

CHAPTER 3

PAULO KIYINGI STARTS ADULT LIFE

3.1 Employment at the Buganda Provincial Commissioner's Office

With the experience in typing, translation and office management gathered in his earlier years of employment and subsequent training at the technical college, Paulo Kiyingi got himself a job in one of the highest offices in the land, that of the Provincial Commissioner, Buganda. He worked as one of the Native Administrative Secretaries. He was charged with translating and typing the Protectorate Government's official documents from English to Luganda. That way he served as an important bridge between the Protectorate Government and the Kabaka's Government at Mengo. He was working in that capacity when major changes took place in the functions and title of the Provincial Commissioner. The title was changed to that of Resident Buganda in April 1939. The offices of the four district commissioners in Buganda, together with their assistants, all of who were under the charge of the Provincial Commissioner were abolished. They were replaced by advisers to the Resident Buganda on matters affecting the administration of Buganda Kingdom. The county or Ssaza chiefs were given more powers to administer their people directly, under the Kabaka. This enabled Buganda to be administered as one entity under the Resident with his advisers for the Protectorate Government on the one hand, and as a kingdom under the Kabaka and his Ssaza chiefs on the other hand.

Paulo Kiyingi was an efficient and diligent worker. There was a time his employers thought he was losing his efficiency in typewriting due to old age and wanted to replace him with some fresh graduates from the University. So the employers set a typing test for all prospective employees, and PK was made to do it too. To their amazement Paulo Kiyingi beat all of them in typing speed and accuracy. That was 1943, when the age of 47 years was considered "old" in some circles. Paulo Kiyingi was not demoted or retired. He was instead promoted to the rank of Chief Native Administrative Secretary, replacing Mr Paulo Kavuma who had just been appointed to a higher rank of Ssaza chief of Buluuli. Paulo Kiyingi continued to work hard, with efficiency and integrity. In return he enjoyed very lucrative working conditions. He earned a reasonably fat salary, which enabled him to put his family on a high standard of living. He was at that level of employment when the 1940s revolutions in Buganda broke out. These eventually culminated into his exile in September 1945.

3.2 Paulo Kiyingi's First Marriage to Ayisa Nakku

Paulo Kiyingi first got married in 1925. By then he had started working in the Protectorate Government and was earning a reasonable salary. He had a home in a plot of land located on Nanfumbambi Road, a road which skirts Makeerere hill from Two-Mile on Bombo Road in the east, round to Joshua Zaake's home in the west (Zaake was a famous Ssaza chief "*Kangaawo*" of Bulemeezi county at one time, but had a home at Makeerere). PK's first marriage then was a traditional Kiganda wedding, to a girl called Ayisa Nakku, the daughter of Mr Busiri Muwanga who was a relative of Prince Noah Mbogo, the father of Prince Badru Kakungulu. In the intensity of their love, they were blessed with two children, a boy and a girl. Moses (Musa) Semyano Kiyingi was born in 1926 and Mary (Maliyamu) Namitala was born in 1928. PK chose those two first names for his children, Musa (Moses) and Maliyamu (Mary),

deliberately to unite the two religions, his and his wife's. PK was a Christian while his wife Ayisa was a Moslem. Due to the strict requirement of the Islamic faith, which in those days forbade a non-Moslem marrying a daughter of a Moslem, Paulo Kiyingi was not able to have a "religious" or official wedding as was the practice in those days. If Paulo Kiyingi had converted to Islam it might have been a different story, but he did not. Ayisa's parents later on got her away from Paulo Kiyingi and arranged for her to get married to another man, this time a Moslem, who lived somewhere in Bulemezi county. At the time of her departure from Paulo Kiyingi she was still pregnant with their second child Namitala. Both children were later brought up by Paulo Kiyingi after he got married to Eseza Nabwami, the daughter of Asanasiyo Lule Mujugumbya (see below). The first child Semyano was left with his father when his mother was taken to be married to a man of her father's faith. The second child Namitala was returned to Paulo Kiyingi when plague struck the area of Bulemezi County where Namitala's mother had got married. In fact it is said that when Ayisa returned to Bulemezi after bringing Namitala to Paulo Kiyingi, she soon caught the disease and unfortunately died from it. Namitala survived.

Following the dissolution of Paulo Kiyingi's marriage to Ayisa Nakku by Ayisa's parents, Paulo Kiyingi decided to look for another girl to marry. He therefore courted and later on married Eseza Nabwami, the daughter of Asanasiyo Lule Mujugumbya and Eresi Ssanyu Nambi Nabukeera, of Kassanda in Ssinga County. Eseza Nabwami had no grudges and showed no ill-feelings towards her husband's children, bringing them up as her own in all respects.

