

21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL  
JUDGES'  
CONFERENCE



# THE JUDICIARY INSIDER

Issue 12 | January 2019

## Special sessions for sexual and gender cases

**788 Sexual and Gender Based Violence  
cases cleared in 40 days**



Key highlights for the  
year 2018

21st Annual Judges'  
Conference - Concept

Ben Kiwanuka Memorial  
Lecture rekindles fond  
memories



*Top representatives of the Executive, Legislature and the Judiciary at the 2018 Opening of the New Law Year event at the Judiciary headquarters in Kampala on January 29, 2018. The event is a State function.*



*Top representatives of the Executive, Legislature and the Judiciary at the 2018 Opening of the New Law Year event at the Judiciary headquarters in Kampala on January 29, 2018. The event is a State function.*



*Justice and Constitutional Affairs Minister, Kahinda Otafiire, is joined by Justice, Law and Order Sector stakeholders at the commissioning of Mitooma Justice Centres on August 30, 2018.*



*The Principal Judge, Dr. Yorokamu Bamwine, inspects an inmates' food stall at Luzira Prison Complex during a hands-on Plea Bargain training on May 2, 2018. Looking on is the Commissioner (Custodial Sentences), Robert Munanura.*



*High Court Judge (Judiciary Projects/Execution & Bailiffs Division), Gadenya Paul Wolimbwa, displays the Sudreau Global Justice Award 2018 that he received in recognition of his contribution to the Justice Sector in Uganda, June 21, 2018.*



*Secretary to Judiciary, Kagole Expedito Kivumbi, in a candid talk with Judiciary senior management staff during a team building exercise at the High Court Gardens in Kampala on September 6, 2018.*



# The best is yet to come



The New Year is a time for looking back and for looking forward. Some people make resolutions to break bad habits, create new ones or maintain existing ones.

The editorial team of *The Judiciary Insider* also has a resolution it intends to keep: we promise to continue to keep you updated of all events that take place in the Judiciary with a view to keep you informed.

In this edition, we take stock of what has made news throughout the year to share in this comprehensive edition. Thanks to you, the Judiciary has surpassed 66,000 likes on *Facebook*, gained over 1,000 followers on Instagram and 5,500 followers on *Twitter*.

We plan to make 2019 even better! Your feedback, constructive criticism, and, above all, your readership, have proven invaluable in our mission to produce the best news site possible.

On behalf of the whole editorial team, we wish you, your family and friends the very best of 2019!

Cheers

*Solomon Muyita*  
Senior Communications Officer /Editor

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*President Yoweri Museveni at the opening of the 20th Annual Judges' Conference at the Munyonyo Commonwealth Resort in Kampala on January 21, 2018.*

# 21st Annual Judges' Conference - Concept

## Background

The Judiciary of Uganda will hold its 21st Annual Judges Conference 2019 Serena Hotel, Kampala for the period of 28th to 31st January 2019. The Annual Judges Conference is conducted every calendar year to give opportunity to the Judiciary to assess its performance in relation to the mandate of the institution as enshrined in the Constitution and the National Laws of Uganda.

Assessing compliance with the given mandate is a very crucial aspect of the Annual Judges Conference in relation to the schedule of duties and key performance indicators of the Judiciary at the various levels as set out in the Ministerial Policy Statement for each financial year.

At this forum, the strengths, weaknesses and opportunities of the institution are analyzed in

order to come up with solutions and recommendations aimed at improved performance, efficiency and effectiveness.

### Conference theme

The theme of conference is “**Judicial Ethics, Integrity and Accountability: A Precondition for Improved Access to Justice and Sustainable Development**”. This is in line with the United Nations Sustainable

Development Goals (SDGs), 2015 which are aimed at having an equally developed world by the year 2030. This is in tandem with the Second National Development Plan of Uganda (NDP II). Goal 16 of the UN SDGs makes provision for promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all, building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.



## General objective

To strengthen compliance with judicial ethics and devise means of improving integrity and accountability for sustainable access to justice for all persons in Uganda.

## Specific Objectives

The specific objectives of the Conference are to:

1. Assess the nexus between Judicial Independence, Ethics and Accountability.
2. Examine the impact of unethical conduct on judicial performance, access to justice, social and economic development, and recommend appropriate remedies.
3. Evaluate the performance of courts for the year 2018 and devise means of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Judiciary.
4. Strengthen judicial integrity and minimize opportunities for judicial corruption.

## Rationale

According to the Inspector General of Government Bi-Annual Report (July – December 2017), the Judiciary of Uganda is still ranked among the corrupt Government institutions. This is due to failure to comply with the set standards which are aimed at promoting integrity, judicial ethics and accountability. The Judiciary of Uganda has a Code of Conduct which emphasizes the principles of integrity, independence, impartiality, competence, propriety and equality. However, loopholes have been detected several times in respect of compliance with the set standards. Real and perceived corruption have portrayed a bad image on the future of the Uganda Judiciary.

Uganda is a state party to and ratified the United Nations Convention against Corruption on 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2004.

Article 11 of the said Convention provides for measures relating to the Judiciary and Prosecution Services as follows –

“Bearing in mind the independence of the Judiciary and its crucial role in combating corruption, each State Party shall, in accordance with the fundamental principles of its legal system and without prejudice to judicial independence, take measures to strengthen integrity and to prevent opportunities for corruption among the members. Such measures may include rules with respect to the conduct of the members of the Judiciary”.

Given the above provisions of the convention, it is very important that the theme of the Annual Judges Conference is premised on strengthening judicial independence, integrity and accountability in order to minimize and combat opportunities for corruption.

In same respect, Uganda as a Member of the UN is mandated to ensure that the sustainable Development Goals are achieved by 2030. Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides as follows:-

“Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”.

The above stated goal is aimed at having strong Justice Institutions which are accountable to the people by maintaining ethical behavior and upholding integrity as a bedrock for the administration of justice.

The negative effects of unethical conduct and lack of integrity lead to undesirable results. This is a major reason why the United Nations Office on Drugs

and Crime (UNODC) has stated that corruption in the Justice system whether actual or perceived poses a real threat to confidence in the rule of law. Therefore, boosting judicial integrity is an important aspect of preventing corruption in the Justice system.

According to the UN Report on Sustainable Development 2018; corruption, bribery, theft and tax evasion cost some USD 1.26 trillion for developing countries per year. This corroborates the East African Bribery Index 2014 which revealed that corruption in the Judiciary had soared from 27.9% to 39.8% in 2013. The above UN Report further reported that almost one in five firms worldwide report receiving at least one bribery payment request when engaged in regulatory matters. The amount of money lost in such unethical behavior and conduct could be used to lift those who are living on less than USD 1.25 a day.

Lack of integrity and ethics breeds corruption which undermines the rule of law, leads to violation of human rights, enhances organized crime and negatively impacts on judicial performance, access to justice, social and economic development.

## Topics

**1. Keynote Address:** “The Role of Judicial Officers in upholding the law, values, norms and aspirations of the people in accordance with Article 126 (1) of the Constitution”.

