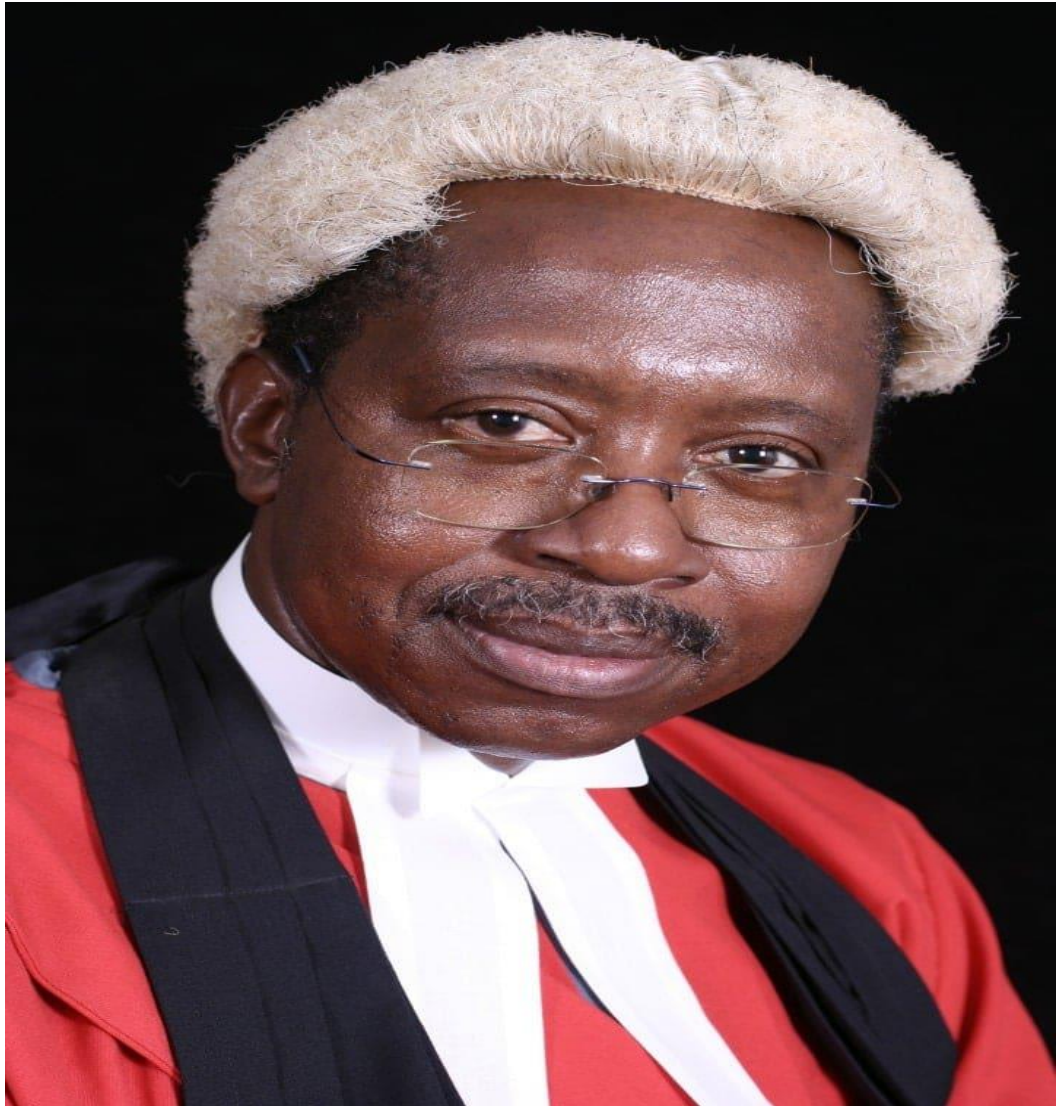




THE CUTTING EDGE MAGAZINE 2020



HIS LORDSHIP HONOURABLE JUSTICE EGONDA NTENDE

A special report on UCLF's response during COVID 19 lockdown

2020 THEME: *Psalms 91: 1-2 'He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.'*

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EDITORIAL



Ernest Tashobya Katwesigye

It is with great pleasure that we once again present to you another edition of *The Cutting Edge*, the Annual Uganda Christian Lawyers' Fraternity (UCLF) magazine. This 2020 Edition comes to us at a difficult time, when we are grappling with the COVID-19 outbreak, not just as a nation, but as an entire world. Uganda's approach has been lauded as being one of the most effective – a total lockdown, and then progressive reopening. We thank God that we have not seen the thousands of deaths experienced in some countries. However, the State's approach has had a number of negative repercussions, especially in relation to human rights. During the lockdown, we saw suspects arrested and detained without trial or access to their Lawyers. We have also seen an increase in the spate of violence and torture. This Edition addresses these uncomfortable situations. It also gives a peep into the response of UCLF to COVID-19. It underscores the importance of the Christian Lawyer in such times as these. The Magazine also takes the reader through the various aspects of UCLF. Read about great Christian Lawyers such as Justice Egonda-Ntende, and Pheona Wall, the new Uganda Law Society President. You will also read about the various UCLF members that have climbed the ladder. Learn from the feature stories about building a brand, dealing with temperaments in marriage, and the call to good works. Read thought provoking poetry, I-have Come to Learn, and about a great book,

A Different Spirit – Work Redefined. This Magazine is a timely breath in the challenging times that we are in. I wish you good reading.

Editorial Team

1. Ernest Tashobya Katwesigye.
2. John Osapiri.
3. Lillian Atuhairwe.
4. Arija Ariniwe.

WORD FROM THE UCLF PRESIDENT



Dr. Daniel Ruhweza

Welcome to the Uganda Christian Lawyers Cutting Edge Edition 2020.

We are an association of Christian Legal Professionals which was started in 1987 as a fellowship of Christian law students at the only Law School at the time – Makerere University Faculty of Law. We have since grown to over 400 members who are working in all facets of the Justice, Law and Order Sector. Our vision is: ***“a world where justice and human dignity is a reality for all*** and our mission is to ***share our faith in Christ Jesus, promote access to justice and the respect for human dignity, through speaking up, fellowship, mentorship and defending the rights of the vulnerable***. In this Magazine, you will read the details of the activities that our members and the Secretariat have done and continue to do.

We carry out most of our activities through a Non-Government Organization registered under similar names in 2005, i.e. the Uganda Christian Lawyers Fraternity. We truly appreciate the financial support from BMS World

Mission, DGF Uganda, BMS Uganda, Lawyers Christian Fellowship UK and the individual members who have supported our work. We hope that, through this magazine, you will find reason and conviction to join us.

Since 2005, we have supported indigent persons to access legal aid services in the districts of Kampala, Gulu, Wakiso, Mukono, Masaka, Kasese, Moyo, Kayunga and Buikwe districts. These include court representation, legal education in Kasese, Kampala and Gulu, paralegal work in Kampala, Gulu and Kasese, Students Ministry is ongoing in all Universities with Law Faculties/Schools, counselling services in Kampala (including Naguru remand home and Naguru reception center), etc. By the end of last year, our civil legal Aid Department alone had represented **487** clients (**353** male and **134** female) in civil matters in Courts of Mpigi, Kampala, Wakiso, Mukono, Kasese, Nakawa and Masaka.

I encourage you to join us for monthly fellowships (currently happening online due to the COVID 19 pandemic) as well as our weekly online prayer meetings that happen each Wednesday at 7 am EAT. The prayer meetings have continued to bless and uplift us in this season. It is our belief that the legal profession is a tool to ensure that in our nation, *'justice rolls on like a river and righteousness like a never-failing stream!'* **Amos 5:24 (NIV)**. We look forward to partnering with you

In His Service

UCLF BOARD MEMBERS 2018-2020



Dr. Daniel R. Ruhweza
President



Elijah Iradukunda
Vice President



Susan Wakabala
Treasurer



Arthur Ayorekire
General Secretary



Anne Muhairwe
Board Member



Her Worship Sarah Tusiime
Board Member



Lydia Kiriire
Board Member

WORD FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Ap. John Osapiri

The year 2020 has been a year that requires faith to live. This edition of the Cutting Edge Magazine comes in at a time when Uganda and the world is faced with the COVID 19 Pandemic. God has enabled us, as an organization and a ministry to reach out to the communities in Uganda through sharing our faith in Christ, providing legal aid to the indigents in form of legal representation, engaging in alternative dispute resolution, plea bargain interventions, prison and police awareness outreaches, offering counselling services, engaging in fellowships and law student professional development engagement among other interventions.

All the interventions we have had as UCLF has been possible through our committed staff at the Secretariat who are tirelessly committed to implementing the UCLF agenda. We are indebted to our esteemed UCLF members for the enormous moral and financial support they have dispensed to UCLF throughout the year amidst several hardships. We are grateful to the Board of Directors, for your voluntary service to UCLF is adorable. Thank you for the tireless guidance you have provided to the secretariat to effectively deliver. We are thankful to our donors, specifically the Baptist Mission Society, UK and the Lawyers Christian Fellowship of UK for mobilizing resources for UCLF. I must say that sometimes the simplest things mean a lot. We are indebted to the UCLF Members and other well-wishers for supporting UCLF through the UCLF Pro Bono Fund. We are reminded that our finger prints do not fade from the lives we touch.

COVID 19 is still a global threat with no confirmed vaccine yet or even trusted curative treatment. COVID 19 still presents a global threat to Human Rights world over. As an Institution, we have ably responded to the threats poised through adjusting our program interventions to fit within the COVID 19 situation. We intend to further counter the global human rights challenges presented by COVID 19 especially those evident in Uganda,

particularly Gender Based Violence, continued rampant arrests resulting from purported violations of Directives, violation of personal liberty and torture by of suspects by security organs. We welcome every kind of support to enable us intervene.

I hope that through reading this Magazine, you will be inspired to join us so that we can together make a difference in our country.

For God and my country.

UCLF MEMBERS UP THE LADDER



Mrs. Dorothy Kisaka
Appointed Executive Director
Kampala Capital City Authority

.



Hon. Justice Mike Chibita
Appointed Justice of Supreme
Court of Uganda



Dr. Roselyn Karugonjo Segawa
Appointed Chairperson
Leadership Code Tribunal



Mrs. Joyce Nalunga Birimumaso
Appointed Member
Leadership Code Tribunal



Hon. Prof. Lady Justice Lillian Tibatemwa
Appointed Justice of Court of Appeal of Seychelles
(Being the Supreme Court in Seychelles).



Hon. Lady Justice Irene Mulyagonja
Appointed Justice of the Court of Appeal/Constitutional Court of Uganda.

His Worship Emokor Samuel (Appointed Registrar)



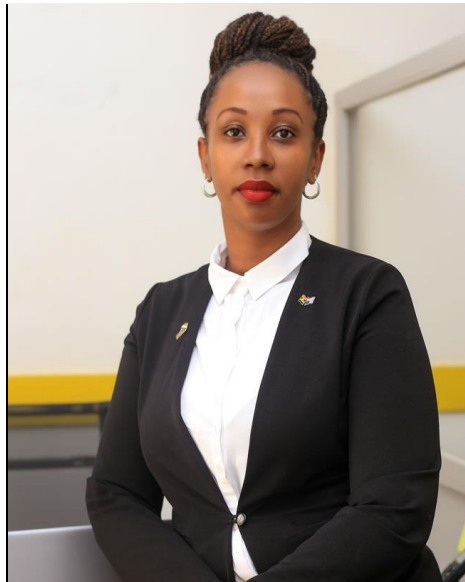
Ap. John Osapiri
Appointed CEO UCLF



Ms. Pheona Nabasa Wall
Elected ULS President



Ms. Diana Angwech
Elected ULS Vice President



Shane Gloria Musanase
Elected ULS Treasurer

ABOUT UGANDA CHRISTIAN LAWYERS' FRATERNITY

Uganda Christian Lawyers' Fraternity (UCLF) is a membership based Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) seeking justice for all in Uganda through the provision of legal aid, legal education and research and policy advocacy on behalf of vulnerable people. UCLF was founded in 1987 by Christian law students at Makerere University. In 2005, it was registered as an NGO.

UCLF comprises over 400 member Advocates, Lawyers, Judges and Law Students across the different Universities of Uganda, with established Legal Aid Clinics and offices spread across the Northern, Western and Central regions of Uganda. UCLF seeks to utilize skills endowed in its members and associates to impact the most vulnerable in society, irrespective of age, gender, religion or ethnicity following a Biblical mandate to defend the rights of the poor and needy.

UCLF has four main Organs, namely, the General Assembly, the Board of Directors, Select Committees and the Secretariat. The General Assembly is the Supreme authority of the Fraternity and is mandated to elect the members of the Board of Directors every two years. Whereas the Board is responsible for the policy formulation and strategic direction of the organization, the Select Committees handle specific issues in the fraternity and the Secretariat is responsible for the day-to-day affairs of the fraternity. UCLF adopted a new Strategic Plan spanning from 2018 to 2022, a new Logo, Vision and Mission Statement.

VISION

“A world where justice and human dignity is reality for all.”

MISSION

“We are an association of Christian Legal Professionals sharing our faith in Christ, promoting access to justice and respect for human dignity through speaking up, fellowship, mentorship and defending the rights of the vulnerable”

UCLF Objectives

1. To inform and educate people from whatever section of the society, and especially those who have no access to legal information, about the Law and their rights.

2. To advocate for, represent and advise those who have no voice and are unfairly disadvantaged.
3. To advocate for enactment and implementation of fair laws and policies which are in harmony with Christian values.
4. To encourage member participation in ethical legal practice and community involvement by providing Pro-Bono opportunities to the indigent clients.

UCLF Core Values

We are committed to upholding the Christian faith and its principles of:

1. Christian ethics and integrity

UCLF shall demonstrate the highest standards of spiritual, ethical and professional integrity and practice in its operations and to develop Godly character among the members and staff, by being the salt and light in the legal profession and society as a whole. (Proverbs 13:6; John 14:23)

2. Justice

UCLF believes that while primarily the message of the Gospel is one of forgiveness of sins and divine reconciliation, God's people are to reflect his character in their attitudes and relationships. As God revealed himself to Israel and then fully and perfectly through Christ he established his character of justice at the heart of Christian living. This will necessarily relate to five essential components.

