

## Jinja Campus Celebrates Cultural Diversity with Annual Gala



On March 14, 2025, MUBS Jinja Campus held its Annual Cultural Gala, celebrating cultural diversity and unity under the theme "Celebrating Cultural Diversity, Unity, and Heritage." The event was graced by Owekitiibwa Daniel Kato Biluma, the Minister of Youth and Children's Affairs in Busoga Kingdom, who served as the Chief Guest.

In his speech, Owekitiibwa Kato urged the students to reject tribalism, calling it harmful and irrelevant in modern society. He emphasized that tribal identity is not something one chooses, and therefore, students should embrace and respect each other's backgrounds. "Nobody applied to belong to the tribe where they were born. Let's appreciate and respect each other," he said. The Minister also encouraged the students to take responsibility for their health and be proactive in preventing HIV/AIDS.

Ms. Juliet Kateega, the MUBS Dean of Students, who represented Principal Prof. Moses Muhwezi, expressed her appreciation for the students' efforts in organizing the gala. She highlighted the role of cultural activities in mental well-being, noting that cultural performances not only provide enjoyment but also help to alleviate stress. "Culture plays a big role in mental health. Let us continue to engage in cultural performances," she said.

Dr. Noah Mwelu, the MUBS Jinja Campus Chief, also thanked the students' leadership for organizing the event. He reiterated the Campus's commitment to welcoming and respecting people from all cultural backgrounds. "At MUBS Jinja Campus, we embrace diversity, and we are committed to empowering students with knowledge to help them contribute to the development of the Busoga region," he stated. Dr. Mwelu also

expressed gratitude to the event's sponsors, including ABSA Bank, Pepsi, Busoga One Radio, MTN Uganda, Shell Gas, NBS Group of Companies, and Bridge FM, for their continued support.

Guild Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Dinnah Wambi also offered her thanks to the Campus Administration and the students for their active participation, which made the event a success. In the competition that followed, the Abasoga Nseete Students' Association emerged as the overall winner, securing 88%. The MUBS Western Uganda Students' Association took second place with 82%, while the Baganda Nkobazambogo Association finished third with 79%. The Annual Cultural Gala proved to be a valuable opportunity for students to showcase their cultural heritage, celebrate diversity, and promote unity on the MUBS Jinja Campus.