**Proposed Presenter: Professor Fredrick Edward Ssempebwa.**

2. The applicability of the Bangalore Principles in the Ugandan Judiciary as a tool for improving judicial ethics and accountability:

**Hon. Rtd. Justice James Ogoola.**

3. The Relevance and enforcement of the Judicial Code of Conduct, Public Service



**Annual Judges Conference opening ceremony: (L-R) Hon. Dr. Yorokamu Bamwine (Principal Judge), Hon. Bart M. Katureebe (Chief Justice), Hon. Stella Arach-Amoko (Chairperson JTI Governing Council) and Hon. Dr. Henry Peter Adonyo (ED, JTI)**

Code of Conduct and the Leadership Code Act to Judicial Officers: **The Inspector General of Government Hon. Justice Irene Kakooza Mulyagonja.**

4. Exploring the Efficiency and Effectiveness of the Judicial Service Commission in strengthening ethics and integrity in the Uganda Judiciary: **Hon. Justice Benjamin Kabiito, the Chairman, Judicial Service Commission.**

5. Bolstering Anti-Corruption Mechanisms and Judicial Independence: The Applicability of the Global Judicial Integrity Network in Uganda: **Commissioner Ruth Sebatindira.**

6. The Linkage between Judicial Independence, Immunity and Accountability under the Uganda Judicial System: **Prof. Justice Lillian Tibatemwa Ekirikubinza.**

7. Strengthening Integrity and Accountability under the Judiciary Anti-Corruption

tion Action Plan: **Hon. Justice Rubby Opio-Aweri.**

8. Technological Aspects of Improving and Strengthening Judicial Integrity, Impartiality and Elimination of Corruption: **Hon. Justice Geoffrey Kiryabwire, Chairperson, Technology Committee.**

9. Integrity and Crime Prevention in the Justice System: The Role of the various Justice Duty Bearers: **Panel: The DPP, The President Uganda Law Society, Director CIID and LASPNET.**

10. Fostering Judicial Independence through Planning, Budgeting and Financial Resource Allocation: **Permanent Secretary/ Secretary to the Treasury**

11. Retirement Planning from the Civil Service Perspective: **Commissioner Pensions, Ministry of Public Service.**

### Expected Outputs of the Conference

By the end, the following output is expected:

1. Proper understanding of the nexus between Judicial Independence, Ethics and Accountability.
2. Appropriate remedies developed to address the impact of unethical conduct on judicial performance, access to justice, social and economic development.
3. Performance of courts for the year 2018 evaluated and means of improving efficiency and effectiveness of the Judiciary devised.
4. Judicial integrity strengthened and opportunities for judicial corruption minimized.

### Chief Guest at the Judges Conference

H.E The President, will be the Chief Guest of the Judges Conference 2019.



# Judiciary highlights for the year 2018

From the appointment of new Judicial Officers to celebrating the legacy of former Chief Justice Ben Kiwanuka, the Judiciary Insider takes a look at the news stories that defined the Judiciary in the year 2018.

## January

### IJM Spearheads Court Registry Reorganization

On January 30, 2018 a team from IJM met with Court of Appeal Justice, Hon. Justice Geoffrey Kiryabwire to agree on a roadmap of the reorganization of the court's registry. The Deputy Chief Justice designated Hon. Justice Kiryabwire to coordinate the project.

As part of the initiatives to clean up the registry, IJM will help the judiciary digitize court registries. For a start, IJM will reorganize the registries of Court of Appeal, Family Division and Mbale High Court to make them more functional and eventually spread out to other courts.



### Murder dominates Iganga Court Session

Hon. Justice Michael Elubu started a month-long High Court criminal session where 40 cases were disposed.

The session handled offences that go as far back as 2010. Of the 40 cases handled, 15 were murder cases, 13 are Aggravated Defilement, seven Aggravated Robbery and five are Rape cases.

### Judiciary cautions on court demonstrations

On January 3, 2018, a group of protesters donned in yellow shirts stormed the High Court's Civil Division in Kampala protesting the subjecting of the Speaker Parliament Rebecca Kadaga to a court process.

The action prompted the institution to issue a press release calling the act an unwarranted direct affront on the

independence of the Judiciary which is protected by the Constitution. In the release, (then) Chief Registrar, Gadenya Paul Wolimbwa, said, "We find it callous for litigants to organize crowds to try and undermine judicial independence. If we want to be governed by the rule of law, then we must allow institutions to operate and that is why the Constitution provides for the courts.



## Speaker pledges to support Administration of Judiciary Bill

**O**n January 29, 2018, the Judiciary held the opening of the New Law Year event – a state function at which it publicly gives accountability about the previous year and makes promises for the New Year. At the event, Speaker of Parliament, Rebecca Kadaga promised to support the Judiciary Administration Bill if it was tabled on the floor of Parliament.

The core object of this Bill is to operationalize provisions of the Constitution relating to the Judiciary administration of justice, improve efficiency and effectiveness of the courts, strengthen the independence of courts and streamline the administration of courts. Deputy Attorney General, Mwesigwa Rukutana told the gathering of the legal minds that Cabinet had discussed and passed the Judiciary Administration Bill and that it had been forwarded to Parliament for debate.

In his remarks, Chief Justice Bart Katureebe revealed that in September, the Judiciary would celebrate the life and achievements



of the first black Chief Justice of Uganda, late Benedicto Kiwanuka, who was dragged from the High Court building and murdered during the reign of the then President Idi Amin.

Indeed, the Judiciary in September celebrated the life of Kiwanuka with his statue erected at the High Court building. Some of the achievements registered in the previous year as pointed out by the CJ included; increased disposal rate of cases and a number of reforms aimed at

enhancing the administration of justice. The other achievements of the 2017 that the CJ boasted of was the increased use of the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in civil cases and plea bargaining in criminal cases that he said have ensured timely adjudication of the cases.

The then president of the Uganda Law Society, Francis Gimara, called upon the Judiciary to use the available resources to administer justice to Ugandans this new law year.

## February

### Editorial Board plans for the year

**T**he Judiciary Editorial Board started the year in high gear by unveiling the draft Communication Strategy for the Judiciary. In its first meeting of the year, the Board was set to conduct a stakeholder meeting to review the Strategy. The Board Chairperson, Hon. Lady Justice Lydia Mugambe, said in the February 23, 2018 meeting at the High Court in Kampala, that renowned media consultant, Dr. Peter G. Mwesige of the African Centre for Media Excellence, was identified to lead the Strategy review meeting. The Board also reviewed some of the IEC materials developed for different courts as well as considering content for the next Judiciary Insider magazine, among other things.







## 10 High Court Judges appointed, six elevated



**President Yoweri Museveni with a team of newly appointed Justices of the Supreme Court (2), Court of Appeal (4) and Judges of the High Court (10), at the State House in Entebbe, March 23, 2018.**

The biggest highlight in the month of February was the appointment of 14 judges to the Court of Appeal and the High Court respectively by President Museveni, a move that was aimed at filling the existing gaps in the Courts of Judicature that existed at the time.

Those justices who were elevated/appointed to the Court of Appeal

include; Christopher Madrama, Stephen Musota, Percy Tuhaise and Justice Ezekiel Muhanguzi who had retired as a High Court judge upon clocking 65 years of age a few month prior.

