

# Ugandans to the rescue



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Posted by Musa

Sabagabe must be losing it, the way he contradicts himself at every turn in the article below -- which Museveni leaked to the RedPepper. He spends a good part of his waking time yelling about how cultural leaders must never get involved in (partisan) politics. Yet this article shows him as trying his best to co-opt and bribe agents of one such traditional leader, namely the Kabaka, into campaigning for him: Ssaza Chiefs and Clan Leaders are agents of the Kabaka. They would be breaking the law if they campaigned for Museveni, and I'd expect opposition politicians to go to court over that issue.

Secondly. we all know that Hajji Nadduli is a strong supporter of the Buganda Kingdom, although he is an NRM member. As such, he'd never knowingly do anything to put the Buganda Kingdom at disadvantage -- which is the reason he fell out favor with the NRM oligarchy. So to spread misinformation that he is distributing Museveni's bribe money in Buganda is not credible and is designed to undermine and isolate Hajji Nadduli in Buganda. And, this "kusiiga kasavu" was done without any imagination, stupidly in fact. Consider for example: we are supposed to believe that "*President Museveni has reportedly been using Haji Abdul Nadduli to gather private information, especially bank loans, concerning Kabaka's key officials and aides.*" But we all know that Hajji Nadduli does not own any bank or work in one. Neither is he the Minister of Finance. Thus Hajji Nadduli is not in any position to gather private information on anybody's loans.

In conclusion, the article below is not only a bunch of hooey, but also an infantile attempt at disinformation, though it provides an insight into Museveni's confused thought process. Museveni's worst enemy is not Buganda or the Kabaka. Rather, it the chap who stares back at him everytime he looks in the mirror, and all he stands for.

Ssemakula



## Details of M7, Anti-Kabaka Plot

By Our Reporter

Red Pepper has been privileged to learn from impeccable State House sources what the president exactly intends to do to prevent populous Buganda region from slipping away from his hands come Friday, February 13. Museveni's secret plan for Buganda comprises of 10 key

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major strategies whose implementation is already ongoing. The strategies include the following:

## **ISOLATE KABAKA**

Having failed to have reconciliation and direct communication with him, President Museveni has concluded that isolation is the best way to tame the Kabaka in the short term. The bill on traditional and cultural rulers is his strategy in the long term. This will involve forging partnerships with groups amongst which the Kabaka has always had his most trusted allies. These include County Chiefs (abamasaza), leaders of Baganda Nkoba Zambogo, the friendly clergy and some clan heads and influential elders. Former Mukono Anglican Bishop Eria Paul Luzinda, a known Kabaka confidant, is one of those Museveni badly wants in relation to this strategy. Ronald Kibule, an aide to Secretary General Amama Mbabazi, has reportedly been tasked to bring Museveni into contact with this man of God famous for bashing the NRM at Kabaka's birthdays. Luzinda also openly blasted Museveni over corruption in Mukono during late Agriculture Minister Kibirige Sebunya's requiem mass. State House sources say that the President intends to make his interaction with the above groups strictly confidential so that the Kabaka never gets to know or even when he does, it will be too late for him to do anything. An offended Mutebi is expected to trust some of these less and this will weaken Mengo and favour NRM in relation to 2011 elections. Like he indicated to the group of County Chiefs he secretly met last month, the President intends to help some of these leaders deliver some development and anti-poverty programmes to their people in their respective areas of jurisdiction.

## **BLOCK KABAKA**

In pursuance of what he begun last month when he paralyzed business in Kampala by touring city markets, the Kabaka intended to make more strategic tours around Buganda during the ongoing campaign period. Museveni has openly complained about Kabaka's market tours saying it was a disguised way of campaigning for Besigye and Erias Lukwago. Besides enabling the Kabaka to assert his authority after being deflated by two blocked trips to Kayunga and Nakasongola, the tours would create momentum for Ssuubi 2011 which is crusading over Buganda's key demands. The authorities have neutralized this plan by requiring the Kabaka to regularly obtain what sources described as a "Security Permit" before being cleared to have such tours. The process to obtain the permit has been made so rigorous that the Kabaka must apply a month in advance before the scheduled tour. That, sources told us, is how Kabaka's planned tour of Bulemezi which had been scheduled for Monday January 17, has been made impossible. Mengo has compensated for the failed tour by organizing an event in Bulange where the Kabaka will address a big gathering and launch a Luganda Dictionary. Kabaka's Bulemezi tour would definitely have morale boosted opposition MP candidates against the NRM ones in Bulemezi (Luwero & Nakaseke) in which the

