

Digitizing Makerere University Library Newspaper Archives for Online Access.

1.0 Background

Makerere University was established in 1922 as a technical school and is currently one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in Africa. At the centre of the University is the Library which started in small room in the Main Administration building in 1949. The first wing of the Main Library was constructed and opened in 1959. It had space of 4,000 Sq. metres with a sitting capacity of 270. The university population then was 750 students and 40 staff members. The Library had 120,000 volumes of books. It was extended in 1962, 1972, and 2006. The last extension increased the space to 12,000 square metres with a seating capacity of over 3,980.

In 1958, Makerere University Library acquired the status of a Depository Library and these and other special collections are housed in Africana section of the Main Library. These materials that have been collected over the years include newspapers that date as far back as 1907, rare books, records from individuals such as Apollo Kivebulaya, an early Christianity convert and influential evangelist in the 19th and 20th century and Apollo Kagwa, a political leader that lived during the British colonial rule in Uganda. The Africana collection also includes photograph collection, newspaper clippings, microfilms as well as the University collection. The current collection consists of three types of materials namely old newspapers, manuscripts and Archives. The newspaper collection includes all Ugandan newspapers and some of the newspapers of the East African region. In 1972, Makerere University Library became a National Reference Library and this increased the number of users who access its collection.

2.0 Description of the problem

Makerere University Library is the only institution that has maintained a relatively extensive collection of the oldest and rarest newspapers. However, the collection has been over used and some of them are brittle, torn and fragile. This is because most of the old newspapers were printed on large sheets of paper that could not be photocopied as a preservation measure. In addition, photocopying has risks associated with acidity, ultraviolet radiation and oxidizing fumes which affect both the documents and humans. Some of the papers have even been withdrawn from circulation with hardly any backup maintained. Although some of the

newspapers were preserved using the lamination method, only 50 volumes were covered because the method proved to be expensive. The collection is irreplaceable and it is important that it is moved into digital media, so that it can be preserved and handed down to future generations. One of the strategic priorities of Makerere University Library is to preserve rare information materials in digital form and make them readily available to a wide range of users. Digitising and conserving the old newspapers will hence make them electronically accessible. Original copies will also be permanently maintained and accessible to the users who need the information.

3.0 Aim of the Project

The project aims at conserving, preserving and providing electronic access to Makerere University Library's newspaper collection.

4.0 Project objective

1. To improve the physical condition of approximately 104 titles and 2660 volumes of bound newspapers by 2021.
2. To preserve and digitise the collection by 2021
3. To provide online access by 2022.

Activities

- Sorting the collection that urgently needs to be conserved
- Training in conservation practices
- Acquiring materials for conservation
- Procuring equipment
- Conserving the most fragile newspapers
- Preparing for digitisation

Objective 2

- Scanning
- Editing
- Metadata
- Uploading

Objective 3

- Indexing
- Providing access rights
- Database maintenance
- Creating awareness/ sensitisation

Deliverables / Outputs;

- 129 newspaper titles Conserved and digitised129.
- Skilled staff in conservation and preservation practices
- Equipment procured and utilised.
- Functional database
- Access rights determined
- Increased visibility and utilisation.

Appendix 1

Target newspaper collection for digitization:

No.	Newspaper Title	Years available	No of bound volumes	Estimated pages per volume
1.	Ebifa mu Buganda	1907-1955	32	
2.	Uganda Herald	1912-1954	79	
3.	Munno	1912-1996	202	
4.	Sekanyolya	1920-1985	8	
5.	Matalisi	1925-1954	26	

