

SARAH NYENDWOHA NTIRO

MEMORIAL LECTURE

THEME: BOLD IDEAS NEED SYSTEM SUPPORT TO THRIVE; THE CASE OF SARAH NTIRO

CONCEPT NOTE - BACKGROUND

The 2022 Sarahh Ntiro Memorial Lecture is convened as part of the Makerere @100 Lecture Series to commemorate Makerere University's Centenary.

The lecture is convened in honor of the late Sarah Nyendwoha Ntiro legacy left behind, which paved way for thousands of other young women to dream of the pursuit of higher education, Africa and the World at large.

Sarah Nyendwoha Ntiro was a Ugandan educator, activist and academic. In 1951, she joined University of Oxford and became the first female university graduate in East and Central Africa from Oxford University with a Bachelor of Arts (Hon) in History in 1954.

In 1971 she joined Makerere University as an Assistant Secretary in the University Secretary's office and clerk to the Makerere University Council. In 1976, she was appointed to the joint administration of the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Social Sciences where she worked until October 1978.

The year 2020, marked 100 years since the first formal admission of women into the University of Oxford to pursue higher education.

The fight for the access to higher education for women in the United Kingdom started in the 1860s with what was dubbed, "Lectures for Women," simply because Women were prohibited to study with Men. Organized in town halls, the lectures mushroomed into Oxford's first women's institution for higher education in 1878 called, The Lady Margret Hall.

In 1896, the first formal move for degrees for women filled petitions and proposed resolutions to University statutes, at the University of Oxford, but it was denied. Women continued to be regarded as "honored guests."

On 7th October 1920, for the first time, 130 women were awarded degrees for at the University of Oxford. Nonetheless, the University still maintained quotas which restricted the number of women allowed to pursue a University degree.

In 1951, Sarah Ntiro defied the odds and attained a slot to study a Bachelor's degree of arts in history, at the University of Oxford. In 1954, she became the first female from East and Central Africa to graduate from the University of Oxford.

As Makerere University celebrates 100 years of Excellent Service to Humanity, it presents an honored opportunity to honor her boldness, her ambition, and courage of outstanding women like Sarah Ntiro who paved way for the education of the girl child in institutions of higher learning.

This year, Makerere University conferred degrees on 6,537 female students making up 52% of total graduands in the 72nd graduation ceremony.

ABOUT THE SARAH NTIRO MEMORIAL LECTURE

The Sarah Ntiro Memorial lecture is scheduled to take place on 1st December 2022, in the Yusuf Lule Central Teaching Facility Auditorium, Makerere University. The Memorial lecture will take place from 2:00pm to 4:45 PM.

Held under the theme, “**Bold Ideas Need System Support to Thrive: The Case of Sarah Ntiro,**” the memorial lecture will help shed light into the different enabling policies, Laws, plans, projects and programs that Makerere has put in place to facilitate the growth and realization of many bold ideas since inception as University.

The Sarah Ntiro Memorial lecture will pave way for analysis and appreciation of the evolving discourse of the access to higher education in Makerere University by the girl child over its 100 years of excellent service to humanity.

Sarah Ntiro Nyendwoha holds a special place in the heart of Makerere as one of our most esteemed alumnus for taking the bold steps to pursue higher education at a time when it was considered abominable for the girl child.

METHODOLOGY OF THE SARAH NTIRO MEMORIAL LECTURE

The Sarah Ntiro Memorial Lecture will be a 3-hour Memorial lecture held at the Yusuf Lule Central Teaching Facility Auditorium, Makerere University from 2:00pm to 4:45pm.

The distinguished speaker, **Hon Owek Joyce Mpanga**, will have a 25 minutes' moment to unpack the theme of the memorial lecture, “**Bold Idea Need System Support to Thrive: The Case of Sarah Ntiro.**”

The discussion will be followed by a panel session, moderated by **Prof. Sarahh Ssali**, Principle, School of Women and Gender studies, Makerere University. She will be joined **Mrs. Anna Reismann**; Country Representative Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, **Dr. Euzobia M. Mugisha Baine** is the Acting Director of the Gender Mainstreaming Directorate, and **Ms. Twasiima P. Bigirwa**; is an Alumna of Makerere University, a Feminist Lawyer and Writer, and finally **Ms Susan Opok Tumusiime**, the Executive Director, Forum for African Women Educationists - FAWE.

Mr. Yusuf Kiranda, University Secretary Makerere University, will lead the proceedings as the Master of Ceremony.

The public/audience will then be accorded a 30-minute question and answer session to make contributions, observations and any other matters arising.

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

Lastly, the lecture will also include an online engagement which will provide an opportunity for the wider Makerere University's stakeholders to follow the lecture proceedings online via zoom and all the Makerere University social media platforms.