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Personal Information Born July 30, 1991 (33 years) Birth Place Pretoria, Transvaal Height -- Role WK-Batsman Batting Style Right Handed Bat Bowling Style Right-arm offbreak ICC Rankings Test ODI T20 Batting -- -- -- Bowling -- -- -- Career Information Teams South Africa, Titans, South African Invitation XI, South Africa A, Nelson Mandela Bay Stars, Rajasthan Royals, Durban Heat, Royal Challengers Bengaluru, Toronto Nationals, Glasgow Giants, Tshwane Spartans, Guyana Amazon Warriors, Durban Super Giants, Sunrisers Hyderabad, Seattle Orcas, Oval Invincibles, Saint Lucia Kings The 33-year-old announced on Monday that he would be stepping away from the white-ball formats, which follows his retirement from red-ball cricket in 2024. Klaasen made his One-Day International (ODI) and T20 International (T20I) debuts in the summer of 2018, and went on to establish himself as one of the most destructive white-ball players of his generation. He has played 60 ODIs and amassed over 2 000 runs at an average of just under 44 in the middle order. His power-hitting prowess was on full display during a blistering career-best 174 against Australia at his home ground, SuperSport Park, in 2023 - the second highest score ever recorded by a number five. Renowned for his dominance against spin, Klaasen also represented South Africa in 58 T20Is, striking at a rate of 141.84. His ability to take on bowling attacks with calculated aggression made him a mainstay in South Africa's limited-overs setup. Klaasen said: "It is a sad day for me as I announce that I have decided to step away from international cricket. It took me a long time to decide what's best for me and my family for the future. It was truly a very difficult decision but also one that I have absolute peace with. "From the first day, it was the biggest privilege representing my country and it was everything that I have worked for and dreamed about as a young boy. "I have made great friendships and relationships that I will treasure for life. Playing for the Proteas gave me the opportunity to meet great people that changed my life, and to those people I can't say thank you enough. My road to wearing the Proteas shirt was different than most and there were certain coaches in my career that kept believing in me - to them I will always be grateful. "To have played with the Proteas badge on my chest was and will always be the biggest honour in my career. "I look forward to spending more time with my family as this decision will allow me to do so. "I will always be a big Proteas supporter and would like to thank everyone that supported me and my teammates during my career." Director of National Teams and High Performance, Enoch Nkwe said: "Heinrich has been a true match-winner for South Africa. He was a player capable of changing the course of a game in a matter of overs. His commitment and impact in the white-ball formats have been immense, and we thank him for his outstanding service to South African cricket. "He has been transparent with Cricket South Africa throughout the past few months, and we fully respect his decision to retire from international cricket. We wish him continued success in the next chapter of his journey." CSA Chief Executive Officer, Pholetsi Moseki added: "Heinrich has been a fantastic ambassador for South African cricket, both on and off the field. His performances in the green and gold have brought joy to many South Africans, and his legacy will undoubtedly inspire the next generation. "We thank him for his contributions over the years and wish him everything of the best for the future." (Catch all the Business News, Breaking News, Budget 2025 Events and Latest News Updates on The Economic Times), Subscribe to The Economic Times Prime and read the ET ePaper online. The 33-year-old, who called time on his Test career in 2024, said he would be stepping away from international white-ball formats having played 60 ODIs and 58 T20Is.He made his ODI and T20I debuts in the home summer of 2018, and went on to establish himself as one of the most destructive white-ball players of his generation. Klaasen amassed 2 141 runs in the 50-over format that included four centuries and 11 fifties at a strike-rate of 117.05, his highest score being 174 against Australia at his home ground in Centurion in 2023.He also scored 1 000 runs in T20Is, striking at a rate of 141.84, with his ability to take on bowling attacks with calculated aggression making him a mainstay in the Proteas' limited-overs setup. The decision to retire is not entirely a surprise after he was not announced in CSA's list of nationally contracted players in April as he looks to prioritise playing in T20 leagues around the world.Klaasen said in a statement: "It is a sad day for me as I announce that I have decided to step away from international cricket. It took me a long time to decide whatÄe™s best for me and my family for the future."It was truly a very difficult decision but also one that I have absolute peace with. From the first day, it was the biggest privilege representing my country and it was everything that I have worked for and dreamed about as a young boy."I have made great friendships and relationships that I will treasure for life. Playing for the Proteas gave me the opportunity to meet great people that changed my life, and to those people I can't say thank you enough."My road to wearing the Proteas shirt was different than most and there were certain coaches in my career that kept believing in me - to them I will always be grateful."To have played with the Proteas badge on my chest was and will always be the biggest honour in my career. I look forward to spending more time with my family as this decision will allow me to do so."I will always be a big Proteas supporter and would like to thank everyone that supported me and my teammates during my career."CSA director of national teams and high performance, Enoch Nkwe said: "Heinrich has been a true match-winner for South Africa. He was a player capable of changing the course of a game in a matter of overs."His commitment and impact in the white-ball formats have been immense, and we thank him for his outstanding service to South African cricket."He has been transparent with Cricket South Africa throughout the past few months, and we fully respect his decision to retire from international cricket. We wish him continued success in the next chapter of his journey." South Africa's Heinrich Klaasen walks after losing his wicket against England during ICC Cricket World Cup 2023, Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai, India, October 21, 2023. — Reuters South Africa wicketkeeper-batter Heinrich Klaasen, who made his debut in 2018, on Monday announced his retirement from international cricket.The 33-year-old cricketer took to social media to share the news, calling it a deeply emotional yet peaceful decision. "It is a sad day for me as I announce that I have decided to step away from international cricket," Klaasen wrote. "It took me a long time to decide what's best for me and my family for the future. It was truly a very difficult decision but also one that I have absolute peace with."Klaasen reflected on his international journey, describing it as the fulfillment of a lifelong dream. "From day one, it was the biggest privilege representing my country. It was everything I had worked for and dreamed about as a young boy," he added.The wicketkeeper-batter, who featured in 122 internationals for the Proteas, felt gratitude towards his coaches during his cricketing journey."I have made great friendships and relationships that I will treasure for life. Playing for the Proteas gave me the opportunity to meet incredible people who changed my life. I can't thank them enough. My road to wearing the Proteas shirt was different from most, and there were certain coaches who continued to believe in me — to them, I'll always be grateful."Klaasen stated that the main reason for his retirement was to spend more time with his family."I look forward to spending more time with my family, and this decision will allow me to do so. I will always be a big Proteas supporter and would like to thank everyone who supported me and my teammates throughout my career." Heinrich Klaasen made his international debut in 2018 during an ODI series against India and went on to represent South Africa across all three formats over a seven-year career.ODIs proved to be his most successful format, where he played 60 matches and scored 2,141 runs at an average of 43.69 and an impressive strike rate of 117.05, including four centuries and 11 half-centuries. Among his standout performances was a blistering 174 off just 83 balls against Australia at Centurion in 2023 — the highest individual score by any batter at No 5 in ODI history.In T20Is, Klaasen featured in 58 matches, amassing 1,000 runs at a strike rate of 141.84, with five half-centuries to his name.Klaasen had earlier retired from Tests in January 2024, having featured in four games in the longest format, scoring 104 runs at an average of 13.00.The wicketkeeper batter last played for South Africa in March this year during the ICC Champions Trophy semifinal against New Zealand. He was dismissed for just three runs off seven balls, as the Proteas lost the match by 50 runs.