- i. **Holiness:** Straight and righteous living, a commitment to God's holy moral order in both private and public life.
- ii. **Procedural justice:** Truth is part of justice therefore an appropriate forum for the truth to be told is essential. This also mandates the need for universal access to justice.
- iii. **Substantive justice:** Punishment and compensation should be correctly directed in a proportional manner.
- iv. **Human rights:** God made people in his own image therefore conveying basic dignity. Human dignity is most clearly protected in human rights and therefore UCLF claims a Biblical preference for the upholding of human rights. Biblical human rights are best embodied by Kingdom principles which will inevitably seek for the restoration of the whole person, including

their freedom, their access to basic amenities, the imputed influence of their gender, their bodily and spiritual well-being.

- v. **Community relationships:** Justice can only be understood within the context of right living within a series of inter-personal relations, therefore UCLF values relationships over and above projects as being demonstrative of God's character of justice.

3. Equity

In policy planning and project execution, UCLF is mindful of the negative impact that both culture and poverty can have upon rights. UCLF's strong belief is that all men and women are made equal in God's sight; Kingdom identity is superior to cultural identity. Therefore, UCLF's provision of legal aid and empowerment through rights awareness demonstrates a preference to address the needs of the vulnerable and marginalized. Development interventions which have pro-poor benefits are all modes of operation to be embraced by UCLF. In this sense, UCLF necessarily recognizes that price discrimination, lack of transparency in accountability systems and dishonesty offend the values of equity and cause greater inequity as a result of their anti-developmental consequences. Again, equity was central to the law of God (Leviticus 19) and therefore its absence is taken to be detrimental to fulfilled human relationships.

4. Compassion

UCLF contends that its' work goes beyond mere professional output and extends to the realm of ministry. This will mean that UCLF engages with the fullness of the human condition offering counseling and ministry as well as legal assistance to the victims of injustice.

5. Peaceful Resolution of Conflicts

UCLF strongly believes in the Kingdom principle of 'shalom.' In other words, peace and justice not only involve the expedition of a legal dispute but also require interpersonal reconciliation between disputants. Furthermore, all humans struggle in conflict with God until reconciliation is made possible by responding to the Gospel of grace in repentance before the Almighty God.

UCLF staff should seek strong inter-personal office relationships where conflict and disagreement is dealt with swiftly and peacefully. Therefore, not only should Christian identity be at the forefront of

UCLF work on behalf of clients but it should inform the preference for alternative dispute resolution or traditional dispute resolution methods (where they are not at variance with Christian principles or fundamental human rights) rather than court action as the first mode of operation.

6. Good Governance

UCLF shall strive to reflect and uphold ethical values of transparency and accountability in all of its systems, operations and methods of work. All actions of members, the full time staff members and volunteers should be robust in the face of public scrutiny. UCLF also seeks to encourage good governance in public affairs as a necessary precursor for development. In this sense, UCLF positions itself as a civil society actor with a stake in the honest and dedicated execution of responsibilities by public bodies.

7. Fellowship

UCLF is in essence a fellowship of Christian lawyers. Therefore, unity, encouragement and discipleship remain core features of the attitude and purpose of UCLF, its members and staff alike. (Hebrews 10:25)

8. Professionalism

In carrying out its activities, UCLF shall provide services professionally and relate to other institutions in a similar manner. In particular, UCLF shall ensure that its work is carried out efficiently and with due regard to quality.

9. Volunteerism

UCLF recognizes that volunteerism is the opposite sentiment to a dependency culture and in recognition that UCLF was founded and sustained by its members as a voluntary association shall continue to encourage the permeation of volunteerism at all levels of the organisation.

10.Diversity and respect of different cultures

All members and employees of UCLF shall treat each other with civility, respect and courtesy. In the course of operations, UCLF prohibits all forms of discrimination on grounds of colour, race, tribe, religion, nationality, ethnicity, gender, marital status or any form of disability.

UCLF Statement of Faith

UCLF members believe in;

A The Bible

The Bible is God's Word, written by men divinely inspired, and the supreme infallible authority in all matters of faith and conduct. Man's customs, traditions and opinions should not supersede the authority of the Bible. (John 1:1-3, 2 Timothy 3:16).

B The Triune God

We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: God the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit (I Timothy 1:17, John 1:14, John 4:24).

- (i) We believe in God the Father, perfect in holiness, infinite in wisdom and measureless in power. We rejoice that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves us from sin all who come to him through Jesus Christ (Leviticus 11:44; Psalm 39; Psalm 50:1).
- (ii) We believe in Jesus Christ, the eternal and only begotten Son of God who was conceived of the Holy Spirit by virgin birth, who was sinless in His life and who through His death made atonement for the sins of the world. We believe in His resurrection, His ascension, His role as our Mediator before God and His future return to the world (John 3:16, Luke. 31-32, John. 1:14, Acts 8:37, John. 14:3).
- (iii) We believe in the person of the Holy Spirit, whose ministry is to glorify Christ, to convince the world of sin, and to regenerate, indwell, sanctify, comfort, encourage and empower those who believe in Christ (John. 6:62, 15:26, 16:7-14, John.5:1, Romans. 8:9, Romans. 13:16, I Peter 1:2, I Corinthians. 12:7-11).

C Salvation and Forgiveness

We believe that all people by nature and by choice are lost sinners and can only be saved by accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, through faith and not only by works. We believe in the resurrection from the dead of the believer to everlasting life and the blessedness and joy with the Lord in heaven,

and of the unbeliever to everlasting punishment and separation from God in Hell (John 3:16, 5:28-29, Romans 5:8-12, John 17:3, Ephesians 2:1-9, Titus 3:5, Revelation 20:11-15).

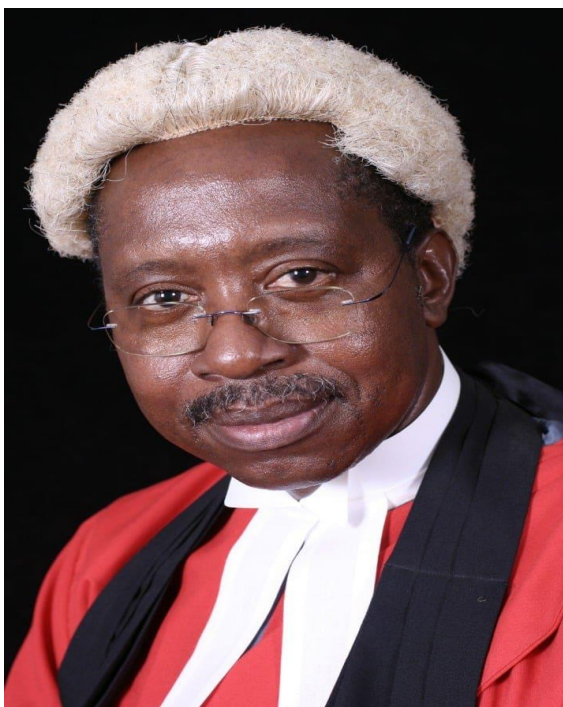
D The Church

We believe in the Church as a living spiritual body of which Christ is the head and of which all regenerated people are members (Colossians 1:18). The transformation of believers and social improvement are inevitable by-products of the Gospel and discipleship.

E The Relationship between Church and State

We believe that all Christians should be faithful citizens and obedient to the State, in upholding and maintaining its laws. Governments are ordained by God. We believe that every human being is responsible to God alone in all matters of faith. At the same time every church must cooperate with, uphold and implement the civil laws of Government, seeing that they are for the good of the people. (Matthew 2:21, Acts 6:1-7, Romans. 13:1-7, 14: 7-12, Titus 3:1, I Peter 2:13-14).

MEET HON. JUSTICE EGONDA NTENDE



John Osapiri and Arija Ariniwe interviewed Hon. Justice Egonda Ntende, a Justice of the Court of Appeal/Constitutional Court of Uganda on 17th August 2020. Below are excerpts from the Interview:

Tell us about your background and childhood

I am the second born in a family of 11. Our mother raised us with hardly any differences between girls and boys. Two of us, both boys have since passed on. Like most people of my generation, I grew up in the country side. I was taught to live in all circumstances. I was also empowered with life skills.

I was born on 15th June 1956 at Kamuli Mission Hospital. At the time, my father was upgrading as a teacher at Buwalasi Teacher Training College and my mother was staying in their home in Kamuli. My father was a head teacher at Namwendwa Primary School about 11 miles from Kamuli town. We were raised in staff quarters, and so I grew up in a community of teachers, their children, pupils and the immediate community.

We had a large household, as we lived with the extended relatives. My father decided that the best opportunity for his children would be to take them to the best schools at the time. As a head teacher he wasn't earning much but he was committed to ensuring that his children could receive the best education.

I attended Namwendwa Primary School for my Primary One and Two. My parents later transferred me to Mwiri Primary School where I completed Primary Seven. After primary school I joined Busoga College Mwiri for both Ordinary Level and Advanced Level school education. I later joined Makerere University on government sponsorship to pursue a Bachelor of laws and later the Law Development Center.

You say that your father was a teacher, how did you and your father deal with transfers?

What was amazing was that he taught and was a head teacher at Namwendwa Primary School for twenty years. However, in 1966, we re-located to his ancestral home and he would ride bicycle daily to attend to his routine duties at the school.

His ancestral home was at Makoka village within the same sub-county, about four or five miles from the school location. We never experienced transfers or moving from one place to another since our father was stationed in one school. I can say we organically grew up located in one place, safe for the fact that I was attending a boarding school probably eight or nine months away and probably three months around home. So that was our home and continues to be my home up to today.

When you were growing, were your parents Christians?

Yes, they were very devoted Christians. Along the way, they accepted Christ as their personal savior and got born-again. As we were growing up, there were certain things that were just part of us, these things became a culture at home. For example, evening prayers before we went to bed were a must, something that continues in my life to date.

My father was a very good singer. One of the subjects he taught was music and he was a choirmaster. I did not take after him as far as the music is concerned. I can only produce a happy noise.

Are you a fun of sports and what sport do you like?

Yes, I am passionate about table tennis.

Most young people like football but when I went to Mwiri Primary School, my world was opened up, I played table tennis up to University and thereafter. I was not a champion or first grade player but it's something that fascinated me.

How was life in secondary school?

It had many facets about it. Being away from home in a different community, strangers had to be my brothers, which resulted into strong friendships, which had an influence on me, both positive and negative. As a youth in secondary school, it was common to break school rules but then I also came to understand why I needed to comply with these rules.

I also came to better understand the world around me, and what I wanted to become and do in life.

One thing that has always amazed me, is that at times we make decisions that define our lives and those that can affect our lives. In my Senior One, we were implored to join school clubs, including the Computer Club. I refused to join the Computer Club. I told myself and my friends that sciences are not for me because I had earlier made a decision not to do anything in relation to sciences and this was foolish at that time. I thought I never needed computers. I was content with reading novels. But after very many years, reality caught up with me, as we now entirely depend on computers to do our work.

While in secondary school, I was anxious about getting into the work place. I was inspired at the time by Grade Five teachers on training who used to teach us during their Teaching Practice. I then purposed that after Senior Four, I would join Grade Five teaching and within two years' I would become a teacher and start earning (money). Grade Five teachers were by then earning almost a thousand shillings, which was a lot to me, actually twice as much as my father earned.

One-day I had a chat with my father, and talked to him about my desire to join Grade Five teaching. He encouraged me to aim higher, at least becoming a Graduate Teacher. After that talk, I changed my perception and immediately decided on something else completely, i.e. to pursue Law.

One of the things about Mwiri is the way the different dormitories had some kind of self-government, the way they managed their allocation of duties, responsibility and cleanliness. These values were to prove critical later in life.

Were you part of the Scripture Union while in secondary school?

Yes, I was. I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour when I was in Mwiri primary school. However, going through secondary school, I was overwhelmed by the teenage stage, and I didn't follow through until much later in my life.

There was a scripture Union in Busoga College Mwiri where I wasn't much active. I remember in Senior 2, there was an Inter-House music competition and one of our senior members composed a song that I participated in. At that time, Scripture Union Conferences were quite notable in number though I never attend ED any since my father was not ready to fund me and could not afford seeing me away from home even in holidays.

Busoga College Mwiri had a very rich history, including having a good number of its Old Boys occupying big offices in government at the time you were at school! Did that inspire you in any way?

That, I suppose it did. The early 1970s were years of great hope, the country was transforming. You could see and feel it in the villages. There were serious debates at the time. Some people thought the political direction of the country had geared off. Once you received education you would be assured to be placed in a much better position than where you were coming from, so with an education you knew everything was possible. Mwiri had a lot of people that were serving in government at the time and it had a Board of Honor, showcasing its Old boys who were engaged in distinguished services to the nation.

I remember the deputy minister of Transport in the then East African community who was an Old Boy. He was called Cyrus Munabi. He came to address us in 1978 and he pointed at the Board of Honor. I don't remember what the question was but he said referring to my friend "look we are looking for an answer from Prof Kyesimira," and pointed to the board. We were in the same year with Kyesimira and he was the best arts student.

I remember in 1969 Hon. Justice Wambuzi Judge of High Court as he then was, was invited to swear in the Prefects' Council. He came dressed professionally and he did swear in the prefect's council in an open ceremony. We therefore not only heard or read about successful people but we had a glimpses of successful people. We were inspired by the old boys, and we worked hard to become like them.

When you joined university to pursue Law, how was life at campus?

It is the hard work that one remembers. At university there was the academic and social life, the academic was a lot of hard work. During the week, you would just have to rush to the Library in order to get to the Law

Reports and read the cases which was a must. Law students would be one of those with the longest reading lists. It was therefore hard work in that respect.

Universities are organized and students are also treated as adults. When one finally leaves a very restrictive Secondary school environment and then one comes to where they are treated as adults and have freedoms they never had, it can be a chaotic time. I therefore suppose that by the grace of the Almighty, we went through it not having hurt ourselves as given the possibilities.

How was studying in Makerere viz a viz the political environment then?

Being under a military regime, civil and political rights had been abrogated. The university set-up did not permit students' governments that went beyond Halls of Residence, so we did not have Guild elections. They had been abolished.

We had a strike in 1977 and the army came out. I was living in Lumumba hall at this time. The army came out and attacked the students in the hall. Fearing havoc, I moved with some friends and slept out of the University. Unfortunately, some of our colleagues who remained were beaten severely and taken to Makindye Military barracks.