Those appointed to the High Court Bench included; then Chief Registrar, Mr.Gadenya Paul Wolimbwa, Chief Magistrate Joyce Kavuma, deputy registrars; Olive Kazaarwe

Mukwaya, Alex Ajiji, Tadeo Asiimwe and Emmanuel Baguma.

Others were; High Court advocate Musa Sekaana, Richard Wabwire, state attorney, Ms. Jane Abodo, and Ms. Cornelia Sabiiti, the former executive director of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Authority (PPDA).

## Judiciary Signs MoU with UK Government

The Judiciary signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United Kingdom Government aimed at consolidating Uganda's efforts in fighting corruption. The British Government's Department for International Development (DFID) through Strengthening Uganda's Anti-Corruption Response (SUGAR) project, agreed to provide US\$500,000 (about Shs2b) to automate the Anti-Corruption Division of the High Court, the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court. The Hon. the Chief Justice, Hon. Justice Bart M. Katu-reebe and the Secretary to Judiciary Mr. Kagole Expedito Kivumbi signed the MoU on behalf of the Judiciary while H.E. the British High Commissioner to Uganda H.E. Peter West signed on behalf of Britain.





## Justice Tibatemwa elected to the ICJ

Hon. Lady Justice Prof. Lillian Tibatemwa Ekirikubinza, a Justice of the Supreme Court was elected to the International Commission of Jurists for a five-year term.

This followed an International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) ballot conducted in December 2017 and January 2018. Hon. Lady Justice Prof. Ekirikubinza was elected

together with seven other re-known Judges from across the globe.

Hon. Lady Justice Prof. Ekirikubinza joined two other women from Africa, Hon. Lady Justice Qinisile Mabuza from Swaziland and Hon. Lady Justice Yvonne Mokgoro who was the first black woman to serve on the bench in South Africa.

## Judiciary holds human trafficking conference

The Judiciary held a two-day Anti human Trafficking Conference where the Judiciary urged the government and other stakeholders to get interested in who traffics children from the Karamoja sub region and brings them to the city, which is many miles away. Uganda is a source, transit and destination point for victims of trafficking in persons. There are several pull and push factors that cause the trafficking in persons like rampant unemployment, poverty, high population growth and poor systems of education.



### March

## CJ on case backlog reduction tour in Malaysia

The Chief Justice, Hon. Bart M. Katureebe, led a delegation of Justice Law and Order Sector actors on a week-long bench-marking Case Backlog Reduction tour in Malaysia. The Chief Justice, who was accompanied by Hon. Justices, Richard Buteera (Supreme Court), Geoffrey Kiryabwire (Court of Appeal), Gadenya Paul Wolimbwa (Judge Special Projects), Ms. Rachel Odoi (Technical Advisor, JLOS), Mr. Andrew Khaukha (Technical Advisor, Judiciary) and HW Boniface Wamala (Private Legal Secretary), studied efforts of the Malaysian Judiciary to eradicate case backlog.



## Mitooma Justice Centres handed over

The new Mitooma Justice Centres was handed over by Dolphin Engineering and Consultants Ltd. The complex houses the Office of Directorate of Public Prosecutions, Police and the Chief Magistrates Court. The centre billed at Shs1.4bn was funded by the Justice, Law and Order Sector. The purpose of the three-in-one complex is in line with the JLOS Mission of improving access to justice by having frontline JLOS institutions located in close proximity.



## Judiciary, World Bank discuss access to justice

The officials from the World Bank paid a courtesy call on the Chief Justice, Hon. Justice Bart M. Katureebe, at his chambers at the High Court.

The officials included Christina Malmberg Calvo, Country Manager, World Bank Uganda, Majorie Mpundu, Senior Counsel Legal Vice Presidency, Africa Practice and Barbra Magyezi, the Senior Public Sector Specialist, World Bank.

The meeting was a follow up on a similar meeting the Chief Justice had with World Bank officials in the US last year.

Among the intervention areas discussed were access to justice, functional issues such as number of judicial officers, number of High Court circuits and mobile courts.

The team also discussed Sexual and Gender Based Violence and land issues. They equally talked about automation of courts and putting in place a performance management system.

Ms. Mpundu said the World Bank is



doing an analysis to come up with the best home-grown ICT option to ease the process of automating courts. She said corruption mapping has been done with donors to establish real from perceived corruption.

The Chief Justice said automation of the courts would help to reduce human contact and do away with opportunistic corruption. He said the process will begin as a pilot project and will also be used to monitor and evaluate performance of

judicial officers.

Ms. Calvo said mapping of corruption indicators will be one of the components of the project.

The meeting was attended by officials from International Justice Mission, Permanent Secretary/Secretary to Judiciary, Mr. Kagole Expedito Kivumbi and Judiciary Advisor on Reforms Mr. Andrew Khaukha.

## Justices: Arach, Kasule, Bossa shine at ULS Awards

Three senior judicial officers were among the winners at the Uganda Law Society Awards Gala held at the Serena Hotel. Supreme Court's Hon. Lady Justice Stella Arach-Amoko scooped the Distinguished Service in the Administration of Justice Award. Court of Appeal's Hon. Justice Remmy Kasule and International Criminal Court's Hon. Lady Justice Solomy Balungi Bossa each received the Senior Counsel Award for their notable contributions as past presidents of ULS. The duo was among 26 people who were bestowed on the honour of Senior Counsel.



The title of Senior Counsel is one of the Special Ranks awarded by the President based on advice by the Chief Justice, Attorney General and the President of the Uganda Law Society (ULS). It is provided for under the Advocates (Special Rank) Regulations and comes with certain benefits.

The awards were the climax of the second ULS Annual Law Conference held under the theme; "The Legal Profession and Uganda's Economic Development: Locating the Missing Link."



## Justice Owiny Dollo presides over Luzira Prison graduation

The Deputy Chief Justice, Hon. Justice Alfonse Chigamoy Owiny Dollo, on March 23, 2018 presided over the first Bachelor of Law graduation ceremony at Luzira Upper Prison.

He described the event as a groundbreaking occasion that will inspire other prisoners.

The University in partnership with African Prison Project offered the course to create positive transformation.

The DCJ said the graduation is a clear testimony that custodial sentences are not the end of the road for convicts.

He thanked the graduands for joining the legal profession which he described

as “one of the most sought after professions”.

The Deputy Commissioner General of Prisons, James Mwanje, said the Prisons authorities objectives are to promote and increase accessibility of vocational skills training to all inmates countrywide.

## Judiciary, Pepperdine University honour female achievers

The Judiciary in partnership with the Sudreau Global Justice Program of Pepperdine University on March 13, 2018 recognized eight women and one male for their fight for women justice. This was one of the highlights of the second Women in Leadership Conference held under the theme: “The Impact of Gender-Based Violence on the Girl Child and the Administration of Justice Interventions” held in Kampala.

The First Lady and Minister for Education & Sports, Hon. Janet Kataha Museveni presided over the function. Hon. Justice David Batema, the resident judge of Soroti High Court who is fondly called “Sister Batema” in Judiciary circles, scooped the Sudreau Global Justice Gender Advocate Award.

