

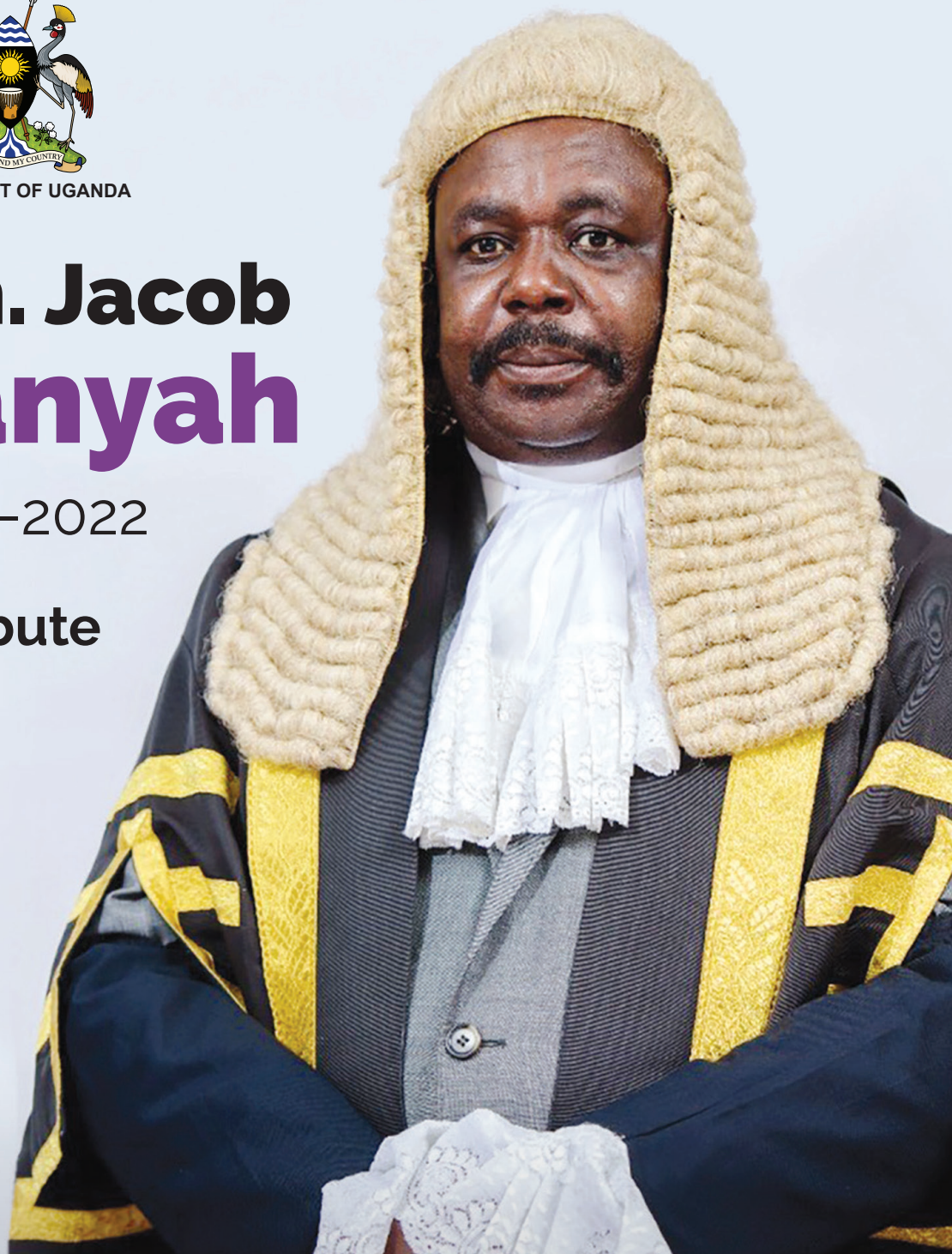


PARLIAMENT OF UGANDA

Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah

1965-2022

Tribute







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The Parliament of Uganda



Rt Hon. Jacob L. Oulanyah



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Publisher's Word

Rest in Peace, Jacob



The Management and staff of Uganda Printing and Publishing Corporation (UPPC) are deeply saddened by the loss of Rt Hon. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah, former Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda.

Our deepest condolences to HE President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, the cabinet, Parliament, National Resistance Movement (NRM) party and people of Uganda on the demise of a distinguished man who served his country with distinction and determination.

The country has lost a patriotic leader who served his country with dedication and zeal.

Rt Hon Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah was a shining example of a great orator. He was a great

debater, who firmly believed in the rule of law.

In publishing this 'Tribute book', we solemnly join the rest of the country in saluting Rt Hon Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah for his dedicated service to this nation. We pray for his soul as he returns home to his final resting place, after a dedicated service to our beloved country, Uganda.

To his family, we offer our heartfelt sympathy and pray that God's grace gives them the comfort, fortitude and courage they need to come to terms with the loss.

May the soul of Rt Hon. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah rest in peace.

Kenneth G. Oluka
Managing Director, UPPC

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President Museveni presents instruments of power to the new Speaker of Parliament Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah, in May 2021



Rt Hon. Jacob L. Oulanyah



Fallen Speaker Rt. Hon Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah

Memorable quotes



"I like to be a free person. This is the only life I have. I don't know about the other one because nobody has reported to me in a very conclusive way about what happens after. So, this is the one that I have and the one I know. I want to do everything to enjoy it. That's why I like laughter."

"My other job, I think I would do comedy. I enjoy it and I can make people happy and in the process make myself laugh even when I have not laughed out loud, my heart is. When I crack jokes, I don't often laugh at them, when people laugh, it makes me happy. I try to spend a lot of time making friends and relationships that bring me happiness. I like positive energy. I don't like negative energy."

"An opportunity of a lifetime must be seized within the lifetime of that opportunity."

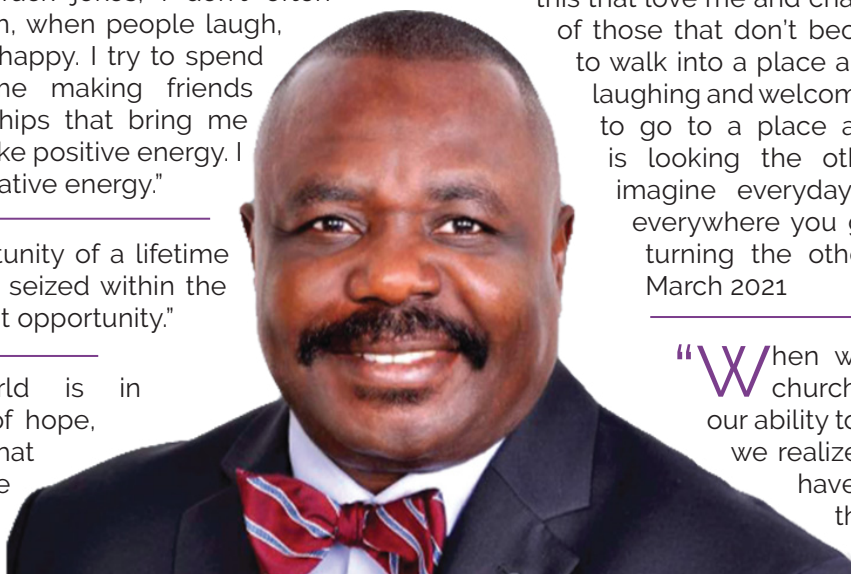
"The world is in search of hope, we are that hope and we must behave

like we are it. We are the candle of hope for the young leaders. Let us pick what is left and light the world, give it hope."

"I want my children to be proud of my name because of the good things I did for the people. Those are the things that make me work with caution when I am handling public matters."

"When people disagree with me, I have a standard prayer; I increase the love of this that love me and change the hearts of those that don't because it's good to walk into a place and everyone is laughing and welcoming. It's terrible to go to a place and everybody is looking the other side. Just imagine everyday of your life, everywhere you go, people are turning the other side." (NTV, March 2021)

"When we look at the church today and our ability to affect society, we realize that we don't have the power of those that came





before us. The men and women of the past era had revival powers given to them by God. We need to pray to God to give us such powers." (August 2015 at Rugarama Hill, Kabale District)

"If you ask me, my honest assessment is that the next five years of the 11th Parliament should not be like the last term. These things must change whether I'm Speaker or not. We have to restore public confidence in this institution. This is the only Parliament which is jeered at because of the way we are doing business. This coming Parliament must focus on debating issues of national interest, perfecting service delivery to the people and restoration of good relationships with other agencies of government." (May 20, 2021)

Speaking to the Youth at the International Young Leaders Assembly in Washington DC on October 6th 2016

"Our world is one, our problems are similar and the body of water that separate us is not deeper than the blood that connects us as human beings, one people under one God."

