



**Updated just to remind Ugandans what we are up against!**

For such crimes, I would like to assure all those who have been victimized by this regime that “*Help is on the way*”

## **Who murdered our children at Budo Junior school?**

Recent update by Ugandans to the rescue

Dear bereaved parents and Ugandans at large,

We offer the deepest condolences to parents, families and relatives who lost their children in the fire on the night of Monday April 14 2008 at Budo Junior School.

As parents with children, we know the loss and pain you feel is unimaginable. All of us at Radio Katwe stand with you in solidarity. Pray to God that your loss will not be in vain.

Out of respect for the parents and families, we have refrained from publishing anything on this tragedy. Most of us have children in similar circumstances and we understand how you would feel if wild rumours started flying, feeding off on your loss.

However, it is clear to many of us that this was not an accident. But until such a time as we can establish the facts through our sources, Radio Katwe will officially maintain silence while watching the situation. As usual, tips and information from the general public is welcome.

Until now, we have collected just some comments and questions from readers which we shall now release. Please continue to write in, let us do what we can to help the parents in their time of loss. In this Uganda we have lost so many people, and so much, so much, for so long. Death and suffering everyday, everywhere. When shall we ever settle and develop our country?

Here are some questions and comments formulated from readers:

### **Events at the school before & after the incident:**

1. Is it true that some children were sent home shortly before the incident?



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2. If so, why and under what circumstances were these children sent home?
3. Furthermore, whose children were sent home?
4. Why did the police threaten anyone who came forward to claim there were two bodies of adults among the dead bodies at the scene? Yet factually, the first parents on scene saw the bodies themselves?
5. Why did someone say this is a "criminal negligence" masking any other criminal offence, and why not after the investigation?

Ugandans should learn, and this time the parents of those murdered children should conduct a collective private investigation while the memories of the witness are still fresh. There is no reason why this shouldn't be done but if they are waiting for the government investigation they are in for a ride. Let the parents ask to see the details of the government investigation so far. You will be shocked and surprised!

Go private and ask for volunteer expertise by openly stating so, and also officially. Uganda has a media accessible to many people. Organise, open up office centre/ telephone line/ for people to contact you.

6. An eye witness at the school made a report to the effect that on the night of the fire, the Inspector General of Police, Major-General Kale Kaihura was seen near the crime scene "less than 20 minutes" after the fire broke out.

In order to clear the air and allay concerns, the movements of the IGP in the hours preceding and following that incident should be established. As chief of police, it is his duty to supervise and manage his men. But even the fire brigade which should be the fastest got to the scene after an hour. So if this report is true, his alleged appearance on the scene so quickly in this Uganda of ours raises questions. We hope the General, as servant and would be guardian of the people's rights and property, will be kind enough to answer the public.

**The exact sequence of communication between the**



**IGP and fire brigade:**

7. When did the fire brigade get the alarm?
8. Did the fire brigade notify the IGP? If so, when?
9. When, if at all, did the IGP initiate any communication with the fire brigade?

**Concerning the sequence of communication between the IGP/Police headquarters and local authorities:**

(Note: The IGP is reported to have arrived on the scene well before the nearer DPC)

10. When and how was the District Police Commander of Mpigi in whose jurisdiction the incident fell, notified?
11. When if at all, did the DPC speak to the IGP on the night in question?
12. What role if any, was the DPC given, and his position if any, in the chain of command of the people managing this incident?

There is concern about the IGP. In Uganda we have learnt not to take things for granted. Radio Katwe does not currently have a big file on the IGP, but the little shows that there is more than the joking, smiling man we see. When you work for a boss like president Museveni, chances of coming away clean with your integrity are very slim.

Kaihura is a man who has been a special operative for Museveni in Congo before Museveni put him, as a military man, to control the police. Even recently we received a report by one of our boys that Kaihura was spotted meeting the renegade Congolese commander General Laurent Nkunda in Kampala.

When the UPDF was still in Congo in the late 90's, Kaihura would come to Lake View Hotel in Mbarara at a funny hour of the night, after midnight and so on, in the company of dubious men whose identity we have failed to establish up to now. He would book a room and then around 3:00a.m Kaihura would check out before even sleeping. This is strange behavior for someone doing his



official work.

Readers Comments:

**06 May 2008**

**1.**

Dear Radio Katwe Editor,

You tried to highlight some key questions about the Buddo incident that claimed over 50 children although the official report was slashed to only 21 kids to avoid the world to know about this Genocide act. It is alleged that, Nassolo dormitory at Budo Junior School used to house 60 kids, and only 21 died where are the rest?

We understand that one pupil Martha Naamala of Primary six says that, a teacher gathered 20 survivors meaning that out of the 60 residence of Nassolo dormitory 40 were uncounted for at a time.

The Rwandan national working in Museveni's office, one Tamale Mirundi says that before the fires his daughter was sent back home on condition that she was sick. But the doctors who examined Mirundi's daughter confirmed that she wasn't sick.

Police recorded 20 kids died, and survivors were 20 giving a total of 40 kids. But according to the school's management and administration the dormitory's capacity was 61. Given the contradiction of the statement between the state controlled Police and the parents, you may never live to see the finding of the investigations. Because barely less than a week, the police started threatening that, it would arrest whoever will be heard talking about the two adults' bodies that were seen by the first rescuers.

**2.**

**Where is our Parliament?**

Dear RadioKatwe,

I write to say that I am surprised at the sheer silence of our representatives in parliament. There is a lot of talk of mysterious and questionable death going on in the country and people cannot speak openly about this worrying situation in the country. This phenomena happened before during the Amin and Obote government and it is happening again. Let us not pretend there is no problem in Uganda.

I can understand the problem our representative in parliament face of having to come out and confront the authorities in this situation without hard

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evidence. True they don't have evidence, but these criminal activities are not carried out in the open. The tool available is to ask questions, demand answers and follow up investigations. This is the only institution where we expect to have a few individuals to help our country. But I am yet to hear one MP asking the government to explain the mysterious deaths.

We as individuals should also take our concerns to our local MPs and make it public (file concerns at Police and get a file number) that these are the questions I have presented to my MP to get answers from the government authorities. (I am now giving you a hint on what our MPs should be doing for us). If you don't make it public the MP will cower and sweep it under the carpet!

Lastly, let us not wait for our turn to complain it might be too late. The parents of the Budo junior pupils could have not expected that this will happen to them. I am really angry, the parents are grieving and those who have the information are quiet. Hundreds are going to die soon, some a slow death and others staged accidents. Demonstration is dangerous but let us organize a march to parliament to demand for answers not making accusations. If the reports about the Budo fire is not completed by now then it is better to forget about it today and conduct a Private investigation otherwise we will be proved stupid forever.

Ohh! Price rises are good for you Ugandan peasants ( clap your hands! No change? )

Thank you Radio katwe and readers please let others know what you have read and print off as many topical issues as you can for the obvious reason.

The building was strong but it is crumbling I once lived in it

Thank you

**07 May 2008**

**3.**

Dear Radio Katwe,

The story of the 2 dead bodies of adults found in Budo is probably true, because I can confirm from a very reliable source that an extra head was found in the Garang chopper and unaccounted for but concealed by Museveni and group.

The innocent kids of Budo are a sacrifice for the land wrangles to intimidate Mengo and the Kabaka institution. Those are the typical Museveni tricks played as seen in Acholi, Teso train massacre, West Nile etc . Have you seen the threats in the media lately that there are rebel threats in western Uganda? Kasese will burn again but the man wants to go to DR Congo, that is all.

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