



REMARKS BY

PROFESSOR VENANSIUS BARYAMUREEBA, VICE CHANCELLOR  
MAKERERE UNIVERSITY, ON THE OCCASION OF THE  
4<sup>TH</sup> LECTURE IN THE MAKERERE AFRICA LECTURE SERIES AND  
LAUNCH OF THE DR. JOSHUA B. MUGYENYI SOCIAL  
TRANSFORMATION FORUM, MAIN HALL, MAKERERE  
UNIVERSITY

ON

THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2012

- The Chief Guest, Rt. Hon. Prof. Apolo Nsibambi, Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Uganda and Former Chancellor of Makerere University
- Prof. Peter Anyan'g Nyong'o, Minister, Medical Services, Republic of Kenya
- The Chancellor, Prof. George Mondo Kagonyera
- Honorable Ministers present
- Honourable Members of Parliament present
- Deputy Governor, Bank of Uganda
- Hon. Mary Mugenyi, wife of the Late Dr. Joshua B. Mugenyi
- Chairperson and Members of Makerere University Council
- Chairperson and Members of the Makerere University Female Scholarship Foundation
- Members of the University Senate
- Members of the University Management
- Lecture Discussants, Dr. Ezra Suruma and Prof. Mahmood Mamdani
- The Chairperson and Executive of the Makerere University convocation
- Distinguished Guests in your various capacities
- Members of Staff present
- Alumni and Alumnae of the Great Makerere
- The Media, Ladies and Gentlemen

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It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to Makerere University this evening, to this 4<sup>th</sup> lecture in the Makerere Africa lecture series, slightly over 3 months since its rebirth and over 41 years since its conception.

We are even more pleased, at this 4<sup>th</sup> Makerere Lecture Series, to welcome back one of our very own, an exceptionally accomplished alumnus and former Students Guild President, Prof. Peter Anyan'g Nyong'o' who is to deliver a public lecture on ***“Social Transformation in Contemporary Africa: Reminiscences of Dr. Joshua B. Mugenyi.”***

As the only surviving member of the Students Guild Executive 1969/70 trio that conceived the Makerere Africa Lecture Series, there is no greater way to celebrate the memory of our dearly departed Alumni, the late Dr. Joshua B. Mugenyi and the late Ambassador Daudi Taliwaku than to have one of the original three present at this lecture. We are extremely grateful to you Hon. Prof. Peter Anyan'g Nyong'o' for taking time off your demanding constituency and ministerial work to be with us today for yet another Public Lecture. Thank you Professor.

The fact that we are holding this lecture today is no mere coincidence. This day, the 15<sup>th</sup> day of March 2012, marks exactly 10 years since Dr. Joshua Baitwa Mugenyi passed away. We chose this day, Ladies and Gentlemen, as a befitting tribute to the brilliant student from Ntare School who was a passionate student of Development studies and a proactive member of the Students Guild Executive and later on, an innovative Chairperson of Convocation.

We also chose this day, to commemorate a lifetime of achievements of a man who was brutally frank and dismissed discretion in applying policy, a trait that is all too admirable in this present day and age. Today, we join the nation in celebrating the life of an ever optimistic and passionate leader-transformer and eloquent discussant of the socio-economic transformation of Uganda and Africa.

Above all else Ladies and Gentlemen, today we join the Mugenyi family, led by Hon. Mary Mugenyi, in launching the Dr. Joshua Baiwtwa Mugenyi Social Transformation Foundation, to advance the ideals, values and convictions Dr. Joshua Baitwa Mugenyi boldly stood for. The Foundation through the establishment of a targeted scholarship fund for bright but disadvantaged youth will go a long way in complementing the work of other foundations such as the Makerere University Female Scholarship Foundation. Makerere University community is extremely humbled and encouraged when members of our Alumni come up with innovations aimed at helping those less fortunate than us to access quality Higher Education. We pledge our full backing and support and pray that the Almighty God rewards you abundantly.

In a special way, I thank Professor Apolo Nsibambi who is our Chief Guest today, for his support towards Makerere University and especially the Female Scholarship Foundation, which you launched in November 2010. You also honoured our invitation as Guest of Honour on our very first Public lecture in December 2011.

I am grateful to the Bank of Uganda, for the moral and financial support they have continued to give to Makerere University.

I also thank the discussants of today's lecture; Dr. Ezra Suruma and Professor Mahmood Mamdani for honouring our invitation.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you all for according me your kind attention and once again welcome you to Makerere University and to the 4<sup>th</sup> Makerere Africa Lecture. **We Build for the Future, FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY.**