"We live in a state of moral disengagement where we have justification of doing all the wrong things yet we know better."

During the Anti-Corruption walk in 2019

"The corrupt are our grandparents. The society that we live in, we are all corrupt. Unless we take this from our own front lines and extend the frontiers to other areas, it is a

waste of time. It is a public show for nothing, deep down I know we are going back to practice the same corruption that we are fighting. The pretense and showbiz in this country is so much that everyone talks about corruption without identifying it."

Commenting on rumours about his death

"People hold prayers for the sick, others hold parties for the sick people to die in this country, really! And you leave your home, your wife cooks for you breakfast! And you are going for Oulanyah, he is on oxygen, he is dying. Let us return to humanity, it helps."

On his failed marriage with Lady Winnie Amoo

"Take time, choose wisely, I did not take time. Study the family background and talk. These things of falling in love at first sight don't work. The wedding ring is the smallest handcuff, choose your prison mate properly."

Inaugural speech as Speaker of Parliament

"We should learn to sharpen our arguments rather than our voices. All views will be received with tolerance and given fair treatment based on known facts and reason. The era of gambling with speeches is over. We want that when people read the Hansard, they read it as an authoritative document that can be quoted by researchers and students."



Biography of the

Late Rt Hon. Dr. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah

Rt Hon. Dr. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah was born on March 23, 1965 in Lalogi, Gulu District to Mzee Nathan Okori and Imat Karen Atwon Okori. Jacob attended St. Joseph's College Layibi and Dr. Obote College Boroboro for his O-Level education where he took on leadership roles and honed his debating and oratory skills. He completed his A-Level education at Kololo Senior Secondary School in Kampala in 1987. Thereafter he joined Makerere University in 1988 where he studied Agricultural Economics, and graduated in 1991 with honors. That same year, he enrolled in the school of law, also at Makerere University, graduating in 1994 with a Bachelor of Laws degree. In 1995, he attended the Law Development Centre (LDC), where he obtained a postgraduate diploma in Legal Practice.

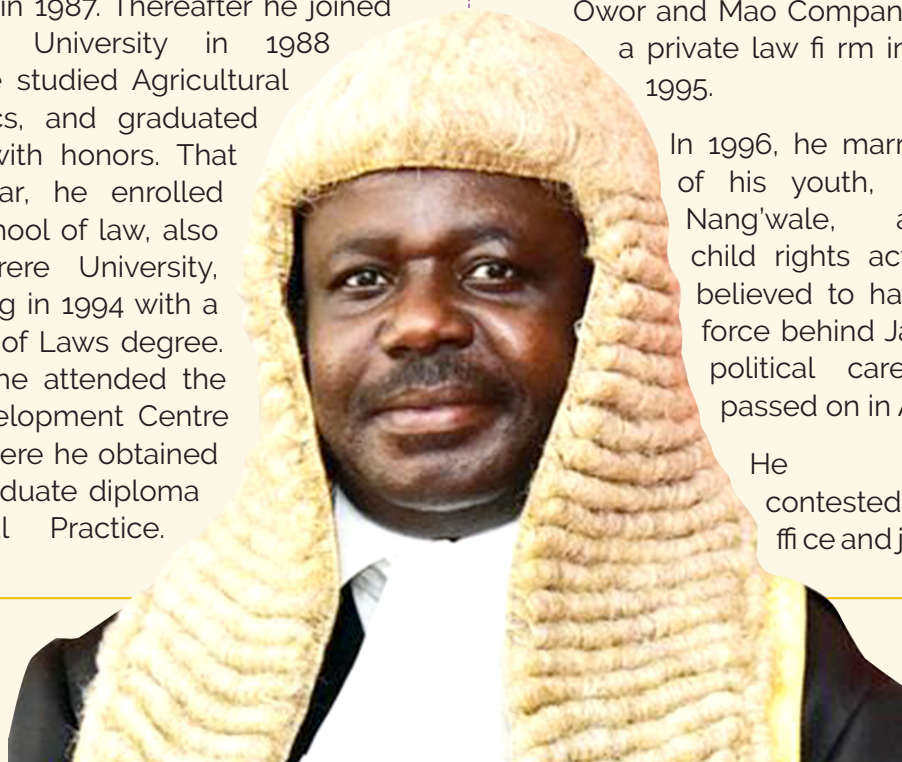
Upon his graduation from LDC, he was retained as a lecturer at the Centre for two years.

While at Makerere University, Jacob got actively involved in student politics and went on to serve as the Guild Speaker between 1989 and 1990.

Together with colleagues Norbert Mao and Charles Owor, they started Oulanyah, Owor and Mao Company Advocates, a private law firm in Kampala in 1995.

In 1996, he married the love of his youth, Ms. Dorothy Nang'wale, an ardent child rights activist. She is believed to have been the force behind Jacob's stellar political career. Dorothy passed on in August 2009.

He successfully contested for political office and joined the 7th





Parliament as Member of Parliament (MP) for Omoro County, Gulu District in 2001. He was appointed to chair Parliament's Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Committee in his inaugural term as MP.

He, however, lost the bid for re-election into the 8th Parliament in 2006 and bounced back in the 9th (2011-2016) and 10th (2016-2021) Parliaments where he served as MP and Deputy Speaker of Parliament of the Republic of Uganda.

Jacob was instrumental in the peace talks between the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and the Government of Uganda that led to the silencing of guns in Northern Uganda.

In 2001 with the support of his wife, Dorothy, he initiated the establishment of the Uganda Parliament Forum for Children (UPFC) with nine (9) members. The forum has now become a household name. He served as the patron of the UPFC from inception till the time of his demise.

On 13th July 2019, Oulanyah was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Theology by Zoe Life Theological College USA, earning him the title Rt Hon. Dr. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah.

He served as a board member of The Global

Majority, an international organization committed to the promotion of non-violent conflict management through education, training, networking and advocacy. He was also the Co-Rapporteur on the Committee of Political Affairs in the African Caribbean and Pacific/European Union groups of states (ACP/EU).

Rt Hon. Dr. Jacob L. Oulanyah was re-elected to represent Omoro County, Omoro District, in the 11th Parliament as Member of Parliament. On 24th May 2021, he was elected as the Speaker of the 11th Parliament of the Republic of Uganda. His mission was to restore public confidence in the institution of Parliament and make it people-centred.

On 19th March 2022, Rt Hon. Dr. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah went to be with the Lord.

Jacob is survived by eight (8) children, three (3) grandchildren and several dependants. In addition, he is survived by his father Mzee Nathan Okori, brother Francis Emuna, and sisters Harriet Adong Okori and Betty Ajok Okori and several cousins, nieces and nephews.

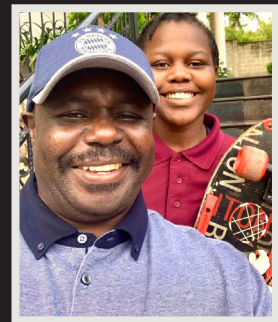
May his soul rest in eternal peace!



Rt Hon. Jacob L. Oulanyah



Family moments







Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah's body lying in state in Parliament

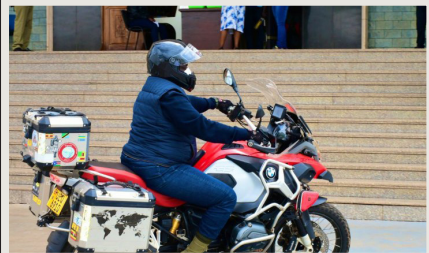






Rt Hon. Jacob L. Oulanyah

Service to humanity in pictures









Tributes

**to the Rt Hon.
Jacob Oulanyah**





Rt Hon. Jacob L. Oulanyah

Oulanyah did a good job uniting northern Uganda, says President Museveni

His Excellency President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni has lauded the late Rt Hon. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah as a disciplined cadre and a nationalist, who helped in uniting the people of northern Uganda. The President was speaking at the state funeral prayers for the fallen Speaker at the Kololo Ceremonial Grounds in Kampala on Wednesday April 6, 2022.

Here below are excerpts of the President's eulogy of the late Rt Hon. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah:

"When I see what the late Jacob Oulanyah has been able to achieve in form of contributions, I

remember these verses in the Bible. "What man sows, that's what he reaps," (Galatians:7:6-9). Because of this verse, whatever man sows he will reap. By planting the message of unity, all these young leaders you see them coming up like Oulanyah, the Vice President (HE Jessica



H.E. President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni paying his respects to the Late Rt Hon. Jacob L. Oulanyah at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds.



Alupo), and the Speaker (Rt Hon. Anita Among), they came up because of the good seed; whatever you plant is what you harvest. If you plant sectarianism, definitely you will harvest different results.

