

MAKERERE



UNIVERSITY

REMARKS BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR

PROF. JOHN DDUMBA-SSENTAMU

**AT THE OPENING OF THE KOREA CORNER IN THE MAIN
LIBRARY AT MAKERERE UNIVERSITY**

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2014,

MAIN LIBRARY

- **Your Excellency The Korean Ambassador to Uganda**
- **Officials from the Korean Embassy**
- **Makerere University community**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen**

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It gives me great honour and pleasure to be part of the ceremony of opening the Korean Corner in the Main Library. This corner, the first of its kind, will promote cultural and academic exchanges between our students and their Korean counterparts.

The Korean corner comes at a time when Makerere University is strengthening her ties with other universities the world over to enhance research. We are optimistic that the presence of this specialized section in the Main Library will give us the much-needed opportunity to establish stronger ties with other academic institutions in Korea for capacity building through staff and student exchanges. As the leading institution in the region, Makerere University is passionate about innovation. Through Knowledge Transfer Partnerships and Networking, we are keen to use every opportunity made available to us to embrace new frontiers of innovation.

Makerere University is set to host the first Foreign Languages Conference later this month and I am glad that this corner will be operational by then, for the conference participants to see the depth we have gone to in embracing multilingualism. I call upon other countries to follow suit by setting up specialized language learning centres at Makerere University so that we become a true hub of oriental languages.

In a world that is increasingly becoming a global village, the need to embrace multiculturalism cannot be overemphasized, and languages are our perfect gateway to explore and appreciate different cultures. Multilingualism will undoubtedly also give our students and staff an edge in this fast-changing society, especially as we continue to establish it as part of our own culture.

I take this opportunity to thank the brains behind this initiative, especially Staff Members from the Department of Languages, the University Library and Officials from the Korean Embassy, for the work well done. I also call upon the students to make the best use of such facilities, for their own future benefit as universal citizens.

I look forward to a life changing Korean Corner as *We Build for the Future*.

I thank you.