



ADDRESS BY

PROFESSOR GEORGE MONDO KAGONYERA, ON THE  
OCCASION OF HIS RE-INSTALLATION AS THE CHANCELLOR  
OF MAKERERE UNIVERSITY,  
MAIN HALL, MAIN BUILDING,  
MAKERERE UNIVERSITY

ON

THURSDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2012

- Your Excellency Hon. Edward Kiwanuka Sekandi The Vice-President of the Republic of Uganda
- Rt. Hon. Amama Mbabazi, The Prime Minister of the Republic of Uganda
- Your Excellencies, The Ambassadors
- Hon. Jessica Alupo, Minister for Education and Sports
- Honourable Ministers and Representatives of Government present
- Fellow Chancellors from Sister Universities
- The Chairperson of the Makerere University Council
- The Vice Chancellor of Makerere University
- Former Vice Chancellors of Makerere University and Vice Chancellors of sister universities
- Members of Council, Management and Senate
- Makerere University Staff and Students
- Distinguished Alumni
- Ladies and Gentlemen.

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I am extremely humbled to stand before you today as Chancellor of Makerere University for my second successive term. I would like to thank the Visitor of Makerere University, His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uganda Dr. Gen. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, for reappointing me as Chancellor of this great institution.

Let me sincerely express my gratitude to you Sir for kindly accepting to preside over this function. I also thank the University Council, led by Eng. Dr. Charles Wana Etyem, for to recommend my reappointment. I hope this is a reflection of Council's appreciation of my leadership over the last four years.

Makerere University is the most prestigious Institution of higher learning in East and Central Africa. Therefore we have a unique responsibility to offer leadership in academic excellence as well as participating in finding solutions to problems that affect the economic, social and political development – not only in Uganda but also in the East African region and Africa at large.

I appeal to the Staff and Students of Makerere University not to take our unique position lightly. We must at all times endeavour to focus our minds and actions on issues that are relevant to our calling.

That is why I am so proud to be the Head of this Institution. The present law defines the Chancellor a Titular head. It is however very difficult to comprehend the position of Head that is devoid of responsibilities. Now that the Chancellors of Public Universities are ordinary citizens, there is need to look into their responsibilities.

Makerere University's motto "We build for the future" is on its own a visionary statement. The history of Makerere University is filled with countless names of individuals who having been spurred on by this motto harnessed the knowledge acquired from Makerere to propel not only themselves, but also the institutions and people they led and continue to lead, to greater heights.

Our motto therefore recognizes that our destiny is corporate, and therefore rallies each and every one of us to rise up to the challenges we face and together seek solutions that will impact both the present and future generations.

As noted by the Vice Chancellor, I am passionate to homegrown solutions and I have always emphasized this to our leaders. Makerere University is easily the greatest concentration for some of the most brilliant minds in this country and the region who are very capable of producing world-class innovation, given the right amount of support. I once again appeal to Government to use Makerere University and other Institutions of Higher learning for finding solutions to the development needs of our country.

I would like to note with gratitude His Excellency's keen interest in activities that take place at Makerere University. His recent ride in the KIIRA EV was a defining example of this interest. Your Excellency, there are so many ideas at Makerere University in a range of fields, that would, if applied on an industrial scale, economically transform this country.

I would also like to thank the Minister of Education and Sports for keeping her finger on the pulse of innovations here at Makerere and the Ministry constantly advocating for us to host unique centers of national interest. Special thanks also go to our development partners, who have partnered with us to make the hosting of some of these centers possible.

As we embark on this new era as a Collegiate University, I would like to request all the stakeholders of Makerere University to carry out the respective duties in reflection of our core values as an institution, mindful of the precedent set by our forefathers and the example we are setting for the generations to come. Remember, when all is said and done, those who look back on our legacy ought to see and acknowledge that indeed, we built for the future. I thank you all for honouring me with your presence and I look forward to serving as your Chancellor. **FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY**