

LETTER OF THE DAY

Change of leaders is good for devt

Once in a leadership school, I was taught that a good (successful) leader is one that leaves behind a successor. We shall therefore be able to measure President Museveni's leadership only if he is able to leave behind a successor. The reason for this is simple; A leader must be preoccupied with the success of his or her organisation to strive to ensure its continuity. A leader must be concerned with tomorrow not only today. He devotes time to building institutions that outlive him. A leader must never be the centre of an organisation.

Leaders must be fanatics of posterity. They must never build their foundations on shaky grounds. Institutions are the rocks upon which organisation are built.

Whereas it is true that President Museveni has done so many good things for Uganda, it is also true that he owes little or no accountability to Ugandans. That is the reason why he will easily skip a presidential debate without an apology. It is the reason why police teargas and beat Ugandans without an apology. It is the reason why Ugandans die in hospitals because there was no doctor to attend to them with no one being held to account. It is the reason corrupt officials continue to steal taxpayers' money with no remorse.

One of the reasons why change will be good for Uganda is because



the next leader for Uganda will be answerable to Ugandans. Ugandans will realise that they actually can be able to change leaders. They will realise that they have power to vote out and in leaders. The next leader of Uganda must perform to retain his seat. He must address the rampant corruption. He must radically reform the health and education systems. He must address the blatant wastage in government.

The people who fear to vote other leaders because there might be chaos in Uganda are only affirming one thing; that the current leadership is weak and has not built a foundation that can hold the country together. Uganda be doomed without Museveni? If the answer is yes, then we are simply postponing this doom-since it will have to come one day. The earlier we face this doomsday the better.

I am fully aware that there is no perfect leader. I am under no illusion that Kizza Besigye or Amama Mubazi will be perfect leaders. However, I believe that once Ugandans start to hold their leaders accountable, service delivery will improve.

The longer a leader stays in power, the higher the cost of self-preservation.

My prayer is that we shall have a peaceful transfer of power. However, whoever wins the elections, I pray that Uganda will remain one country. May our destiny be peace. May Uganda's future be prosperity. May Uganda continue to be the pearl of Africa. Oh Uganda may God uphold thee. I hope you will go vote for the candidate of your choice on February 18.

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