"I did not know Oulanyah. He was born in 1965 when I was in S.5. I was 20 years old. I call him my son (*woda*). Oulanyah was young but he had already made impact.

In the NRM, I think we first dealt with him when he was on the Legal Committee of Parliament although he was still in the opposition, and that's how we started seeing that he was somebody of potential. He was able to break away from the sectarian politics of the opposition. He broke away and saw where there was good light and came, and made very big contributions.

"Oulanyah was a man of talents. You have heard that he was an orator, a good speaker but you can be an orator for bad things and an orator for good things. You have heard that he was hard-working. So when we identified and supported him to become Deputy Speaker for 10 years he used that time to multiply his talents.

"So, therefore losing Oulanyah now is a big loss because he was somebody definitely who was coming up and the country was going to get a lot of benefits from him. He had already done a good job in uniting Northern Uganda, which had been messed up by bad politics, like the rest of Uganda.

"The NRM tried to unite all Ugandans. We said unite because you have similar needs. You need one another, that was our line. However, recently, when Oulanyah became Vice Chairperson NRM (Northern Uganda) in a very

short time he seems to have deepened the unity in the North which we had tried, but had not achieved as much as he did in the short time. Really, I need to salute Oulanyah and commend him as an example to you people.

"I do not want to hear the talk of 'Northern, Northern', again. Stop that. Oulanyah was not the Speaker of the North but the speaker of Uganda. So when you hear the opportunists talking, tell them to shut up. NRM supported him not because of this or that group but because he was a good cadre. He would never have won if NRM had not supported him. They supported him because of his patriotism and his pan-Africanism, not because of clans.

"In the issue of death, health is a weapon. Some people say health is wealth, but also it is a weapon. So if you are fighters for Africa take good care of your health.

In this case, Oulanyah was a very disciplined person but I came to know about the problem for the first time when he went to Dubai with some Ugandan doctors. Apparently he had so these issues to deal with, then he had also to deal with the politics here; Omoro his constituency, Vice Chairman NRM Northern region, Speakership; all these things. But what is clear is that if he had contacted or informed me, I would have advised him to concentrate on health, but I did not know. It was much later that I got to know.

"I want to salute the contribution of Oulanyah, and extend condolences to his family and the people of Omoro; we shall stand with them. And whatever Oulanyah was doing, we shall take up and complete like we did for our comrades who died in the struggle."



Rt Hon. Jacob L. Oulanyah

Condolence Message to Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah's family



By Hon Janet K. Museveni

As we mourn the passing of the Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah, I thank God for the life and service he rendered to our homeland, even if it has been tragically cut short.

We should all be comforted by the great legacy he has left. He was a man of noble character and this should bring pride to all who loved him. He did not just carry the title, "honourable" but he actually bestowed upon the Parliament of Uganda the honour that came with his character of humility, sincerity, honesty and courage to state the brutal truth.

He provided expertise and competent legal knowledge to Parliament, and also espoused decent patriotic methods of counselling and guiding Members of Parliament in their day-to-day Parliamentary business. Uganda has, indeed, lost a Statesman!

I must also thank God, who knows the end from the beginning, for blessing today's generation of Ugandans with an extraordinary example from whom we take great lessons as we strive to live in these challenging times.

May the peace of God that surpasses all human understanding keep our hearts and minds and strengthen us through this period. May our faith be strengthened because of the hope that we



will meet Jacob Oulanyah one day as he had a relationship with His Lord which, I believe, opened the door for him to go home to be with Him for eternity.

My condolences go to the Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah's children, his extended family, the people of Omoro and all Ugandans.

May we all find comfort in the words of Apostle John in Revelation 14:13 - ***"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on, that they may rest from their labours, for their deeds follow them"***

*Hon Janet K. Museveni;
First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports*



Death has robbed our country a patrotic leader

By H.E. Maj (Rtd) Jessica Alupo R. E.

Fellow Countrymen and women,
As we bid farewell to the Rt Hon. Speaker of the 11th Parliament of Uganda (May 2021-March 2022), Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah, allow me convey my sincere condolences to His Excellency Gen. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, the President of Uganda, to the family of Jacob Oulanyah, the Parliament of Uganda and all the people of Uganda.

Death has robbed our country of a patriotic leader and a committed servant of the people. However, we thank God for the purposeful life he lived on earth. Jacob Oulanyah was a unique leader, a statesman, a patriot, a unifier



and a friend to all. He was a Speaker whose sense of judgment we trusted. He was a man who rose from the humblest beginnings to achieve and earn his place at the helm of leadership.

Through his eloquence, wisdom, knowledge and application of the law, he subjected his ideas to the test of the general good for all.

In leadership, he had found a calling, mentoring so many young people who found inspiration in his leadership style.

The condolence messages of so many people from across the borders is testimony of the man that he was - a man who served without discrimination, with no prejudice but with utmost dedication to his work.

He leaves behind a great legacy.

May his family and friends find comfort in the Lord. May Jacob Oulanyah's soul rest in eternal peace.

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." 2 Timothy 4:7

H.E. Maj (Rtd) Jessica Alupo R. E. (MP),
Vice President and Member for Parliament for Katakwi District



Rt Hon. Jacob L. Oulanyah

Remembering a Brother, Friend, Mentor And Leader: **Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah**



By Rt Hon. Anita Annet Among

"...If I should go tomorrow, it would never be goodbye; for I have left my heart with you; so do not you ever cry. The love that is deep within me shall reach you from the stars, you'll feel it from the heavens and it will heal the scar..." - Anonymous

It is very difficult to find the words to describe how much pain and grief we feel in our hearts as we bid farewell to a person that

I so much loved. Right Honourable Jacob L' Okori Oulanyah has left his heart with us and we will not say goodbye for he lives among us.

The Parliament family and I loved and cherished Jacob dearly. He stood tall as a gentle giant, an educator, a principled man, and an accomplished lawyer, orator and legislator.





Humorous, calm and a statesman, Jacob was the man you wanted to confide in; his words were soft, calculated and reassuring.

During his tenure as Speaker and Deputy Speaker, he taught us tolerance, honesty, adherence to the Rules of Procedure and all that it takes to be a good legislator .

My brother, Jacob, was a strict time keeper and a God-fearing man. He used the Bible as a guide and a foundation upon which he imparted knowledge. This is why the 11th Parliament has premised its activities on the guidance of God the Almighty.

Jacob was a peacemaker, a unifier and a bridge among Ugandans.

In his address to the Members of Parliament and the nation while presiding over the election of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker on 25 March 2022, His Excellency the President described Jacob as a person that united the people from northern Uganda like never seen before.

He knew how to demonstrate forgiveness by extending open arms to all. He was non-vindictive and never sought to punish in revenge.

In the House, Oulanyah exhibited the highest level of restraint and tolerance. My Speaker always guided debate with enthusiasm, humour and compassion. He believed that no views should be

suppressed but they should be received with tolerance and given fair treatment based on known facts and reason.

During heated moments, Jacob kept his cool and through humour calmed down situations that could have otherwise gotten out of hand.

Like he always said, "the measure of who we are is what we do with what we have".

In his honour, I implore all leaders to shun corruption; and as a people, may we work towards realising his vision of a corruption-free Uganda.

Death has robbed us of a patriot, a nationalist and a guiding star.

I will dearly miss his safe hands that showed me the way; his input in the many things we planned to do together; and his energy and passion in the service to Parliament and the country.

Fare thee well my brother, my friend, my leader. Till we meet again! May the soul of our departed Right Honourable Speaker, Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah, rest in peace.

***Rt Hon. Anita Annet Among (MP),
Speaker of Parliament and Member of
Parliament for Bukedea District***



Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah was a powerful voice in the defence of the constitution



*By Justice ustice Alfonse
Chigamoy Owiny-Dollo,*

With the passing on of the Speaker of the 11th Parliament, the Rt Hon. Dr Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah (MP), which occurred on 20 March 2022, death has robbed the country of a great leader, an accomplished legislator, and an eminent legal luminary whom I had the benefit of knowing intimately and working with closely. I am deeply in grief following his untimely death.

The fallen Speaker was a powerful voice in the defence of the Constitution, upholding of the rule of law, and respect for human rights.

During his tenure as Deputy Speaker of Parliament, he distinguished himself by his eloquence, full appreciation



of Parliamentary procedure, and an admirable seriousness of purpose. Everyone who knew him valued his humility and wisdom.

I, therefore, on behalf of the Judiciary of Uganda and myself, convey our condolences to his

family, His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uganda, Hon. Members of Parliament, friends and the entire country.

Fare thee well, my brother and friend.

