

# Politics in Lesotho

Lesotho is a democratic and sovereign nation. Originally named Basutoland, the nation gained its independence from Britain and became the Kingdom of Lesotho in 1966. The government of Lesotho takes the form of a constitutional monarchy. The role of the monarchy is ceremonial as the monarch does not hold executive authority. The Prime Minister is the head of the government as well as head of the armed forces. The Lesotho parliament consists of an elected National Assembly and an appointed Senate. The country is divided into ten administrative districts: Berea, Butha-Buthe, Leribe, Mafeteng, Maseru, Mohale's Hoek, Mokhotlong, Qacha's Nek, Quthing, and Thaba-Tseka.



Lesotho's national flag is blue, white, and green. It features a black "mokorotlo", a Basotho hat, in the centre. The upper blue band symbolizes the sky and rain, the middle white band symbolizes peace, and the lower green band signifies the land of Lesotho.



The current reigning king of Lesotho is King Letsie III. He became king in 1990 when his father, Moshoeshe II, was forced into exile. His father was restored in 1995, but died in a car crash in 1996, so Letsie III became king again. King Letsie III married Anna Karabo Mots'oeneng in 2000. They have three children: Princess Mary Senate Mohato Seeiso, Princess 'M'aSeeiso, and Prince Lerotholi David Mohato Bereng Seeiso.



King and Queen Letsie III of Lesotho