

Okiring speaking during the meeting as the lands minister in the Iteso Cultural Union (ICU), Stephen Enokokin and the ICU chairperson Joyce Asekenye look on. Many defilement cases in the district take place in schools. Photo by Emmanuel Alomu

Hang teachers for defilement – LC5

KATAKWI

By Emmanuel Alomu

Teachers who defile school children should be hanged or put on the firing squad, the Katakwi district chairperson, Walter Elakas Okiring, has said.

Okiring said this would reduce cases of defilement involving teachers in the district and the entire country.

"If I were the one, I would put the teachers on the firing squad because there are many beautiful women out there, but they decide to turn their 'gun' on the pupils they teach," Okiring said.

This was during a dialogue meeting with stakeholders in preparation for the International Women's Day belated celebrations in Katakwi district slated for today.

The meeting was organised by Ray of Hope, ActionAid Uganda and Katakwi Local Rights Programme at Urafiki Foundation in Katakwi town on Tuesday.

Okiring said since he became the LC5 chairperson, three teachers had been expelled from schools over defilement of school girls.

He blamed some school directors for promoting indecent dressing by giving pupils mini-skirt uniforms.

"I am soon launching a campaign against schools that are encouraging students to wear short uniform dresses and skirts," Okiring said.

He was responding to issues raised by the school girls in the district during the same meeting.

Martha Asekenye, a Senior Five student of Katakwi High School, said many girls in the district fail exams because some teachers seduce them, hence making them fail to concentrate on their studies.

"If one rejects a teacher's advances, he can cause the expulsion of such a girl. The teacher may also make the student uncomfortable in the school and in the end she either leaves the school or fails her exams," Asekenye said.

Lilian Mary Acele, a Primary Seven pupil of Kokorio Primary School, said since their headteacher, Julius Okwaput, 44, was arrested for allegedly defiling a 15-year-old pupil in October 2017, the pupils have been demoralised.

Mid last year, the headteacher of Magoro Primary School, Mark Imalingat Ocepa, was also arrested over alleged defilement of a girl in his school.

The East Kyoga Police spokesperson, Michael Odongo, said Katakwi district was ranked number one in the Teso sub-region for teachers who defile pupils.

ON THE GROUND



The East Kyoga Police spokesperson, Michael Odongo, said Katakwi district was ranked first among the districts in the Teso sub-region with cases of teachers defiling pupils.

Elders urged on peace

The Bamasaba cultural leader, Bob Mushikori, has urged the Luhya cultural leaders to unite and develop their region, preserve the culture, promote education and strengthen the spirit of patriotism among the people. He made the comments while addressing cultural elders from Busia, Namayingo and Bugiri districts who had paid a courtesy call at the *Inzu Ya Bamasaba's* office in Maluku, Mbale town on Tuesday.

NEWS GO ROUND

Crime preventer held

The Police in Muhorro, Kagadi district on Tuesday arrested a 40-year-old crime preventer for committing adultery with a married woman. The CID Muhorro Police post, Edward Muhumuza, identified the suspects as Edson Abigaba from Kyesamire in Muhorro sub-county and Consolanta Komuhangi, 45, wife to a lay reader, Nathan Birungi of Kyankorogoto Church of Uganda sub-Parish in Muhorro.

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