*Justice Alfonse Chigamoy Owiny-Dollo,
Chief Justice*

Rt Hon. Jacob L'okori Oulanyah was a transformational leader



By Rt Hon. Thomas Tayebwa

It is never easy to write a tribute for a loved one, especially when the grief is still fresh and piercing deep in one's heart.

Personally, the Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah was a mentor to me and I was privileged to develop a bond of friendship with him. I remain grateful to him for the unconditional gift of love.

As a Ugandan, Jacob's meticulous service to this country in several roles as MP and Speaker of the House are part of the long list of things which we already miss about him and we shall miss forever. Yet I know that we should be strong because the Rt Hon. Oulanyah would wish us to.

He was a great father and his children will dearly miss him. His inclusive family clan and the many lives he touched and was touching require support from all of us as they try to be strong during this difficult moment and the days ahead.

I had the first opportunity to meet and interact with Jacob Oulanyah in 2001 and several times thereafter during the several political engagements at Makerere University which he participated in along with other firebrands. Jacob Oulanyah always stood out because he found time to interact with some of us as

young students after lectures and during open rallies on campus.

We were just young students, who would ordinarily not attract the attention of any leader, but the late Oulanyah saw value in us; he gave us time, built our confidence and inspired us to join national politics. His special leadership abilities and charismatic personality were readily apparent. It was clear that he would have an outstanding leadership career. My first encounter with him marked the beginning of an inspirational journey.

The Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah was committed to a Parliament focused on serving the people and the nation. He was passionate about enabling Members of Parliament to serve their people. He was a transformational leader and change agent who had big dreams about what Parliament could do for the people. He had a gift of innovative thinking, a visionary spirit and the tenacious patience required to successfully lead the House.

He was devoted, focused on improvement of the wellbeing of the people, and in this regard, he always found time for his colleagues, friends and family. Having worked with him, I learnt a great deal about his love for his family. They were never far from his thoughts.



Rt Hon. Jacob L. Oulanyah

When I was elected as a Member of Parliament in 2016, the Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah taught us how to use the Rules of Procedure and how to debate with facts in the House. In 2021, when I was appointed Government Chief Whip by H.E. the President, the Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah guided me a lot in the execution of my duties.



One particular innovation he introduced was the culture of engaging and negotiating by the two sides of the House. Whenever we had contentious issues, he always guided that a few selected leaders meet outside the Chamber to harmonise our positions, which helped us to process government business easily.

It was a privilege for me to have been part of the Rt Hon. Oulanyah's life; although shorter than anticipated, his was a life well lived. He was determined, visionary, collaborative, goal-oriented and a caring person who lived life to the full. Throughout his life, he made a significant contribution to our nation. His many awards and public recognitions reveal that he had a distinguished career of considerable import.

The Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah - a caring and loving man, a cherished colleague, a mentor and friend will be missed by many but will never be forgotten by those who were fortunate enough to have known him.

He never cared about living for the sake of it; he cared about what he would leave behind as his legacy upon his demise; and yes, he has left behind a legacy that will forever be a blueprint for any legislator who is passionate about quality.

May his soul rest in peace.

*Rt Hon. Thomas Tayebwa,
Deputy Speaker, Parliament of Uganda and
Member of Parliament for Ruhinda North
County.*



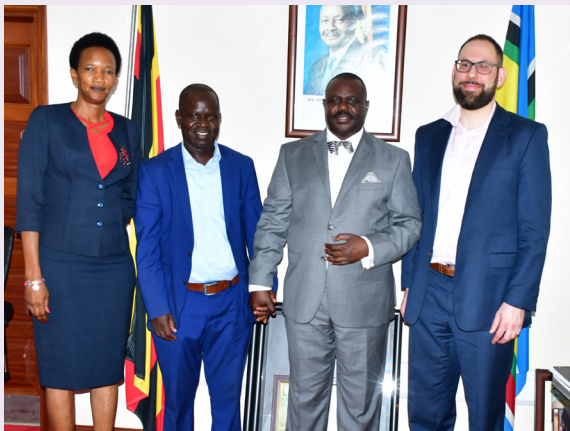
Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah, was a forthright and unifying leader



By Rt Hon. Robinah Nabbanja (MP)

The Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah, our departed Speaker of Parliament, was a sober, forthright and unifying leader who wished everyone well. He steered the House with professionalism, integrity, excellence, respect and objectivity.

From the time he was Deputy Speaker in the Ninth and Tenth parliaments up to his ascension to Speakership in the 11th Parliament, Rt Hon. Oulanyah was always reliable and ensured constructive debate, focusing on issues that affected the ordinary Ugandan and those that united the country.



In the short time I worked with him in my role as Leader of Government Business in Parliament, he was consultative and respectful to Members and ministers. His death, in the prime of his life, has robbed the country of a great patriot, a true nationalist, a peace-loving and unifying person.

We thank God for giving him to us and for the service he rendered while he lived. Our duty is to emulate his legacy and example so that the values and principles of excellence which he stood for remain alive.

We must rise above this loss and work hard to achieve the socio-economic transformation, which he advocated for and devoted his life to.

I convey my condolences and those of the Office of the Prime Minister to H.E. President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, Cabinet, Parliament of Uganda, the bereaved family, the Acholi community and the country at large on this great loss.

May the Almighty God rest his soul in eternal peace.

*Rt Hon. Robinah Nabbanja (MP),
Prime Minister and Leader of Government Business in
Parliament, and Member of Parliament for Kakumiro District*



Sleep well OJ!

By Hon. Mathias Mpuuga

The passing on of the Rt Hon. Speaker of Parliament, Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah, is most regrettable. I extend my deep sympathies to his family, the people of Omoro, the people of Acholi and the Parliament of Uganda for this great loss.

Oulanyah and I were great friends; I used to call him OJ and he would call me Masaka. If I were asked to choose a befitting epitaph for this honourable man, I would probably say, "Here lies a man who never lived his full life" because in my view, OJ's life was just beginning. This, for me, is a major invitation for the children to reflect on the life of their father as a life that was incomplete and to carry on the duty, charge up, fill up the gaps and live his dreams.

I met OJ 11 years ago when I first came to Parliament. As a budding politician, there are colleagues I looked up to for inspiration and OJ was one of them. He had a big heart and he would speak with sincerity - he was very sincere!

I remember during my first term in Parliament, I singlehandedly opposed the listing of Umeme on the Uganda Securities Exchange - probably, some Members did not know what it was - and OJ was presiding over the House. I passionately submitted, OJ was alert and he knew what I was talking about. However, knowing the practice in the House, when Members do not understand what you are saying and the Speaker has a duty

to rule, he rules and the "Ayes" carry the day.

After the session, he called me to his office and told me, "Mathias, you had a point but you see, these issues were not properly incubated and I had a duty to move the country forward." I said, "Right Honourable, I am okay with that, but I am on record as having guided the House otherwise." He understood that there was a void in the way the matter was presented by the honourable minister; he was that sincere! As a presiding officer, he never had the arrogance of saying, "I have it all." When he knew you were right, he would call you and say, "You were right."

I pity the new Members; they have missed seeing OJ preside over and guide the House with a lot of wit. In his acceptance speech, following his election as Speaker, he made a lot of promises, including being a Speaker of a Parliament with a difference. He has not lived to make that promise come true; we can only imagine what that promise was about.

When I was appointed Leader of the Opposition by my party, the National Unity Platform (NUP), he called me and said, "Masaka, I have been looking for you; I saw your name and my apocalypse was saying that probably, you could be the one. I was thinking that it is either you or your brother, Sseggoni. But can I tell you, I am excited about the prospect of sparring with you on the Floor." I said, "Right Honourable, I am delighted; we shall work together." That was him!

When I was launching the Opposition Legislative



Agenda, I went to him and said, "OJ, I have a programme for the Opposition that we want to launch." He said, "What!" He laughed about it and said, "A programme for the Opposition and you want me to come!" I said, "Come on, you are the House Speaker, you have no choice." He said, "Really, you have me. I have no choice; I am your Speaker." Trust OJ, he was the Chief Guest at the launch of the Opposition Legislative Agenda. He spoke passionately and said, "I have not seen this before. I have been in this House but for the Opposition to have a roadmap, I have not seen it before; I am excited!"

He had a big view of Uganda. He was among the men capable of taking this country forward. There are so many able, well trained and cultured Ugandans that can steer this country and get us out of this abyss of thinking, "if it is not me, then no one else." That should not be the Uganda we need to be part of. We will miss the kind of debate he had promised the House; a debate where Members would get an opportunity to speak about the promise of a better Uganda, because we all have one country called Uganda.

