

[DRAFT 01]
**CONCEPT NOTE FOR THE IGNATIUS KANGAVE MUSAZI
MEMORIAL LECTURE & LAUNCH OF THE COOPERATIVE
PROFILING REPORT 4TH JULY, 2018**

The Cooperative Week 2018

In 2016, The Uhuru Institute in collaboration with cooperatives all over the country and the Government of Uganda Ministry of Trade Industry and Cooperatives, other Civil Society Organizations, initiated the annual Cooperative Week celebration to inculcate positive energy contribution to community development and wellbeing by cooperatives. Activities of the cooperative week includes prayers, blood donation, tree planting, the I K Musazi memorial Lecture, media mobilization and advocacy. In 2016 cooperators, presented a ten-point petition to the speaker of the parliament of Uganda, in 2017 there was a lively advocacy debate on legal issues affecting cooperatives hosted by the Bugisu Cooperative Union, in Mbale. This year 2018, the IK Musazi lecture is planned to take place in Makerere University Main Hall.

The Story of IK Musazi

I K Musazi was born 1905 in Timuna village, near Wobulenzi town, off Kampala-Gulu road in Uganda. He attended King College Budo then gained a scholarship to study divinity in the UK. On completion of his studies in the UK, Musazi was told that he could only graduate and be ordained a priest in his own country Uganda. Musazi was married to Mary Ritah Nansikombi and they were blessed with 11 children. Ignatius Kangave Musazi later formed the first political party in Uganda, namely the Uganda National Congress (UNC) party on Sunday 2 March 1952.

The decision by the Church leadership in England seriously disappointed Musazi and was to shape his thoughts, future actions, and life mission. Upon return to Uganda I K Musazi abandoned his missionary work taking a teaching job at Makerere University College. Later, Musazi also gave up this job at the department of education, at Makerere to concentrate on helping African farmers, oppose the unfair trade terms, especially for cotton. To achieve this, the Uganda African Farmers Union (UAFU), was founded to coordinate farmers mobilisation and advocacy culminating to the 1949 Buganda Riots. The Buganda rioters demanded the following:

- a. the right to bypass the price controls on the export sales of cotton imposed by the British colonial government,
- b. removal of the exclusive rights of local Asian monopoly over cotton ginning
- c. the right to elect representatives in local government to replace colonial appointed the Chiefs.

The Union, was banned as a result. Many supporters went into hiding. The British colonial government blamed this riot on Musazi whom they branded a communists and trouble causer and arrested him. I K. Musazi then formed the Federation of Partnerships of Uganda African Farmers (FPUAF) union following the banning of the Uganda African Farmers Union. In 1950, I.K. Musazi went to London and lobbied the British Parliament for support of the FPUAF and its aspirations. He received

support from mainly the then Labour Party MPs and many intellectuals, particularly from the London School of Economics (LSE), where he had the opportunity to speak.

An American student at LSE, George Shepherd, accepted Musaazi's invitation to provide technical support for the FPUAF in their struggle for the African farmer friendly agricultural policies in Uganda against segregation in favour of Asians and Europeans businesses. Shepherd's approach of racial reconciliation was perhaps one of the most significant contributions to Musaazi and his Federation of Partnerships of Uganda African Famers (FPUAF), as this brought the colonial administration onto the negotiation table. On top of this Shepherd worked with the FPUAF to:

- a. reorganized their accounting books of the FPUAF.
- b. redraft FPUAF by-laws clarity and purpose.
- c. sorted out transport issues affecting the FPUAF.
- d. draw up an advocacy strategy for addressing unfair agricultural policies.

The I K Musazi Memorial Lecture

The I K Musazi Memorial, is a lecture series, that regularly draws on the life story, principles, values and mission that Musazi stood for to educate and inspire cooperators and all Ugandans, especially young people, to join the mission of generating wealth together for a free, enterprising, prosperous, peaceful and happy nation. Musazi was a determined, persistent, visionary leader who strongly believed that the cooperative business model was the most powerful tool for working together with ordinary people and build an equitable, just and dignified future. Musazi had extraordinary courage and a believer in partnerships with all stakeholders, he went to every office to present the case of cooperators without any fear or favour. He deliberately attracted young intellectuals from universities and other tertiary institutions as volunteer interns in the cooperative societies. He deliberately worked to bridge the gaps between the urban elite and the ordinary peasants, starting with living his comfortable job in then Makerere University College to join and become an active member of cooperatives.

