



The AFREPRENUER

SHINING THE SPOTLIGHT ON AFRICAN TALENT

Dr. LEAH MATSINHA (PhD)

Award winning Chemistry Expert

FEATURE ARTICLE

*Never The Twain Meet:
Business and Personal
Finances*

Editor's Note

A few weeks back, I had a conversation with a colleague who has never been to Africa. She wanted to know if Africa has the beautiful Safari's and majestic animals that she always saw on TV. At first, I thought what a funny question, but after careful consideration, I realised it was an opportunity for me to tell the African story. By the time I finished, she was ready to dive onto the next plane to Africa. There is power in telling your story, whenever the opportunity presents itself take full advantage.

This August, we join South Africa in celebrating women's month, and applaud all women for the role they are playing in building and shaping societies. The ever-increasing number of African women rising against the odds and changing the status quo continues to inspire me. My message to all women is; speak up and tell your story, someone is waiting to hear the words you have to say.

Happy Women's Months!



Grace Mazunga
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF & DESIGNER



WOMEN'S DAY

"Celebrating every phenomenal woman out there. You are special and beautiful in every language."

To the mother, sister, daughter, friend and every other role in between today as we salute you.

Keep on shining, and rising against the odds. The future is in your hands!"





Dr. Leah Matsinha (PhD)

Dr Leah Matsinha holds a PhD in Chemistry awarded from the University of Cape Town. She has received several awards for her contribution in the field of Chemistry. The most recent award is that she is the recipient of the 2020 Royal Society funded Future Leaders: African Independent Researcher (FLAIR) £300 000 Grant. The FLAIR fellowship is a prestigious research grant awarded to young researchers to research in sub-Saharan Africa.

Dr Leah's research project focuses on finding alternative fuels that are cheaper and cleaner energy sources for Africa. The project seeks to convert cheap readily available glycerol (obtained as a by-product during biodiesel production) and use biological and chemical transformations to produce fuels which can be used for cooking. She is very passionate about this research area because it affects a significant number of women in Africa who depend on firewood for cooking daily, particularly in rural areas. Using wood comes with several disadvantages that include deforestation and health effects such as eye irritation, lung diseases due to smoke inhalation, hypertension and even heart problems. The alternative is usually paraffin or LP gas; however, both are generally beyond the means for most of the underprivileged households.

In addition, this grant also provides much needed financial support to conduct research, mentorship and help young researchers establish international collaborations with renowned international researchers. The goal is to equip fellows to take up the mantle of Future African Leaders with an ability to bring about positive change and development in their respective communities. In line with this, Dr Leah currently works with young women in her lab and hopes to impart the knowledge she has acquired over the years to these students so that one day they too can be change-makers.

Throughout her studies and career, she has published several journals, including a book chapter in internationally reputable peer-reviewed journals.

Dr Leah completed her postdoctoral research fellowship in 2019 at the University of Johannesburg and is currently a lecturer and researcher at the same university. Throughout her studies and career, she has published several journals, including a book chapter in internationally reputable peer-reviewed journals. Dr Leah has presented her research work at various international chemistry conferences in Portugal, Singapore, China, Italy, and the Netherlands. She is a member of the Catalysis Society of South Africa (CATSA), South African Chemical Institute (SACI) and South African Council of Natural Scientific Professionals (SACNASP).

When she is not mixing chemicals in the laboratory, she loves to spend time in the kitchen, making meals for her family. Next on her academic journey is a plan to enrol for law school, imagine that! I guess it is safe to say we have a Dr Advocate Matsinha in the making. She looks to the future with bright determination and her zeal for learning and development is one from which many of us can take valuable notes.

PUBLICATIONS

https://scholar.google.com/scholar?as_ylo=2020&q=leah+matsinha&hl=en&as_sdt=0,5

AWARDS

- Recipient of the 2020 Royal Society funded Future Leaders African Independent Researcher (FLAIR) £300 000 Grant.

<https://www.aasciences.africa/news/recipients-2020-flair-fellowships-announced>

- Recipient of the 2018 Arthur E. Martell Early Career Researcher Prize.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/00958972.2019.1595470?journalCode=gcoo20>

- Winner of the 2015 Canon Collins Impact Award.

<https://www.canoncollins.org.uk/alumni/meet-our-alumni/leah-matsinha>

- Winner of the South African Women in Science Award (2013).

https://www.dst.gov.za/images/Women_in_Science_Awards_in_2013.pdf

REFER A CLIENT AND EARN

**Commission
10%**



- Churches
- Hospitals
- Nurseries
- Child Care centres
- Schools E.T.C

Email us on:
info@cleanlivingsa.com

Visit our site on
www.cleanlivingsa.com

Email us on info@cleanlivingsa.com for more information (T&C Apply)