Our forbearers had a dream about Uganda. This year, we shall celebrate 60 years of independence. At 60, a person is an old man or old woman. That is the reason why in Uganda, by law, you retire at 60 years. Can we say that we have matured? We cannot say that we are a stunted country; no! Don't we need to do some introspection as people charged with a duty to give this fair land direction? We occupy the spaces of leaders and we must be reminded that these spaces are neither ordained nor eternal but they are rented because they belong

to the citizens. We, therefore, have a duty as occupants of these non-eternal spaces to use them purposefully.

OJ lived a life of purpose and pursued it passionately. He made his views known to all and sundry. You could not mistake his options. His direction was very clear, his communication about issues was unequivocal, and I believe that those of us who had an opportunity to share with him will escort him with the conviction that he was convinced about what he said.

His death is a very rude reminder and should serve as an awakening call to all of us leaders in this country to reflect upon our duty to country and to our people so that when we are serving our people, we serve with humility and distinction. Ours should be a service and not self-service. To his family, especially the children, be comforted by the fact that your father never died in vain. His life was not a life lived in vain for we are not mourning the passing of an ordinary man but a statesman.

We thank God for the purposeful life he lived; we thank God because we got to know him; and we thank God for his service to the country.

I was lucky to have spoken to him when he was in the USA for treatment. We spoke for about five minutes on the phone and he asked me to pray for him. Unfortunately, that was to be the last time we spoke.

Jacob Oulanyah has gone at his prime; we shall dearly miss him. May God grant him eternal rest.

Hon. Mathias Mpuuga is the MP for Nyendo-Mukungwe Division, Masaka City, and the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament



Rt Hon. Jacob L. Oulanyah

Jacob was a **truthful,** **God-fearing leader**



By Hon Babirye Milly Babalanda

The Rt Hon. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah, our departed Speaker of the 11th Parliament was a man of peace, a unifier, and a statesman who worked for the stability and transformation of this country.

In Jacob, Uganda has lost an authentic, truthful and God-fearing leader who expressed courage and strength of character in his entire life journey. The country has lost a gallant and competent national leader, who served his country with dedication and passion.





Rt Hon. Oulanya always exhibited fairness and objectivity in his handling of house matters. When he determined the right course of action; he stood by his word, he did not change anyhow and he spoke his mind.

Parliament of Uganda has lost a mentor and a big development resource. We will always remember his integrity, his honesty and his power of speech. His straightforwardness, his boldness and determination in action will forever be marked to his memory.

Rt Hon. Oulanyah was well versed with the law and worked tirelessly to ensure the rule of law is in place. He was an eloquent speaker and an outstanding debater.

We all unite to speak these departing words about Jacob as testimony of our deep-hearted appreciation for the earthly works that the Lord enabled him to do. We thank the Almighty for giving Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah a heart dedicated to serving humanity and for enabling him touch many lives.

To the family, please accept my word of deep and sincere gratitude to you all as my humble gesture of profound and heartfelt appreciation.



Parliament of Uganda has lost a mentor and a big development resource. We will always remember his integrity, his honesty and his power of speech.



On behalf of the National Organizing Committee and my own behalf, I would like register our sincere appreciation to His Excellency the President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni for all the effort he put in trying to save the life of Rt Hon Oulanyah.

Your Excellency, we further thank you for your leadership and guidance to us to give the Rt Hon. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah, a funeral befitting of his status and legacy.

Our sincere gratitude also goes to; Her Excellency the Vice President, the Rt Hon. Speaker, the Rt Hon. Prime Minister, the entire Cabinet; Honourable Members of Parliament of Uganda and the staff, and all those who have contributed towards according Rt Hon. Oulanyah a befitting burial. May the Lord reward you all!

We shall continue praying to the Almighty to grant all the bereaved the courage and fortitude especially at this most difficult time. We shall always hold with honour and esteem, the memories of Jacob.

Fare Thee Well, Rt Hon, Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah. May the Almighty God grant Jacob's soul Eternal Peace.

*Hon Babirye Milly Babalanda,
Minister for the Presidency and Chairperson
Organising Committee for the burial of Rt Hon.
Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah*



Rt Hon. Jacob L. Oulanyah

The intellectual giant has gone: I salute the memory of his exceptional leadership



By Hon. Betty Ongom Amongi

Dearest brother Jacob, there is no doubt, no doubt at all, that this brutal creature called death has cut short your dreams, our treasure and the nation's hope in you!

With your death, Uganda has lost a powerful force whose core values of nation building, accountability, transparency, political tolerance, consensus building, democracy and the pursuit of human rights have been buried.





On behalf of my family, the people of Oyam South, Lango Sub-region, the dedicated JO (Jacob Oulanyah) team, and the women of Uganda I extend my sincere condolences.

Jacob, the country rallied around you and elected you the Speaker of Parliament because we believed that you were able to facilitate many more citizens to realise their full potential. We knew that you understood the deep connection between local, national and global problems - the intricate principles of nation building in the face of various political interests and how to balance them within the context of the Government agenda, as well as enabling the voices of the ordinary citizens to prevail through their representatives.

We all knew you as a voice of reason, a man who stood above our artificial divisions of tribe, party and religion to instead focus on the principle of integrating the interests of different parts of this country to benefit from balanced development within the context of promoting political harmony. To this end, you focused on mobilising the political class of Northern Uganda, irrespective of their political divide, to champion the cause of unity, tolerance, reconciliation and peaceful coexistence.

On the global stage, during your work at the global parliamentary forums, you spent time talking about injustices in the world,

the need for strong international leadership to combat them, and the deep desire for a better, fairer world.

The force of your personality and the quality of your intellect expressed through those powerful speeches; your passion and love for cultural music exhibited through those rigorous traditional dance moves; and your devotion and faith in God the Almighty reflected the character traits of a giant of a man whose beliefs and principles stood for our motto, "For God and my country."

History will record your accomplishments and remind generations to come about the contribution you made to our nation and to our shared humanity, which run far deeper than accolades can reflect.

We celebrate you for being a source of inspiration to all those who in Northern Uganda, Uganda, the African continent and beyond fight for the same values and causes.

Condolences to your family, relatives, friends and the people of Uganda at large.

*Hon. Betty Ongom Amongi,
Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development and
MP for Oyam South*



Rt Hon. Jacob L. Oulanyah

Fare thee well, Rt Hon. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah



By Hon. Justine Kasule Lumumba

Countrymen and women, I join you in paying tribute to the Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah, a gallant son of Uganda who lived his life with flavour, purpose, clarity, energy and humility.

The country and Parliament has lost:-

- A critical thinker
- A strategic political actor
- An effective and eloquent communicator
- An accomplished lawyer
- A great debater
- A greatly admired legislator
- A Speaker whose style and service will be missed.

The Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah was a man of many best practices. As a family man, the misfortune of losing his wife, Dorothy Nangwale Oulanyah, left him a single parent who devoted himself to the full care of his family. He truly never recovered from the loss of Dorothy.

He served his 10-year tenure as Deputy Speaker with utmost dignity and professional competence in the August House and then the nation. He represented the country at international fora with excellence. At the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, the Commonwealth Parliamentary

Association (CPA), among others, he raised the national flag high.

In his short service as the Speaker of the 11th Parliament, Oulanyah exhibited himself as a man of peace and a peacemaker, never raising his voice at his colleagues and building bridges across the political aisle. Even when he was in poor health, he remained strong-willed and resolute, with Jesus Christ at the centre of it all.

The people of Omoro have lost a Member of Parliament who represented them for three terms. His enviable legislative record is written in indelible ink. To the people of Omoro, the entire country is indebted to you for presenting the Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah to the country. Your choice enabled Government and the NRM to grow his potential and celebrate him as a nation. To the family that gave the Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah to the nation, we grieve with you at this most tragic loss.

As Vice-Chairman of the NRM for northern Uganda, he emerged as a symbol of unity. He galvanised unity, service delivery and leadership among NRM members, and became the unchallenged legitimate voice for the region. He was a statesman and patriot of our time.

Fare thee well, Rt Hon. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah

*Hon. Justine Kasule Lumumba,
Minister Office of the Prime Minister (General Duties).*

Eloquent legislator who balanced Government and Opposition



By Hon. Ruth Nankabirwa Ssentamu

Farewell, my personal friend and colleague. Your life was well lived. Our friendship spans decades, having first met at Makerere University as students, where you exhibited outstanding leadership qualities. In the course of interacting with you, I realised we shared many similarities including a love for life and good cheer.

The late Oulanyah was a loyal cadre, dedicated and committed to everything he set out to do. As Deputy Speaker and later Speaker, he demonstrated a high level of professionalism in the way he conducted business in Parliament. He was an eloquent legislator who balanced the Government and the Opposition views in a professional manner. He was always collaborative and will be remembered for his impeccable integrity.