These rare qualities and in determination to seek out, and organize the poorest of the poor through the cooperative business model, did not always go down well with those in authority. The price for his action was to cause his arrest 37 times in his active life. Musazi was a man of virtue full of integrity setting him apart from many, at his death he was not wealthy man in financial terms but left a rich legacy befitting a national hero. In 1990 I.K. Musaazi was recognized as a national hero of the Republic of Uganda, and is buried at Kololo heroes ground, in Kampala, the capital city of Uganda.

In 2016, the I K Musazi Memorial Lecture was delivered by Professor Kizza, a political economist in Makerere university who explored, the personality, mission and sacrifices of I K Musazi in the struggles of cooperatives in Uganda. In 2017 the theme focused on Musazi's role in mobilising and advocating for equitable development supported by the Oxfam GB global study on growing inequalities in Uganda and World over. This lecture was delivered by Dr. Fred Muhumuza a re-known

development economist, researcher and former advisor to the Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development of Uganda.

Objective of the IK Musazi Memorial Lecture 2018

To inspire the intelligentsia, reconnect with people at the grassroots to enable an inclusive and equitable socio-economic transformation.

The Theme of the IK Musazi Memorial Lecture 2018

“From the Ivory Tower to The People: A challenge to Uganda’s Intelligentsia Today?”

IK Musazi was a selfless university lecturer, willing to leave the comfort of his job at the prestigious Makerere University and join illiterate and semi-illiterate cooperative farmers with courageous, innovative and visionary leadership to the cause of improving the wellbeing of ordinary folks.

Like a good teacher he was, Musazi soon realised that farmer’s cooperatives needed to be better informed, organised, and accountable to succeed, so he convinced Mr. Shepherd to come provide such useful support. Musazi’s realised that protest alone without a good understanding of how the colonial government worked would not work well so he used Shepherd to keep negotiation doors open with the colonialists. The Musazi story simply says for socio-economic transformation to succeed the elite should link up with ordinary people and build a formidable team to deliver what works for us all.

The 2018 IK Musazi Memorial Lecture will be held on the 4th July, 2018 at 02:30pm at the Makerere University Main Hall. This will be preceded by the launch of a research study report at 10:30am in the morning. The research report covers: “The Legal, Business, Ethical and Knowledge Status of Cooperatives in Uganda” conducted by The Uhuru Institute for Social Development. This study covered 1449 cooperatives in 50 districts of Uganda.

The Launch of the Cooperative Profiling Report

Over the last ten months The Uhuru Institute has been conducting a cooperatives profiling study covering 1449 cooperatives in 50 districts in all regions of the country. This report was validated by respondents and partners coming from all over the country with very positive remarks on content accuracy and strategic value. This be launched on 4th July 2018 at Makerere University Main Hall at 11:00am with a press conference. Following the launch there will be a debate on the key issues emerging from the report by participants in the main hall. The idea here is to use this occasion to seriously reflect on opportunities and challenges facing the cooperative movement and what it means for the development agenda of Uganda. Th debate will also be about what must be done to make Uganda’s development agenda more equitable and inclusive.

Tentative Programme for the Launch of Cooperative Profiling Report and the I K Musazi Memorial Lecture 4th July, 2018 at Makerere University Main Hall

Launch of the Cooperative Profiling Report 2018

- 09:30-10:00am Participant registration
- 10:00-10:45am Press briefing on key findings of the cooperative profiling report
- 10:45-11:00am Welcoming remarks by CEO Uhuru Institute
- 11:00-12:00am Presentation of the Cooperative profiling report
- 12:00-12:50pm Q&A Plenary discussion of the report
- 12:50-01:00pm Closing remarks by Chief Guest

01:00-02:00PM LUNCH BREAK

The I K Musazi Memorial Lecture 2018

- 02:00-02:30pm Participant Registration
- 02:30-02:45pm Introductory Remarks Memorial Lecture by CEO, Uhuru Institute
- 02:45-03:00pm Opening remarks by Min. of MTIC
- 03:00-03:30pm Key Note Presentation by Dr. Ndebesa Mwambutsya MuK
- 03:30-03:45pm 1st Discussant Cooperator
- 03:45-04:00pm 2nd Representative of IK Musazi Family
- 04:00-04:45pm Q&A Plenary Session
- 04:45-05:00pm Closing remarks by Guest of Honor**
- 05:00pm Departure