

NKOYOYO SPEARHEADED EDUCATION

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At Uganda Christian University (UCU), one of the outstanding modern buildings on campus is Nkoyooyo Hall.

The university's main hall was named after the Retired Archbishop Livingstone Mpalanyi Nkoyooyo, in recognition of his great work in establishing the first Church of Uganda University in 1997. The university replaced Bishop Tucker Theological College that had been in existence since 1913, training Ugandan Anglican church leaders. Nkoyooyo was also the university's first chancellor as the then archbishop of Church of Uganda.

The news of his demise was broken on the University's twitter handle.

"Our first chancellor and former archbishop of Uganda has gone to be with the lord. Rest in peace," the tweet read.

DEVELOPMENTAL ROLE

UCU was founded during Nkoyooyo's service as the Archbishop of the Church of Uganda. In his capacity as the founding chancellor, Nkoyooyo also took charge of identifying a capable person who would help in the running and transforming the institution.

Bishop Alfred Olwa, the former dean of faculty of divinity at UCU told *Saturday Vision* that Nkoyooyo was so committed to seeing the university succeed that he travelled to United States, where he had identified an exceptional American, Prof. Stephen Noll — the first university's vice-chancellor and

Olwa, who is the Bishop of Lango Diocese, describes Nkoyooyo as an exceptional clergy with a strong character of persuasion.

"Since the provincial assembly at that time had already decided that the Church of Uganda should have a university, when time came to find suitable candidate to run it, Nkoyooyo took up the role," he recalls.

Olwa added that Nkoyooyo persuaded Prof. Noll to come and be the Vice Chancellor at that time.

"He literally convinced Prof. Noll to leave his good life in America to come to Uganda," he said.

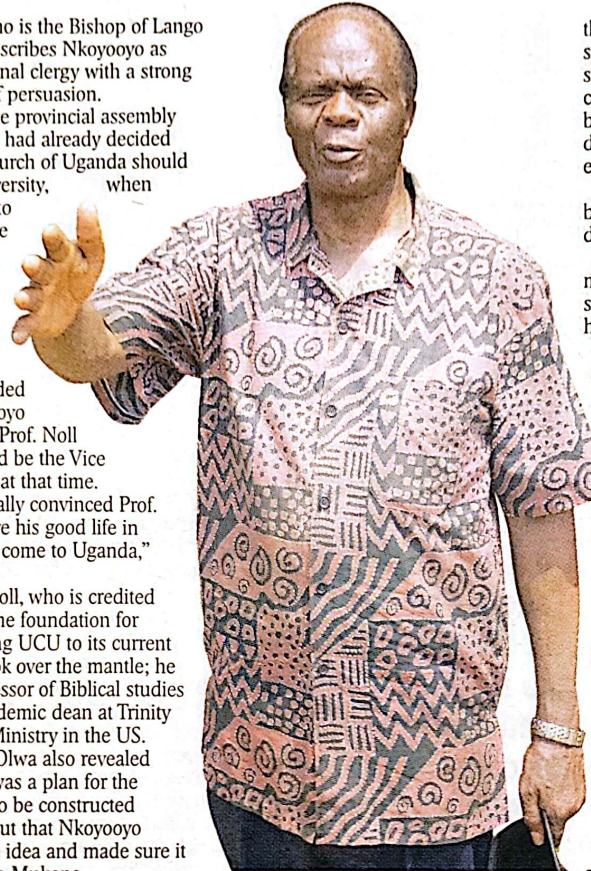
Before Noll, who is credited for laying the foundation for transforming UCU to its current heights, took over the mantle; he was a professor of Biblical studies and an academic dean at Trinity School of Ministry in the US.

Bishop Olwa also revealed that there was a plan for the university to be constructed in Mbale, but that Nkoyooyo resisted the idea and made sure it remained in Mukono.

"He was passionate about seeing a successful Church of University in Mukono district," he added.

But Nkoyooyo's love for promoting education did not stop with university education. He was also a key player in starting many primary and secondary schools to support needy pupils.

He said in one of the recent



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the need to start a chain of primary schools to educate orphans and street children. I wanted to enable children from disadvantaged backgrounds, as well as those with disabilities, to have equal access to education as other children."

Nkoyooyo explained that he believed that the needy children also deserved education.

"I dedicated these schools to my son, Martin Nkoyooyo, who succumbed to leukaemia in 2006," he said.

He explained that the decision to start a school in his son's name was reached in consultation with his family. Martin Nkoyooyo Inclusive School in Mukono district had over 500 pupils in 2016 and more than 50 of them were visually impaired, while others had physical disabilities.

"With the help of funds from my late son's insurance gratuity, which amounted to about sh150m and financial support from different sources, we started the school in 2008," he said.

In addition to that school, he supported Matala Nkoyooyo Boarding School, which was established by his father in 1958 and Bishop Nkoyooyo Secondary School in Mukono, which started in 1989.

"Despite my busy schedule, I make sure that I monitor the schools to ensure that they all have what they need."

Besides the monetary value, he said, he felt fulfilled in his endeavours, seeing needy children change and become self-reliant, which would result in social transformation.

He was also instrumental in aiding orphans. Nkoyooyo was a director

organisation and school that caters for the disabled, orphans and other vulnerable children. The organisation that started operating in 2009 works with several partners who donate funds to help needy children.

CONSTRUCTION OF UGANDA MARTYRS MUSEUM

For Nkoyooyo, educating the masses did not stop only with schools. Nkoyooyo was one of the people who initiated the idea of constructing the Uganda Martyrs Museum in Namugongo.

In one of the interviews with the *New Vision* before his death, Nkoyooyo said he got the revelation to build the museum in 1980s and eventually mobilised a team and put up the state of the art centre.

"I don't remember having minutes written down when we were planning to construct the Museum, but the idea came as a revelation and we took it on," he said.

The museum, which was launched in 2015 when Pope Francis visited Uganda, is one of the last projects Nkoyooyo worked on.

OTHER ROLES

He also started an association called Brotherhood of St Andrews that mentors Christian men before they get married.

Nkoyooyo was a writer and his biography, *The journey through the unknown* talks about his mission in the church.

He will be buried on Tuesday in a State funeral at Namugongo Anglican Shrine. The body will today be at Namirembe Cathedral from 2:00pm for a night vigil till Monday morning, when it will be taken to Mukono Cathedral. In the afternoon, it will be taken to his home at Nakabago for