalets læger, sygeplejersker, jordemødre m.fl., hvor overlægen Dr. Peter Zenda gav os en rundtur på området. Rundvisningen nåede knap sin afslutning, før vi blev sendt ind til en fødende kvinde, hvor vi fik lov til at deltage i fødslen af hendes smukke lille pige. Så er vi godt nok i gang!



coming nurses. Several births, caesareans, open stomach-intestines surgery and skin transplants to mention just some of the wildly impressive experiences we witnessed, yet in a confidential, safe and caring environment.



The staff was always helpful, kind, forthcoming and curious, which again underlines what a beautiful people the Basothos are. We are forever grateful for this opportunity given by Denmark Lesotho Network. Without it this experience would not have been possible. Saying thank you is hardly enough. There is no doubt that Lesotho should be on everybody's Bucket List. We look forward to visiting the country again in the near future and to meet our 'new family' again. The Basothos really made us feel at home from day one, taking us under their wings and even inaugurating us with the Lesotho names Palesa and Lerato, which means 'flower' and 'love'.

Og sikke en livsbekræftende oplevelse at få lov at være med til. Livsbekræftende er det gennemgående ord for vores ophold i Thaba-Tseka. Vores indtryk af basothoerne er, at de altid ser tingene fra et lysere perspektiv. Dette er virkelig noget man kan lære af i Danmark. Vi er i hvert fald blevet meget mere taknemmelige for det danske sundhedsvæsen og klogere på den tilgang, som vi fremadrettet vil inddrage i vores sygepleje.



Opholdet har været helt igennem fantastisk, lærerigt og identitetsdannende for os som individer og kommende sygeplejersker.



Finally, we want to say a thousand thanks again for this adventure that we were allowed to experience and become part of.



Et utal af fødsler, kejsersnit, åben mave-tarmkirurgi og hudtransplantationer er blot et udpluk af de mange vilde oplevelser, vi var vidner til i et fortroligt, sikkert og omfavnende miljø.

Personalet var altid behjælpelige, søde, imødekommende og nysgerrige, hvilket igen var med til at understrege, hvor skønt et folkefærd basothoerne er.

Vi er evigt taknemmelige for den mulighed Denmark Lesotho Network gav os, da denne oplevelse ellers ikke ville have været en realitet. Tak er et fattigt ord! Der er ingen tvivl om, at Lesotho bør være et land, som alle har på deres Bucket list. Vi ser i hvert fald frem til at besøge landet igen i den nærmeste fremtid og glæder os til at besøge vores "nye familie" igen. Basothoerne har virkelig fået os til at føle os hjemme, idet de allerede fra første dag tog os under deres vinger og indviede os med Lesotho-navnene Palesa og Lerato, som betyder blomst og kærlighed. Afslutningsvis vil igen sige TUSIND TAK for dette eventyr, vi har fået lov til at opleve og være en del af.

A busy visit

By Arne Pedersen and Grete Mygind

Ursula and Arne Pedersen and Grete Mygind have been on a research tour to Lesotho end of January/early February this year. One of the purposes was to help unpack the container with the that had been collected in Denmark and shipped equipment to Scotts Hospital, Morija. In addition, Grete was to do a workshop for nurses. Two Danish students doing practicum at Parary Mission Hospital had to be paid a visit. Time also allowed for at visit to Musoang High School that has received a shipment of recycled computers earlier. During the stay a small film was recorded. You can watch it by following the link below.

‘Du er ikke alene...’

Watch movie –download here:

<https://adamsund.wetransfer.com/downloads/4>

Et travlt besøg

Af Arne Pedersen og Grete Mygind

Ursula og Arne Pedersen og Grete Mygind har været på research tur til Lesotho i slutningen af januar og begyndelsen af februar blandt andet for at hjælpe med at pakke containeren med udstyr, der er indsamlet og sendt til Scotts Hospital i Morija ud.



[9872cee9f77b5763993f3ff4bb2d85120200505155605/bb7412b75948e4d484f3902acc68739920200505155607/0b9f82](https://adamsund.wetransfer.com/downloads/49872cee9f77b5763993f3ff4bb2d85120200505155605/bb7412b75948e4d484f3902acc68739920200505155607/0b9f82)

In Maseru we had an initial meeting with Lesotho Evangelical Church South Africa (LECSA) about the conditions for our future cooperation.

Visit to a local farmer in Thaba Tseka. His field is blighted with moss pigs.

Dinner and informal talk with the two Danish nurse students doing their practicum at Paray Mission Hospital. Thaba Tseka. And near Thaba Tseka a visit to a health clinic as agreed with LECSA.



