

Man marries bride, 70 younger

MITYANA

By Luke Kagiri

Eriabu Musisi Kivumbi, 90, said he had been lonely because his children and grandchildren had all started their own homes. He, therefore needed a companion. "This is marking the beginning of my new life. Now I have someone I can share my life with, unlike before, when I was so lonely," Kivumbi said.

He made the remarks after exchanging marriage vows with Regina Nakazzi, 23, at Businzigo Church of Uganda in Mityana Diocese on Saturday.

Walking with support of a stick and his bestman close to him, Kivumbi entered the church, waving to the congregation.

"It is God who knows how people get together. As for myself, I am destined to live a good life with my bride," he said.

Kivumbi was married by the Rev. James Kityo Ssemuyaba, amid excitement from those who turned up to witness their marriage. However, before the ceremony, the wedding organisers got worried, having heard rumours that some relatives wanted to block Kivumbi from marrying a young girl.

But, in church, the organisers were relieved when the Rev Ssemuyaba asked whether there was anybody not in favour

of the marriage, and nobody turned up.

"I now declare Kivumbi and Nakazzi as a married couple in the Church and I bless you to have a happy marriage," Ssemuyaba said.

Asked why he married the couple, whose difference in age was wide, Ssemuyaba replied that the law only prohibits those under the age of 18, but it is silent about the elderly people, or the age difference.

How they met

Some of the relatives who attended the wedding told *New Vision* that Nakazzi had a few years before got married and had a child, but separated with the husband.

Nakazzi, who is born in Kajjansi on Entebbe Road, had got married to an unidentified man, who used to work at their home as a casual labourer.

"The man was born in Kansuleti in Mityana municipality, but was working at Nakazzi's home in Kajjansi. When Nakazzi got pregnant, he brought her to Mityana, but after a few months, he is said to have run away and abandoned her," one relative who declined to be revealed, narrated.

He said that Nakazzi went around the villages looking for casual jobs and that was is how she found with Kivumbi.

Nakazzi said she does not mind about the age difference and she is determined to look after her husband and love him.



Nakazzi and Kivumbi after exchanging vows in Mityana

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