The late Oulanyah will equally be missed by the Church where he served diligently. I was privileged to work with him on the organising committee for the celebration of the Uganda Martyrs Day in 2019. He made a tremendous contribution towards

the successful celebration of the Uganda Martyrs that remains unmatched.

We later sat together on the organising committee for the enthronement of the Archbishop of Uganda, His Grace Dr Stephen Kazimba Mugalu, in March 2020, which I chaired. Once again, the late Oulanyah demonstrated great skills in organising an excellent celebration.

We thank the good Lord who accorded him time, even in sickness, to reach out and bury the hatchet with colleagues and friends. I believe he was prepared for this journey and is now resting in a better place.

You are gone from our sight but not from our hearts. I celebrate a beloved friend, colleague and comrade.

Till we will meet again.

REST IN PEACE MY FRIEND!

*Hon. Ruth Nankabirwa Ssentamu,
Minister for Energy and Mineral Development*



Oulanyah! We have lost a gem, a giant of law



By Hon. Peter Ogwang

The shocking news about the death of the Rt Hon. Speaker of Parliament, Jacob Oulanyah, is one of the hardest things to digest; the news still leaves me goose-bumped and my bones numb as it is hard to believe that the once energetic and eloquent man is now lying lifeless.

One Thursday evening in February 2022, I received a call from the Rt Hon. Oulanyah asking me to meet him at his residence in Muyenga. Not divulging much detail, he said I would know about the agenda of the meeting as soon as I had arrived. When I arrived, I found my Speaker lying in bed, cold and sick. He did not need to explain anything for it was evident that he needed medical attention "like yesterday". I am glad that we were able to do the best we could as quickly as possible to ensure that he was taken to the hospital and eventually, flown to Seattle where he lost the battle.

Oulanyah lived a flawless life. He nurtured and taught me how to live a humble life and value my purpose on earth.

He was brainy and an accomplished political shepherd who had the Constitution and the Rules of Procedure in the palm of his hands.

No situation presented to him would trouble him. He was always composed and would usher you to his office with a cheeky smile and a bouquet of jokes as if to water down your worries and lessen your burden. Even before you would listen to his opinion about your situation, you would have already got some solace and comfort from his smile and cheeky jokes. "Ogwang, do not worry, there is always a way out." That was Oulanyah - a perfect problem solver, an intelligent and strategic thinker, a go-getter who strove to move his team forward.

It is unfortunate that Oulanyah's dream to transform Parliament into a House of intellectuals has been cut short, but his legacy will surely live on and he will forever be remembered as a non-corrupt, punctual, eloquent, intelligent, and respectable leader who worked within the confines of the law.

We have lost a gem, a giant of law, a humorous Speaker whose debate was biased towards social and economic empowerment of ordinary Ugandans. Oulanyah will dearly be missed!

RIP JACOB!

*Hon. Peter Ogwang,
Minister of State, Office of the President (Economic Monitoring) and Member of Parliament for Ngariam County, Katakwi District*



A tribute to a fallen icon: **Rt Hon. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah**

By Justice Hellen Obura

It is with a heavy heart that I write this special tribute to my friend and Old Boy of Dr Obote College, Boroboro, Lira District. I first met Jacob in 1984 when I joined Dr Obote College in Senior 5 Arts. He had come from Layibi College, Gulu, to join Senior 5 Arts as well.

Jacob stood out among the many students because of his striking nature and brilliance. He was so courageous, confident, warm, outgoing and outspoken. He had a very good command of the English language which made him a very eloquent and confident public speaker.

Jacob took up the student leadership position as the President of the National Union of Students of Uganda (NUSU) and I was privileged to serve with him in the student leadership team, since I was also elected Head Girl about the same time. His leadership skills stood out as he had the special gift of listening and appreciating student issues and maturely articulating them to the school administration with a view of helping them understand those issues, so as to address them and avoid student riots.

Our education and leadership journey was interrupted by the 1985 coup that forced me to relocate to Nabisunsa Girls' Senior Secondary

School in Kampala. Jacob also later relocated to Kololo Secondary School. He later joined Makerere University while I joined the University of Dar-es-salaam in Tanzania from where I obtained my Law Degree. He also later acquired a Law Degree and as legal professionals we jointly handled an assignment of translating the abridged version of the Land Act from English to Luo and retranslating it to English. Jacob, with his usual commitment and hard work, ensured that we completed the work within the stipulated time.

During his ailment, I had the opportunity to visit and pray for him together with the Anglican Chaplain of Parliament and other intercessors on two occasions, one of which was shortly before he was flown to the USA for treatment.

I was deeply saddened to learn of his passing on. Death has rudely robbed us of an iconic and illustrious leader in this nation. We mourn him with the hope that we will meet him in glory since he had given his life to Jesus Christ as his Lord and Saviour.

May the Lord uphold his family as his soul rests in peace.

*Hellen Obura,
Justice of the Court of Appeal*



Fare thee well, **my brother,** **friend, and colleague**



By Hon. Felix Okot Ogong

You have gone too soon and left behind unbearable pain and sorrow. The thought of never seeing you again brings tears to my eyes, more so because of the big surprise that it was.

The memories of our student days at Makerere University remain so fresh and vivid in my mind. I will never forget the good times and jokes in our room at Mitchel Hall. Our journey continued with colourful episodes, with us remaining close friends and sharing many secrets up until your departure.

My brother, Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah,
I miss your smile;
I miss your infectious laugh;
I miss that happiness you always had;
I miss you.
I feel so low because you passed on so soon
before achieving all your dreams;

Your dream of a united, peaceful, democratic,
and transformed society,
Your dream of a corruption-free country;
Your dream of creating an effective, responsive,
and pro-people Parliament;
Your dream of a poverty-free, disease-free,
literate nation;
Your dream of building a society that believes

and practices the principle of "Service above self."

You will always be remembered for an exemplary life well lived, your numerous achievements, and the extraordinary leadership qualities you displayed.

You have always been: -

The inspiration and beacon of hope to the youth, the women and the vulnerable;

The magnet of unity;
The pillar of justice, liberty, and equality;
The emblem of nationalism and patriotism;
The true embodiment of an astute leader.
You once said, "We have only borrowed this world from the future generation."
You were at peace with the fact that we are only visitors on this earth for a short amount of time.
Your footprint will never fade. Your flame will rage on. Your legacy will remain forever.

My brother, rest in peace.
Till we meet again.
Adieu

*Hon. Felix Okot Ogong,
Member of Parliament for Dokolo South County, Dokolo District.*

Dr. Oulanyah was committed to developing a parliament that understands Ugandans



By Dr Robert Mwesigwa Rukaari

One of the most challenging activities to do is to eulogise people who are special in our lives and society. The imagination of their faces, voices and emotion keeps the mind blown whilst reflecting on their kindness and gentle glamour of humane interaction and inimitable support.

In this tribute, I am writing about the great departed Speaker of Uganda in four stances: alma mater, friend, business partner and my Speaker of Parliament. As my alma mater - I first met Jacob Oulanyah at Makerere University as a student and he was my Guild Speaker. He had a record of great oratory affluence. He was admired by many including his opponents and staff. Oh, he was a grammatical, vocal and intellectual resource to be reckoned with!

As a business partner - Rt Hon. Dr Oulanyah had a great impact on my entrepreneurial behaviour and mind-set. He had the following outstanding traits: timekeeping, honesty and professionalism, humility, integrity and foresightedness. He indeed was a visionary who could forecast the business environment and opportunities and then proactively support our team to seize. In business, he doubled as my lawyer from the late 1990s.

Politically, and from the general leadership

splendour that the Rt Hon. Dr Oulanyah achieved during his adult life, he made a strong signature on the approach to managing Parliament and other affairs. I will always associate with his evidence-based legislation that is anchored on research and pragmatic development needs of Ugandans. He made this clear from the word go, when he guided that the 11th Parliament shall not tolerate legislation based on instinct and hearsay; rather, he was committed to developing a Parliament that understands Ugandans and prioritises indigenous socio-economic transformation.

In my opinion, Rt Hon. Dr Oulanyah achieved all his life targets and much more; his only unfulfilled equation was about his children. Indeed, during his last days, I used to visit him at his home and one day he told me, "Robert, but my children; Robert, but my children; Robert, but my children". People have said many great things about the Rt Hon. Dr Oulanyah and we are all in great pain. I am heartbroken but your absence from my sight does not mean that you are away from my heart. I will always cherish the great times we had together for 32 years.

Farewell, Ladit, my brother and my Speaker.