He was recognized for his voice in the



fight for gender equity in the country. He is also the author of a book titled; Gender Bench Book: Women’s Access to justice in Uganda.

The other recipients of the awards were; Hon. Lady Justice Solomy Balungi

Bossa, Ms. Rhoda Kalema Nsibirwa, Hon. Lady Justice Alice Elizabeth Mpagi Bahigeine, Ms. Geraldine Namirembe Bitamazire, Prof. Mary Okwakol, Associate Prof. Monica Chibita, Hon. Cecilia Ogwal and Ms. Rachael Odoi Musoke.



## New Judges sworn in

President Museveni on Friday 23, March 2018 swore-in 10 newly appointed Judges of the High Court at State House Entebbe, a function that brought to an end the recruitment process.

Also sworn in at the same function was one Justice of the Court of Appeal, Hon. Justice Ezekiel Muhanguzi, who had retired last year as Judge of the High Court but later appointed as a Court of Appeal Justice.

The Ag. Chief Registrar, HW Isaac Muwata, at the same function, introduced two Justices of the Supreme Court and three Justices of the Court of Appeal who were elevated to those positions but had not been introduced to the President. He said the law does not require Judges who have already taken oath to take it again even after elevation.



## JLOS conducts monitoring exercise

The Justice Law and Order Sector and Development Partners Group (DPG) started joint monitoring visits to selected JLOS institutions.

The exercise which was held under the theme, "Strengthening the Sector's Fight Against Corruption," started with a multi-stakeholder engagement on March 1st, 2018 held at Judicial Service Commission (JSC) involving various institutions that have a direct bearing on the anti-corruption discourse in JLOS.

The Judiciary was represented by Registrars HW Tom Chemutai (Supreme Court), HW Fred Waninda (Planning & Development), Dr. Immaculate Busingye (Inspectorate) and HW Susan Kanyange (Anti-Corruption Division).

Other participants included representatives from other JLOS institutions such as Uganda Police Force, Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Law Development Centre, among others.

## Anti-corruption case management rules drafted

Judicial officers attached to the Anti-Corruption Division (ACD) of the High Court took part in a three-day meeting on the development of case management rules for the Division.

The meeting which was organised by the Strengthening Uganda's Anti-corruption Advisory Response Technical Facility (SUGAR-TAF) took place at the Laico Lake Victoria Hotel,

Entebbe.

Hon. Justice Lawrence Gidudu, the head of ACD, while flagging off the meeting said once the Case Management Rules will address issues in regard to Disclosure, Plea Bargaining and Admissibility of documents among others, which will reduce on case backlog and increase on case disposal rate.





**April**

### ULS Honors Judge Gadenya

High Court Judge, Hon. Justice Gadenya Paul Wolimbwa, received an award from Uganda Law Society in recognition of his contributions towards fostering the rule of law in Uganda. The award was presented to Hon. Justice Gadenya by the President Uganda Law Society (ULS), Mr. Francis Gimara, at the High Court in Kampala.



### CJ meets Ford Foundation VP

On Friday April 13, 2018, the Hon. Chief Justice met with Ford Foundation’s Vice President, Mr. Martin Abregu. The brief engagement was also attended by Hon. Justice Gadenya Paul Wolimbwa, who is in Charge of Judiciary’s Special Projects, plus other Ford officials, including its Regional Director, Mr. Maurice Makoolo.

## Brand new pick-up trucks procured for chief magistrates

At least four Chief Magistrates Courts got new four-wheel drive pick-up double cabins. Principal Assistant Secretary, Mr. Samuel Sabiiti Komunda, said the administration is committed to

providing transport to courts. Mr. Komunda said the phased distribution of vehicles will depend on the allocation of funds made by the Ministry of Finance.



## Mukono High Court launched

Thursday April 19, 2018 was a joyous celebration as institutions under the Justice Law and Order Sector assembled at Mukono District Grounds for the launch of Mukono High Court circuit.

It was a double celebration as the court had a Court Open Day under the theme “Increase Access to Justice” where members of the public interacted freely with Judicial Officers.

The Chief Justice, Hon. Justice Bart M. Katureebe, who presided over the function urged Government to increase the number of judges and judges to improve service delivery and also fight case backlog. “Uganda has a population of more than 37 million people but has only 52 judges who cannot perform as expected,” he said.

He said although Ugandans demand justice, 95% of them cannot seek such

services because they do not know how to access them. Speaking at the same function, the Principal Judge, Hon. Justice Dr. Yorokamu Bamwine, said interference had exacerbated case backlog.

In her remarks, Mukono resident judge appealed to the district leaders to provide land for the construction of High Court premises.



May

## Judge Gadenya hands over Chief Registrar Office

Outgoing Judiciary Chief Registrar, Hon. Justice Gadenya Paul Wolimbwa, handed over the office to outgoing Registrar High Court, Isaac Muwata.

Hon. Justice Gadenya was earlier this year appointed on promotion to High Court Judge by the President Yoweri Museveni. Subsequently, the Judicial Service Commission appointed HW Muwata the Acting Chief Registrar.

The handover ceremony at the Judiciary Headquarters in Kampala, was presided over by the Hon. Chief Justice, Hon. Justice Bart M. Katureebe, in the presence of the Principal Judge, Hon. Justice Dr. Yorokamu Bamwine; the Judiciary PS, Kagole E. Kivumbi and a number of senior registrars and administration staff.



Justice Gadenya while handing over the office he had been holding for four years to the Acting Chief Registrar Isaac Muwata summarily said the seeds of change had been sowed and was opportunistic that Judiciary will

have an irreversible transformation.

The office of the Chief Registrar is a very powerful office that mainly handles the administrative roles of the day-today running of the Judiciary.

## NAWJU gets new President

The National Association of Women Judges in Uganda (NAWJU) on Saturday May 18th, 2018 held its Extraordinary Annual General Meeting at Judicial Training Institute, Nakawa-Kampala, in which it elected High Court's Hon. Lady Justice Henrietta Wolayo as president. She replaced Supreme Court's Hon. Lady Justice Esther Kisaakye who resigned the position.



## Bailiffs trained

More than 30 Court Bailiffs from the Central Region took part in a half-day training organised by the Judicial Training Institute (JTI) on Tuesday May

22, 2018. The training was designed to bolster teamwork and consistent effective administration of justice in the country.

## Parliament increases number of High Court Judges to 82

Parliament passed a resolution to increase the number of High Court judges from 49 to 82 after the former number was found to be inadequate to tackle the ever increasing case backlog.

Besides the huge case backlog, Parliament's decision to increase on the number of High Court judges was based on the fact that the current number of judges is fewer in comparison with the litigants,

steady increase in crime and conflict. "Therefore, it is resolved by Parliament that in accordance with Section 13 (b) of Judicature Act, Cap 13, Parliament increases the number of judges of the High Court from 49 to 82, the Principal Judge inclusive." Read in part the resolution of Parliament signed by the Clerk to Parliament, Ms. Jane Kibirige dated April 11, 2018.



## 10 Judicial officers promoted

The month of May, saw the Judicial Service Commission (JSC), promoting 10 judicial officers at the lower Bench, a move that was aimed at promoting judicial career of the officers.

