THE BEAT

THE BEAT NV 39

Friday, March 6, 2026



INSIDE TODAY

ADVICE CHICK Help! I have no job, so she left me Page 41

KALUNGI KABUYE What is KCCA's grand plan? Page 41

FRIDAYS JUST GOT A WHOLE LOT BETTER

CAMERA, LIGHTS, ACTION... HISTORY REPEATS IN HARMONIC MOTION

NEW VISION NV 40 YEARS ANNIVERSARY

The wait is over. So much preparation, so many rehearsals, the setup done exhaustively. Nothing has been left to chance. And as it is said, this is the day that the Lord has made. Makoma, the Congolese superstar gospel band, will perform this evening at Kololo Independence Grounds, as the New Vision@ 40 celebrations kick off. It is camera, lights, action, as Ranell Dickson Nsereko writes

PHOTO BY PATRICK KIBIRANGO



Wanyama (centre), with Makoma band members Pengani (left) and Natalie Makoma, at the Vision Group offices in Kampala during a media engagement on Wednesday. They will perform today at the Kololo Independence Grounds

ALL SET FOR MAKOMA AT NEW VISION AT 40

This is making history. That was just one of the profound statements made by a Makoma band member during a press conference at Vision Group headquarters in Kampala on Wednesday.

Nathalie Makoma, who joked that Ugandans have insisted on calling her 'Natalie' since her arrival on Tuesday night, explained the statement further.

For the group, it is making history because they are going to perform at the 40th anniversary of *New Vision*. It is also historic because the group is performing again in Uganda after 25 years.

Vision Group CEO Don Wanyama says everything is set for the celebrations, noting that the concert will mark the beginning of a series of anniversary activities.

"All is set for the celebrations as we mark 40 years of Vision Group, a journey of journalism, education, entertainment and national development," Wanyama said.

"Today, we kick off this milestone with what promises to be one of the biggest concerts in the country, featuring Makoma at Kololo. We invite everyone to join us, enjoy the music and celebrate this incredible journey together," he said.

The concert has attracted endorsements from political leaders, religious figures and entertainment stakeholders who are urging the public to attend what promises to be a powerful night of music and celebration.

Continued on page 40

PHOTO BY SIMON PETER TUMWINE



Pr Kayanja (centre) of Rubaga Miracle Centre Cathedral in Kampala dancing with Pengani (left) and Nathalie (right) as they performed at the church on Wednesday

MAKOMA AT RUBAGA MIRACLE CENTRE

Excitement filled Rubaga Miracle Centre Cathedral in Kampala on Wednesday as the Makoma band paid a courtesy visit to the church, reconnecting with Pr Robert Kayanja ahead of their highly anticipated concert at Kololo Independence Grounds.

The visit was made together with a delegation from Vision Group led by Lorraine Tukahirwa, the head of marketing and communications, as part of activities marking New Vision's 40-year celebrations.

For Pr Kayanja, the moment carried deep memories of Makoma's first visit to Uganda 25 years ago.

"I came with Pr Jessica and my little twins, Robert among them. The children had just come from school. We took them along because the concert felt like a message of hope to a country that had gone through war," he said.

Kayanja added that after their performance at the then Nile Hotel, the gospel group visited his church, which was still under construction.

"We had not even finished the roof. In fact, we were still in the foundation stages. Those were very early days, but we thank God," the pastor recalled.

"I want to thank New Vision and its leadership for reaching 40 years. In the Bible, 40 represents a new chapter," he said. "Just like the children of Israel spent 40 years in the desert before crossing into the promised land, I believe this is a new season."

Nathalie Makoma, the most vocal member of the band, also used the moment to invite Ugandans to the concert.

The visit with a performance of *Napesi*, which had Kayanja join them in dance. Nathalie said the rest of the band arrives today.