Academically, shortages had come and certain things were scarce but we still had government sponsorships. We were being fed and housed. They were difficult times but basic necessities were provided. We still had grants to buy text books, so learning continued to happen. We had youthful teachers, and a year later when we were at the Law Development Centre, a war erupted in Uganda. When it reached in Kampala. I had said I was not going to leave Kampala but with the escalation of war and bullets flying all over, I walked out of Kampala on foot until I got to Mukono where I managed to get a bus to Jinja.

How did you start your professional career?

I had imagined that I would probably stay at LDC as an Assistant Lecturer, but while I stayed in Kampala waiting for an interview, I walked to LDC and somebody told me I wouldn't stand a chance. I therefore started applying for different jobs ranging from applying to be a State Attorney and many more.

I later applied to be a Magistrate, did Public Service interviews and I was appointed a Magistrate in 1979. However, I declined taking up the appointment because I had started working in Jinja as an Advocate at Kintu & Company Advocates. In 1981 I set up a firm with a colleague with whom I was working in names of Twiringire & Company Advocates. This later became Egonda Ntende Twiringire & Company Advocates after I enrolled.

I practiced Law in Jinja up to 1991 when I was appointed a Judge of the High Court. Before my appointment as Judge, I had become active with Uganda Law Society. I was involved in the Jinja Law Society branch. I later rose to become the Vice president of ULS.

Myself and my colleagues became concerned with issues in relation to access to justice and helped the formulation of the Legal Aid project of ULS. We continued to speak out on issues of human rights. Administration of justice had died long ago with the judiciary, and so services couldn't be improved.

One of the things the Chief Justice used to tell us was that the Judiciary was short of judges. He always implored senior members of the Bar to join the Bench. However, the pay for judicial officers then was not adequate to incline members of the bar to join the judiciary.

I remember at one time the Chief Justice made the same call to the bar in a meeting I had attended with the current Chief Justice His Lordship Owiny Dollo. Justice Owiny Dollo as he then was, told the Chief Justice, ‘‘ My lord, why don't you consider people like our Vice President here.’’ And in the course of the year I was offered the position of a Judge of High Court. I was 35 years at the time. And as people normally say, the rest is history. It's now been close to 30 years working in the Judiciary and here I am 64 years old on the way out.

How did you manage to work in the international forum and yet you were employed in Uganda?

It was fairly simple I could say. The United Nations advertised for a series of jobs in Kosovo. I thought maybe there is something I could offer. I applied to the Judicial Affairs Officer of the Judiciary and the administration released me. I spent two years in Kosovo as an International Judge. This gave me the experience to work in a cross culture environment and understand the problems of building a justice system in a country coming from turmoil or instability.

In the Judiciary I had worked as Chairman Judicial Training Committee. I was active in trying to see how training can improve performance of Judges and Magistrates. I had done that for a while, I had gone to the United States and had spent one year on professional development program looking at both judicial training and Information Technology and how it can help transform the performance of the judiciary as well as improve efficiency and effectiveness of services rendered.

When I came back from the States in 1998 the Judiciary set up a committee on technology to advise the state on how technology can be used in the Courts. Having taken on training in a number of areas, I was asked to be head of Commercial Court and for the first time we were able to implement the use court recordings during court proceedings. The Commercial Court was supposed to be a model from which you would be able to translate ideas that would work for the rest of the judiciary. We were able to develop a customers' charter which would commit us to deliver to certain levels of service delivery, we were able to continually engage with users through reporting as a committee.

I moved on to head the Family Division of the High Court. Later the Government of Rwanda asked me to help set up a Commercial Court. However, no sooner had the Chief Justice released me than I got another offer to work in Seychelles and I chose to go to Seychelles. The Rwanda offer was better financially but I chose to go to Seychelles because in my view that gave me an opportunity where I would present my ideas and also implement since I was to work as Chief Justice.

I would no longer blame anyone else, I would have the beauty and choice to ensure that the ideas I had about the Judiciary I wanted were implemented. Therefore, in terms of professional development and fulfillment, it managed to give me a better opportunity and I can say I did all I had hoped in the five-year contract. Seychelles had a failed Judiciary; the government, the opposition and people agreed that change must come. The Government of Seychelles chose to head hunt for someone who could help the institution transform. This is how I was subsequently hired for the job.

Everything I had done here in my country, prepared me for the challenges I faced in my work abroad. We developed a strategic plan on how we would go down the road and how we would be judged. We implemented the changes we thought were necessary to transform the Judiciary, we sought help where it was available, and at the end of 5 years the judiciary of Seychelles was not in the same situation as we had found it.

Tell us about your family

I am married to Margaret. We got married in 1995. We have been blessed with three children. However, the family is much larger than that. Our youngest child is waiting to go to university hopefully to study medicine, though COVID 19 has put a hold to his plans. The other two are working, married and we are grandparents.

Tell us about your philosophy for life.

One of the things that resonated with my mind is Ecclesiastes 9: 10 which says that whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your mind for in the realm of the dead where you are going there is neither working nor planning, knowledge or wisdom.

Listening to the former Bishop of Busoga Diocese, the Late *Bishop Cyprian Bamwoze* in one of his sermons many years back. He said ‘*we are here for only a short time, our life could just be a flitting moment but if we are able to bring to every task performed a desire, willingness and energy to perform it excellently, then it is time well spent.*’ To me this meant that be it handling of a case or a simple chore, it is important that you put your best forward.

Whether it is in the service of the community, I think it is important to apply the many talents the Lord has provided us with to achieve an outcome that surely should bring glory to his name. Given the history of our country, and the challenges we now have, I think it is important to commit to both quality and quantity that is, of such a level in return of the investment made. In terms of the law you know the constitution or the laws that are written can be mere words, can be pieces of paper but it is our duty as judges and lawyers to bring life into those words so that they become meaningful. I believe it is our duty to breathe life into them so that the promise they offer to our people is actually realized.

Which message do you have for the young lawyers?

I was once a young lawyer like everyone else and that is where the journey starts. I think it is important that they have focus on what they want to do. Additionally, what they want to do should be in accordance with Gods’ plan for their life! This is because, God has a plan for each of us. Therefore, one can choose to cooperate, to obey or rebel to what God wants them to do. When you choose to obey God, the plan will unfold giving you hope for the future and avoiding harm.

It is easy to think in terms of short term gain as opposed to long term gains but one needs to be careful because what might be short term might have long term repercussions.

If you take to heart what is in Ecclesiastes 9:10, then let whatever you do bring out the best and that will establish a pattern of excellence in your life that will move with you up to the time you get to rest. You should endeavor to put your best forward all the time and trust in the Lord who will not fail you.

Thank you and God bless you.

UCLF COVID 19 RESPONSE IN THE YEAR 2020

2020 is a year like no other. The world has suffered a global pandemic of COVID-19 that has poised unprecedented disruptions on the socio-economic and political fabric of different economies. In particular, the Ugandan Government through the Ministry of Health established several measures to avert the spread of the virus. These measures were further complemented by a series of Presidential directives which included a ban on public movement; closure of courts of Judicature and subsequently a total lockdown. Despite the above directives being a step in the right direction especially in mitigating COVID 19, enforcement of some of the directives had an unsettling effect on the broader spectrum of Human rights, Access to Justice and Rule of Law. UCLF took a number of initiatives to mitigate the effects of COVID 19 in Uganda.

1. UCLF'S General Interventions on COVID 19

- i. Petitioned the Speaker of Parliament, Chief of Defence Forces, Inspector General of Police, Chief Justice and the Uganda Human Rights Commission on Torture and inhuman/Degrading treatment that UCLF noted with concern the torture of Hon. Francis Zake of Mityana municipality, Pastor Andrew Muwanguzi of True Worship Center Kamuli and other suspects. The Petition was presented in Partnership with other CSOs namely LAPSNET, Women Probono Initiative, Uganda Law Society, PILAC and NETPIL.
- ii. UCLF Partnered with the Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET) to petition the Office of the Prime Minister, the Minister of Education and Sports, the Uganda National Teachers Union (UNATU), the Uganda Human Rights Commission (UNHRC) and the media on the Right to education and the need for reopening of schools in Uganda.
- iii. UCLF also sent out Proposals to solicit for funding to facilitate its interventions on human rights violations arising out of the COVID 19.

2. UCLF's Specific Interventions

(a) Paralegal Advisory Services (PAS)

The major objective of this project is to educate suspects, prisoners, complainants/Victims and the community on the basics of law and procedures of criminal justice system for improved access to Justice.

PAS Kampala

During the Covid 19 lock down, the PAS Kampala Department undertook the following activities.

- i. UCLF PAS team has continued to conduct on Spot Legal Response at various Police Stations notably Central Police Station (CPS) Kampala, Wandegaya Police Station, Kanyanya Police Station, Kirinya Police Station Bulenga Police Station and Buloba Police Station. In Particular;
- ii. Advocated for and secured release on Police Bond for suspects who had been arrested in violation of the Presidential Directives.
- iii. Followed up with the Respective Investigative officers on case files of some suspects.
- iv. Engaged Police to comply with the 48 Hour Rule and as a result most suspects who had over stayed in Police detention were released.
- v. UCLF engaged and advised Police to Divert Petty cases from Criminal to ADR.
- vi. UCLF linked suspects to Sureties, Families and their lawyers.
- vii. UCLF Shared the Gospel with suspects in Police detention and male suspects gave their lives to Christ.

Out Put for PAS Kampala.

The interventions under PAS are continuous, but these are some of the outputs since the commencement of lock down (March 2020 to June 2020).

No	Activity	Out put
1	Set Frees	67 Beneficiaries.
2	Released on Bond	176 (11 Females and 164 Males).
3	Taken to Court or Sanctioned	26 Suspects.
4	Got saved	43 Converts
5	Linking Sureties, Family and Lawyers	114 Suspects.
6	ADR Beneficiaries	6 suspects.

PAS Kasese.

The Kasese PAS team has completed the following activities the COVID 19 lockdown.

- i. Conducted media sensitizations on SGBV and Domestic Violence on Radio. Media sensitisation on GBV was on Guide radio. The radio coverage reached atleast 7 districts of Kamwenge, Kabarole, Bunyangabo, Kasese, Rubirizi, parts of Ntoroko and Kamwenge. Another talk show was conducted on messiah radio whose coverage is about 6 districts on child labour.
- ii. Gave on spot legal advice to walk in clients at the UCLF Kasese office. The Kasese office attended to 14 walking in clients.
- iii. Legal Representation and referrals. The Kasese office referred one client to justice Centres for representation in Court, and at least 2 cases being handled by UCLF are ongoing while others have been concluded.
- iv. Offered on phone legal advice to calling in clients. Atleast 6 clients called to seek legal advice on police bond and land issues.
- v. Partnered with the surrounding Police Stations in Kasese to offer legal sensitization to suspects in police custody. At least 5 people received legal counsel at the Police Stations of Kisinga and Kidod.

GULU UCLF OFFICES

The UCLF Gulu office has completed the following activities in this COVID19 pandemic times.

1. The UCLF and the BMS staff in Gulu were involved in food distribution programmes in the most improvised communities around Gulu.
2. Radio talk show, the team conducted one radio show on community land rights. This radio show reaches most of northern sub region and many vulnerable communities.
3. Mediations; As a result of the radio show; many walk-in clients filed complaints which later referred for mediations, which mediations were successfully conducted by the office.
4. The team as well gave on phone legal advice to calling in clients.
5. Interventions in refugee camps; there was translation of phonics, literacy from English to Swahili for Swahili speakers in the refugee camps by the Gulu team.
6. Adult literacy; as a result of the lockdown, schools were closed and as a result child have been staying home with their parents. The team in Gulu has therefore been involved in teaching parents how to read to their children.
7. Child Protection, the team is embarking on having weekly radio shows on child protection during the COVID 19 times. These trainings are conducted in local languages.

STUDENTS AND LIBRARY DEPARTMENT

The department has continued to implement the following activities amidst the COVID 19 lockdown.

1. Online research consultation for students and Lawyers; since the Government has encouraged E-learning. Our online consultations accessed by lawyers and students to aid further research during the lockdown.
2. Psycho-Social support to students: Due to the effects of COVID 19 on the students, the student department has been engaged in giving online on spot counselling to law students.
3. Material support to students especially those that did not have transport fares to go back to their home towns upcountry. Additionally, some needed airtime to communicate to their parents, which we readily availed.
4. Online student's symposium titled 'Manoeuvring through the COVID 19 Crisis. This was highly attended by 40 participants.

Counselling Department

- i. Offered psycho-Social E-Counselling to both Clients and staff members during the lockdown, this was done through Phone calls to offer encouragement to clients and staff.
- ii. Availed physical basic needs support that included food stuffs and clothes to indigents. This was done through the different community outreaches to serve food items to the indigents and also share Christ with the communities around Wandegeya and Masooli in Kampala. The gospel was preached and food items were accordingly distributed.
- iii. Conducted regulated Community sensitizations on early pregnancy, stopping substance abuse and prevention of Domestic violence (Variance in activity, contact and engage donors).
- iv. Engaged in evangelism outreach and sensitizations on Covid 19.



The Counselling Department Reaching out to youth in Masooli, A Kampala suburb with necessities.



UCLF team in Kasese holding a radio talk show on Guide Radio in Kasese, discussing issues of Gender-based violence focusing on rape, defilement, domestic violence and other forms of violence on women and men.

Appreciation

We thank the members of Uganda Christian Lawyers Fraternity for their immense contributions towards supporting the members that were in need during the lockdown, raising treatment costs for one of our members for an operation and supporting the reach out to Bless a Child Foundation for Charity.

Appreciation goes to the Board for helping the secretariat gather the needed support and organising members' online fellowships.

We thank the Staff for working amidst the lockdown, some could walk on foot to office, to police stations and Courts. We thank them for their sacrifice.

We thank Uganda Law Society (ULS) for availing UCLF with a car sticker for essential services to enable us respond to COVID 19 Human Rights Violations. This enabled us to transport our key staff easily to places of different interventions.



Photo showing UCLF staff and some Board members posing for a photo with the beneficiaries of bless a Child Foundation.



A photo moment with the supported children and their gifts.



Singing together



Praying other

OUR NEEDS IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

In order for UCLF to effectively respond to COVID 19, the following needs should be met.

