

Museveni carries out most brutal Cabinet cull in years

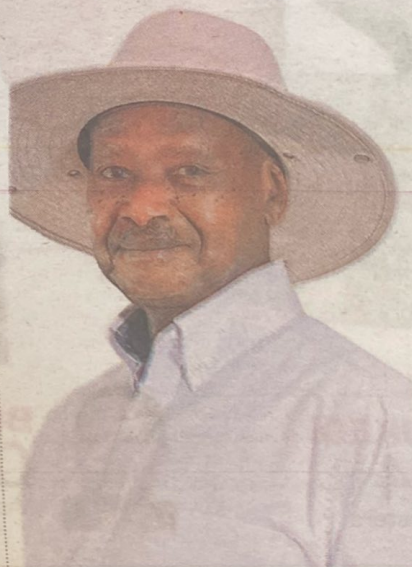
BY MONITOR REPORTER

KAMPALA. The latest Cabinet reshuffle, in which 29 ministers lost their positions in a single sweep, is likely to go down as one of the most extensive over the past 15 years, marking a significant shake-up of President Museveni's executive team.

The new Cabinet list introduces several new faces while sidelining several long-serving ministers, in what appears to signal a renewed focus on generational renewal and the needs of younger Ugandans.

Among those dropped is Moses Ali, who first served as Minister for Finance as far back as 1973—over five decades ago. Another octogenarian, Matia Kasaija, also exited Cabinet in the reshuffle.

A review of Cabinet changes since 2011 shows that President Museveni



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dropped 39 ministers across three reshuffles between 2011 and 2016. In the lead-up to the 2021 Cabinet, a further 45 ministers were removed across three reshuffles beginning in 2016.

In contrast, the current term had seen relatively limited changes, with Cabinet largely retained over the five years. Only a minor reshuffle in 2024 saw Ministers Vincent Ssempijja, Mary Goretta Kitutu and Agnes Nandutu dropped.

Observers say this relative stability may explain the scale of the latest shake-up.

Of those dropped in the latest reshuffle, only Moses Ali and Gen (rtd) Abubaker Jeje Odongo had retained parliamentary seats. However, Mr Odongo had run as an independent after losing the NRM flag, a move considered contrary to party discipline.

Mr Ali, who has been unwell in recent years, was widely viewed as unlikely to continue serving in Cabinet.

His son, Mr Siraji Ali, was instead appointed a Minister of State, in what some officials interpret as a compensatory gesture to the family.

However, in remarks that underscored the political pressure facing ministers, President Museveni warned that more

changes could follow if Cabinet members fail to deliver on the NRM's development agenda.

"If I come to your area and your people are still poor or struggling, I will sack you," he said during the first sitting of the 12th Parliament.

The writing is clear that beyond holding the ministerial post, one must ensure progress in their home area.

LONG SERVING

One of the longest serving ministers was Moses Ali.

DROPPED MINISTERS

Matia Kasaija	Joyce Moriku Kaducu
David Muhoozi	Florence Nambozo
Betty Amongi	Christine Adoa
Evelyn Anite	Obiga Kania
Ruth Nankabirwa	Hellen Grace Asamo
Moses Ali	Martin Mugarra
Francis Mwebesa	Gideon Mafabi Gidudu
Hamson Obua	Frederick Ngobi Gume
Raphael Magyezi	Jennifer Namuyangu
Wilson Muruli Mukasa	Fred Bwino Kyakulaga
Henry Okello Oryem	Kenneth Omona
Peter Lokeris	Godfrey Kabbyanga
Abu Baker Jeje Odongo	John Mulimba
Sam Cheptoris	

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DROPPED
MINISTERS