

## **KGATLHISO MODISANE – DORANDIA, PRETORIA, GAUTENG**

**Name:** Kgathiso Modisane

**Region:** Dorandia, Pretoria, Gauteng

**Age:** 27 (March 10, 1994)

**Occupation:**

I am an admitted attorney working in the banking industry. I am also a part-time student, studying towards a qualification in taxation at the University of Pretoria, with the hopes of becoming a registered tax practitioner.



**Why did you decide to enter Miss South Africa 2021 and why do you deserve to win this title?**

I believe Miss South Africa is a woman that possesses intelligence and has street smarts and compassion. She is a woman that can move from a boardroom to helping out at a disaster relief site without skipping a beat. She is a lady of integrity and honesty in all aspects of her life and is willing to be selfless for the benefit of her nation. The experiences in my life have groomed me into being such a woman. One who stands for the rights of others as well as her own. It is a privilege to have learnt so much about myself but also how I can impact the world for future generations. This why I believe that my past has been a dress rehearsal for this moment.

**Tell us about your biggest disappointment and how you bounced back from it.**

Failing two of my Attorney's Board exams twice. One lesson my mother has always taught me is to leave room for disappointment. As earth-shattering as any disappointment can be, understanding that nothing is guaranteed makes me appreciate what I have achieved. The beauty of always finding the silver lining is that we as humans won't stay down for long.

**What do you think is the biggest problem facing young people today?**

The biggest problem facing our youth is the expectation to achieve beyond their years. Young adults who have recently left their respective tertiary institutions feel the pressure to exceed their predecessors and achieve it all in record time. This has in turn led to more youngsters experiencing mental health issues and with no adequate support this has rendered them incapable of succeeding and sustaining that success.

**Who are your role models?**

Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng has truly inspired me to strive to be an ethical legal professional. As a Chief Justice, he has ruled by his ethics and morals which I believe have been built by his deep-rooted spirituality in the Christian faith.

**Tell us a bit more about your family?**

I am truly my mom's twin; bubbly and full of laughter. My mother Faith is an educator and my father Mokgatle is a project inspector/supervisor in construction and engineering. I have an older sister, Thuli (29), who has followed in my mother's footsteps.

**What do you do in your spare time?**

I channel my inner *MasterChef* and perfect my culinary craft. Cooking allows me to clear my thoughts and to be completely present.

**What is your single biggest achievement?**

Officially being admitted as an attorney. The journey was gruesome yet absolutely worth it. I met some amazing colleagues, shed tears, worked late nights, unlocked doors traditionally shut, rose to the occasion and really owned my strengths.

**In what way do you think beauty pageants are still relevant today?**

They showcase not only the beauty of woman but also the tenacity and overwhelming confidence in their diversity. In a world where woman are still being stripped of the rights and dignity, I believe that platforms that are courageous and brazen in advocating for woman are necessary to our shared communities.

**What is your message to young girls and young women in South Africa?**

We have a long way to go. Take up that spear. The challenges that face woman daily are still prevalent in our society. Laws and regulations seldom change attitudes. It is our responsibility to make more progress for our young girls.

**What do you love about South Africa?**

South Africa has always been a resilient country, we laugh through the pain and embrace each other despite differences. Ubuntu permeates in everything we do and it can be seen in times of collective strife. We are an ambitious, loving, self-deprecating and steadfast country and I am more than proud to call this home. I also love South Africa's ability to allow others to call this home with open arms.

**What is one thing you would like to change about South Africa?**

What has always made South Africa great, has been the ability to stand together and fight the inequalities and those determined to destroy our paradise. If I could change anything, it would be to reinforce patriotism. South Africans need to be prouder and firmer about their country and their origins.

**2020 and 2021 have been extraordinary years and difficult for people around the globe. Do you see any positives in what has happened in the past 18 months?**

As difficult as it's been for all nations, the past 18 months have been revolutionary for all human beings. This has definitely been a test of the wills and a lesson in appreciating the smallest of aspects in our lives. The pandemic has taught us to love harder because tomorrow is not promised, to forgive freely because letting go requires less energy than holding on to hurt, to connect more because moments are things to treasure and not avoid.

**If you won the Miss South Africa crown and was able to meet one person, who would it be and why?**

I would love to meet Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng. I admire his passion for upholding the rule law and for paving the way for a constitutional South Africa.

**What is the one thing people would be surprised to know about you?**

I am actually real goofy.

**What is the No 1 piece of advice that you would give to your younger self?**

Do something every day that scares you. Focusing on others' concerns and not on what will edify my mind, soul and spirit are counterproductive to self-growth, self-awareness and self-love.

**QUICKFIRE QUESTIONS**

**Describe yourself in three words:**

Empathetic, graceful, independent

**What's the best advice you can give in exactly four words?**

True humility fosters selflessness.

**Who's your favourite designer and why?**

The fashion house of Quiteria Atelier has always been able to fuse innovation, sophistication and elegance in their clothing.

**You have to give up one of these? Handbags or shoes?**

Shoes. I would rather run around bare foot with my entire life in my handbag.

**What is one thing that we would not know about you just by looking at you?**

I can sometimes be a bit untidy.

**What would be your dream holiday?**

A holiday that allows me to see the world for growth and enlightenment and for a greater understanding of other cultures.

**If you could have any superhuman power, what would it be?**

The power to be invisible.

**What are you reading?**

*We Should All Be Feminists* by Chimamanda Nogzi Adichie

**What music are you listening to?**

Old school R'n'B

**What are your favourite TV shows?**

*My Kitchen Rules*, *Banged up Abroad* and *The Fixer*. I am currently binge watching my all-time favourite *Ugly Betty*.

**What is your favourite meal?**

Junk food. I am blessed to have a fast metabolism

**Who is your local and international celeb crush?**

Local is Thapelo Mokoena and international is Devon Franklin.

**What's your guilty pleasure?**

Eating dessert before dinner.

**Social media tags:**

- Facebook: Kgathiso Tyra Modisane
- Instagram: @missmodisane
- Twitter: @missmodisane1