1. A UCLF free toll number to respond to give on spot legal advice in cases of Human Rights violations.
2. The need for continued support for media outreaches and community outreaches to inform the public on Human Rights issues emanating from the Pandemic.
3. Funding to support the extension and provision of free legal services to the very poor, inform of obtaining bail and police bond for illegal arrests, mediation and representation of indigents.

UCLF SUCCESS STORIES

A. STUDENTS' AND LIBRARY PROGRAMME

The general objective of the students' Programme is to contribute to the spiritual and legal growth of Christian law students in Uganda. Specifically, this programme promotes research and study among students and further engages students in intellectual and spiritual development activities. The following activities were accomplished over the past year under this department.

1. Through different activities, we have realised promotion of research among students. UCLF has witnessed gradual increase in students' membership and library use. In the first 6 months of 2019 the number of student members was at 71 and currently has risen to 120. 20 new students have registered excluding those that renew their membership. Approximately 10-15 students access the library on a daily basis. This has contributed to the boosting of Students' legal knowledge and research skills.
2. Through conducting orientation meetings to First-year law students, we have informed new university students about UCLF Specifically the Students' department on the services and activities entailed there in. This is evidenced through the increased attendance of the activities held after the orientation activities such as fellowships and the number of students that walked in to pay membership after orientation.
3. There has been capacity and spiritual maturity amongst students. This is validated by the testimonies from students and also increased numbers in University Law Fellowships attendance.
4. The department successfully conducted the Annual Students' Retreat which took place from the 27th September to the 29th Sept 2019 at FOCUS prayer center. This retreat was conducted under the **theme "Walk before me and be perfect....Gen 17:1.** Seven Universities Including Uganda Christian University, Uganda Christian University-Kampala campus, Kampala International University, Makerere University, Gulu University, Cavendish and Uganda Pentecostal University turned up. The retreat was

a joint one with the September members' monthly fellowship that took place on the Saturday of 28th September 2019 and the total number of Students in attendance was 85 members exclusive.



With Fellowship leaders after orientation at Cavendish



Students joined members for the monthly fellowship

5. For better planning purposes, we deemed it fit that planning meetings be adjusted from December to January of every year. This year on 27th of February, we therefore held the annual students'

representative meeting that took place at the secretariat. In this meeting, we were able to plan for the year 2020's activities as well as receiving new students' representatives who was handed over to instruments of office and in Uganda, Makerere University, Nkumba, Cavendish and Bishop Stuart University and Uganda Pentecostal Gulu University.

6. The department held the annual student Leaders' seminar and this took place on 21st Feb 2020 at UCLF secretariat. This seminar's theme was **"Christian Leaders in the Market- Place"**. It is important that Christians learn to occupy offices of public influence and that is why such a topic would come up at a time like this where the secular world seems to be taking up the space of the Christian world. To cover the gap and increase the circumference of Christians in the outside world, we have chosen to encourage and enlighten the future Christian leaders through the student leaders' seminar. Seven universities that is to say Bishop Stuart University Mbarara, Makerere University, Cavendish, Nkumba, Kampala International University, Uganda Pentecostal University, and Uganda Christian University. The total number of Students in attendance was 40.
7. This year's Annual Students' Symposium was conducted virtually on 7th. June 2020 under the theme **"Manoeuvring through COVID-19 crisis as a Christian Law Student"** with different topic facilitated by UCLF members, it was attended by 40 students and above from various universities.

PARALEGAL ADVISORY SERVICES PROJECT

The UCLF PAS is a nationwide programme implemented by UCLF and funded by Baptist Mission Society UK (BMS). UCLF Paralegals are stationed in Police Stations, Magistrates' Courts, in Kampala, Gulu and Kasese with the aim of contributing to the process of physical and case file decongestion in the criminal justice system.

The Paralegal advisory services project in Kampala operates under four objectives ; To educate suspects, prisoners, complainants/ victims and the community on the basics of law and procedures of the criminal justice system for improved access to justice; To increase access to justice for detainees charged with petty and capital offences; To contribute to the process of decongestion in the criminal justice and To contribute to change of practices within the criminal justice system through advocacy and civic engagement. Below are the results under their respective objectives;

1. They managed to advocate for police bond. A total of **887** suspects, **675** males, **212** being females at Wandegaya police station and at Central Police station received police bond.

2. They managed to advocate for Court bail for **30 (29 males, 01female)** inmates at Buganda Road Court and LDC Court.
3. They made several follow ups on **2210** suspects' files with the respective investigating Police officers together with the Resident State Attorneys(RSA) of which, **2110** being male suspects and **100** female suspects.
4. They Sensitized **6623 (5856 males, 395 females)** suspects /inmates on their rights for example right to bond and bail, right to freedom of recording a statement, right to fair hearing.
5. Despite the outbreak of **COVID 19 pandemic**, paralegals made follow ups at some police stations so that the vulnerable persons would access police bond. This was possible when UCLF secured a movement card from Uganda Law Society, as legal services were declared essential.
6. They linked **2962** sureties (**2724** males and **238**) such as relatives, friends to suspects/inmates at Police/Court physically and by phone calls.
7. They managed to mediate **07** cases at Police/Court of which **06** being for males, **01** for a female suspect and cases they have been successfully settled.
8. They carried out spiritual counselling to both Suspects/Inmates and many gave their lives to Jesus and a total of **247(197 males,50 females)** persons gave their lives to Jesus Christ.



Mr. Kijjambu Duncan a Paralegal leads a suspect who had benefited from police bond to Christ.



Mr. Twinomujuni Anania a UCLF Paralegal interviewing a client.

CIVIL LITIGATION DEPARTMENT REPORT JUNE 2019 TO JULY 2020

The department handles mainly civil matters and those include matters to do with Land, Employment, Breach of Contract, and Administration of estates, Family, Children, NGOs and companies. The department provided legal aid to 108 beneficiaries during the period the between January 2019- 2020 as represented below;

NATURE OF CASES HANDLED.

MATTER	NO. OF CLIENTS
LAND (ADVISED/REFERRED)	57
SUCCESSION	22
FAMILY	10
CHILDREN	14
EMPLOYMENT	2
BREACH OF CONTRACT	2
OTHERS	1
TOTAL	108

NATURE OF CASES HANDLED

8. UCLF GULU OFFICE

The Gulu office has several legal interventions, as shall be seen in the table below. The activities are implemented by a Paralegal, a Missionary Lawyer and a Volunteer Advocate who was contracted at the beginning of this year to handle cases in Court. The Gulu office has accomplished the following tasks.

1. Attended to legal aid clients; Attended to legal aid clients that visited the office for legal advice and follow up of cases. The office attended to 27 clients from office and gave legal advice to 39 clients.
2. Followed up of cases at police, local councils, in the field and court. The office made 201 follow ups at police station, courts, with local Councils (the LCs) and in the field, out of which, 159 follow ups were successful.

3. Land Rights Legal Education Training; UCLF conducted 9 Land Rights Legal Education Trainings. 138 men and 163 women were trained, making a total of 301 people who were trained over the period.
4. Legal advices was dispensed; up to 178 people were legally advised, out of which 71 were men and 107 were women.
5. Devotions attended; the office participated in staff devotion every Monday from 10 to 11am.
6. Legal awareness through radio talk shows were conducted; the office conducted 2 radio talk shows. In these shows 23 listeners called in and we anticipate that 1,000,000 people listened to the radio shows. The radios in use have a frequency beyond Northern Uganda.
7. Coordinated and network with the resident state attorney-Gulu and court clerk for legal aid interventions. Once in a while the staff meet with the resident state attorney at his chamber and discussed matters registered at Gulu office.
8. Reviewed and updated both hard and soft copy files for clients; The office updated and reviewed all the clients' files both hard and soft copies.
9. Mediation conducted; over the period, the office conducted 4 mediations, out of which 3 were successful and 1 is still pending.
10. Referrals made; over the period, the office made three referrals and one of the clients was a woman while the other two were men. All the cases were referred to legal aid project of Uganda Law Society.
11. Participated in training at a school on child protection. The meetings were aimed at boosting regional stakeholders' capacity to deliver effectively.
12. The officers at UCLF Gulu also effectively wrote field reports and prepared books of accounts for Gulu office.

9. MASAKA OFFICE

The UCLF Masaka is currently being funded by the UCLF Probono fund. The office has a volunteer Coordinator/Paralegal and an advocate who is employed on a consultancy basis to handle legal aid matters as they arise. The office engages in a range of activities including but not limited to conducting mediations, community legal awareness, and representation of indigents in both Civil and Criminal matters. The activities are implement in Masaka and the surrounding districts of Bukomansibi, Lwengo, Rakai, Kyotera and Mpigi.

The Masaka UCLF office operates on the objectives of coordinating representation of indigent persons and capital offenders in civil and criminal cases and also aims at ensuring access to justice for all through creating legal awareness and trainings.

Outputs for 2019/2020

1. We received 44 legal aid clients who came for legal advice 29 male 15 females.
2. We registered 47 civil and criminal disputes of which there were 46 concluded through legal advice and counselling in office, one case is currently ongoing in court at Kasaali Grade 1 Magistrates Court in Kyotera District.
3. We successfully conducted mediation of 04 of the civil cases we received.
4. We took on representation in one case still which is still ongoing and 02 of our clients secured police bond.
5. We conducted 02 community legal awareness trainings in partnership with Masaka Baptist Church. This was conducted on the 19th day of July 2019 for 64 School going Children, of whom 38 were male and 26 were female. On the 15th day of August 2019 we trained 49 community members in Masaka town of whom 08 were male and 41 were female. We also conducted one training in Bukomansimbi on the 26th day of July 2019, where 19 community members that is 10 male and 09 female did benefit from the trainings. In all the trainings conducted at least a total number of 2000 dependents were indirect beneficiaries.



Legal awareness sensitizations conducted by the Masaka UCLF branch.

MEMBERSHIP AFFAIRS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The UCLF department of Membership, Grants and Professional was formed to establish a linkage between members and the organization, support in resource mobilization and engage in professional development of members. The Department is involved in the following activities;

1. The department mobilized members to participate in Advocates Africa Conference which was held in Mombasa Kenya from 22 – 27th August 2019. Uganda was represented by 23 delegates. We also had a representation of three delegates for CLEAR Conference in Nairobi Kenya.
2. The department supported in organizing the UCLF Fundraising dinner on 1st November 2019.
3. Conducted Six (6) Continuing Legal Education Trainings. About 200 Judicial officers, advocates and students were reached too.
4. The department organized and mobilized members to attend both monthly fellowships and weekly fellowships. There were 12 end of month's fellowship and 48 weekly fellowships. At least 600 members attended these fellowships through the year.
5. The department organized successful pastoral visits to some of the UCLF members' offices and homes for spiritual support. We had atleast 12 pastoral visits to law firms, courts and members' homes.
6. We visited and donated food stuffs to Bless a child foundation which looks after children infected with Cancer. at least 70 cancer children patients were reached too.
7. The department supported in mobilization of resources to support an advocate who is ailing with Cancer. This was done during the COVID 19 lockdown. At least UGX 6,300,000/= was raised locally.
8. The Department mobilized resources to stand with members who were going through challenging times for example those who lost their loved ones or had patients.
9. We managed to deposit UGX 69,000,000/= on the UCLF account between 1st June 2019 to 31st July 2020.
10. The department mobilised UCLF members to visit Luzira Women Prison. They donated food stuffs and preached Christ and several of them got saved. Legal awareness and represented were provided to the prisoners. About 200 women inmates were reached too.



Photos of Participants of Advocates African Conference.



Hon. Justice Mike Chibita, the UCLF Patron addresses the Africa Advocates conference in Nairobi.

UCLF Counselling Department

The counseling project is intended to empower UCLF staff and beneficiaries to manage difficult times both at work and their personal lives. The project also supports the psychosocial needs of staff and clients for positive response when dealing with issues. The project is housed at the UCLF Secretariat in Kampala.

Departmental Achievements

1. Maintained counselling based communication through emails. In the months of July 2019 to June 2020, the department shared specific counselling messages with the UCLF Staff and members on social media and on emails. UCLF Staff and members received teachings on behavior change and these included, how to work with others, Ways to stay strong and What sup tips on COVID 19 and behavior tips.

The emails were intended to improve the capacity of UCLF staff to manage their domestic and personal issues. Feedback emails from some of them indicated that the messages were appreciated and have contributed to their life style

2. Conducting of individual counselling sessions, these were conducted with staff and UCLF members. This involved face to face meetings with UCLF staff, walk in clients and the members. This also involved pre-arranged counselling sessions and group counselling meetings. The Department had 10 individual counselling sessions with staff and 6 individual counselling sessions with the clients. Issues in individual counselling raised include worry about unemployment, dating issues, marriage issues and marital counselling.

As a result of the counselling sessions, there has been increased self-esteem among staff members. The continuous interaction has also increased the relationship between the counsellor and the staff members where they have been able to cope and handle some issues without stress, we have prayed and shared and shared Christ together.

3. Group counselling. This was conducted with staff. The Department had group counselling with staff of UCLF on how to work with others, discussed about annoying habits that put others at risk and also frustrated and some e of these include indecent dressing, shouting at people, shouting on phone, hygiene etc. The session was so interactive, time was the limit and after we prayed together.

4. Community sensitization; the department reached out to the youth of Masoli zone in Kampala. They had group counselling with 20 youth on how to prevent COVID 19, this included a talk on social distancing, wearing of masks, and hand washing. The department also trained on abstinence from sex to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS. After the trainings the team shared Christ with the youth, to which some of them gave their lives to Christ.
5. Women Empowerment Conference; the department had women conference organized by True Disciples Church in Kasangati, under the theme 'a wise woman.' 80 women attended the conference. Women were encouraged to pray at all time in order to be wise women and also they were told to take care of their families and there was time to pray together.
6. Remand Home Visits; the department had also one group counselling sessions with the children of Naguru remand home, who are 250 in number on behavioural change, most of these children are in the remand home for criminal offences like theft, defilement, fighting etc. Most of the children are in the age bracket of 13 to 18 years. The group session was participatory where the children were given an opportunity to ask questions. After the sessions, most of the children looked excited and ready to change. After the sessions the counsellor prayed and shared eats but also UCLF donated 30 bibles to remand home.
7. Kigo Prison and Kasangati Police Outreach; The counselling project reached out to Kigo prisons and had group counselling with 160 inmates on how to manage anger and stress and the inmates brainstormed things like going to church, having exercises, having a walk, by accepting Christ as their personal saviour; the workshop was so participatory in a sense that every woman had time to ask a question. By the end of the session, everyone wanted the discussion to continue. After the counselling session we shared about the love of Christ and prayed together and shared prayer requests. Also reached out to Kasangati police and shared Christ with in suspects.
8. Reception Centre Visits; the Reception Centre is a place where children who have been abandoned on the streets, mistreated by parents, sexually abused and those lost from their homes are kept. Since these children come from different families, some are rough to others, there are always in-fighting among which puts the risks of others to risk. Teaching them how to interact was important to improve their social behaviors. 90 children attended the session. After the session there was time to pray with the children and lead them to Christ.