*Dr Robert Mwesigwa Rukaari,
Member of Parliament for Mbarara North Division,
Mbarara City*



Tribute to Rt Hon. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah



By Hon. Santa Sandra Alum Ogwang

I find it saddening but also a great honour to pay this final tribute to our departed Rt Hon. Speaker of Parliament, Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah. I first met Jacob in 2010 in Omoro where I had gone to look for my campaign manager, the late Tony Oyuru, who resided there. Coincidentally, both of us were looking for our agents. My first impression of him was that he was a highly articulate, confident and inspiring person who had strong faith in God. He observed that I sounded worried about the elections but he urged me to put my faith in God and he asserted, with prophetic certitude, that both of us would make it to the Ninth Parliament, which indeed turned out to be the case.

Jacob's life and path intersected with mine in significant ways. We both came from the greater Okarowok clan, which further cemented our sense of connectedness. Omoro County, his constituency, and Oyam District that I represent in Parliament share a border. Jacob's constituency home and mine are just about five kilometres apart. Since our constituencies bordered one another, the people we served also share needs, concerns, and aspirations. Their lives and experiences are intertwined and they interact closely, often sharing ideas, information and challenges from time to time. Many a time, whenever Jacob heard complaints from my

voters, he would call me immediately and urge me to act swiftly. He cared deeply for the plight of our people. He kept abreast with whatever was happening even in my district.

I remember a time my voters were complaining about the human-wildlife conflict, after some elephants from Murchison Falls National Park had invaded my district. Jacob inquired whether I had contacted the Minister of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities. I told him that I had presented the matter before Parliament and contacted the Minister. He advised me to walk to the Ministry because the nature of the problem was grave. Since then, the Government has embarked on fencing the conflict point.

Jacob was a man of action and he believed that every problem had a solution. He believed that pointed action, not futile grumbling, was the antidote to any problem.

Due to the alignment of several other factors that I cannot enumerate, Jacob was the Parliamentary colleague to whom I felt closest. He was a brother, a colleague, a mentor, a counsellor and above all a friend. He was open-hearted, quick to guide and correct, and frank to a fault.

Jacob was a God-fearing person who sought the hand of God in everything. Once, his father, Mzee Nathan Okori, invited me to a goat-roasting



party. Jacob, who was held up in Kampala, called to inquire whether we had started with prayer, reminding us that everything must always start with God. We had to bring in a Reverend hurriedly to add the prayer component to the party. Jacob always quipped that with God everything is possible.

I came to understand him as a man who had an excellent relationship with his father. He listened to and respected his father deeply; the two were admirably close. Both Jacob and I benefited greatly from the wise political counsel of Mzee Okori.

Jacob believed in unity irrespective of creed, party affiliation or where one came from. He held no grudge and believed in forgiveness and peaceful solutions to conflict. What he valued most from each of us, Members of Parliament, was the effective representation of our people. Jacob's brilliance and great oratory skills were beyond reproach. He was the pride of Parliament whenever he made a presentation at international fora. He made us walk with our heads held high.

Jacob was committed to the work of Parliament. He knew where he wanted the institution to head, and he dedicated himself to the pursuit of that vision. He wanted a Parliament that was research-driven and in which deliberations were evidence-based. He emphasised the quality of parliamentary debates and he encouraged parliamentarians to do research. He would threaten that he would not give the Floor to those who never bothered to research.

He leaves behind a legacy of dedicated service above self, responsive and trustworthy leadership,

patriotism and love for duty. He wanted to turn Parliament into a people-centred institution in the truest sense of the expression. He was beyond any doubt one of the most charismatic and motivational leaders who ever trod the corridors of Parliament. We will remember him for his great oratory and outstanding negotiation skills that transcended political divides.

Jacob was a declared enemy of tribalism and nepotism. He was a Ugandan, an East African, an African and a citizen of the world. He was a dedicated promoter of a peaceful, inclusive and equitable Uganda and the National Development Agenda. He sponsored and supported hundreds of underprivileged students from Acholi sub-region and beyond. He saw leadership as a platform for service.

We will miss him as a statesman, a visionary and an advocate for equitable development. He was very passionate and committed to his work and his vision.

We are challenged with the responsibility of sustaining and promoting the ideas and values that Jacob stood for. Beyond our mere words, a more fitting tribute that Parliament can pay to him would be to institute an annual memorial lecture on his birthday so that the values, ideas, initiatives and the vision that he treasured can be bequeathed to posterity.

Rest in peace, my brother, my mentor, my friend, Jacob.

*Hon. Santa Sandra Alum Ogwang,
Member of Parliament for Oyam District*



Rt Hon. Jacob L. Oulanyah

Jacob Oulanyah L'Okori: **Not A Passing Star!**



By Dr Opiyo Oloya, PhD



At the time of his passing, Jacob Oulanyah L'Okori (March 23, 1965 - March 20, 2022) was working on his autobiography, which he had tentatively titled "Not a passing star". He wanted to signal that he was more than just a bright star shooting across the dark night sky to oblivion. His was about making deep impact on everything he did, both in private and public life.

From a humble and difficult beginning in Lalogi Village, where he completed his primary education, Jacob was competitive in school. Later in politics, he fiercely forged a life of service to his community in Omoro and to the country.

He was a gifted orator, able to capture the essence of issues with bold yet smooth observations. He was down-to-earth, moved gracefully in

God be with you till we meet again



the corridors of power, and was easily approachable and personable. He knew when to stand his ground and when to reach a compromise. He was a uniter of people, bringing diverse interests and priorities for negotiated resolutions. For him, a principled disagreement was the start of a lasting friendship and understanding, not the end of communion.

Whether he was riding on one of his beloved motorcycles or climbing the Guruguru rocks in Amuru District, Jacob was passionate about life. A very private person, he loved the little things in life that brought him much happiness - going for an ice-cream or swim with his children, spending a soiree of music with friends. He embodied the freedom of spirit to explore, to experience adventure and to give back as much as he got from his friendship and to the community he lived in and loved without fear.

He felt a strong responsibility to his children - Diana Oulanyah, Andrew Ojok Oulanyah, Christian Oulanyah, Kimberley Oulanyah and Karlynn Oulanyah. His children with his late wife, Dorothy Nangwale Oulanyah, who lived at home with him - Harold "Didi" Adiyo Oulanyah, Ezra Audu Oulanyah and Karen Atim Oulanyah - meant the world to him. After their mother passed away in August 2009, Jacob worked hard at being a single parent to them, ensuring their proper education and upbringing. Paying tribute to her father during a vigil, Karen said, "He was both my father and my mother, taking care of me."

In his final days when the pain of illness knocked ever so urgently on his body, Jacob remained courageous, strong, and very positive. Of course, he was deeply concerned about the future of his children. But he was also comforted by the knowledge that he had laid the foundation for their participation in the life of the country that he loved so dearly.

In his essence, Jacob understood the meaning of, "For God and my country". He demonstrated that it meant being steeped in one's culture while respecting and promoting other cultures.

Rest in ever so gentle peace, Jacob. Gone but never forgotten.

Dr Opiyo Oloya, PhD, LLD (Honoris Causa) is Associate Vice President, EDI, Western University, London, Ontario, Canada



Rt Hon. Jacob L. Oulanyah

We must **preserve Jacob Oulanyah's Legacy!**



By Hon. Enos Asiimwe

I first met the Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah at his private office in Naguru in March 2021 after my election as Member of Parliament for Kabula County, Lyantonde District. During that short interaction, I re-affirmed my commitment to support him as Speaker of the 11th Parliament. Before this meeting, I had followed his politics of unity and his loyalty to the NRM, and President Museveni in particular, through the media and Parliament.

Subsequently, I invited him to preside over a function in my constituency, which he honoured. He had a lunch stopover at our mutual friend's home and also my maternal uncle, Gen. Pecos Kutesa (RIP), even before our swearing-in. Later, I got the privilege of my lifetime to chair his campaign taskforce for the post of Speaker. This helped to strengthen our friendship.

Like the rest of the country, I have been trying to make sense of his sudden passing. I know many friends will give different reasons but I wish to point out what I think might be of significance in God allowing him to win the speakership even when He (God) knew he would not live for long. The answer lies in one of our favourite campaign songs that Jacob greatly loved, titled "Yoo Leng!" My Luo colleagues say this song is about God clearing the way, removing obstacles so that one can reach their destination smoothly.

I strongly believe that Jacob was used by God

to clear the way for the 11th Parliament. He removed the obstacles that characterised the previous leadership of Parliament, where we saw bad working relations between the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker, clearing the way for the 11th Parliament to move away from being a Member's Parliament to a people's Parliament. Jacob built bridges for NRM in the northern region, which had for decades been crushed by mistrust. He preached unity and walked the path by sharing the NRM ideology across the divide. Due to his efforts, in the last presidential elections we saw a big change in the fortunes of NRM, for President Museveni and NRM parliamentary colleagues from the region.