The promoted judicial officers, previously at the rank of Chief Magistrate became deputy registrars.

Their promotion will now see them posted to various high courts and appellate courts for work.

The JSC is a government body that

is primarily mandated with the recruitment, promotion and disciplinary of errant judicial officers.

The officers promoted from the rank of Assistant Registrar to Deputy Registrar are: HW Festo Nsenga, HW Rosemary Ngabirano Bareebe and HW Flavia Nabakooza.

Those promoted Chief Magistrate to Deputy Registrar include; HW Mary Kaitesi Kisakye, HW Sylvia Nabaggala Mbuga, HW Moses Anguandia Gabriel and HW Godfrey Kaweesa.

The other group of promoted officers was from the rank of Senior Principal Grade One to now Acting Chief Magistrate.

They include; HW Charles Yeteise, HW Jessica Chemeri and HW Samuel Kagoda Ntende.

Five officers were confirmed in service. These are; HW Nasuru Magomu, HW Geoffrey Akena, HW Esther Nahirya, HW Maureen Mukoya and HW Doreen Ainembabazi.

## June

### Justice Ayebazibwe's candle burns out

High Court Judge, Jessica Naiga Ayebazibwe, breathed her last in this month, creating a gap in the Judiciary.

The 53-year old Judge who was attached to the Family Division at the time of her demise, was also scheduled to resume her judicial duties having recovered from



an illness that had put her down for a while.

She was nicknamed by her classmates from the 1990 Law Class as chief justice due to her passion and observance of human rights. She was survived by a husband and three children.

### Five appointed as registrars

President Yoweri Museveni appointed five Deputy Registrars as Registrars of Courts of Judicature. The appointment raises the number of full registrars in the Judiciary from three to eight.

In a May 23, 2018 letter to the Chairperson of Judicial Service Commission, Hon. Justice Benjamin Kabiito, HE the President, appointed Deputy Registrars: HW Immaculate Byaruhanga Busingye, HW Esta Nambayo, HW Vincent Emmy Mugabo, HW Isah Sserunkuma and HW Philip Odoki, to the position of full registrars.



### CCTV cameras installed at Judiciary headquarters

Kampala High Court building/Judiciary headquarters was in June 2018 fitted with Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras in a move to boost security at the building located in the city centre. The cameras were strategically positioned in areas accessed by members of the public, such as corridors, walkways major offices, gardens, court halls as well as registries.





## Help the poor, First Lady to Christian Lawyers

The First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Hon. Janet Kataha Museveni, asked lawyers and judicial officers to emulate the biblical principles of truth, righteousness, compassion, love and forgiveness in the administration of justice.

She made these remarks as she opened the Christian Lawyers Conference held at the Sheraton Hotel in Kampala.

The Conference which was held under the theme: “Biblical World View in Promoting Efficient and Effective Administration of Justice” was organized by Pepperdine University, Uganda Law Society, Campus Crusade in Christ and Uganda Christian Lawyers Fraternity.



Ms. Museveni asked the lawyers to fight for the rights of the poor, orphans and widows.

Speaking at the same conference,

the Deputy Chief Justice, Hon. Justice Alfonse Owiny Dollo, asked officers to use the bible analogies of justice and apply it in practice.

## Hundreds turn up for Bushenyi Court Open Day

Hundreds of people turned up for Court Open Day organized by the Bushenyi Chief Magistrates Court on Monday, June 25, 2018.

The Chief Justice, Hon. Justice Bart M. Katureebe, presided over the event at the Bushenyi District Administration ground. It was also attended by the Principal Judge, Hon. Justice Dr. Yorokamu Bamwine.

The event celebrated under the theme: “Access to justice and building public trust” drew participants from different Justice, Law and Order Sector as well as civic leaders from greater Bushenyi.

The Chief Justice explained that part of the reasons for holding open



days is to explain to court users the different court processes. He engaged members of public for more

than two hours in a question and answer session.



July

# Court of Appeal’s registry revamped

The Deputy Chief Justice on July 23, 2018 commissioned the newly revamped Court of Appeal Registry.

Formerly likened to “a grave yard” or “a village rubbish pit”, the now reorganized

Registry is open for public use. Presiding over the event, Deputy Chief Justice, Hon. Justice Alfonse Owiny-Dollo, assured Court Users that service delivery at the Court is going to be a lot quicker and timely.

He hailed International Justice Mission (IJM) for the job well-executed.

IJM is also set to work on the registries of Family Division and Mbale High Court to make them more functional.



## 18 Chief Magistrates appointed

The Judicial Service Commission (JSC) in the course of the year, appointed 18 new Chief Magistrates and four assistant registrars.

The appointment of 18 Chief Magistrates brings the total number to 55 though the required number is 100.

The appointment of the four assistant court registrars brings the total number to 13 against the required establishment



of 32.

Some of the new appointed Chief Magistrates included: Dr. Douglas Singiza Karekona, the current secretary to the Commission of Inquiry into Land matters, Ms. Elizabeth Akullo Ogwal,

The four appointed assistant court registrars were; Joy Kabagye Bahinguza, Dorothy Ssempala Lwanga, Simon Zirintusa Kintu and Jamson Karemani Karemera.

## Mpigi Criminal Session kicks off

The Mpigi Resident Judge, Hon. Justice Emmanuel Baguma, on Thursday July 26, 2018 opened a special month-long criminal session at Mpigi High Court. The Session was kicked off with a ceremonial opening with Hon. Justice Baguma inspecting a guard of honour. This was followed by a stakeholder meeting. The bulk of the cases to be handled are sexual related offences. According to the cause-list, 13 cases are for aggravated defilement, seven for rape, seven for murder, two aggravated robbery and one case for robbery.



## Supreme Court handles 13 Criminal appeals

**A**t least 13 criminal appeals were handled at the Supreme Court. According to the cause list signed by the Court's Deputy Registrar, the highest appellate court will handle the appeal of businessman Mr. Kato Kajubi who is appealing against a life imprisonment sentence for the gruesome murder of 12-year-old Joseph Kasirye in

2008. The other prominent appeal to be handled is that of Ms. Sarah Kulata Basangwa, the interdicted commissioner for land registration at the Ministry of Lands and Urban Planning. Ms. Kulata is appealing against Court of Appeal decision for her to be tried at the Anti-Corruption Court. Kulata had been accused of hastily and illegally parceling out land

worth Shs 11 billion to Kikonyogo Investments Ltd.

A panel of five justices; Hon. Lady Justice Stella Arach-Amoko, Hon. Justice Eldard Mwangusya, Hon. Justice Rubby Opi-Aweri, Hon. Justice Paul Mugamba and Hon. Justice Augustine Nshimye, will be handling the session.

## 71 lawyers enrolled

**I**n a rare feat, the Attorney General and head of the bar, Mr. William Byaruhanga, came to witness the enrolment of new advocates of the High Court. Under Article 119 (3) of the Constitution, the Attorney General is the principal legal adviser to the government.

The Attorney General also has the mandate, to draw and peruse all contracts, agreements and international legal undertakings in respect of which the government or one of its agencies has an interest. The Attorney General also represents the government in courts of law or any other legal proceedings to which the Government is party.