At Paray Mission Hospital we evaluated the practicum together with the nurse students themselves, the hospital managers and others involved in the three weeks stay. The students felt that it had been very easy to become part of Paray. They felt that their professional competence had been enhanced during the three weeks and would recommend practicum at Paray towards the end of the Danish nurse education.

Just as we were arriving at Scott Hospital in Morija all the hospital- and football equipment and children's' clothing shipped from Denmark had been offloaded.

Grete skulle desuden undervise i sygepleje, og to sygeplejestuderende i praktik på Paray Mission Hospital i Thaba Tseka skulle have et besøg. Der blev også tid til at besøge Mosoang Highschool, som har fået en sending computere tidligere. Under opholdet er der optaget en lille film, som du kan se ved at følge linket nedenfor.

Du er ikke alene....

Se film - download den her:

<https://adamsund.wetransfer.com/downloads/49872cee9f77b5763993f3ff4bb2d85120200505155605/bb7412b75948e4d484f3902acc68739920200505155607/0b9f82>

I Maseru havde vi et indledende møde med Lesotho Evangelical Church South Africa (LECSA) om betingelserne for det gensidige samarbejde.

På besøg hos lokal landmand i Thaba Tseka.

Marken var plaget af mosegrise.

Middag og uformel snak med to danske sygeplejestuderende i praktik på Paray Mission Hospital, Thaba Tseka.

I nærheden af Thaba Tseka besøg på sundhedsklinik efter aftale med LECSA.

På Paray Mission Hospital evaluerede vi praktikopholdet for de sygeplejestuderende, hospitalsledelsen og andre involverede for de 3 ugers ophold. De oplevede, at det var let at blive en del af Paray. Velfungerende sikkerhed.





Board meeting at Scott Hospital, mutual orientation with representative from the Min. of Health, the chief nurse, the rector of the local nursing school, the religious leader, the local chief and the head of maintenance; The hospital needs nearly everything, staff shortage in particular is causing problems.

We had a chat with local women who shared their views of the hospital, which they think is a dangerous place to seek help because many patients die. At the nursing school they teach how to handle anxiety at the headmaster recommendation.

Workshop at the nursing centre:

Presentation of various kinds of anxiety in relation to the theories of Peplau and Travelbee. The students were acting out self-decided roles with great enthusiasm in two scenes:

1. At home where the anxiety is present
2. At the clinic where professional health care workers demonstrate what competence means:
 - a. A child keeps cleaning the same cup unceasingly. The farther tries to stop the neurotic behaviour with anger but without any luck.
 - b. A young person becomes quiet and prefers to be left alone after a sexualised situation where she has been

De studerende udtalte, at de følte, at deres faglige niveau blev hævet i de 3 uger. De studerende anbefaler praktik på Paray til studerende sidst i professionsuddannelsen. Ligesom vi ankommer til Scott Hospital i Morija, er hospitals- og fodboldudstyret samt børnetøjet fra Danmark ankommet og læsset af.

På Scott Hospital boardmeeting orienteres gensidigt med repræsentant fra sundhedsministeriet, oversygeplejersken, chefen for den lokale sygeplejeskole, den religiøse leder, den lokale høvding og chefen for maintenance; Hospitalet mangler det meste. Især personalemangel giver problemer.

Vi havde en snak med lokale beboere og fik fortalt om hospitalets nid. De oplever, at hospitalet er farligt at søge hjælp på, fordi mange patienter dør.

På skolechefens opfordring undervises i angst på sosuskolen.

Workshop på sygeplejerskolen:

Oplæg om forskellige former for angst relateret til vores fælles sygeplejeteoretikere Peplau og Travelbee. Eleverne spillede med stort engagement selvvalgt rollespil i to scener:

1. Hjemme, hvor angsten udspiller sig
2. På klinikken, hvor den professionelle sosuassistent viser os, hvad dygtighed er. Eleverne vælger følgende scener:
 - a. Et barn der gør den samme kop ren hele tiden. Faderen forsøger med sin vrede at stoppe den neurotiske adfærd uden held
 - b. Et ungt menneske bliver tavs og vil helst være alene efter vi er blevet præsenteret for en situation, som hun seksualiserer siddende på skødet af en voksen. Hun slår ud efter alle dem, der prøver at nærme sig hende.
 - c. En ungt menneske der konstant er passiv derhjemme og ingen ting vil samtidig med en fortløbende drøftelse forældrene imellem om de skal søge en

- sitting on the lap of an adult person. She lashes out at everyone who tries to get close to her.
- c. A young person is constantly passive at home, doesn't want to do anything. The parents are continuously discussing whether to seek help at a traditional healer or at a clinic.
 - d. A young person becomes traumatised by meeting a dead person. An image that keeps haunting her as flashbacks to an extent where they dare not leave her alone and have to seek help.
 - e. A woman suddenly cannot breathe during a conflict with her school mate about a boyfriend because of a previous accident.
 - f. A daughter has an attack of panic just as the family are having tea together. She starts to talk nonsense.
 - g. A young person doesn't dare to be out amongst other people. Keeps at home and will not go to school. Dares not to sit in a car that moves. She gets palpitations.

