



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
Directorate for Ethics and Integrity

**STATEMENT OF THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF STATE FOR
ETHICS AND INTEGRITY ON THE 48TH COMMEMORATION OF
ST. JANANI LUWUM DAY, 16TH FEBRUARY 2025**

FEBRUARY 2025

Fellow Ugandans,

On Sunday, 16th February, 2025 Uganda will celebrate the 48th Commemoration of St. Janani Luwum Day at Wii-gweng, Mucwini in Kitgum District. This is in honour of Janani Luwum, the 2nd Archbishop of the Church of Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Boga-Zaire, who was brutally murdered by the Military Government 48 years ago in 1977. His devotion and martyrdom was specially recognised by the Church of England, which is the mother Church of the Anglican Communion. He was given a special place in the history of the Anglican Communion as one of the ten martyrs of the 20th Century. His Excellency, President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, announced in 2015 that 16th February would be designated as St. Janani Luwum Day, and the day was declared a public holiday. Consequently, every year we honour, celebrate and provide thanksgiving for the life, testimony and martyrdom of St. Janani Luwum. The Commemoration is organised annually by the Government of Uganda, in collaboration with the Church of Uganda and the Janani Luwum Family.

It is important for Ugandans to note that Archbishop Janani Luwum was not killed alone. He was shot on 16th February 1977 together with the Minister of Internal Affairs Hon. Charles Oboth Ofumbi, and the Inspector General of Police Erinayo Oryema. This was under a fabricated case that they had conspired to overthrow the Government. I would like us to recognise those two sons of Uganda, who left a landmark in the history of our Nation.

The theme for the 48th Commemoration is '***Imitating God's goodness by doing good.***' It is taken from the Book of Galatians, Chapter 6 verses 9 to 10. The expected outcome of the Commemoration is that the congregation will desire to imitate God's goodness by doing good to others, such as helping those in need, being ethical and trustworthy, and serving their Nation with patriotism.

The main Commemoration event will be a church service at the late Archbishop Janani Luwum's burial ground at Wii-gweng, Mucwini Ceremonial Grounds in Kitgum District, followed by speeches. The Chief Guest is expected to be His Excellency the President of Uganda. The Main Celebrant will be the Archbishop of the Church of Uganda, the Most Rev. Dr. Stephen Samuel Kaziimba Mugalu; while the Guest Preacher will be the Rt. Rev. Associate Professor Dr. Sheldon Mwesigwa, the Bishop of Ankole Diocese.

Other Commemoration activities, which the Church of Uganda has organized, include Evangelical Missions within Kitgum Diocese, to mobilise the believers. Furthermore, pilgrims will walk from Kampala, Lira, Gulu and other areas up to Mucwini, in affirmation of their faith. A football competition has been organised among the youth, at Archdeaconry level. The finals will be played at Mucwini on Friday, 14th February, 2025 and the winning team shall be given the trophy. On the night of 15th February, 2025 there will be an open air crusade of praise and worship, consisting of groups from various parishes.

I, therefore, invite all Ugandans to attend the 48th Commemoration of St. Janani Luwum Day on Sunday, 16th February, 2025 at Wii-gweng, Mucwini in Kitgum District. The church service shall begin at 9.00am. This is a National Holiday involving all stakeholders; including believers from all Denominations, Government, Diplomatic Corps, Civil Society, the Media, the Private Sector and the International Community. Janani's martyrdom provides a powerful message of forgiveness and reconciliation among all believers in God. Therefore, let us turn up in large numbers to honour, celebrate and provide thanksgiving for this martyr of the 20th Century.

For God and my Country



Hon. Rose Lilly Akello (MP)

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ETHICS AND INTEGRITY