

REMARKS BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR, PROF. VENANSIUS BARYAMURREBA, AT THE HONORARY AWARD CEREMONY FOR H.E. YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI, 12/12/2010.

- H.E. The President of the Republic of Uganda, Gen. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni
- The family of the late Mzee Rashid Mfaume Kawawa represented by Ms. Rehema Kawawa and Zalia Kawawa
- The Rt. Honorable Prime Minister, Prof. Apolo Nsibambi
- The Chancellor Makerere University, Prof. George Mondo Kagonyera
- Honorable Ministers Present
- Honorable Members of Parliament Present
- Your Excellencies the Ambassadors and High Commissioners
- The Chairperson and Members of Makerere University Council
- Vice-Chancellors from sister Universities
- Members of the University Senate
- Members of Staff of Makerere University
- Invited Guests
- Students
- Ladies and Gentlemen

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On behalf of Makerere University and on my own behalf, I welcome you all to Makerere University. I welcome and congratulate in a special way the Honorary Award recipients, H. E. The President of the Republic of Uganda Gen Y.K. Museveni and the family of the late Rashid Mfaume Kawawa represented by Rehema and Zalia Kawawa who have travelled all the way from the United Republic of Tanzania. The process to honour the late Mzee Rashid Kawawa by Makerere University started early December 2009 and he passed away on 31st

December 2009. So Mzee Rashid Kawawa will be awarded the Honorary Doctor of Laws of Makerere University posthumously.

Enhancing Salaries of Scientists and other academic staff

Your Excellency the President, despite the fact that UGX 18 billion was budgeted for enhancement of salaries of scientists in the 2010-2011 FY, Makerere University and other public universities have not yet benefited from this enhancement. Your Excellency, as a visitor of all public universities, we are optimistic that this shall be resolved soon.

Research and Development

Your Excellency the President, all developed countries invest more than 1% of their GDP in research and development. China has consistently invested over 1.5% of its GDP and its now the 2nd largest economy in the world. The United Republic of Tanzania beginning with the next financial year will invest 1% of its GDP in research and development. The Republic of South Africa allocated 1% of its GDP to research and development several years ago. Studies have shown that GDP is proportional to research output. Your Excellency Makerere University is the leading University in the region and we would like the Republic of Uganda to lead in research and development in the region through Makerere University. We just need increased funding for research and development and the rest shall follow.

Collegiate University

Your Excellency the President, one of the major recommendations of the Macgregor Visitation Committee Report now government white paper on higher education was instituting academic and administrative reforms. Major achievements in this regard have been in restructuring of all academic programmes and merging of small academic units into 8 colleges. Now experts

to teach on any programme are sourced from across the college unlike when each department taught its own programmes independently.

Extending Tertiary Education to all

Your Excellency the President, Education for all at tertiary education level will spark economic growth and human development. Makerere University as a leading University in the region and in partnership with the government would like to take lead in providing tertiary education for all Ugandans.

Request from staff and students of Makerere University

Your Excellency the President, more than 85% of the degree holders in this country have gone through the gates of Makerere University. Currently over 60% of the students in higher education institutions are at Makerere University. Makerere University has at least one student from each parish and at least one member of staff from each county. Your Excellency, in your speech, students and staff of Makerere University are requesting you to highlight the key issues in the NRM Manifesto you would like them to take to their constituencies as they leave for end of semester holidays and Christmas break.

Honorary Awards

(A) Gen Yoweri Kaguta Museveni

On August 28, 1963 Martin Luther King, Jr. from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial during the march on Washington for Jobs and Freedom delivered "*I have a dream Speech*" to over 200,000 civil rights supporters in which he called for racial equality and an end to discrimination. This was a defining moment of the American Civil Rights Movement.

There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe nor popular, but he must do it because Conscience tells him it is right. Your Excellency that is what you exactly did on 6th February 1981 when you started the NRA bush war and on January 29, 1986 you were sworn in as President of

the Republic of Uganda, which office you still hold uninterrupted. After being sworn by the British-born Chief Justice Peter Allen, you addressed crowds of thousands outside the Ugandan parliament at which you assured Ugandans that "This is not a mere change of guard; it is a fundamental change". **Your Excellency the President, a fundamental change does not happen overnight, it takes time, it takes years and at times decades.** "So you deserve another rap". Your Excellency the President, It is because of your outstanding achievements as President of the Republic of Uganda that Makerere University unanimously resolved to award you an honorary doctor of laws.

(B) Mzee Rashid Kawawa

On April 3, 1968 **Dr. Martin Luther King in Memphis Tennessee gave his last prophet speech** 'I've Been to the Mountaintop'. I quote: "I just want to do God's will and He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people will get to the Promised Land". The following day at 6.01pm on April 4, 1968 Dr King was shot dead in the southern United States city of Memphis, Tennessee, where he was to lead a march of sanitation workers protesting against low wages and poor working conditions. End of Quote.

Mzee Rashid Mfaume Kawawa (RIP) reached the mountaintop. He distinguished himself as a selfless and hardworking person who put all his efforts and life to ensure the freedoms of peoples in his country, region and Africa as a whole. For sure even though he has passed on, his legacy lives on. We shall not be free unless the whole of Africa is free, said Mzee Rashid Kawawa. This thinking is also reflected in the **United Republic of Tanzania motto:** "Uhuru na Umoja" translated in English as Freedom and Unity.

Your Excellency the President, as I conclude let me say that **In God We Trust** is the motto of the United States and the U.S. state of Florida and **For God and my Country** is the motto of the Republic of Uganda. These are the only countries in the world whose mottoes recognise "God". Your Excellency, your uninterrupted leadership as the President of the Republic of Uganda is ordained by God.

AS WE BUILD FOR THE FUTURE. FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY. I THANK YOU.

Your Excellency, allow me to invite the Chairperson of Council, Hon. Mathew Rukikaire to give his remarks.