

Pupils in moot court adventure contest

Two bright and articulate high school students aim to put province on the map in international competition

GRACE BOLOWANA

TWO Free State high school pupils are living their dreams while taking part in an international moot court competition in the Netherlands.

The two pupils, Malefu Mokone, 16, a Grade 11 pupil from Harrismith Secondary School, and Palesa Ramanamane, 17, a Grade 12 pupil from Eunice High School For Girls were chosen to take part in the international competition after winning a national competition in South Africa in August 2013.

Participants came from high schools from all over South Africa.

They left the country on January 18 to take part in the International Moot Court Competition currently under way in the Netherlands.

The competition began on January 19 and ends this Saturday.

Before leaving the country Ramanamane told The New Age that preparing for the competition had involved "intensive work".

"It's a lot of hard work, I am still researching even now, Ramanamane said at the time.

The purpose of the competition is to promote the South African Constitution and its values.

It also aims to teach pupils about human rights on an international level.



COOLAND CONFIDENT: Palesa Ramanamane is participating in an International Court Competition. PICTURE: BEEKERS/SEMELA

Ramanamane said she was not only aiming to win the competition in the Netherlands but she was also intending to learn

and explore different things while she was in the Netherlands.

She said before the fun and

games that came with the experience of travelling overseas, she intended using the opportunity to widen her horizons

and learn as much as she could about other cultures.

She said she would use the opportunity to learn from dif-

ferent people from different countries.

The national competition that Mokone and Ramanamane took part in was organised by the University of Pretoria's Law Faculty, the Department of Basic Education and the Free State department of education.

The Justice Resource Centre in New York in partnership with the City Hall of Hague is offering high school pupils the opportunity to engage in civic education with other pupils and judicial pupils from around the world.

Ramanamane said what fascinated her about law was how many rules there were in it.

"Just when you think you have learnt enough, you realise that you do not really know that much," she said.

She said her fascination with law came from observing that the law was "not just black and white - there are shades of grey, purple and blue in there too".

The two Free State pupils have been competing against 15 teams from other countries, including teams from the US, The Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Venezuela and others.

It is as clear as a daylight that this intelligent and outspoken young lady will make South Africa proud in both this competition and in her future endeavours.

provinces@thenewage.co.za