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Kabaka and his CBS radio have a lot of influence. The visit would also cow down NRM-backed ethnic Balaalos in Nakaseke who are crusading for the creation of Kinyogoga district. Kabaka's visit would elevate Ssuubi-leaning opposition candidates seeking to unseat NRM candidates like Kiddu Makubuya, Abraham Byandala, Abdul Nadduli, Syda Bbumba, Ali Ndawula (facing Kabaka ex-minister JC Muyingo) and others who have become too unpopular partly for serving too long (like in Makubuya and Bbumba's case). NRM officials always feel intimidated and shun Kabaka's functions, allowing the opposition to have a field day. Though indirectly, in his measured speeches, the Kabaka often demands for Buganda's things, a gesture that charges crowds against NRM.

### **HUGE CASH**

The President has reportedly prepared cash to generously facilitate his campaign teams in Buganda because he feels the region is now hostile to him like never before. Whereas in other parts of the country he has continued to personally control the campaign cash, in Buganda he has agreed to decentralize facilitation for easy coordination of the campaigns. Groups patronized by Janat Mukwaya, Amelia Kyambadde, Abdul Nadduli and Haji Musa Kigongo, the Buganda campaign teams will directly get campaign cash. The president has also promised to supplement these groups with clandestine campaign groups he intends to commission soon. He made this revelation on Sunday while meeting NRM MPs from Buganda. These clandestine groups will ensure that NRM MP flag bearers concentrate on their own campaign without being bothered about the anti-Kabaka bill.

### **BLACKMAIL CBS**

The president has once again proved his political shrewdness on this one. He has appeased the angry Baganda voters and escaped international scrutiny that came with CBS's continued closure. Yet at the same time as Betty Nambooze has been arguing, this isn't the original CBS. It's broke, has fewer adverts, timid and not as bold as the original one. To crown it all, government has refused to return its license; causing many would-be big advertisers to tread carefully worrying about the radio's legal existence without an operating license. Suspected state agents have also rumoured that CBS could be closed on election eve especially if it doesn't pass the test which the Broadcasting Council boss Mutabaazi says it must pass to get back the license. This has further scared some advertisers! Passing Mutabaazi's test of course means shunning opposition panelists (Nambooze is yet to be fully back) and being soft to the President and the NRM in general. True the radio has hosted Besigye but the moderators appear to be very cautious with questions they ask him and what he is prompted to talk about. The radio which at some point had banned NRM panelists is these days desperate to be seen to accommodate Museveni's people on the political talk shows. It has become norm for the likes of Mama Fina, a famous witchdoctor, to be hosted on shows which used to discuss hard politics against the NRM.

### **USING NADDULI**

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President Museveni has reportedly been using Haji Abdul Nadduli to gather private information, especially bank loans, concerning Kabaka's key officials and aides. This job is supposed to be easy for Nadduli because, despite being NRM chairman for Buganda, he is one of those with key responsibilities in Kabaka's Buganda Land Board.

Using Nadduli's information, state agents are supposed to press banks to squeeze Kabaka's officials to pay up. This is expected to make them vulnerable and unable to resist State House's cash inducements. Some Nkoba Zambogo youths have become so bitter with Nadduli, they have vowed to beat him up one of these days should he dare attend any of Kabaka's functions. In accomplishing this mission Nadduli is supposed to closely work with Robert Sebunya who was a super Kabaka minister for many years. Nadduli's spying activities have already intensified mistrust and suspicion amongst Kabaka's officials who accuse each other of hobnobbing with Museveni to wet their beaks.

