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Land eviction: More than 2,000 stranded in Hoima

KAMPALA. More than 2,000 people, who were violently evicted in Kyangwali Sub-county, Hoima District, live in uncertainty two months after the Commission of Inquiry into Land Matters intervened in their matter.

The group currently in the camp was part of the more than 30,000 people, who were displaced from 28 villages in Kyangwali Sub-county in 2013.

In September, the Justice Catherine Bamugemereire-led commission held public hearings in Hoima

and inspected the affected communities and promised immediate intervention. Justice Bamugemereire described the situation as unfortunate, saying the commission will work with the relevant authorities to have the matter resolved.

"I thought the makeshift structures are for refugees but they are for Ugandans, the situation is dire. We shall find a solution from responsible people and I can assure you the truth will come out for an informed decision to come up," she said.

Addressing the media in Kampala

recently, Buhaguzi County MP Daniel Muheirwe appealed for urgent intervention saying part of people's land, which was taken by UPDF at Katikara, is being hired out by soldiers to farmers from different parts of the country.

The legislator revealed that attempts of the evictees to return to their land as directed by the Prime Minister, Dr Ruhakana Ruganda, in 2015 were foiled and instead established a purported verification committee which has never made a report.

Last month, the commission threw out Maj Eric Kigamboha, a senior officer of the UPDF, who is accused of grabbing property in Butoroogo Sub-county in Mubende District, from the land and reinstated the family of Mr Charles Byangaramani on their land.

Mr Byangaramani's family is one of the hundreds of households that were allegedly illegally evicted between 2013 and 2015 by Maj Kigamboha in collusion with a one Naava Milly Namutebi, a purported landlord.

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