UCLF Counselor having an Abstinence session with the youth.



The UCLF Counselor having behavioral session with the youth.



UCLF counsellor reaches out to children at the reception center, teaching them how to read and write.



Counselling session with staff.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CLUSTER

1. From the month march to December 2019 the project, was able to successfully organize environmental sustainability awareness campaigns in eight schools in the districts of Wakiso Kampala, these schools included Trinity Academy, Dream High School, St Kizito Secondary School, Lubiri Secondary School, Kololo Secondary School, FNC Academy Kisubi High School and Ntake High School.
2. The project also contributed to the green growth strategy for healthy environment for all through distribution of trees in schools the department organized tree planting campaigns of fruit trees in schools.

However in March 2020 the global pandemic hit and the whole country went into lockdown for four months until a phased opening was started, the project implementing team started with office work /desk work including, research, drafting of departmental work plan proposals development etc. the team started up daily market vendors waste management and disposal campaign targeting market places with in Kampala metropolitan area with a pilot campaign of three markets namely Nakawa , Wandegeya and Kasubi Markets. The team started with carrying out market survey tours aimed at identifying key stakeholders like market leaders, security officials around the market places and assessing the major activities of the markets and identifying the strategies of waste management in place to see how they can be improved.



UCLF environmental justice implementing team after discussing with the staff of Nakawa market.

KASESE UCLF OFFICES

The major objective of the Paralegal project is to enhance access to justice for the vulnerable and the poor people both in and out of detention in Kasese district. This project is proudly supported BMS World Mission.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Legal Advice; **83 People (68males, 15 females)** walk-in clients, clients in the field and those who call for advice have were helped on a number of issues.
- Drafting documents: **35** legal documents were drafted for the needy clients ranging from sale agreements, written statements of defence, memorandum of understanding and tenancy agreements.
- Self-representation; **26** accused persons were given skills of self-representation and also of these 3 female convicts were talked to at Katwe prison on their rights while in prison.
- Drafting wills **2** clients (females) have been helped in writing their Wills.
- Legal sensitizations; **3** radio programmes were conducted on messiah radio under BMS project. Information on domestic violence, child rights abuses with emphasis on child labour and child marriages has been disseminated and the districts of Rubirizi, Kabarole, Bunyangabo, parts of the Bushenyi, Bundibugyo, Kasese, Kamwenge and others have benefited of the program. This radio programs have approximately reached out to over 1,000,000 people looking at the coverage.
- Trainings for community and religious leaders; **1** community and religious training was conducted in Muhokya sub county local leaders on Land Law and Domestic Violence in partnership with Muhokya Farmers Network where **22** people were trained (**2**females & **20** males).
- Community policing; **1** Community policing was conducted in Kilembe sub county at Kyambogho parish that has high land cases, Domestic Violence and Theft as a crime, officer in charge Kilembe helped in conducting the policing together with the UPDF Commander. **80** participants with **52** females and **28** males) attended the exercise.
- Rights awareness; **3** Legal sensitization trainings and meetings in partnership with other likeminded partners like RPBR (RWENZORI PEACE BRIDGE OF RECONCILIATION) has been conducted in three 4 sub counties of LAKE Katwe (focus on Child Marriages), Ihandiro, Kyarumba and bugoye sub counties (focus on Human rights and legal framework on land laws reaching **450** participants (**207** males, **243** females).



Participants pose for a group photo outside St. Johns Anglican church in Kyarumba sub county.



UCLF legal Assistant during the community policing at Kyambogho Village in Kilembe sub county.



UCLF legal assistant taking on participants in a public awareness training at Katunguru in lake Katwe sub county on legal frame work on child marriages in November 2019.

CRIMINAL PUBLIC DEFENSE PROGRAM IN KAYUNGA

UCLF has for over five years been representing the indigent members of the community in criminal matters in the police stations, the courts and prisons in Kayunga District and the neighboring communities. The project is aimed at creating community legal awareness so as to contribute to the process of decongestion in the criminal Justice System, change practices through practice advocacy and civic engagement. The goal of the project is engaging access to justice for the Vulnerable particularly the poor people both in and out of detention in Kayunga District.

As part of the decongestion of prisons program UCLF with support from the UCLF Pro Bono Fund contracted a consultant to represent the suspects in Ntenjeru prisons on plea bargain. These activities directly contributed to decongesting of Kayunga prisons, access to justice and creating legal awareness on the law and civic rights among the vulnerable people in communities in Kayunga District.

ACTIVITIES AND SUCCESSES

1. Legal Sensitization of inmates, over 70 inmates were sensitized on prisoners' rights and in 2019.

2. Plea bargain representation, over 50 prisoners were represented on plea bargain between July 2019 and June 2020. We handled 50 accused persons with different counts from Ntenjeru Prison appearing in Kayunga chief magistrate court.

Those represented were on the following counts;

- a. 8 counts of simple defilement
- b. 2 counts of attempted defilement
- c. 2 counts of defilement
- d. 8 counts of stealing motor vehicle to wit a motorcycle
- e. 3 counts of conspiracy to commit a felony.
- f. 5 counts of stealing cattle
- g. 1 count of shop breaking
- h. 3 counts of attempted Murder
- i. 1 count of unlawful possession of Narcotic.
- j. 2 counts of appropriation of power
- k. 1 count of Burglary
- l. 2 counts of Assault
- m. 1 count of malicious damage to property
- n. 4 counts of arson.
- o. 2 counts of threatening violence
- p. 7 counts of theft
- q. 2 counts of possessing suspected stolen property
- r. 2 counts of obtaining money through false pretence
- s. 1 count of attempted rape.

The following sentences were passed

- a. 35 suspects were convicted and given a custodian sentence.
- b. 17 suspects had their matters dismissed for want of prosecution.
- c. 2 suspects were acquitted
- d. 3 suspects were cautioned

Though there are 50 suspects; 49 males and 1 female. There were 57 counts and 57 sentences passed because some suspects had 2 or more counts. Over 70 suspects were sensitized.

12. UCLF FELLOWSHIPS



UCLF fellowships are provided for by the UCLF Constitution as one of the core values of UCLF. UCLF is in essence a fellowship of Christian lawyers. Therefore, unity, encouragement and discipleship remain core features of the attitude and purpose of UCLF, Its members and staff alike.

UCLF engages in a range of fellowships including Staff fellowships which are held every Friday after lunch, as a weekly norm. Furthermore, UCLF engages its members in fellowships including weekly and end of month's fellowships.

The members' weekly fellowships are held every Wednesday from 7: 00am to 8: 00 am. The end of months' fellowships are held every last Saturday of the month.

UCLF fellowships aim at promoting ethical practice, ensuring the spiritual growth of members and providing a platform where members can encourage themselves with the word of God and pray together.

The weekly fellowships were initially held physically at Roots Restaurant Nakasero but with the invasion of COVID 19 they are held online. The end of months' fellowships are held at members' residences however they were also shifted online.

If you are a lawyer out there, it's an opportunity for you to join the UCLF fellowship. You will be inspired to inspire others through the wonderful speakers who always speak to us.

We believe with the SOPs now in place, the physical fellowships may commence soon.



The UCLF President speaks in one of the fellowships held at Counsel Emma Orono's residence.





Members pose for a photo after the prayer altar at Roots Restaurant.



Pastoral visit to the Court of Appeal



UCLF prayed with the Engineers' Association of Uganda.



UCLF Prayer altar held to pray for the Commission of Inquiry into land matters.



Sharing bread at the members' end of months' fellowships.

UCLF FUNDRAISING DINNER



Ms. Anne Muhairwe Twinomugisha

On 1st November 2019, Uganda Christian Lawyers' Fraternity (UCLF) hosted a fundraising dinner under the theme "**LAWYERS IN THE MARKETPLACE: Transformers Not Spectators**". The dinner was hosted at Protea Hotel Marriott Skys Naguru. This was the first of its kind and became a basis of such dinners in the future.

The purpose of the dinner was to raise funds for the UCLF Pro Bono Fund, which is intended to enable the organization to reach out and serve more of the indigent population. This is in line with the objectives, mission and vision of the organization: *A world where justice and human dignity is a reality for all through sharing our faith in Christ Jesus, promoting access to Justice and respect for human dignity.*

The dinner was graced by the Rt. Hon Deputy Speaker of Parliament Hon. Jacob Oulanyah, the Hon. Attorney General, Hon. William Byarugaba, the Patron UCLF, Hon. Justice Mike Chibita, Members of the Judiciary and Academia, Military Officers, Religious Leaders, Chief executive officers, representatives from the Central bank, the Inspectorate of Government represented by the deputy IGG, Dr. George Bamugemereire, Uganda Bureau of Statistics, Uganda Registration services' Bureau, Housing Finance Bank, National Social Security Fund, Uganda Revenue Authority, friends and Members of the UCLF.

A motivational speech was delivered by Dr. Patrick Bitature, the Hon. Consul of Australia to Uganda. The function which was fully attended brought pride and satisfaction to the organizers and all who attended.

The success of the dinner was proof that UCLF has acquired valuable social networks through individuals, corporations and associations. The dinner's success was shown by the awe-inspiring attendance of over 170 people with pledges and cash contributions of approximately UGX. 74,000,000/=. The dinner set a landmark in the activities of UCLF and showed the viability of regularly organizing such dinners annually.

The idea of organizing a fundraising dinner arose out of the funding challenges experienced during the 2019 Financial Year, increased demand for UCLF activity and the need to expand outreach in Uganda. The role played by the UCLF Board 2018/2020 towards the success of the dinner, under the charismatic leadership of Dr. Daniel Ruhweza, will always be etched in the hearts and minds of the members.

The turn up was commendable, with great support from the Hon. Bright Rwamirama, who tapped into his contacts to help increase the source of contribution for support from other government officials.

The learning points from the discussions, presentations and speeches at the dinner gave an insight into the various strategies the organization can use going forward. They also showed the extent of the network UCLF has created over the years, and how it can be broadened.

As the chair of the Organizing Committee, UCLF Dinner 2019, I thank each and every one who contributed to the success of the Dinner through, prayer, cash contributions, pledges and more so through your physical presence, we are reminded by Will Feters that;

“Our Fingerprints don't fade from the lives we touch”.

Anne Muhairwe

UCLF Board Member



Dr. Patrick Bitature, Mrs Prof. ChibitaMonic, Hon. Justice Mike Chibita, Hon. Lady Justice Dr. Catherine Bamugemereire and Dr. George Bamugemereire the Deputy IGG at the UCLF Dinner.





The Photos show some of the participants who attended the fundraising drive.



The Rt. Hon. Speaker of Parliament arrives for the Dinner.



The UCLF President Dr. Daniel Ruhweza, Attorney General of Uganda SC William Byaruhanga, the Rt. Hon. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah Deputy Speaker, Parliament of Uganda and the UCLF Board member Ms. Ann Muhairwe having a photo moment at the UCLF Probono Fund dinner.

MEET THE LAW SOCIETY PRESIDENT



President Pheona Nabasa Wall

Who is Pheona Wall?

Ms. Pheona Wall is an advocate of the High Court of Uganda, I hold a Bachelors' Degree in Law, a Diploma in Legal Practice and an MBA in Management.

Apart from being a legal professional, I am also a governance and a public relations practitioner with over 15 years' experience. Am currently serving as the Senior Manager Legal Services of National Water and Sewerage Corporation, a position I have held since June 2014.

While at University, I started out my career as a volunteer in a legal aid program for Kandal Like Foundations. In this project I supported in rehabilitating girl street kids infected with HIV/AIDS. After working with them for a year, I joined the National Associations of Broadcasters while lecturing at Kampala International University. During my work at the National Associations Broadcasters I remember we had a legal battle where NTV and KFM were locked up from operations. We were able to fight and have it opened because I was the lawyer for the National Associations Broadcasters.

That job at National Association of Broadcasters ended up with me getting a job with National Water Sewage Co-operation as Commercial Officer of Legal and Mandate Management where I spear headed the launching of E- water payments. When my contract ended I was tasked to head the Public Relations of National Water which I did for about three years. Later on I also headed Public Relations for Airtel Uganda for two years during which we did the Meager with Warid Telecom.

I was later employed as the Public Relations Director of the Public Relations Associations Uganda after which I managed to get back to as the Head Legal.

I have just been elected President of the Uganda Law Society, but previously held the positions of Vice President and Hon. Secretary of the Uganda Law Society. I have also served as Chairperson of the Legal Aid and Pro Bono Project of the Uganda Law Society. I am passionate about mentoring young people and am the Patron of the Kampala International University Law Society.

I have served on various Boards including Water FC, Future Investments Group, East African Young Water Professionals, Uganda Law Society, Public Relations Association of Uganda etc.

I was awarded The Hague Institute for Innovations in Law “2018 Talent to Watch” award and I am also a New Vision 40 under 40 finalist for 2018.

I am a member of various organizations like ICGU, FIDA-U, IBA, PRAU, ULS, and EALS.

I have extensive experienced in legal risk management, regulatory compliance, projects, infrastructure and construction law, board affairs and stakeholder relations management. I am resourceful in both private and public enterprises with thorough knowledge and hands-on experience in public relations, company secretarial practice, corporate governance, labour law, contract and commercial transactions.

Pheona combines a solid corporate legal background with a well-developed understanding of both commercial and operational drivers of business.

I am passionate about promoting good governance and change management in public institutions, increasing access to justice for the marginalized especially women and children, and promoting the rule of law.

What is your testimony?