6.	Gambuze	1933-1956	11	
7.	Ebifa mu Bulaya	1939	1	
8.	Amawulire Agavude mu Bulaya	1939-1940	5	
9.	Amawulire Agavude mu nsi Zonna	1940-1942	2	
10.	Dobozi lya Buganda	1950-1958	5	
11.	Ndimugezi	1953	1	
12.	Uganda Empya	1953-1961	6	
13.	Uganda Eyogera	1953-1993	37	
14.	Akiika Embuga	1954-1965	4	
15.	Uganda Post	1955-1983	16	
16.	Ebifa mu Uganda	1955-1977	13	
17.	Agafa Ebuwanjuba	1956-1959	1	
19.	Uganda Argus	1956-1972		
20.	Apupeta	1957-1975	6	
21.	Eryom Kiteso	1957-1960	1	
22.	Agafa Ankole	1958-1959	2	
23.	Baraza	1958-1970	1	
24.	Lobo Mewa	1958-1971	4	
25.	Agafa e Bukedi	1959	1	

26.	Mawulire	1959-1962	7	
27.	Imuka	1959-1963	1	
28.	Lumuli	1959-1963	1	
29.	Obugaga bwa Uganda	1959-1961	13	
30.	Amut	1960-1962	1	
31.	Emambya Esaze	1960-1990	4	
32.	Taifa Uganda	1961	27	
33.	Freedom Ddembe	1961	2	
34.	Taifa Empya	1961-1989	101	
35.	Ageteraine	1961-1974	18	
36.	Makererean	1961-1969	6	
37.	New Day	1961-1966	4	
38.	Uganda Nation	1962-1963	7	
39.	Africa Pilot	1963	1	
40.	Omukulembeze	1963-1975	48	
41.	Orumuri	1963-1997	43	
42.	Mwebinga	1964	1	
43.	The people	1965-1997	62	
44.	Mwebembezi	1965-1974	10	

45.	Madhvani	1966-1970	2	
46.	Dwon Lwak	1967-1977	11	
47.	Voice of Uganda	1973-1978	56	
48.	Weekly Topic	1978-1994	31	
49.	Equator	1979-1986	2	
50.	Citizen	1979-1995	14	
51.	Saba Saba	1979-1996	6	
52.	Uganda Times	1979-1984	53	
53.	Ag'Africa	1980-1981	1	
54	Agafa e Buddu	1980-1981	1	
55.	Kampala Guardian	1980	1	
56.	Ngabo	1980-1996	75	
57.	Ebifa e Buddu	1981	1	
58.	Munnansi	1981-1986	16	
59.	Agafa mu Kisubi Parish	1982	1	
60.	Soccer World	1984-1995	13	
61.	The Star	1984-1993	57	
62.	Financial Times	1985-1993	19	
63.	New Vision	1986 -	215	

64.	The Exposure	1986-89	1	
65.	The Guide	1987-1990	5	
66.	Focus	1987-1988	7	
67.	The 6th of February	1987-1996	4	
68.	Telecast	1988	2	
69.	Economy	1989-1994	6	
70.	The Statesman	1991-1994	1	
71.	Uganda Confidential	1992-1998	18	
72.	Business World	1993	1	
73.	The Monitor	1993-	234	
74.	China News Bulletin	1993-1970	9	
75.	Bukedde	1994-	246	
76.	Etop	1994-1997	41	
77.	Lipoota	1994-1998	14	
78.	Monitor Sport	1994	1	
79.	Rupiny	1994-1998	37	
80.	The Tribune	1994-1996	2	
81.	East Africa	1995-2003	46	
82.	Assalaam	1995-1997	4	

83.	The Shariat Luganda version	1995-1998	9	
84.	Champion	1996	1	
85.	Look	1996	7	
86.	Crusader	1996-1998	13	
87.	New Times	1996-1999	4	
88.	The Shariat English version	1996-1998	9	
89.	Enyinyuzi yattu	1997-1985	1	
90.	Kodheyo	1997-1998	2	
91.	Njuba Times	1998-1999	15	
92.	Entatsi	2000-2005	13	
93.	Sunrise	2000-2007	17	
94.	The Message	2000-2007	11	
95.	Ngoma	2001-	11	
96.	Red Pepper	2001-	129	
97.	East African Procurement	2003-2004	1	
98.	Campus	2003-2005	1	
99.	The Observer	2004-	39	
100.	Procurement	2004-2005	4	

101.	Kamunye	2006	74	
102.	Gwanga		5	
103.	Hello		20	
104.	The Nile Gazette		7	