In his remarks, Mr. Byaruhanga told the new officers of court that the legal profession is congested and that they must have a cutting edge to survive. "The law output, over the years has increased. You must retain focus and maximise your own comparative advantage."



## Executions Division moves to Crusader House

**T**he High Court Execution and Bailiffs Division (EBD) moved to Crusader House in Kampala. It was formerly housed at the Judiciary headquarters in Kampala since its inception in 2012.

Crusader House is located at Plot 3 Portal Avenue in Kampala, between Shumuk House (former Blacklines House) and Workers House. EBD now occupies the 3rd and 4th Floor of the building, which

HW Elias Omar Kisawuzi says is more spacious than the offices at the headquarters. "Our intention is to improve the efficiency and management of the Division," he said.



## August

### Esta Nambayo appointed chief registrar

After months of having an acting Chief Registrar, President Museveni finally appointed Ms. Esta Nambayo as the new substantive Chief Registrar of Courts of Judicature.

Ms. Nambayo, who prior to her appointment was the Deputy Registrar at Court of Appeal, replaced Mr. Paul Gadenya, who was in February, appointed as High Court judge.

“In the exercise of the powers vested in the President by Article 145 (2) of the Constitution, I hereby appoint Ms. Esta Nambayo as the Chief Registrar



of the Courts of Judicature,” President Museveni wrote to the chairperson

of the Judicial Service Commission, Mr. Benjamin Kabiito Following the elevation of the then Chief Registrar Gadenya to the position of High Court judge, the position has been occupied by Mr. Isaac Muwata in acting capacity since May this year.

The position of the Chief Registrar is fourth most important management positions in the Judiciary after the Chief Justice, Deputy Chief Justice and the Principal Judge. The core functions of the Chief Registrar are to implement policies and directions of the Chief Justice, Deputy Chief Justice and the Principal Judge.

## September

### Judiciary scoops URA Strategic Partnership Award

The Judiciary is a lucky winner of the Uganda Revenue Authority Commissioner General’s “Strategic Government MDA of the Year Award 2017/18”

The award was given at the 13th Taxpayers Appreciation Awards at Kololo Independence Grounds in Kampala on September 28, 2018.

Ag. Commissioner HRM, Mr. Patrick Barugahare and Senior Communications Officer, Mr. Solomon Muyita, received the awards on behalf of the Judiciary.





## Shs1.4bn Mitooma Justice Centre commissioned

Celebrations and ululations filled the air on the afternoon of Thursday 30th August, 2018 when Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Rtd. Gen. Kahinda Otafiire, commissioned the Mitooma Justice Centre.

The ceremony was witnessed by different stakeholders in the JLOS fraternity

including Judges; Hon. Justice Dr. Flavian Zaija (Mbarara Senior Resident Judge), Hon. Justice Gadenya Paul Wolimbwa (Executions Division/Projects) and Hon. Lady Justice Joyce Kavuma (Mbarara Resident Judge).

The complex that houses a courthouse, police station and offices of the Resident

State Attorney is in line with the Justice Law and Order Sector (JLOS) mission of improving access to services by having frontline institutions located in close proximity. The Minister asked the Mbarara Senior Resident Judge to monitor the conduct of court staff under his supervision in order to check petty corruption.

### OCTOBER



## 16 magistrates sworn into office

The Chief Justice, Hon. Justice Bart M. Katureebe, on Friday October 5, 2018 swore into office 16 new Magistrate Grade Ones at a ceremony held at the Judiciary headquarters in Kampala. They will be deployed to work in different parts of the country by next week.

The new magistrates are HW Lwanga Benedicto Nsibambi, HW Koburunga

Patience, HW Edgar Karakire, HW Adong Susan, HW Najjuko Evelyn, HW Otwaio Fidelis, HW Emmanuel Kaweesi, HW Namukasa Hamidah, HW Nabirye Fatumah, HW Nzwebe Phillip and HW Ziraba Arthur. Others are HW Igga Adiru, HW Christine Turibamwe, HW Akera Derrick Otim, HW Joel Wegoye and HW Ivan Seguya.

Each of the new officers took the Oath of Allegiance and the Judicial Oath. They promised to be faithful and bear true allegiance to the Republic of Uganda. They further pledged to exercise the judicial functions entrusted to them and do right to all manner of people in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda.



# 788 cases cleared in 40-day SGBV sessions

**The Judiciary and Justice Law and Order Sector in partnership with United Nations Population Fund (UNPFPA) held special 40-day sessions in High Court and Chief Magistrates Courts handling Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) cases.**

According to the Principal Judge, Dr. Yorokamu Bamwine, the pilot was undertaken as a precursor to the establishment of special courts to try SGBV offences.

“It is a pilot project testing for the suitability and viability of establishing a special court for SGBV cases. The project has been placed under the Criminal Division to oversee the implementation of the work plan of the special sessions for SGBV cases,” he said.

In terms of performance, the 13 sessions, which were held in different parts of the country between November and December 2018, cleared 788 SGBV cases from the system.

UNFPA Country Representative, Mr. Alain Sibenaler said UNFPA was happy to fund the pilot special sessions.

According to the Project Coordinator, Justice Gadenya Paul Wolimbwa, attention was drawn towards the SGBV cases such as defilement, rape and domestic violence, because they constitute 62 percent of the cases in the High Court.

Ms. Lucy Ladira, the JLOS Secretariat Advisor on Criminal Justice says the pilot project confirmed the need for government to expeditiously establish and strengthen special courts, sessions and procedures in order to fast track SGBV cases.

“The objective of the project was met with unprecedented success backed by reports and recommendations



from all pilot sites emphasizing and reiterating the need to expedite the process of setting up of a special court/ mechanism to fast track the disposal of GBV cases,” she said.

The project contributed to the disposal of pending cases thereby reducing the number of pending SGBV cases in the project areas, identification and sharing of best practices in dealing with SGBV

cases.

More than 200 justice sector and civil society actors were trained on the management of SGBV cases; equipping them with the requisite knowledge, information, skills and experience to render the expeditious handling of cases of SGBV as well as availing of resource materials to inform decision making.



## IJM to improve archiving system at Executions Division

The filing and archiving system at the Executions & Bailiffs Division is set for an upgrade. This was the outcome of a meeting held on October 23, 2018 at the Division chaired by Hon. Justice Gadenya Paul Wolimbwa and a team from the International Justice Mission (IJM).

Mr. Shawn Kohl, the IJM National Director, said the intention of the visit was to assess ways of improving the filing and archiving system at the Registry.

Hon. Justice Gadenya who doubles as the in-charge of Judiciary Projects said there was need to identify the problem

before a solution can be sought.

The team was taken on a guided tour of the registry by the EBD Registrar, HW Elias Omar Kisawuzi. One of the outcomes from the interaction was that a technical evaluation must be carried out for the success of the project.

## Furniture for Courts

At least 15 courts in different parts of the country have, over the past two years, received an assortment of furniture. These include the newly constructed and commissioned courthouses and a few others in rented premises.