The way the students portrayed the professional health care worker was really good. A mature person who remains focussed no matter what surprises they have to face. They even have a treatment ready. Beautiful learning work.

The students finished the training programme with personal words of thanks, songs and dance.

Final meeting with LECSA and Camara on February 17th. We agreed that LECSA will continue as a DLN partner. Recipients will be hospitals, clinics and schools. When donating computers, Camara will take care of installation and training of teachers.

Evaluation of the status of computers installed by Camara a year ago at high school. Students and shepherd boys now have a chance to learn computer skills. It is a success.

- traditionel doktor eller søge hjælp på klinikken
- d. Et ungt menneske der bliver traumatiseret i mødet med en død person. Et billede der forfølger hende som flashback i en sådan grad, at de ikke tør lade hende være alene og må søge hjælp
 - e. En kvinde kan akut ikke trække vejret i en konflikt med sin elevkammerat om en kæreste på grund af en tidligere ulykke
 - f. En datter får et angstanfald ligesom familien sidder og drikker te. Hun begynder at tale sort.
 - g. Et ungt menneske er bange for offentlighed. Holder sig hjemme i hytten og vil ikke i skole. Tør ikke sidde i en bil, der kører. Hun får hjertebanken.

Det billede, eleverne viser af den professionelle sosuassistent, var fantastisk flot. En myndig person, der bevarer fokus, uanset hvad de præsenteres for af overraskelser. De har endog en behandling klar.

Flot læringsarbejde.

Eleverne slutter undervisningsdagene med personlige takketalere, sang og dans.

Afsluttende møde 17.2.2020 med LECSA og Camara. Vi aftalte, at LECSA fortsætter som DLN's Sydpartner. Modtagere vil være hospitaler, klinikker og skoler. Ved donering af computere sørger Camara for opsætning, installering og undervisning af lærere.

Evaluering af driften af computere leveret for 1 år siden på High School. Elever og hyrde drenge har nu fået chancen for at træne brugen af computere i indeværende år. Det er en succes.



News from Lesotho:

From Development of Peace Education's (DPE) home page:

May 24, 2020



[Development for Peace Education](#)

NTLAFALO: THUTO, KHOTSO LE BOITJARO



PUBLIC OUTREACH CAMPAIGN ON COVID-19 PANDEMIC

May 24, 2020

Corona virus has been declared as a global pandemic by the World Health Organisation (WHO). Lesotho has established a centre known as National Emergency Command Centre (NECC) to advise government on measures to control transmission of the virus.





Development for Peace Education (DPE) facilitated a discuss with communities measures to take to protect each other against transmission of the virus, on Tuesday, the 5th May. The first outreach was done with elected members of the Senekane Community Council and the message was delivered through poetry and drama. The message of both the drama and poem was based on the World Health Organisation’s guidelines and public protocols for protection against transmission of the virus and emphasised both social distancing, washing hands regularly with running water and the use of face masks. The intention was to give information and build confidence in the elected councillors to handle community questions and enforce public health protocols in the community after the end of the national lockdown. The objective of DPE’s work is for communities to begin to see the threats posed by the virus and to take own incentives to protect against transmission of the virus so that there is shared ownership of these public health measures.





One of the concerns for Lesotho, at the time with no person tested positive for the virus, was the movement of people between Lesotho and South Africa, with no testing and control measures within the borders of Lesotho though the Republic of South Africa has the highest number of people who have tested positive for the virus on the African continent. As part of the outreach, DPE discussed with members of the Council, a tool that can be used to track movement of people into the area possibly from South Africa and other countries. The members of local government were advised to track such people and assist them to report to health centres for possible testing and isolation where necessary.

A community-wide outreach was held at ha Maritintši in the Senekane Community Council on Thursday, the 7th May. The education to community members was also delivered through drama performance as well as poetry based on the World Health Organisation's guidelines and protocols for the prevention of transmission of the novel Corona Virus, Covid 19. The public meetings were held outside in the open and social distancing was observed in the public sitting and the meeting was held in several sessions in order to limit the number of people attending each meeting.

