

## CHAPTER 17

### *CONCLUDING REMARKS*

#### **17.1 Lessons From The Life of Paulo Kikwanguyira Kiyingi**

Paulo Kiyingi was a sharp, hard-working, determined, quiet achiever. He served his country the best way he could. He was prepared to do whatever it took to keep his job by passing whatever examination and hurdles set before him. If only the colonial administrators had not interrupted his career by falsely arresting, deporting and keeping him in captivity for nearly two years, he could have turned out a real great man. He was a servant, worker and struggler.

He was a valiant fighter who, when enlisted in the national service, fought for the propagation and survival of the British Empire in the First World War. He survived the war and returned a celebrated *Kawonawo* (World War 1 veteran). He was a fighter.

He was a true nationalist who dearly loved his nation Buganda/Uganda, fought for the preservation of its territorial integrity and emancipation from colonial subjugation to the point of being arrested, detained without trial and eventually deported into captivity so that its land may not be stealthily expropriated by the British. He was a clever pursuant of the principle of natural justice, who helped the common people understand the laws of the country and assisted them in defending their rights before the law, but never asked for payment for his services. He was a nationalist.

He was a traditionalist who espoused the customs of his nation and helped strengthen the bonds of cooperation within the *Ndiga* clan. He helped straighten an anomaly which was creeping into the clan's method of selecting a new clan head Lwomwa, after the death of one. He negotiated and helped in the acquisition of a plot of land on which the clan's headquarters and office is located up to today. He had roots.

He was a man of God who fought for his local church to retain its prestige and place on top of Makeerere hill where it still is up to today. He was a vigilant negotiator and conciliator in meetings, who the church sometimes needed for its survival. He was a pillar.

He was a nationalist. But like all nationalists the whole world over, they always spend most of their time in the pursuit of fairness and justice for all the people of their nation, over and above their immediate needs and the needs of their families. They tend to forget a Kiganda proverb, which says, "*Enkoko etakula ezza eri bwana bwayo*" (The hen will always scrape in the direction of its young ones). Consequently many nationalists die poor. Likewise, although Paulo Kiyingi's earlier days were easy and lavish while earning a good salary from his employment, the moment he got addicted to the pursuit of nationalistic goals, his life changed. Many people would say that Paulo Kiyingi died a poor man, in the earthly material possessions. But I think he himself would have said that he died a rich man spiritually, in the love and defence of his nation. He was himself.

Several books and accounts have been written about the history of Buganda and Uganda, but up until recently there has been hardly any mention of Paulo Kiyingi's name among those heroes who played any significant role in the shaping of the country's history. Why? Could it be because PK was a hard-working but slightly reserved, quiet achiever, who was short on leadership qualities and on putting himself in the limelight? If so, could this have curtailed his fame and influence and so relegated his name to obscurity, unlike some of his compatriots who embraced leadership? If that were so, all children, grandchildren and descendants of Paulo and Eseza Kiyingi should know and fully comprehend that in this world no body speaks for you or fights for you. You should always avail yourself of whatever leadership opportunity comes your way if you are ever to make a mark on history and be remembered by future generations. You should always be forthcoming and willing to speak out in public, not keeping yourself backward (*okwefebya*); but projecting yourself into the limelight and fighting for your own (*okwevujjirira*). That should be a very important first lesson.

The second important lesson is this: Anybody who is employed, or even before they start employment, should start making preparations for their future as early as possible, by saving, setting aside some money and investing the same in money-generating ventures. This becomes more imperative for the worker as one gets closer to retirement, since no body grows younger with time. When their income and expenses for their daily living gets counted on the profits their investments make and not on their salary or wages, then they can call themselves wealthy. That person can throw parties, spend lavishly in entertaining friends and relatives without anybody complaining. Why - because they are drawing on their profits, not their capital. They are using their money to make more money for them. At the time Paulo Kiyingi was arrested, detained and deported into captivity, he had not reached that state of wealth. Although he had purchased several pieces of land while in Government employment and later built some rental houses on some of that land, to choose to retire from a job in which he had training and experience, at an early age of 51 years, was improper retirement planning. He did not stop at that, but he proceeded to have more children (the late Kasalina Nalumu, myself and Margaret Naluggya), built a second home and married a second wife, although the marriage never produced a child. The Baganda have a saying, "*N'omulungi, tabulako kamogo*" (No one is perfect). He was human.

With all the above attributes taken into consideration, Paulo Kikwanguyira Kiyingi Banadda was a HERO.

## **17.2 Lessons From The Life of Eseza Nabwami Kiyingi**

ENK was an outspoken, outright negotiator and home-maker, who made her Makeerere home into a respectable home, which warmly welcomed visitors and accommodated relatives of all descriptions without discrimination. She loved, understood, influenced, supported and remained faithful to her husband Paulo Kiyingi, with whom she spent a total of 40 years in marriage (1928-1968), until death did them apart, without ever abandoning him. She was a true wife.

She was a conciliator with a very mature approach to issues, especially within her family of birth, in the house of her father Mujugumbya, with all her sisters and one only brother. She was a traditionalist who fought for the preservation of her culture, not only within her *Ffumbe* clan, but also within her husband and children's *Ndiga* clan. She was a pillar.

She had a knack with children, understanding the thinking and behaviour of children. She used to quote a verse from the Bible found in St Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, chapter 13: verse 11, which says, "When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I felt like a child and I thought like a child; now that I am a grown up, I have no more use for childish ways". So her children grew up with contentment, in the background of that understanding. She was a mother.

She had a rare talent of forward thinking when it came to the education of her children, her husband's children and the children of her sister's and brothers. Since she stayed in the city when her husband Paulo Kiyingi built a second home in the country, she took on the task of paving ways for the education of all those children. She would look for their placement in good schools, approaching headmasters and negotiating suitable arrangements for the payment of their school fees. She was an educator.

She lived and enjoyed life, for what there was of it to enjoy. She was full of life.

She was a leader, who never shunned leadership opportunities whenever they presented themselves. She had a determination, which never allowed her efforts to ever be frustrated by anything other than sound reason. Whatever she put her head to she would not rest until she saw it through. Because of her relentless efforts in the service of Makeerere Primary School during her active life, the school posthumously named one of the student's houses after her, calling it: "Eseza Kiyingi House". She was a leader and our nation needed her.

All those good qualities should be a lesson to learn and put into practice by the children, grandchildren and successive generations.