My testimony is about my service as PR for Airtel Uganda. So many times I was tasked to speak to the Muslim community about product. I had to wear *hijabs* and go to the mosque and speak to them. As a Christian it was difficult for me until one day when one of the Muslim leaders who was speaking to people said that, ‘*you know this Hajjat Pheona Wall that we have here is probably the only Christian who can speak to me about Jesus and I listen because she has honored our customs and culture.*’ To me that spoke to me that God is everywhere, and that we can minister to people by just being with them and respecting their values.

Tell us about your family life and academic journey

I am a mother of three, a wife to one. I have been married for 10 years, I am a Christian. For my primary school I went to Victoria Nile, I later joined Mt. St Mary's College Namagunga for both O' and A' level after which I joined Makerere University to pursue law and later I joined the Law Development Center.

While I was at University, I was a member of Makerere Christian Law Students' Fellowship for all the years I was at campus. In the fellowship I served as an outreach secretary, I remember in my third year at University as an outreach secretary I led in organizing a campus crusade that was very successful. In the same year we started the legal choir which is still on and am proud of.

Until today I am honored to be a member of Uganda Christian Lawyers' Fraternity.

What do you stand for?

I stand for justice; I believe that my calling comes from *Proverbs 31: 9* it says, '*Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.*' I believe that as advocates we are called to be the salt in this country. I therefore stand for a faithful, available and teachable Law Society for ethical practice and a society that speaks the truth to power and advises government. I also stand for a society that advises communities, a society that is developmental, that is looking to heal, mend, build and develop our country as opposed to tearing it down, robbing it, and stealing from it. I stand for lawyers of integrity, lawyers who have a name and use that name to fight for rights and justice. Remember any tolerance to injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. Those are values I stand and live for.

What message do you have for Lawyers?

My message to lawyers is that this is a noble profession. It is we the lawyers who make it either noble or ignoble. One problem we have as lawyers is that for a long time we have forgotten who we are, for a long time we have forgotten what our call is. We need to come back to who we are, we need to be faithful to the little that God has given us. We need to move away from getting shortcuts. We need to move away from facilitating fraud and robbing our clients.

Lawyers used to be the most trust worthy especially in Europe, you would find that the family solicitor would know all the skeletons in the closet but right now no one wants to even have a family lawyer because of how unserious, uncommitted, unprofessional and unfaithful we have become.

It is up to the Ugandan bar to actually change that rhetoric; we are tired of lawyers being called liars. We have to show that we are different.

I want to call upon advocates to use this moment, we have given as an amnesty in the next two months those who haven't paid up should pay up, those who have been holding out should just streamline themselves and get in good standing with the Law council and with the Uganda Law Society so that we can do our work.

I can promise that we are going to create opportunities, we are going to look for opportunities for growth, for study, for scholarships, for opportunities in new areas of practice and recommendations for international practice. We are going to look at ring fencing our business. These things are going to bring wealth and prosperity. However, they cannot bring wealth and prosperity if our clients do not trust us. Therefore, we have to raise our practice standards, we have to raise our ethical levels, and we have to remember our calling as advocates; that we are here to seek for justice for all people and not to create injustice. That is my message to Lawyers.

What do you wish to do for Uganda Law Society?

As ULS president, I want the ULS members to feel valued, to feel that ULS adds value to their life, the lives of their families and to their lives of the community. I want to do this through member benefits like insurance and other benefits at discounted rates. The members' identity cards are going to value and that's a promise.

The second thing am going to promise is member welfare, we are going to try and decentralize so that we can reach all our members even in the diaspora. Regarding the rule of law, I would like to make sure that we innovate to address the issues of rule of law that have been plaguing our society. We innovate and even create teeth for the law, by making sure that we prosecute individual errants that have been abusing their powers and prosecuting and persecuting Ugandans illegally.

The third thing I want to promise is that on professional development, we are going to innovate and ensure that everyone is reached, served and trained. We are going to make partnerships with accreditation institutions and we see how to grow the professional levels of our advocates.

For the young lawyers we want to look at increasing opportunities for training, internships ad secondment.

The fourth thing I would love to promise is that on matters of access to justice, we are going to innovate and see how we can ensure that the Legal Aid Bill, 2020 is passed. Additionally, we shall encourage all advocates

to embrace Pro-bono services and that we automate the pro-bono program to properly that it spreads out to everybody.

The last thing I want to emphasize is, we shall make the Uganda Law Society a strong advocate for the average Ugandan. Furthermore, that every Ugandan down to the grass roots will know that ULS exists. We want Ugandans to know that ULS engages in things that are relevant to this country like civic education and protecting fundamental rights. We want a ULS that will advise government on contracts and negotiating loans. Our desire is that the Uganda Law Society will become salt and a light to this Nation. Those are the things that I would like to achieve for ULS together with our team.

Thank you so much, God bless Uganda Christian Lawyers' Fraternity.

IGNITING FAMILY ALTARS



Ms. Eva Mudondo Musasizi

God requires each of us to raise an altar for him. What is an altar? An altar is a meeting place between a man and a deity, where the heavenly meets with the earthly, a place of sacrifice, a place of making vows, a place through which you can contact the spirit world, a place where you exchange your weakness for the power of the deity to which that altar is raised. An altar is a place of exchange, communion, sacrifice and influence. It is where spiritual power is steered up from, to be able to bring about desired change in the world. An altar must be serviced by a qualified priest as seen in Revelation 1: 5-6 we have been made priests unto God by Jesus washing us in his blood from our sins and are born again.

At this time when the world is facing the challenge of Corona virus pandemic, families have been provided with the opportunity to live with their children. It is apparent that for the family's growth, the parents have to start a functional altar at home. As Joshua said, 'as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord' (Joshua 24:15), it is high time we established church services in our own homes and as a family, continue to seek the Lord. I look at it as an opportunity to exercise our faith in all circumstances.'

Many Christian families believe that spiritualities are meant to be held only in designated church buildings. You are strongly encouraged to start a family Altar in your homes with your family members and turn it into Church. An Altar connotes a place of intimacy and communion with God. Instead of relying on televisions, radios and social media to attend or have services on Sundays or a day of your gathering, do it yourself with your family.

Fathers are Priests and spiritual leaders in their homes but in cases where the father has not yet risen to the occasion of leading the family altar, the wife can stand in the gap as the Lord works on the head of the household.

Family altars will let your family experience what they have been exercising at church. God is omnipresent and omniscient. Job 34:21 “For his eyes are on the ways of a man, and he sees all his steps.” Proverbs 15:3 “The eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good.”

A family altar will also secure a spiritual atmosphere of the presence of the Lord in your home as you stay in devotion and communion with God daily. His presence is right there with you as it would be at church fellowship. This will increase your family intimacy with God. Children will know that you can seek God from wherever you are and he hears you (Jeremiah 29:13-14a).

The altar will also facilitate growth in the spiritual disciplines of prayer, worship, teaching, and meditation on the word, and strong family fellowships in your home. Your children will be raised in a consistent fear of the Lord as you train them in the way they should go and when they grow up, they will not depart from it (Proverbs 22:6). The children will also realize that the family’s dependence is on God.

How to do it!

1. Set time apart on Sundays or any other day and conduct a service in your home.
2. Have time to intercede, praise, and worship, give testimonies, pray and read the word.
3. Pray for one another
4. Let every member of the family be involved in the activities of the altar, children can also lead worship and preach on a given day.
5. Share holy communion in accordance with the instructions Jesus left us in 1 Corinthians 11:24-27
6. The arrangement should be consistent or daily.

Therefore, keep your eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken (Ps. 16:8).

Psalm 62: 1-8 NLT

I wait quietly before God, for my victory comes from him.

He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress where I will never be shaken.

So many enemies against one man- all of them trying to kill me. To them I am just a broken-down wall or tottering fence.

They plan to topple me from my high position. They delight in telling lies about me. They praise me to my face but curse me in their hearts.

Let all that I am wait quietly before God, for my hope is in him. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress where I will not be shaken.

My victory and honor come from God alone. He is my refuge, a rock where no enemy can reach me. O my people, trust in him at all times. Pour out you heart to him, for God is our refuge.

MY EXPERIENCE WITH UCLF



Mr. Vicent Mutonerwa

Receiving my appointment letter to work with UCLF with effect from 8th August 2008 was great news that I can never forget since this came after one month of completing my diploma in law from the Law Development Centre. I was appointed as a paralegal with the mandate to offer basic legal advice to suspects at police and inmates from court cells. I joyfully executed my PAS duties for a period of seven years. From PAS, I joined the Juvenile Justice and I served therein for 3 years. Having been a good servant, I was appointed acting Executive Director from June 2018 to July 2020.

Serving in the above positions made me appreciate a number of things which include among others: Once you obey and answer God's requirement in Proverbs 31:9, He will always guide your footsteps. Serving indigent clients is service beyond self: once blessed, you ought to bless others. One of the most satisfying things in life is doing something which brings a smile to another person. Offering Legal Aid requires the highest degree of tolerance and patience, for creating social capital is better than making millions of shillings. While offering the above services, I witnessed juveniles smile because of regaining their freedom from custody. I saw older people than me kneel to appreciate the legal aid services offered to them because it mattered most in their lives. Seeing somebody shed tears of joy because of a service rendered has always melted my heart down and brought everlasting satisfaction in my life. Several times, as I sat in a taxi and moved to different destinations to offer legal sensitization/aid, I would hear a taxi conductor or a passenger shout or whisper my title (Counsel) don't pay. I will pay because you once helped me at a given police/court while I was in custody/cell. At upcountry

remand homes, communication was always hampered by differences in language but the desire to attain freedom by the juveniles could always be portrayed on their faces. We could communicate by interpreters and where possible by signs yet none of us fully understood sign language. You can imagine how we could struggle to understand each other.

I made friends both international and national from the several meetings held between donors, partner bodies, members, staff and clients that I used to attend to for the 12yrs. It's these friends that have been a blessing in my life in several ways.

The period God used me to serve mostly indigents at UCLF has been a blessing to me. The satisfaction I have attained and am yet to attain can never be compared in monetary terms. I appreciate all the people/bodies that have supported UCLF financially, morally, spiritually because you are the reason I have the above experience. You have enabled UCLF to move on, support indigents for all the years it has been in existence.

Thank you.

Former Acting Executive Director

UCLF

UCLF CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAMMES EXPERIENCE



Ms. Lilian Atuhaire

UCLF was accredited by the Law Council in April 2019 to offer CLE training programs. The program is coordinated by *Ms. Lilian Atuhaire* the UCLF Grants and Membership Coordinator. In the year 2019/2020 at least six CLE trainings were conducted. CLE trainings are important due to a number of reasons including the following:

- CLE trainings are aimed at empowering members to get equipped with the latest knowledge in various emerging areas or topics for continued career growth.
- Training sessions also help give young lawyers career insights on areas to specialize in order to grow their skills.
- Advocates are motivated into becoming change agents in their different areas of influence and to positively contribute to shaping policy changes for progressive development.
- Carryout continued CLE trainings to demystify seemingly complex practice areas/ topics and motivate research.

The UCLF CLE Trainings organized during the year 2019 are briefly highlighted below;

1. NGO Religious Policy & the Law.

The State through the Minister of Ethics is desirous of enacting a policy regulating religious matters in the country. There were mixed feelings about this move among Christians and scholars in the country hence UCLF's interest in organizing a CLE in this area.

At the CLE training the merits and demerits of the proposed policy were looked at and Christians were encouraged to step up and take on leadership positions to ensure the right laws are passed pursuant to Proverbs 29:2.

2. Health Law & Mental Issues.

Mental disability and persons with disability are currently on the rise due to various factors like unemployment, high crime rate, expensive treatments, depression, and poverty among others. At the CLE organized focusing on this area *Ms. Sarah Tushemereirwe* shared her testimony about how to cope with stress, suicide tendencies and members were challenged to take more interest in mental health law.

3. Crypto currency & the Law

Block chain is an emerging area due to technology advancement with an eco-system comprising mining, exchange, storage and payments. A number of industries were projected to face disruption due to block chain namely; real estate, global stock trading, global remittance, music streaming, startup businesses, health care, banking, insurance, crypto currency exchange and cloud storage.

The current enabling legal framework is inadequate however Bank of Uganda is being lobbied by various stakeholders to put in place adequate legislation.

4. Public Private Partnership and Public Procurement

PPPs were defined and key attributes as provided for under section 4 of the Public Private Partnerships Act. The dispute resolution mechanisms analyzed under PPP's were also discussed. Merits and demerits, processes of this form of project financing were covered. Various opportunities for PR actioners as Independent transaction advisors in the PPPs cycle were highlighted some of which are entailed in areas of Government agency, Lenders, ESP Contractor, Equity providers, consultancy services, Facility management services etc.

Various types of procurement under PPPs were analyzed namely; Open competitive bidding, restricted bidding, direct procurement, unsolicited proposals among others.

5. Latest conversations in Commercial Practice

During the CLE training, emerging areas in employment law were highlighted to include questions on jurisdiction of the industrial court, contract of employment, sexual harassment, social media usage and privacy, Data protection and privacy Act 2019, Right to fair hearing and constructive dismissal principles, work permits,

leave entitlement and remedies some of which comprise the Employment Act Amendment Bill, Intellectual property and a focus on other emerging areas which included sports law, artificial intelligence, employee IP, fashion industry, Mergers & acquisitions IP among others. Latest trends in insolvency and combating money laundering.

6. Water Law and Environmental Law

7. Construction Law

8. Latest trends in Transitional justice

This is a key area for Uganda which was previously characterized by conflict in a bid to seek healing and reconciliation in the communities. Types of transitional justice include reparation, truth and tell among others.





Members pose for a photo after some of the CLE trainings.



Counsel Kirunda facilitating one of the CLE trainings.

UCLF ADVOCACY ENGAGEMENTS

SOCIAL SECURITY AND THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: Uganda Christian Lawyer's Fraternity (UCLF's) Response to the Managing Director of NSSF



Ms. Racheal Kyomuhangi

25.05.2020

The National Social Security Fund (NSSF) Managing Director, Richard Byarugaba wrote to NSSF Members expressing his discontent to the impression that NSSF does not in any way support Mid-term benefit. In his letter he wrote to the members that the Fund has been giving out such benefits as a scheme to help its members. He stated that this scheme was borrowed from the current amendment Bill and is in force today, something which the general public might not have been knowledgeable about. He further stated that, “We must clarify that the current legislation, NSSF Act Cap 222 that governs the Fund’s operations does not provide for Mid-Term benefits and regrettably has limited NSSF’s ability to offer members new benefits”. He concluded by appealing to the Parliament of Uganda to fast track the NSSF Amendment Bill.

