

## THE ANNUAL NSIBIRWA PUBLIC LECTURE AS PART OF THE MAKERERE@100 PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

Friday 6th May 2022 | 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**TOPIC:** “Revisiting the life of the Late Katikkiro Nsibirwa in the lenses of Makerere at 100 years: The contributions of cultural institutions in engendering public goods”

### 0.01 INTRODUCTION:

Makerere University launched a series of commemorative events to mark 100 years of existence, with the climax event slated for October 2022. The Centenary celebrations under the theme “**Leveraging 100 years of Excellence in Building a Transformed Society**” will, among other things, showcase Makerere’s humble history, celebrated alumni/ stakeholders, and contribution towards higher education services and development of Uganda, the region and the world at large. Since its humble beginning in 1922, Makerere University has been able to transform communities and societies through its wealth of human capital, numerous research outcomes, and Science and Technological Innovations that have served Africa and the world in general.

As history would have it, in 1945, when the colonial administration wanted to expand Makerere College in a bid to establish the premier University of East Africa, one pioneer and visionary leader, Martin Luther Nsibirwa went against all odds and public sentiments at the time to offer up more land on Makerere hill.

As Makerere celebrates 100 years of existence, the life and contribution of the Late Katikkiro of Buganda Kingdom, Martin Luther Nsibirwa, a pillar for courageous and visionary leadership in the Makerere community is worth remembering. Thus, a public lecture, in memory of the Late Martin Luther Nsibirwa’s contributions to Makerere has been organised as part of the Mak@100 Public Lecture series aimed at highlighting the celebration activities of Makerere at 100 years.

### 0.02 ABOUT THE ANNUAL NSIBIRWA PUBLIC LECTURE:

The Annual Nsibirwa Public Lecture celebrates the life and martyrdom of the Late Katikkiro of Buganda Kingdom, Martin Luther Nsibirwa. As Makerere marks 100 years, the life of Nsibirwa stands tall in the history that makes Makerere what it is today.

History captures it that in 1943, the colonial administration sent proposals to the Lukiiko asking for more land to expand Makerere College. In 1945, Katikkiro Nsibirwa was reinstated and convinced the Lukiiko to offer more land to the University, even when some of his colleagues were against the proposal for allocation of more land on Makerere hill. On 5 September 1945, a day after the Land Acquisition Law was passed, Nsibirwa was assassinated as he arrived for morning prayers at Namirembe Cathedral.

Martin Luther Nsibirwa is also remembered in the Makerere community for giving away his land in Mulago for the construction of a dormitory for the School of Nursing. The process of recognizing his extensive contribution to Makerere's existence is evident in 1997 when the former Northcote Hall was renamed Nsibirwa Hall.

Martin Luther Nsibirwa indeed holds a special place in Makerere's existence. The 2022 Nsibirwa Annual Public Lecture will be inaugurated by the current Katikkiro, Owek. Charles Peter Mayiga. He will deliver a lecture on this historical moment appreciating the Late Nsibirwa's contribution to the existence of Makerere University, and the role that cultural institutions can play in nurturing societal transformation. The lecture also provides a unique opportunity to honour the contributions of the Kingdom of Buganda to Makerere's journey of 100 years.

### 0.03 OBJECTIVES OF THE ANNUAL NSIBIRWA PUBLIC LECTURE:

The following will be the objectives of the lecture;

1. To celebrate the unique life and contribution of the Late Martin Luther Nsibirwa, whose enormous contribution provided a home to the University.
2. To give a historical context to the early life of the University and its interaction with traditional institutions at the time with a focus on the contributions of cultural institutions in engendering public goods and societal transformation.
3. To provide a platform for Makerere's stakeholders to discuss and forge a way on how other projects can be started in memory of the Late Martin Luther Nsibirwa, including identifying a building, a road or a course, to be named after the Late Katikkiro.
4. To celebrate Makerere's rare achievement of 100 years and provide ideas on how Makerere can prepare itself for the next century.

### 0.04 EXPECTED OUTCOMES:

The Public Lecture is expected to broaden the understanding of the significant contributions of the Late Martin Luther Nsibirwa to the University and award past alumni who share the former Katikkiro's unique attributes of courageous and foresighted leadership. The content discussed, and the views shared in this public lecture will therefore be shared widely but also archived for future reference purposes.

Secondly, the Public Lecture is expected to highlight the activities lined up in the celebrations of Makerere at 100 years. This will assist in providing a clearer picture of the historical journey Makerere has weathered as it tries to achieve its mission of building for the future.

# THE NSIBIRWA

ANNUAL PUBLIC LECTURE

PAGE 3/3

## 0.05 THE STRUCTURE/METHODOLOGY:

The lecture is hosted by the Mak@100 Secretariat and other partners and will be a 4-hour event aimed at highlighting the wonderful life journey of the Late Nsibirwa and his contribution to Makerere University. The keynote speaker will have a 45 minutes moment to unpack the life and contributions of the late Nsibirwa while using his life journey to recognise the contributions of cultural institutions in engendering public goods.

After delivering the keynote address, a moderated session with the keynote speaker will continue to assist in shading more light on the theme of the address to the audience. The public/audience will then be accorded a 30-minute question and answer session to make contributions and observations.

The audience of 300 participants will be composed of Makerere University members of the Council, Senate, Management, staff, students and other guests.

Lastly, the lecture will also have **an online engagement** that will give an opportunity for those unable to physically attend to follow the proceedings online via zoom and Youtube.

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