NEVER THE TWAIN SHALL MEET

Business and Personal Finances

BY LINDSAY NYASANGO

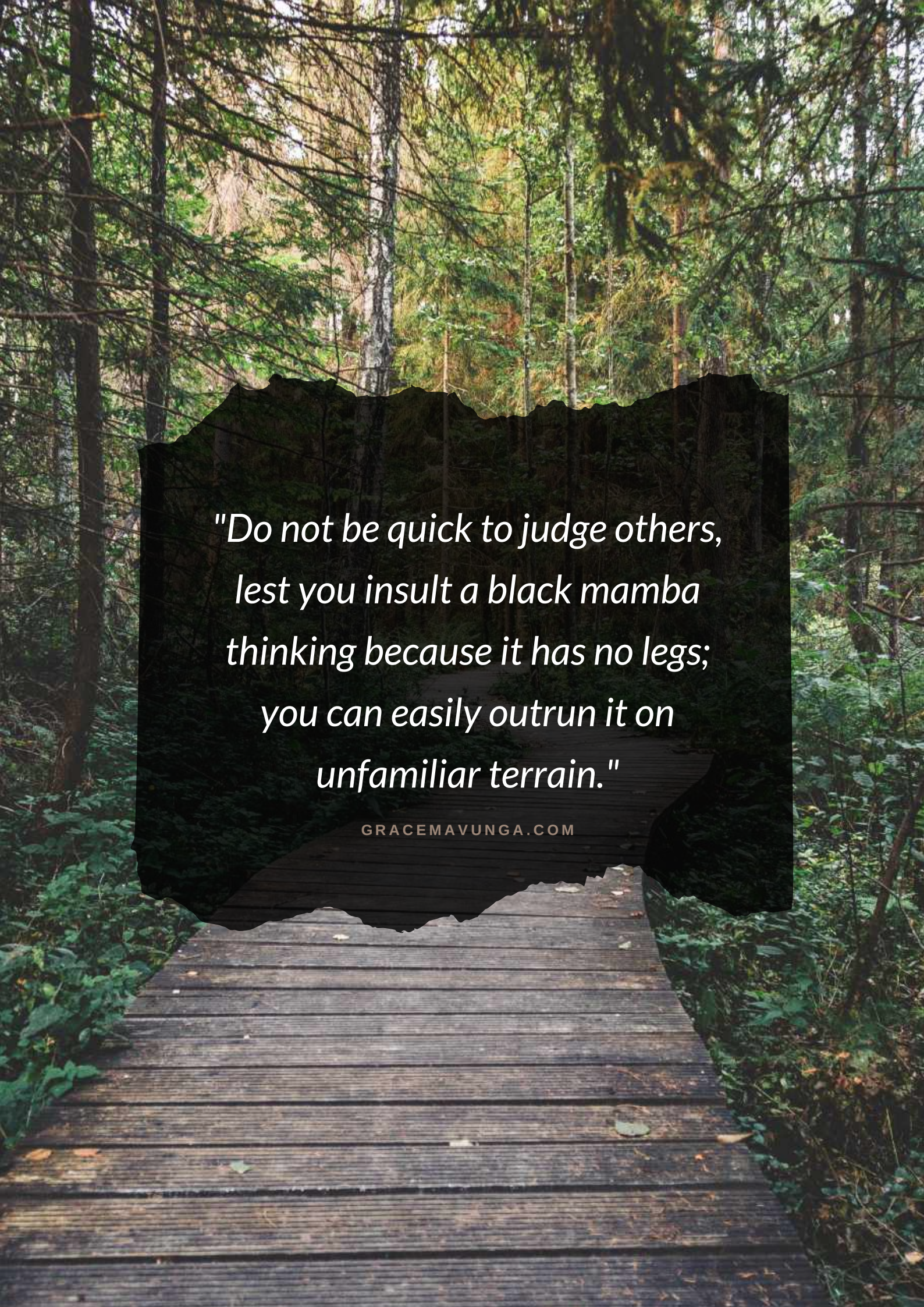


When one sets up a business they hope that it will make a profit and that it will be able provide enough to take care of their financial needs. However, the number one mistake that I have seen with new entrepreneurs and even some seasoned ones is that they mix business finances with personal finances. The business may have cash flows but it doesn't equate to the owner having cash. Let's not forget that business is a separate legal entity and therefore distinct from its owners. Suppose your business is making good cash flows, it's common for some people to use that money as and when it flows in. You will find some entrepreneurs buying home groceries, paying school fees, fueling personal vehicles and just treating company cash flows like a bottomless well full of water.

They then struggle to restock their business, buy raw materials or maintain their equipment. Others even fail to pay employees on time because they have used up all the cash. This is prevalent in large companies as well as in small sole trader businesses. Below are suggestions on how to remedy this.

- Obtain separate bank accounts, one for business and another for personal or household use. Cash received for the business should be banked the next day and must not be mixed with household cash
- As a business owner, pay yourself together with the other employees at the end of the month or fortnightly. Pay yourself a decent wage in relation to your business not a wage that you think you deserve because you are a director. The owners wage should not cripple the operations of the company.
- Prioritize reinvesting in your business and not spending all profits on yourself or family. Restock your business, grow your asset base, maintain your equipment and have a plan for scaling operations.
- Understand the difference between cashflow and profit. The business may be cash rich but is it making a profit. A business owner needs proper record keeping in order to analyse expenses and income correctly and to determine whether the business is making a profit or not.
- This all hinges on self-discipline. An entrepreneur must be disciplined enough to delay gratification, to keep your hands away from the business purse whenever you have a need. Put limits and systems in place such that you are accountable to someone and they can assist you in keeping away from that money.
- Educate your family on what you are trying to achieve, how you are running the business so that they walk this journey with you in understanding. The result is, your spouse doesn't expect to take money from the business at any time because they understand that the family finances and business finances are separate. You need to manage your family's expectations by making them aware of the business philosophy that you have adopted. Teach your children what it means to run a successful business, the difference between cash and profit and the importance of reinvesting in that business. Children learn best from their parents.

As an entrepreneur, establish your business with the future in mind. You have to feed the golden goose for it to lay the golden eggs. If you keep taking eggs without feeding the goose, it will not produce more eggs in the future and will eventually die.



*"Do not be quick to judge others,
lest you insult a black mamba
thinking because it has no legs;
you can easily outrun it on
unfamiliar terrain."*

GRACEMAVUNGA.COM

LETS CONNECT



+974 5023 6445



@theafreprenuer



ghmavunga@krafts4success.com



gracemavunga.com/the-afreprenuer