Community members were concerned with a lack of education on the virus, prevention of transmission and how to identify signs of the virus in a person. They pointed out that they have heard talk of the virus for more than three months but with no government effort to educate or inform communities. While nate Monanthane, a community member was concerned that the government had initiated a national lockdown without making any provisions for support of vulnerable people; and said " *we would rather die due to COVID-19, rather than dying because of hunger.* " The gathering was attended by people including chiefs, councillors, men, women, the elderly, people with disabilities, youth, and herd boys.

From Al Jazeera:

Moeketsi Majoro sworn in as Lesotho's new prime minister

Thomas Thabane's successor vows to usher in 'new version' of leadership and 'bring back trust to the government'.

20 May 2020

Moeketsi Majoro has been sworn in as Lesotho's prime minister following the resignation of his embattled predecessor, Thomas Thabane.



Thabane's decision to step down on Tuesday came amid mounting pressure over a case in which he and his current wife are suspected of involvement in the 2017 murder of his estranged wife. They both deny this.

The move cleared the way for Majoro, a seasoned economist and Lesotho's former finance minister, to take the reins.



Thabane attended Wednesday's swearing-in ceremony at the royal palace of King Letsie III, handing his successor a copy of the constitution to formally signal the transfer of power.

The men tapped elbows instead of shaking hands, and Majoro wore a face mask as a precaution against coronavirus.

"I will be a true and faithful prime minister, so help me God," said Majoro, who previously worked

as an executive director at the International Monetary Fund.

Apology

Thabane's former wife, Lipolelo Thabane, was murdered in 2017, just two days before he took office. The couple were in the midst of a divorce when she was shot outside her home, sending shockwaves through the tiny mountainous kingdom.

Two months later, he married his current wife Maesaiah Thabane, 43, who is considered a co-conspirator to the killing. She has been charged with murder and is out on bail.

Maesaiah Thabane was absent from Wednesday's swearing-in ceremony, where her husband apologised for shortcomings during his nearly three years in office, his second stint as prime minister.

"In as much as I tried my level best to serve His Majesty and Basotho [people] with dedication and loyalty ... I may have inadvertently erred in several ways during my tenure as prime minister.

"Consequently, I sincerely wish to ask you to forgive me for my mistakes," said Thabane.

His election in 2017 had brought hopes of stability to Lesotho, which has a long history of political turmoil.

Thabane's own All Basotho Convention (ABC) party, opposition figures and South African mediators had pressured him to quit, but he had resisted, supported by an inner circle of loyalists.

"It is going to be very difficult for (Majoro) ... to unify the ABC because its members are still disgruntled and are going to fight," independent analyst Lefu Thaela said.

Majoro, who has also served as planning minister, is seen as a technocrat, better at analysing economic data than soothing tensions between rival political factions.

"He has been part of the warring sides himself," Limpho Tau, leader of the Democratic Congress party, told Reuters. "It is not going to be easy to satisfy everyone."

Majoro, who was first appointed into cabinet by Thabane in 2013, promised on Wednesday to usher in "a new version" of leadership and "bring back their (people's) trust to the government".

He also promised to make tackling COVID-19 - Lesotho has recorded one case so far - poverty, and unemployment his main priorities.

Majoro will serve out Thabane's remaining term before the next round of elections in 2022.

"We don't have much time on our side. We only have two years left before the elections, yet there is a lot of work ahead of us.

"Fifty-four years after independence, the scourge of hunger and poverty is a serious issue in this country, and we need to deal with this issue decisively," he said.

SOURCE: AL JAZEERA AND NEWS AGENCIES

What is Denmark Lesotho Network?

The NGO Denmark Lesotho Network (DLN) was founded in 2002 by former Danish development workers in Lesotho and other good friends of the tiny mountain kingdom in Southern Africa. DLN aims at supporting NGO's in Lesotho in their work to develop civil society. DLN uses its network of people and organisations in Lesotho to pinpoint beneficiaries of DLN's support – and to keep an eye on that funding is used according to agreements made. DLN wishes to enhance knowledge of the living conditions in Lesotho and to seek funding from foundations, business enterprises and organisations for actual projects in Lesotho.

Membership of DLN

Anyone, who can support the aims of DLN, can achieve a membership. Members contribute to support initiatives in Lesotho that develop and better living conditions in the country. Members will receive an electronic newsletter four times a year and be invited to DLN's annual general assembly. The cost of a membership is 100 Danish kroner yearly. For membership contact cashier Karen Steffensen, tel.: +45 98677185, cell: +45 23880099, e-mail: karen.steffensen@mail.dk

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