The furniture that has been procured using funds of the Government of Uganda, include court benches with backrests, office tables, judicial chairs, advocate chairs and tables as well as waiting chairs. Some of the courts that have benefited from this capital investment include the new Kabale and Masindi High Courts and the Magistrates Courts of Mitooma, Ibanda, LDC, Kanungu and Kiruhura. New office furniture was equally procured for the Deputy Chief Justice, two Supreme Court Justices, three Court of Appeal Justice and 10 Court Judges.

## 900 Judiciary staff sensitized on HIV/AIDS

In line with the Presidential Fast Track Initiative on Ending HIV/AIDS in Uganda by 2030, the Judiciary on Wednesday September 31, 2018 sensitized its staff in the Wakiso and Mpigi Magisterial Areas. The one-day sensitization workshop that was held at Maya Nature Resort was intended to raise awareness on the scourge of HIV/AIDS as well as give support to some of

its staff members who are already affected. About 60 staff from Wakiso, Mpigi, Nsangi, Maddu, Kibibi, and Buwama attended the workshop.

The workshop was opened by H/W Tadeo Muinda (Magistrates GI, Mpigi) who thanked the Judiciary management for bringing this wonderful Initiative to the staff.





## November

### World Bank to support the Judiciary

The World Bank committed to strengthening the administration of justice by making it a component on the World Bank programmes.

This was the outcome of a meeting held between the Chief Justices and the Executive Director World Bank African Group, Ms. Ann Kabagambe, at the World Bank headquarters in Washington DC. The Ugandan Chief Justice Hon. Justice Bart M. Katureebe, presented

a concept note on Strengthening the Administration of Justice in Uganda as well as the ICT Strategic Plan for E-Justice.

Ms. Kabagambe said the component of administration of justice has not been on the agenda of the World Bank but after listening to the Chief Justices they (World Bank) will now include it.

At the same meet, Chief Justices presented the challenges and needs

Judiciaries face.

Ms. Kabagambe reassured the African CJs present that previously the Bank has been dealing with finance ministries but now support will be channelled directly to respective Judiciaries.

The Chief Justice also held bilateral talks with the Gambian Chief Justice, Hon. Justice Hassan Jallow.

### Judiciary leadership interfaces with Parliamentary Budget Committee

The Judiciary asked government to increase funding to the sector for proper dispensation of justice to Ugandans.

While meeting the members of the Budget Committee of Parliament, the Judiciary Leadership led by the Chief Justice, Hon. Justice Bart M. Katureebe,

said that with the current funding, the institution cannot effectively handle its mandate. The interface took place at the Judiciary headquarters in Kampala.

The Chief Justice said while funds were availed for the automation of courts and construction of Mini-JLOS Centers through the Justice Law and

Order Sector basket funding, there were still challenges of inadequate facilitation both in terms of financial and human resource.

Hon. Amos Lugoloobi, the Committee chairperson said they will make sure the Judiciary is given the required funds to dispense justice to Ugandans.







December

## Transparency International to engage judicial officers

Anti-corruption watchdog, Transparency International (TI) agreed to obtain information from Judicial Officers and Court Users before publication of reports so as to come up with informed and enforceable findings and recommendations.

This was the outcome of a meeting that representatives of TI, led by the Chairperson, Ms. Delia Ferreira Rubio, held with the Chief Justice, Hon. Justice

Bart M. Katureebe, on Friday December 7, 2018.

Among the issues discussed was the role of TI in monitoring accountability mechanisms and the fight against corruption; the state of corruption in the Uganda Judiciary (perceived and real); adherence to the Judicial Code of Conduct as well as Disciplinary mechanisms.



## Judiciary staff get SCP Training

A two-day training on Small Claims Procedure (SCP) has been organized by the Judicial Training Institute (JTI) for both Judicial and non-judicial staff. The training will introduce participants to the rules for the implementation of SCP as well as best practices. While formally opening the training; Hon. Justice Dr. Henry Peter Adonyo, the JTI Executive Director, said the training was aimed at enhancing knowledge and skills of key players in SCP. He urged the participants to pay keen interest in the training so that they can train others at their stations.

“This training will introduce the implementers to the rules used in SCP that will equip you with the necessary skills in case management systems and data management so that you are able to apply the rules properly in your respective magisterial areas,” he said. The training taking place at JTI in Nakawa has seen at least 30 staff, comprising two Chief Magistrates, 12 Magistrate Grade Ones, eight clerical officers and eight office supervisors, equipped with the necessary skills in case management systems and data management.

## Uganda making progress on SGBV cases - PJ

The Principal Judge, Hon. Justice Dr. Yorokamu Bamwine, on December 6, 2018 delivered a keynote address at the second National Symposium on Justice for Women and Girls at Hotel Africana organized by Uganda Law Society.

He said Uganda is making good progress against Gender Based Violence (GBV). “As a country we have

laws and a clear strategy direction but the challenge is in implementation of the legal framework to create a conducive environment for women and girls to access justice more effectively and efficiently.”

However, he noted with concern the delays in investigation, prosecution and adjudication of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) crimes.





## JTI inducts new magistrates

The induction for the 16 new Magistrate Grade One was held at the Judicial Training Institute. The Principal Judge, Dr. Yorokamu Bamwine, presided a five-day induction for 16 newly appointed Magistrate Grade Ones.

The induction that is taking place at Judicial Training Institute is meant to equip the new Judicial Officers with basic knowledge and skills necessary for the job.

The Principal Judge congratulated the group for joining the bench, saying “I am sure you will find fulfilment, purpose, satisfaction and peace in serving this country as magistrates,” he said.

He encouraged the officers to inspire public confidence by conducting themselves in a professional and ethical manner.



“The Judiciary will not tolerate acts of corruption, incompetence, drunkenness, late coming, absenteeism, laziness, judicial tyranny and indiscipline of any kind.”

The PJ further implored the new Judicial Officers to embrace Alternative Dispute

Resolution to expedite trials and humanize the justice system.

“ADR methods such as plea bargaining, Mediation and Small Claims Procedure help reduce on case backlog and make the Judiciary more effective and efficient.”

## Judicial officers discuss best practices in land cases

A cross-section of Judicial Officers on Friday, December 7, 2018 took part in a consultative meeting on best practices in the adjudication of land cases. The group numbering more than 30 comprised Judges of the High Court, Registrars, Deputy Registrars, Chief Magistrates and Magistrates Grade One.

The meeting which took place at the Judicial Training Institute (JTI) was organized with support from the Justice Law and Order Sector. The JTI Executive Director JTI, Hon. Justice Dr. Henry Peter Adonyo, who opened the meeting said the main purpose was to critically examine the process of adjudicating land cases, map an effective case management business process and also agree on proposals for strengthening mediation and execution process.



He said if the land question is not handled well, it can lead to instability in the country. “The issue (land disputes) has compelled the leadership of the country to put in place special mechanisms to address the land question including setting up of the

Commission of Inquiry into Land Matters.” He urged the participants to open up and share solutions with concrete recommendations that would contribute to a long and effective land dispute resolution process in the country.



