

## H.E PRESIDENT YOWERI MUSEVENI HONORS GEN. ARONDA NYAKAIRIMA'S LEGACY



President Yoweri Museveni honored the late Gen. Aronda Nyakairima on September 12, 2024, at the inaugural Kampala Defence and Security Expo, describing him as a disciplined cadre. The expo, held from September 10 to 12 at Munyonyo Commonwealth Resort, was part of the Gen. Aronda Nyakairima Memorial Lecture, celebrating his life as a paragon of revolutionary sacrifice, pan-Africanism, patriotism, courage, and an accomplished freedom fighter.

### **Gen. Aronda's Exceptional Leadership**

Museveni praised Gen. Aronda's role in the early resistance movement, highlighting his exceptional discipline, organizational skills, and dedication. "Individuals like Gen. Aronda, educated and emerging from oppressed backgrounds, were crucial to the success of the struggle," Museveni said.

The President noted that Gen. Aronda's education and proficiency in English made him an invaluable asset in the intelligence and political sections of the army. "Gen. Aronda and his colleagues quickly became invaluable assets due to their education and proficiency in English," Museveni added.



Museveni also acknowledged the contributions of other early combatants, including David Tinyefuza, Magara, Elly Tumwine, Tumukunde Henry, and Sande Mukulu.

### **Challenges and Legacy**

Museveni emphasized that despite challenges posed by the loss of historical combat commanders, the UPDF/NRA/Fronasa sustained its mission of liberating Uganda. However, he pointed out ongoing issues such as corruption and insufficient training that have impacted the army.

"The tragic incident where 57 soldiers were lost in Somalia was attributed to corruption," Museveni said. "Despite these challenges, the majority of the army remains dedicated and clean."

Museveni commended the current Chief of Defence Forces (CDF), Gen. Muhoozi Kainerugaba, for addressing the issue of misuse of resources by reallocating funds to build barracks and improve soldiers' welfare.

Hon. Gen. (RTD) Kahinda Otafiire recognized Gen. Aronda's leadership in the Uganda Prisons Service (UPS). "Key achievements under his tenure include a 96.7% budget increase, expansion of prisons, construction of staff housing units, improved sanitation, and enhanced farm production," Otafiire said.

Minister of State for Defence in charge of Veteran Affairs, Hon. Huda Oleru Abason, emphasized the importance of preserving national heroes' legacies. "Honouring our fallen heroes is not just about



remembering their sacrifices; it's about cultivating a culture of gratitude and inspiring future generations," Abason said.

Gen. Muhoozi Kainerugaba, Chief of Defence Forces, paid tribute to Gen. Aronda, highlighting his profound impact on Uganda's stability and security. "Gen. Aronda's efforts in Somalia showcased his exceptional capability and commitment," Kainerugaba said.

Kainerugaba praised Gen. Aronda's leadership in regional peace efforts, including the pioneering deployment to Somalia in 2007. "His actions proved him to be a stabilizing force in East Africa," Kainerugaba added.

### **Uganda Prisons Service's contribution to national Socio-economic transformation**



During the expo, President Museveni commended the Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) for its innovative endeavors, showcasing maize seed varieties, art and craft products, staff uniforms, and impressive furniture manufactured by inmates.

UPS has successfully fulfilled presidential directives on maize seed multiplication, furniture manufacturing, and uniform production, aligning with the BUBU initiative.

### **Tribute to a Fallen Hero**

The memorial event honored Gen. Aronda's lasting impact on Uganda's security, political, social, and economic development. His story serves as a testament to courage, dedication, and commitment, inspiring future leaders in the military and civilian sectors.

Gen. Aronda Nyakairima's legacy continues to inspire generations, and his memory lives on, motivating Ugandans to strive for greatness.



#### **\_Key Achievements:\_**

- **\_Nationalism and Pan-Africanism:\_** Devoted nationalist and pan-Africanist who served humanity selflessly
- **\_Indefatigable Work Ethic:\_** Championed the national identity project as Minister of Internal Affairs
- **\_Compassionate Leadership:\_** Transformed salary payment systems, established WSACCO, and standardized uniforms

#### **\_Contributions to Ministry of Internal Affairs:\_**

- **\_Human Resource Development\_**
- **\_Modernizing Equipment and Logistics\_**
- **\_Infrastructural Development\_**
- **\_Welfare Enhancement\_**

Uganda Prisons Service was well-represented at the inaugural Kampala Defence and Security Expo, thanks to the presence of Canon Dr. Johnson Omuhunde Rwashote Byabashaija, the Commissioner General of Prisons, alongside top UPS leadership and prison officers from the Kampala Extra Region.