

HE IS REMEMBERED FOR FORMING THE FIRST POLITICAL PARTY IN UGANDA IN THE LATE 1950s

By Jeff Andrew Lule

The Government will build a multi-billion innovations institute in memory of work of the late Ignatius Kangave Musaaazi.

The Second Deputy Prime Minister, Kirunda Kivejinja, said Musaaazi's contribution to Uganda's independence is not debatable.

"He was a patriotic Ugandan who never held any government position but decided to dedicate his life to fighting the excesses of the colonial rule," he said.

Musaaazi died on October 20, 1990 at the age of 85. He was buried at the Heroes' Corner at the Kololo Independence Grounds.

Addressing journalists at the Uganda Media Centre in Kampala yesterday, Kivejinja said the Government, together with members of Musaaazi's family, have organised week-long events to celebrate Musaaazi's life under the theme: *Keeping I.K. Musaaazi Legacy Alive; Growing Patriotism in the Youth*.

He said celebrating Musaaazi's life was part of the events organised ahead of the Independence Day celebrations on October 9.

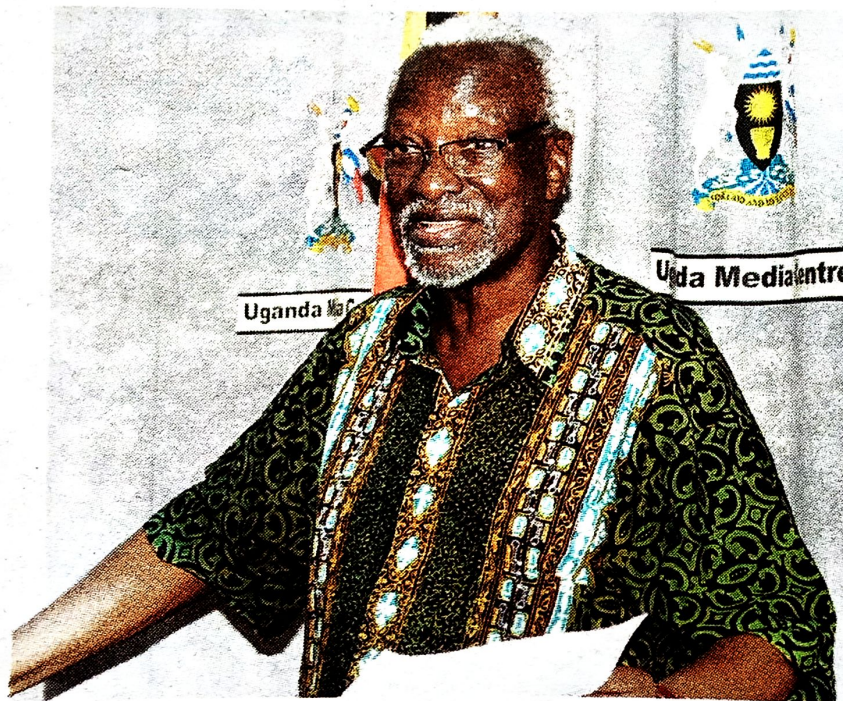
"There is need to recognise the founders of independent Uganda," he added.

He said on October 4, the IK Musaaazi fundraising dinner would be held at Sheraton Kampala Hotel, with President Yoweri Museveni as the chief guest.

He said entry tickets will range from sh200,000 (individual), sh500,000 (VIP) and sh2m for a corporate table.

Musaaazi is remembered for having formed Uganda's first political party,

# Govt to build institute in memory of Ignatius Musaaazi



Kivejinja speaking to journalists yesterday. Photo by Betty Musasizi

the Uganda National Congress (UNC) in the late 1950s, which later gave birth to the Uganda People's Congress (UPC) in 1961.

Kivejinja said Musaaazi also

formed the first trade union, Uganda Motor Drivers Association, which later transformed into the Uganda Amalgamated Transport and General Workers Union.

"His objectives were to unite Ugandans, get independence for Uganda, raise the standard of living of Africans and fight for human rights. Through his struggle, Musaaazi was imprisoned 37 times. He was selfless," he added.

Elizabeth Musaaazi, Musaaazi's daughter, who is also the chairperson IK Musaaazi Memorial Foundation, said the proposed institute will be constructed in Nakaseke where her father hailed from.

She said they would need sh500m for the first phase of building the institute.

"It is a multi-billion project but we are going to do it in phases. Our father led the independence movement and his legacy has to be maintained for others to learn," Elizabeth said.

She said the institute will focus on five objectives, including leadership mindset change.

"Our father accommodated all people irrespective of their religions, ethnicity and political differences. We think the young generation needs to learn from this," Elizabeth said.

The institute will also have a co-operatives philosophy to help promote the values of working together to promote unity for a better Uganda.

He was born in 1905 to Edward Kangave Nankyama and Mariam Nakawungu. His father was a sub-county chief. He was the eldest in the family of nine boys and 11 girls. He attended Mengo SS and later travelled to England for further education. He taught at King's College Budo and was later elevated to inspector of schools, a position he quit after a few years and devoted his time to the Independence struggle.



WHO IS  
MUSAAZI?