## **ISOLATE CHIEFS**

Some chiefs who greatly hate Museveni and have been snubbing Nadduli's invites to go to meet the big man are being targeted for isolation. These include wealthy Kangawo Gideon Kisitu (for Bulemezi) and Bugerere's Sevume Musoke. Despite being too broke (Musoke often moves in taxis), this Kabaka's chief in Kayunga hates Museveni with a passion and has refused to wet his beak in State House. Desperate state agents have resorted to antagonizing him with his juniors at lower levels. One of these is Namuyonjo whom Musoke has always depended on to counter Sabanyara Baker Kimeze. However, fearless Namuyonjo has lately become less vocal in bashing Museveni-backed Kimeze. This has left Musoke in a very vulnerable position. Saying his life is in danger, Mugerere has lately been crying to the Katikkiro to beef up his security.

## **USING MIRUNDI**

The president also intends to use his bold and shameless press secretary and spokesman Joseph Tamale Mirundi. Mirundi has reportedly been tasked to neutralize Ssuubi in especially populous Buddu (Masaka, Rakai, Sembabule, and Lyantonde etc) where he hails. Mirundi has already been doing his job on radios in the area where fearful proprietors have allowed him to have a lion's share of the airtime. Mirundi is good at publicity and the radios have aided this by allowing him to always appear alone without being antagonized by opposition panelists.

## **PENETRATE CLERGY**

The president is also doing something about clerics who are too supportive of the Kabaka. They include Zubair Kayongo, Nuhu Muzaata, Bp Paul Semwogerere, Kityo Luwalira and Cyprian Kizito Lwanga among others. Besides tolerating his spokesman Mirundi going personal against them on radio, the President has also opted to work with

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those who are less radical. Museveni's favoured moderate clerics include Bp Mathias Sekamanya of Lugazi, JB Kaggwa of Masaka and several individual priests in Mitala Maria Deanery. He is willing to fund some self help projects in their parishes (areas of jurisdiction). When they score big developments in their parishes, such priests will have helped Museveni to put their less developmental superiors to shame.

### **KABAKA BILL**

President Museveni is also determined to use the anti-Kabaka bill to politically demistify the influence of Mengo which he says likes blackmailing him at election time. His thinking is that by pushing through such a very unpopular bill in the middle of the campaign, he will be proving to the Kabaka he is psychologically not worried about winning next month's elections. By pulling off this stunt, Museveni hopes to give morale to his MPs and ministers in Buganda who keep crying to him that Mengo is using CBS to de-campaign them.

### **BUSINESSMEN**

The president is also counting on the business community many of whose members fear to openly fraternize with his rivals fearing to hurt their businesses. Though proponents of Museveni's argument that government doesn't do business have successfully swayed the public opinion over the years, government remains the biggest consumer of much of the goods and services the private sector offers. This symbiotic relationship has enabled Museveni to justify his privatization and liberalization policy over the years. Thing is, government has remained the biggest client for most of the large scale businesses in Uganda. It's only rivaled by UN agencies and charities. This has meant that no businessman can openly take on Museveni and survive, without government contracts, in the next five years. This symbiotic relationship has made Ugandan businessmen to become permanently grateful to the NRM. Whereas some are opportunists using their closeness to State House to con foreign investors, a good number of city tycoons are genuinely grateful to Museveni for ushering in stability under which their businesses have thrived. Thus Museveni believes that since most of the business fellows are based in Buganda, being home to the capital city Kampala where they have a lot of influence, they are going to help him neutralize the damage caused by Mengo/Kabaka's hostility.

### **SEKANDI SPEAKS**

Meanwhile, barely a week after he had ordered the legal committee to backoff the anti-Kabaka bill until after campaigns, the speaker of parliament Edward Kiwanuka Ssekandi has backtracked, saying the committee is now free to reconvene. "The committee is now free to meet and make arrangements for its work. If members (on the committee) have time, they can come. It's normal for committees to meet even when parliament is not on," he stated. Asked whether he was going to summon parliament to come and

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pass the bill, the dark-skinned speaker told journalists that 'Parliament can't sit before the committee finishes its report. If they finish and they are ready, I can call parliament'

Ssekandi also took time to warn MPs especially those from Buganda against 'Bugandanizing' the controversial bill. He stated that the bill is for all areas with cultural/traditional leaders and not about Buganda's Kabaka. "If you keep calling it a Kabaka bill, it might bring suspicion among other kings. They might think that government only listens and recognizes Kabaka as the sole king in Uganda. The bill is not for Buganda alone" he stated.