## Ben Kiwanuka Memorial Lecture rekindles fond memories

By Karoli Ssemogerere

**On September 21st, 2018, the Judiciary in a historic occasion, celebrated the life and times of former Chief Justice of Uganda, Benedicto Kiwanuka who, 46 years to the day was dragged from his High Court chambers never to be seen before again. CJ Kiwanuka was just 50 years old when he was executed by state actors.**

Mr. Kiwanuka's colleagues extolled his virtues and steadfast commitment to the rule of law. The keynote address was given by his successor and three time Chief Justice of Uganda Samuel Wako Wambuzi, now 87, who served (1972-1975, 1979-1980) and 1986- 2001). Mr. Wambuzi rose through the ranks first as a Triple Pupil Attorney (1961-1962), Crown State Attorney (1962-1964), Senior Parliamentary Coun-

sel (1964-1966) and later First Parliamentary Counsel (1967-1969).

In 1969, he was one of the first four Ugandan Judges appointed to the High Court. The others were Justices Kantinti, Saulo Musoke and Kenneth Lubogo. The current surviving retiring Justices in terms of seniority are Francis Ssekandi (High Court and Court of Appeal), Benjamin Odoki (High Court, Court of Appeal,

Supreme Court, Chief Justice), George Japheth Masika (Chief Justice).

Until 1986, Uganda followed the British court system where the Chief Justice sat in the High Court. This was replaced by the appointment of a Principal Judge to head the High Court, and the first principal Judge was Justice Herbert Ntagoba.

Kiwanuka qualified as one of the first Ugandan barristers trained in South Africa at Fort Hare University in 1952. He made a strong early reputation as a people's trial lawyer before joining politics in the Democratic Party in 1958, later becoming first Chief Minister and later Prime Minister who led Uganda into self government in 1961-1962.

At the High Court celebration, people he mentored extolled his virtues, impeccable manners, humility, great sense of dress.



**Vice President, Edward Sekandi, with a cross-section of serving and retired justices and judges at the memorial lecture for the late Chief Justice, Benedicto Kiwanuka, in Kampala on September 21, 2018.**

Justice Augustine Nshimye Sebutulo who rose from being an interpreter returning to Law School at his death, detailed the events of his horrendous departure from the High Court.

In the audience was Advocate Zaabwe who was a reference clerk for three months before the execution of the Chief Justice. Chief Justice Bart Katureebe remembered his first interaction with Chief Justice Kiwanuka at Makerere University in 1971 when he was in his first year. Other protégés of Chief Justice Kiwanuka were on hand for the remembrances were Justice Remmy Kyonooneka Kasule, one of the first graduates of Makerere Law School , who remained in his private chambers at Kiwanuka & Company Advocates when Kiwanuka became Chief Justice in 1971 as a pupil attorney.

Kasule later formed Kawanga & Kasule Advocates in 1974, one of the oldest surviving law firms in Uganda. A moving documentary featured major persons in Kiwanuka’s life, his family, survivors and Dr. Paul Kawanga Ssemogerere his successor as DP President, two time presidential candidate, who was in close touch with him and in whom he confided his imminent demise after delivering

a habeas corpus ruling that freed a British national working in Kakira Sugar Works. The Uganda Law Society pledged to rename its Rule of Law Award, the Benedicto Kiwanuka Rule of Law Award. A fitting bust of the late Chief Justice has been unveiled at the entrance to the High Court. May His Soul Rest in Eternal Peace.

*About the Author: Karoli Ssemogerere is an Advocate of the High Court, an Attorney and Counselor at Law, New York and international legal consultant. He graduated from Makerere University in 1998 and served on faculty between 1998 and 1999.*





## Makerere School of Law celebrates 50 years

**The School of Law concluded events organized to commemorate 50 years with a Dinner that brought together Alumni at Hotel Africana, October 12, 2018, . The event was the climax of two-month celebrations and a launch of a fundraising drive for the Shs5 billion endowment fund for the School of Law.**

The Chief Justice of Uganda who is the first alumnus to ascend to that position was honored to be the first patron, a task he willingly accepted. In his remarks at the SoL@ 50 Dinner, the inaugural Chairperson of the Alumnus congratulated all the alumni that have gone through the School of Law, Makerere University. He made special recognition of the pioneer Law Teachers that included Prof. Justice Kanyehamba and Prof. Sempeebwa among others for their sacrifice that led to the start of a great institution that is celebrated worldwide.

The Chief Justice reminiscing his time at University said he joined in 1971 and that he together with all that have gone through the School of Law can now look back and take stock of the great strides they have realized in their life with satisfaction.

He said the motto of Makerere University “We Build for the Future” indicates that they were the bricks that were turned out and hence the great contributions that all alumni are making to society.

He challenged all alumni to make personal evaluation to see if each one of them was making positive contributions towards building Uganda and society. “We are part of the solutions to the problems of this country. The big problem is corruption and as Judiciary we are accused. Are we still building for the future? Makerere University should not have taught us in vain. Wherever we are, we should remember we build for the future as citizens and leaders said the Chief Justice.

Mr. Kabushenga Robert, the Chairperson of the School of Law endowment

fund observed that although the legal professional is the most successful in Uganda, the alumni have not come back to help in improving the Law school noting that the building where the law program was started is the same being used to date.

‘There has been no new building’ he said. Efforts have been initiated through Government Officials like the Chief Justice, the Speaker of Parliament to spearhead the drive to mobilise resources for improving infrastructure of the Law school. “We the Lawyers need to donate and invest money for five years and be able to fund law school and provide scholarships and research funds’ he said.

The representative of the Chairperson Makerere University Council, Mr.



Tayebwa Thomas presented the University's contribution of Ten Million Shillings towards the fund and an additional Five Million as his personal contribution as an alumnus of the School of Law.

Mr. Tayebwa said, the University has done its part amidst the scarce resources and it's time that the alumni to do their part as the case is in other international universities. "We get 162 million as a University to build, maintain and do everything. Makerere University is struggling' he added.

He said presently, the University has partly addressed the problem of teaching space through the Central Teaching Facilities and that plans are underway to turn Dining halls into lecture rooms since the University no longer provides meals. He said staff salaries have also been paid and that the University chambers has been newly established and is expected to work closely with the School of Law.

The President of Makerere University School of Law Alumni Kenya Chapter Mr. John Biro said the meeting was to celebrate the existence of excellence

which is The School of Law that has succeeded in producing graduates well equipped to deal with new and emerging challenges with a rich tradition of excellence. "It's good to be back to join the celebrations. Makerere University was built from bottom up, we are special with no competitor. We face challenges but the investments we make today yield more results" he said as he expressed solidarity as Kenya chapter.

The Chairperson of the organizing

committee Rtd Justice Lameck. N. Mukasa in remarks read on his behalf said the School of Law was celebrating achievements and repositioning itself to play bigger roles in promoting justice rule of law and good governance. He congratulated the organizing committee for the tireless work that marked the celebrations with all the planned events usefully undertaken.

The Principal School of Law Dr. Christopher Mbazira congratulated all for the active roles played in the events that he termed as the first of its kind in the history of the School of Law. 'We live in a dawning youthful innovation. It's a mission to transform the School of Law, transform legal education and to close the gap between legal academia and practice adding that it is a collective journey.

The Endowment fund to be managed by the Alumni Association will provide a funding base to enable the Faculty of the School of Law to undertake Research, support to needy but bright law students, avail the needed resources necessary for the teaching and learning.





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