As the Uganda Christian Lawyers' Fraternity, it is our opinion that such a response is totally unacceptable and merely sounds like an excuse to avoid giving out funds which members have been saving up. It is totally absurd that the Board is creating an avenue that gives one an impression that its hands are tied. This is not so!

The literal interpretation of the Act as it stands now has been the basis of the board's denial to advance a portion of the worker's savings to them during these tough times; and there is no doubt that this response only exacerbates the citizen's lack of confidence in the nature, status and management of the fund let alone causes the public to re-examine the real intention of the fund and the law under which it was established!

On the real intention and spirit of the law, being one which governs social security, a Constitutional Petition has since been filed. The Petitioners seek court's interpretation of the board's position vis a vis the constitutional concept of social security. It is nonetheless our view that where one is called upon to interpret provisions of the law falling in the branch of public law or those which seem to advance a cause for public welfare, the interpretation should not be very restrictive. This is what the board has done. The interpretation should be a purposive interpretation or mischief interpretation factoring in the intention of the law and the very mischief which it was intended to guard against. A mischief or purposive interpretation would help the NSSF board come to a different decision other than waiting on the Parliament of Uganda to pass the NSSF Amendment Bill.

The advent of COVID-19 has created a mischief and the Board should be seen guarding against this mischief. The ravaging nature of the disease has prompted governments to take tough measures with many grappling with securing their economies, let alone preserving the health and welfare of their citizens. Many businesses have come to a halt and with borders closed; there is a standstill in smooth flow of trade. Because the profitability of investment has greatly decreased, businesses are predicted to collapse.

In poor countries like Uganda where investment security is very low, the unemployment curve is soaring like never before, and people's income has greatly shrank putting the citizen's ability to survive and to afford basic needs in further peril.

After 8 weeks under lockdown and with all income reserves depleted, citizens whom the government compelled to save with NSSF have run to the fund and requested it to give them a share of their savings. As a remedy to their social-economic distress, they are seeking out the eminent panacea of social security. The Fund should

adhere, rather than bury their head in the sand and send many families to their graves by withholding their savings during this period of great distress and starvation.

In addition to the above, the proposed amendment provides for Midterm access to voluntary benefits; a provision that does not in any way help the situation since the biggest percentage of the members of the Fund are mandatory contributors.

In conclusion, the law has its challenges but necessity is the mother of invention. The board should show exceptional competence in dealing with the current times and hold itself back from using the Parliament of Uganda as a scapegoat.

UCLF Petition against Torture



28th April 2020

**The Right Honourable Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda
His Lordship, The Honourable, The Chief Justice,
The Chief of Defense Forces,
The Inspector General of Police,
The Ag. Chairperson Uganda Human Rights Commission,
Honourable Members of Parliament,**

**PETITION OVER THE CONTINUED TORTURE AND VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC BY MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY ORGANS.**

Uganda Christian Lawyers' Fraternity, the lead petitioner herein is a membership Organisation and a registered Non-Governmental Organisation seeking justice for all in Uganda through the provision of legal aid, legal education and research and policy advocacy on behalf of vulnerable people. The UCLF was founded in 1987 by Christian law students at Makerere University. In 2005 was registered as a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO).

The UCLF is comprised of over 300 member Advocates, Lawyers, Judges and Law Students across the different Universities of Uganda, with established Legal Aid Clinics and offices spread across the Northern, Western and Central regions of Uganda. The UCLF seeks to utilize skills endowed in its members and associates to impact the most vulnerable in society, irrespective of age, gender, religion or ethnicity following a Biblical mandate to defend the rights of the poor and needy.

In a bid to compliment the efforts of the Uganda Law Society and other Legal Aid Service Providers, UCLF, its membership and partners namely (Uganda Law Society, LASPNET, Women Probono Initiative, PILAC AND NETPIL) are concerned about the escalating cases of torture, inhuman and cruel treatment and degrading treatment and abuse of human rights by members of the security forces. We specifically condemn the humiliating brutal arrest and torture of Hon. Francis Zaake, Pastor Andrew Muwanguzi (Lead Pastor, True Worship Center Kamuli) and other Ugandans who have been brutally beaten and tortured by those security forces who were implementing Presidential Directives and the various Statutory instruments which were issued to control the spread of the COVID 19 virus.

We are cognisant of the dangers caused by the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, and are in full support of the Presidential Directives and other government efforts in responding to the pandemic, and strongly believe that each Ugandan should abide by them. While we applaud those members of the National TaskForce Against COVID 19 who have legally implemented the aforementioned directives in order to protect the lives of Ugandans, we take exception to the torture of Ugandans by those who have been overzealous and ruthless.

Torture is not only contrary to the Biblical principles of loving one's neighbor and the good Samaritan canon spelt out in *Mark 12: 13* and *Luke 10:25-37* respectively, but also contravenes Article 24 and 44 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, (1995 Constitution) and the international law which Uganda has ratified including The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (commonly known as the United Nations Convention against Torture (UNCAT)), The African Charter on

Human and Peoples' Rights, The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), among others. Article 24 of our own Constitution specifically provides that no person shall be subjected to any form of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Article 44 is also to the effect that notwithstanding anything in the Constitution, there shall be no derogation from the enjoyment of certain rights which include the freedom from torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

While we do acknowledge that the state is empowered to enforce directives as issued by the State, the rule of law should continue to prevail in all circumstances. This means that all suspects are innocent until proven guilty by a court of competent jurisdiction. Although the armed forces are empowered to effect arrests, they are expected to use reasonable force while effecting arrests as specified in the Police Act. The respect for human rights is a continuous duty throughout investigations and at all stages of interface with formal and informal justice system.

We therefore, strongly condemn the torture meted out to these Ugandans in a bid to enforce presidential directives. We are still shocked by the images of the Hon member of Parliament representing Mityana Municipality and those of Pastor Muwanguzi as shown in the media. The arraignment of the Honourable M.P in such a tortured state, in a critical condition and inappropriately dressed in a way, undermined his dignity as an Honourable member of society and was a very disrespectful act of the security organs to the Courts of law,

It is upon this background that we, the undersigned, recommend that the following measures be sustained and upheld for the realization of human rights.

To The Hon. The Right Speaker of Parliament -

- i. To hold the security forces accountable for the human rights' abuses described above
- ii. To cause the issue of torture and human rights' abuses to be debated on the floor of Parliament as a matter of national concern
- iii. To demand address of Parliament by the line Ministry to explain and update Parliament on the status of torture of suspects and promotion of rights.
- iv. To champion human rights protection and observance.

To The Hon. The Chief Justice of the Republic of Uganda

- i. As the head of Judiciary which is third arm of government and custodian of Justice, should engage the institutions responsible for meting abuses to stop, including having a candid discussion with the Executive and Parliament.
- ii. Engage members of the Bench not to entertain arraignment of suspects before them for adjudication who are victims of torture by members of the armed forces.
- iii. Prevail over the Judicial Officers to promote, protect and uphold Human Rights in their adjudication processes.
- iv. Prevail over the Judicial Officers to ensure speedy disposal of Petitions and Cases involving human rights
- v. To engage Judicial Officers to be progressive in interpretation of, and enforcement of human rights

Uganda Human Rights Commission

- i. In compliance with Article 55 of the 1995 Constitution, to commence Investigations and or hear and reprimand through its procedure, the officers in the security forces engaged in Acts of torture, cruel and Inhuman treatment of Suspects and the Citizenry.
- ii. Recommend to Parliament effective measures to promote Human Rights during the Covid 19 lockdown and Post Covid lockdown.

The Chief of Defense Forces (CDF)

- i. Prevail over UPDF and LDU Officers to desist from acts of Torture, cruel and inhuman treatment of the citizenry while enforcing arrests.
- ii. Halt and caution the UPDF officers to desist from engaging in arrest of civilians which is the singular role of the Police.
- iii. Commence disciplinary proceedings against UPDF officers who perpetrate human rights violations or hand them over for prosecution for acting *ultra vires*, especially those involved in torturing Hon. Francis Zaake since Presidential Directives are jointly enforced by the Police and the Army.

The Inspector General Uganda Police Force

- i. Prevail over Police Officers to desist from torture and inhuman treatment of suspects.

- ii. Commence disciplinary proceedings against the perpetrators of these human rights violations or hand them over for Prosecution for acting *ultra vires*, especially those who tortured the victims mentioned herein.
- iii. Unconditionally release any tortured suspect within Police's custody to access appropriate medical treatment and care.
- iv. To prevail over the Police officers to use reasonable force while carrying out arrests and desist from violation of rights while effecting arrests.

Members of Parliament of Uganda

- i. To commence debates in Parliament to condemn torture, inhuman and cruel treatment of Suspects by members of the armed forces. M.Ps should specifically call for reprimand of officers involved in torture and Human Rights violations; they should further condemn such violations.

We the undersigned, so petition

The President,

Uganda Christian Lawyers' Fraternity (UCLF)

The President,

Uganda Law Society (ULS)

The Chief Executive Officer,

Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET).

The Executive Director,

Women Probono Initiative.

The Coordinator

Public Interest Legal Aid Clinic (PILAC).

The Coordinator

Network of Public Interest Lawyers (NETPIL)

FEATURES



Created for Good Works

Ernest Tashobya Katwesigye

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Growing up, we seemed to get the impression from Sunday School and the environment that work was a curse/punishment. The narrative went something like, God put Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden where they had all the nice things. When they ate the forbidden fruit, they were thrown out of the garden and now had to work hard in order to survive through life. Thus, Christ in redeeming us, redeemed us from suffering (which included work). The picture we got of heaven, was a place where there is no work, but just singing and relaxing. This negative impression of work was reinforced through the prevalent modes of instilling discipline. Work was always associated with punishment. We therefore developed a negative attitude towards work. In our view, the purpose of creating people was strictly to worship God. And to us, this meant singing. A worship team meeting would therefore be more important to God than a cleaning exercise. The former was an act of worship – our purpose, while the latter was a consequence of our fall.

However, a correct outlook to work takes us back to its roots. It is interesting that right from the very first verse of the Bible, God is portrayed as working. Genesis 1:1 tells us, “In the beginning, **God made** the heavens and the earth.” Therefore, from the very beginning, God is working. We often perceive a passive God that just sat back and issued a few commands, and the earth came in place. However, a close look at the creation account in Genesis 1 and 2, shows a God who is actively involved in creation. The processes described in Genesis 2 bring this home. God plants a garden, waters it, and places animals in it. He moulds man out of the soil, breathes His life into him, moulds woman out of the man, and keeps in constant relationship with the humans. Work, is therefore natural to God.

We are created in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:26 – 27) and so it is natural to us to work as well, just like God worked. Genesis 2:15 tells us that, “The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. This gives us an idea of the work that we are to do. This verse suggests a two-fold purpose to work: to exploit/develop it into something valuable and fruitful (to work it) and preservation (take care of). Thus, godly work has both dimensions, hence sustainable development. Our work thus should be either bringing forth, production; or preserving in nature.

An attribute we ought to exhibit as we work is that of excellence. Genesis 1 tells us that each time God looked at His work, it was good. When He created human beings, His evaluation was that it was very good. And so, having created the world excellently, He rested. He did not have to redo any part. Ephesians 2:10 tells us, “For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” God therefore expects us as well to display a spirit of excellence as we go about serving Him through work. We therefore must work – to be productive in a manner that is preservative, and is excellence.

Whatsoever you do, do all to God’s Glory [1 Corinthians 10:31]

BUILDING A PERSONAL BRAND, BY WAMELI ANTHONY YEBOAH



My name is **Wameli Athony Yeboah**, at birth and during baptism my parents called me Wameli Anthony, but when I was in senior four I acquired the name Yeboah because I used to play a lot of football and by then there was a Ghanaian football player called Yeboah so they nicknamed me after him and the name stays up to day. It's one of my three names.

I am a lawyer by training and practice having completed my law degree in 2004, and then my Post Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice between 2005- 2006 at the Law Development Centre.

After the Bar school I first worked with *Rutiba & Company Advocates* until I resigned and formed Wameli and Company Advocates, which I practice with to date. However, for a period of about a year and a half that is between 2009 and 2011, I also practiced as a Grade 1 Magistrate in the Chief Magistrate Court of Nakasongola at Nakasongola.

I cut across in my practice but I am tending to specialize in human rights promotion and defense cases. I also do a lot of land law transactions, constitutional law, family law, criminal law and democracy related matters. I am also now pushing for the rights and space for political actors in different capacities. This tends to drive me to human rights based and constitutional oriented matters. In the case of criminal law, I tend to specialize in high profile and human rights related cases. Most of the high court profile cases if not all of the high-profile

cases am appearing in, have a connection to human rights protection and promotion, aspects of rule of law and governance.

What's your journey from school and what values have led you to keep Wameli and Company Law Firm a sounding one?

My ‘O’ level dream was to be a medical doctor but because I used to drink and smoke a lot, at school. I would not attend my physics lessons in the early morning because I was always drunk so that's how I lost my dream. When I joined advanced level I did Arts that is History, Economics, Geography and Divinity, in A' level I developed a strong desire to be a lawyer.

The desire to be a lawyer was developed towards my end of Senior Four when a team of Christian lawyers came and visited our school then *St Peters College Tororo*. When they visited, there was a gentle man who presented, I cannot remember what he talked about, but he was smartly dressed in a suit and a tie, looking at his appearance I thought I wanted to be a lawyer. When we were filling the University forms I filled Law but when the results came back, I had not obtained the points required for government sponsorship. The competition was throat cut so I was offered a Bachelor of Education at *Makerere University* on day program.

Even if I had a dream to pursue Law I couldn't make it to study law on private sponsorship. However, one day my mother had a dream and she saw a big word Justice. So, she came and advised me to change my course from Education to Law. We had a long battle because I did not want to change the course. I was becoming comfortable in School of Education doing history, economics and foundations. At the time my mother was working at Makerere University, so I had some leverage of sponsorship being a child to a university employee that is if I had opted for Private. The University would sponsor half of the tuition fees for day scholars and then a third for evening students that is, if such students were children of the university worker.

Since my mother insisted, I applied for a change of course and joined the law school on an evening program. I joined law school two weeks into the first semester of the first year first. That is how I started studying law and from day one when I stepped my foot in law school, I set my mind on starting a law firm with the name *Wameli & Co. Advocates*. Therefore, in everything I used to do at school that is the studying, the reading, the dreaming and preparation was, to one day have a law firm. When I finished law school, I got into the Law Development Center for the Bar course.

After the Bar school I started working for Rutiba & Co. Advocates. During the course of my work I got a case which I would call a land mark case in my life. Actually, my boss never knew that I had gotten that case. One lawyer was supposed to appear for a big client in town and he wasn't going to be available and they asked me to quickly step in. I therefore, stepped in and I handled the case so well before the Court Registrar and the Land Registry.

That case earned me good money that enabled me to resign from my job and start something on my own.

However, I couldn't open a law firm, so we opened up a consultancy called *Mukembo Wameli Partners* just to issue legal advice and also work under some lawyers but at the end of the day we agreed with my friend Mukembo, I gave him my shares in a certain company I was part of and then I retained *Wameli & Co. Advocates* as a sole proprietor. That is how the law firm begun to grow up to where we are.

My inspiration

My driving force has been the dream and the prayers of my mother. Additionally, my personal prayers and belief in God and the fact that he has left me here for all this time. If it wasn't for my getting saved in 1999 a week before the finals of my Advanced High School exams. I would not be a lawyer now not even to mention the name that we have now because I didn't have any good grades before that.

During my days of high school, I was doing well in class but I wasn't attending class. I was not reading. I was drunkard, a smoker and so I was quite disorganized. In my mock exams I got 7 points and my history teacher wrote on my report, '*you are a very big disappointment to me and I hope you will not disappoint me in the finals.*' Towards the final examinations I got saved. The whole school was upside down because they couldn't believe a drunkard and a smoker would get converted into Christianity. At the time we sat for final exams, in the school's history the best student had only scored 17 points out of 4 principle passes. When we did the exams, when the results came back I had scored 20 points. I was the best in the whole school.

That was a turning point, I went to university and started practicing law. I have been practicing law with a lot of passion because I know am not misplaced. I am here divinely and by God's cause this largely explains the success that we have registered because there cases I have handled and are complicated but we have won them in a very simple way even we ourselves would remain wondering how we have won.

I have taken on cases that have been very difficult for very senior lawyers and somehow, they have gone through. I must say that the brand and the name has come largely through a divine encounter. Of course, with a lot of hard work, you spend a lot of time meeting people and reading documents. That has helped me and developed me into what I would say that is if am not perceived to blow my own trumpet, a very good drafts man.

I have learnt the art of drafting, that normally when I prepare documents like demand notices the other party realizes that there is something up for a fight. That is part of the training I received from Counsel Ssekabanja Edward during my clerkship. He could pay attention to the detail and that has given me a cutting edge.

The other different thing I would appreciate God for is the eye that he has given me that always looks at the opposite direction. I always want to look at the reverse before. I always want to see where many people are not looking and many times I have found something there.

Like one time I was watching a football game. As I watched, a thought came to mind: “Uganda has the Human Rights Enforcement Act but it’s not yet gazetted!” I immediately started thinking of what I could do. Within me I felt something had to be done, one part of me told me do you think all the State Attorneys in the Attorney General’s chambers, all the lawyers in Uganda and all the members of Parliament in this country have not seen any loophole in this. I however, said let me look at it again so I left the football place and came and looked at the constitution, the Acts of Parliament Act and some other laws and realized that we could push the Uganda Printing and Publication to Gazette the law. I therefore, prepared the papers, did the application in one night and in morning it was ready and I filed it like today and after a week the publishing corporation published and Gazetted the Human Rights Enforcement Act.

Many lawyers would not opt for these high-profile cases, where do you draw the inspiration to take on these cases?

First of all, like I said mine is divine so there is that inner drive I cannot explain. But I like complicated things, even when it’s to support football, I always support the team that is weak. I like challenges, I don’t pride in terror and suffering but I like horrific things because many times beneath them there are very precious things to be achieved.

The other thing is; I always believe in my client's cases before taking them on. The moment I have believed in the case; no amount of intimidation will keep me off that particular case.

I also normally give whoever is accused or one who allegations are made against a chance to talk to me. The best example is the *Jamil Mukulu* case. When I first heard of *Jamil Mukulu* I saw a terrorist, I saw an inhuman dangerous person as reflected. However, as time went on as I was handling other cases, I started picking interest in the way sometimes State mercenaries hook up cases and frame people for no cause as it was with the case involving Muslim clerics and the Kaweesi murder trial.

Later I got an invitation from *Jamil Mukulu* and I was excited, most lawyers would be scared but I was excited that he would send for me. I felt I really needed to talk to him. When I met him for the first time, the impression I got washed away all the reservations and fears I had for him and other like people who are in the same predicament. My conversation with him showed me that many people in prison and on such high-profile cases are convicts in the eyes of the public but have had a chance to explain why they are in those particular conditions. In our discussion he would tell me how he left Uganda in 1994, how he went to Kenya, how he went to Tanzania, how he happened to go to Congo one day, and all those other countries and then he will tell you the torture suffered when he was repatriated. When he was extradited from Tanzania to Uganda and then from a chopper to Entebbe then from Entebbe to Nalufeenya. He always was remanded back to Nalufeenya much as the Magistrate's orders were to take him to Luzira prison. He would tell me that for one year and a half, he would eat pork by force, a staunch Muslim!

There are things he went through. I just realized that these people just need to talk to lawyers about their predicament sometimes. If you look at the kind of instructions, he gave me and the information that he gave me, and the confidence that he exhibited in me, it showed me he had not found someone to talk to, understand him and look for those needs of justice that the law would allow such.

The other thing is that I love to see my name grow. This Wameli & Co. Advocates name is the name I have told you about that I had dreamt. Therefore, I will do anything that will lift it up and anything that will give it capital, that I will always take on.

As a Christian I have always been reading in Genesis 12 where God told Abraham that among many things and promises if you go to a land you don't know, I will make your name great. I, I therefore believe that God can make someone's name great just like he made Abraham's name great.

How are you able prioritize and manage all your tasks because you seem to be involved in many things like politics, pastoral work and the law?

My answer has always been constant, divine connection and passion. I am not only a Pastor but a Senior Pastor at that. According to Bishop Lwere's definition, I am a Bishop, because I am a founder and a vision bearer of Ebenezer Faith Ministries. I conceived the vision for ministry in 2003 while I was a third-year student at Makerere University. The ministry has evolved, it now has three branches with its headquarters along Gayaza road in Kanyanya. We have another church at Kilerewe Islands where we have bought a piece of land and built a Church there, and I have pastors who pastor there that is another story for another day, how we entered the island in Mayuge District.

My legal profession has always had a connection with Christianity because my life changed the day I received Jesus Christ and then I started moving forward. I got saved on a Tuesday and the following day Wednesday at 4pm I was the first in the Art room who had gone for morning glory. I started my 40 days fast during vacation, alone I used to live in Kabanyoro University farm with an extension of coffee plantation. I would sit there the whole day during the 40 days of fasting and prayer alone. I had a lot of communion with the Holy Spirit, I read a lot of scriptures, I became a Deacon after about six months of receiving Christ. Such are things that cannot just go away because am busy on other things. Those things are inherent, part of me, so when I do them am not burdened.

The other thing I do that you don't know of is that when I was a grade One magistrate. I wondered and wanted to know where prisons are taken for remand. I decided to visit the prison, I was welcomed. When I was there with the prisoners, I engaged the prison warders to allow me give a football tournament through my Ministry Ebenezer Faith Ministries. Therefore, in 2010 we started the Ebenezer Faith Camp in Nakasongola Prison. We have been doing it every year until 2020 when we were not able to do it because of COVID. Apart from football, we preach to them, counsel them and give them free legal aid. I am passionate about this too.

How do you balance Christianity and politics?

Interestingly about five years ago, I had a dream about Hon. Robert Kyagulanyi Ssentamu. I hadn't meet him before. I didn't know anything that was transpiring in Kamukya. I only read and heard about him in the press. In the dream I was advising him legally. I shared this dream with Church members. They encouraged me that it will happen and today I am one of his legal advisors. Therefore, some of these things like I have said have come by divine mandate.

Secondly, the belief that politics is a dirty game is just a belief and a misconceived one. We know of Judicial officers who are pastors like Justice Mutonyi Margarete and Justice Kaweesi.

I think we are the right people to open the minds of our listeners that everything we find ourselves doing, it is us to break it. Even in politics am one of the believers because I am one of the legal advisors of the National Fellowship of Born-Again Pentecostal Churches.

We have started taking on a culture of encouraging Christians to involve in politics. I don't call myself a politician, I call myself a leader. Politics is about influencing people and convincing them to follow you and the best politician was Paul. I would have said it was Jesus but he was God. Jesus' ministry is about politics. It's about trying to convince someone to live evil and follow you. But because of ill motive people tend to use the methods of winning over people that are not Godly and inhuman.

Otherwise there are many Godly ways of winning over people as a politician or as a leader. so why should we separate politics and the law. We have to speak for those who can't be mandated by the government to speak on behalf of anyone including those ones who can't speak for themselves. Therefore, my being a pastor has increased my dominion for purposes of believing the message I preach. I believe it is very possible to be a Christian, a lawyer and a politician.

DEALING WITH TEMPERAMENTS IN MARRIAGE- JOHN AND OLIVIA OSAPIRI



Each person is “born with one of the four as their primary temperament. Temperaments indicate our natural predisposition to react in certain ways. The four temperaments are the choleric, melancholic, sanguine and phlegmatic.

Briefly, the choleric “is your original ‘type A’ personality: He wants to take charge and get things done.” The phlegmatic “is a peacemaker” who “hates conflict.” Phlegmatics are “steady and stabilizing.” The sanguine “is your classic ‘people person,’” while melancholies are known for introspection, noble purpose and even perfectionism.

It is not unusual for a wife and husband to differ greatly in terms of temperament. Perhaps she enjoys arguing a point, while he is a constant peacemaker. Or perhaps he loves social life, but she thinks parties take time away from valuable work.

As a family we have learnt to set priorities, respect each other’s’ program and also consult with each other when intending to something that will require the availability or the attention of each of us. In so many instances we have also sacrificed for each other that is, let the other’s priority take precedence, for the sake of peace and unity in the house.

We should recognize as couples or marrieds that God wired us differently with different temperaments and needs, and we should be able to co-exist with each other. The ability to appreciate other people's temperaments is especially important in marriage, because opposite temperaments tend to attract each other.

The most important factor in a happy marriage is not being of like personality. Rather, what seems to make marriages happy is when husband and wife share core values and a commitment to the relationship that is to honouring and respecting each other and meeting each other's needs.

There can be a couple who is "a deeply sensitive melancholic who requires time for silence and reflection"; while the other is "a lively, talkative sanguine who needs abundant interpersonal interaction." Such a couple will therefore need to understand and accept each other's temperaments. Once they do that then they will be able to avoid misunderstandings and hurt feelings of each other, and make their marriage the strong.

When we accept each other's temperament were not only appreciating each other's temperament, but they begin to grow." For example, "the phlegmatic learns to initiate" or "the choleric learns empathy and patience."

POETRY

I – Have Come to Learn

I
Will lament no more
At the sorry state
Of the Public Estate
For I have come to learn
That change starts with me

I
Will sing no more
Gavumenti etuyambe
For I have come to learn
It is my responsibility
To bring the change I desire

I
Will ignore no more
The politics of my village
For I have come to learn
It is my duty
To engage my society

I
Will bribe no more
To get ahead of my place
For I have come to learn
It is my obligation
To stamp out corruption

1
Will from today henceforth
Wholeheartedly play my part
For I have come to learn
It is my God-given mandate
To extend His Kingdom to earth

Ernest Tashobya Katwesigye [G2G]

BOOK REVIEW

TITLE: A DIFFERENT SPIRIT – *Work Redefined*

AUTHOR: Ernest Tashobya Katwesigye

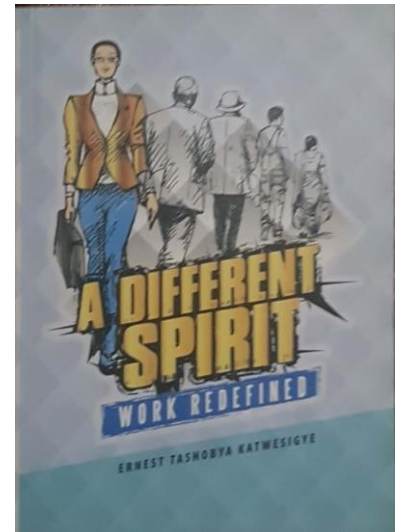
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GET A COPY FROM: UCLF Offices, or contact 0776565541



REVIEWER: Hon. Justice Irene Mulyagonja, Justice of the Court of Appeal and former Inspector General of Government

Society today is in need of redemption in all aspects. One of the areas that have been affected most is work. We usually forget that work is an opportunity to serve God. As a result, we do not treat it with the due respect it deserves. This often leads to failure to appreciate our purpose. Subsequently, we slip into mediocrity, underperformance and grumbling rather than focusing on producing results.

As we wake up to work every day, whether as employees, or in our own ventures; as supervisees or supervisors, we should remember that work is worship to God. Colossians 3:23 tells us that whatever we find our hands to do, we should do with all our heart, as though we are working for God. This should be our attitude to work. We should approach it as a special assignment from God.

In a time when our society is being challenged to compromise on all aspects of its existence, Ernest Tashobya Katwesigye reminds us of our high calling through lessons from the life of Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. Their commitment to excellence in captivity convicts us to walk with integrity.

The different chapters in this book will challenge you to examine your own life to find out whether you flow with the crowd, or represent a different spirit as you execute your duties in all spheres of life. I hope that the beautiful anecdotes and illustrations littered through the text will enable you to reflect on your own journey and challenge you to consider your work as a calling and service to God and mankind.

It is good that Ernest is challenging readers to examine their work ethic. I hope and pray that it strikes a chord in the hearts of readers and makes a difference.

I highly commend to you the book, *A Different Spirit*

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