Jacob Oulanyah may be dead but we all know what his mission in life was. He preached and lived for peace and a corrupt-free Uganda. He was a nationalist who trusted a young man like me, from the other side of the country, to lead his campaign. He looked at his leadership beyond the prism of Acholi.

As we condole with the family, I wish to urge Parliament and the Government of Uganda to gazette a day for his memorial lecture annually, so that it acts as a reminder for all of us and the future generations to carry forward the legacy of this great son of Uganda.

Hon. Enos Asiimwe is the MP for Kabula County, Lyantonde, and was the Chair of Team JO for Speaker.



Jacob promised to uphold God's principles as speaker

"He will wipe away every tear from their eyes" Revelation 21:4

By Rev. Canon Christine Shimanya

The Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah had known of my calling way back in 2006 because I led voluntary intercession for the Parliament of Uganda, especially for the peace talks then in Juba, which had stalled.

In 2013, as a serving priest in Bugolobi Church of Uganda, Jacob contacted me to conduct pre-marital counselling for him and his fiancée then, Lady Winnie Amoo. It was after the wedding that he regularly contacted me to conduct intercessions for Parliament and also for himself.

What inspired me about Jacob was the fact that he was keen to listen to the revelations I shared with him about God's transformational plans for Uganda. He encouraged and supported me in organising Parliamentary fora for inspirational talks by several renowned men and women from across Africa and beyond.

Inevitably, I became close to him.

In 2017, I shared a dream I got in which he had become the Speaker of Parliament. This revelation emotionally strengthened his bid.

It was also about that time that he started sharing with me about his ailments and recurring spiritual attacks that required extra spiritual effort to avert. Many times, I would call him on the spot when he was either very low or ill, needing urgent prayers.

In May 2020, he told me that he was quite unwell yet he had several campaigns to do. This meant consistent intercession for Parliament and for him especially because of his condition. The Anglican Chaplaincy, together with many intercessors, decided to intercede for Parliament at this critical moment of campaigns.

During his tenure, I told Jacob the Lord Jesus demands: one, righteousness and Justice; two, no wickedness, no witchcraft or sorcery; three, excellence in doing all tasks. Jacob assured me that he would uphold God's principles during his tenure as Speaker of Parliament and that he was set to transform the Parliament of Uganda with godly ambitions.

As time went by, as his pastor, I noticed that he was hardly getting better, yet he had to carry on all his regular duties. We shared all these concerns and scriptures, however placing everything in the hands of God



whom we petitioned for his health.

Very many people in Uganda and abroad prayed for the quick recovery of the Speaker including the Archbishop of the Church of Uganda, the Most Rev. Stephen Samuel Kaziimba Mugalu; Mama Janet Museveni; Members and staff of Parliament; all Bishops and the entire church.

On 1 Jan 2022, Felix Odobo, one of his ADCs, called Shirlene Mukite, his Personal Assistant, crying, "Please, call the Chaplain, the Speaker is not doing well at all." Hardly 40 minutes went by before I mobilised familiar faces to him to go to his residence in Muyenga. He was critically ill. We prayed intensely for a while; after which, lots of coordination took place to get him relief through treatment.

Before he left for Seattle, USA, I gave him Holy Communion and while on treatment in the USA, I was able to pray with him through the last one and half weeks before his passing. I prayed with Jacob daily, up to the very last two hours to his death.

My dear friend, Jacob, the Parliament of Uganda Anglican Chaplaincy will miss you dearly while God and the heavenly hosts will receive you joyfully.

For now, let me get back to your order of service as you ascend to heavenly glory.

Blessings and love! May the Almighty God receive you in eternity!

Rev. Canon Christine Shimanya is the Anglican Chaplain of Parliament of Uganda





Tribute to the Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah by the **Anglican Chaplaincy of Parliament**



By Ruth Ekirapa Byoona on behalf of the Anglican Chaplaincy

It is going to be very difficult to operate without our beloved member, the Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah. I remember him walking into my office during his orientation tour as Speaker of the 11th Parliament and he told me, "Ruth, I want us to turn this House into a place of prayer". I knew it was a divine assignment for us as a chaplaincy. Little did I know we would carry out this tall order without him!

I do not remember the chaplaincy holding any carol services without him in attendance, be it for Easter or Christmas; he was always there, clad in his bow tie, ready to lead us through his favourite song, "*Wipolo bot Lubanga*", which is in his local dialect. How nostalgic!

Jackie Lamunu, who worked with him closely in the last eight months of his life, recalls that his hearty laughter would always assure them that all was well.



God be with you till we meet again



Rt Hon. Jacob L. Oulanyah

Is it possible to turn the clock backwards? Only Joshua in the Bible was able to make the sun and moon stay still. If I had the authority, I would do the same until our tears run dry.

In our fellowship, Oulanyah was known as an amiable person whose heart was stirred towards furthering the kingdom of God. This is reflected in a story told by Sophie Piloya, a member of the fellowship. She arrived in Kampala from Gulu for the advancement of her studies in 2011. She saw a grey future because of the overwhelming bills. While visiting an MP in Parliament to ask for support, she was assured that being a person from a different constituency, it would be hard for the MP to fund her studies. She was referred to the office of Rt Hon. Oulanyah, who was the Deputy Speaker at the time. He offered to support her through her education and he was faithful to his promise. As of today, Sophie is a graduate of Makerere University, working in the Parliament of Uganda, thanks to the support of the late Rt Hon. Speaker. Sophie remains a testimony of Oulanyah's faithfulness as a vessel to do God's work.

Olok Geoffrey, a member of the chaplaincy's music department, recalls who Oulanyah was: "Despite his busy schedule, the man was spiritual. He seemed to be well grounded in God and fully committed to Him. He knew the Bible."

The Rt Hon. Oulanyah did not hold back his treasures for the advancement of the kingdom of God through the chaplaincy. There is no specific budget line in the Parliamentary Commission to support the chaplaincy's

activities; it operates on the goodwill and support of members.

In Matthew 6:21, the Bible states, "*For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also*". The Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah will be remembered as one of the brethren who gave financial and moral support towards the activities of the chaplaincy especially for critical events like the carol services. He always joined in the chaplaincy events and sung in the choir severally, sometimes adorning the choir uniform.

Ms Josephine Watera recalls that at the reception of the MPs of the 11th Parliament, which was hosted by the Archbishop of the Church of Uganda in December 2021, Rt Hon. Oulanyah constituted a task force to, among other things, mobilise resources to support the activities of the chaplaincy. There are high expectations in this task force. We all hope that the task force will work even harder to fulfil his desires despite his departure.

Ms Watera further reminisces that the Rt Hon. Oulanyah emphasised the call in Matthew 6:33 of seeking the kingdom of God and his righteousness first. He knew that whatever we have is for the Lord and we are only privileged stewards by God's grace.

We are convinced that because of how he used his treasures, his soul is resting peacefully in the heavenly places.

Ruth Ekirapa Byoona is a member of the Anglican Chaplaincy at Parliament



The leader with no title: A tribute to a boss like no other



By Shirlene Mukite

"Good morning, Right Honourable"

"Good morning, Shirlene. How are you?"

That is how easy it was to work for the Rt Hon. Speaker, Jacob Oulanyah. His dealings with the staff of his office went beyond the boss-employee style; it was friendship, family, history and relationship, all the way from his security team or "the crew" as we commonly

called them, to the administration staff of his office.

I was privileged to work for the Rt Hon. Speaker as his Personal Assistant. It is a job, I dare say, I did not feel deserving of because I had always been made to believe that this position is reserved for people who share the same tribe as their principal. That, in itself, spoke to the kind of man he was; colour, race, size or shape did not matter to him. What mattered was delivery



God be with you till we meet again



on the job and having a value system which ably represented him.

Initially, I was nervous, as anyone else would be, working for a person of such a calibre for the first time; but Christine Awor, who had served in the same position for a long time, kept reassuring me and guiding me on how to handle certain challenges. She also emphasised how humorous he was yet serious too. You would have to be smart to know when to actually burst out laughing with him or when to silently be amused.

I saw his funny side many times and that made work even much more satisfying. Like the adage goes, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy". My boss was never dull. It, therefore, saddens me to think how painful and sad it must have been for him while he was confined on treatment.

The Rt Hon. Speaker was honest to the bone. He never dealt in gossip as a currency and he made it clear to all his staff that his currency, as I got to learn, was facts and not hearsay.

He was a man reverent and submitted to God. Just as he served his nation with zeal and diligence, so did he serve his God. This is an attribute that governed his lifestyle, from friendships to work and family.

I had never met a high profile person such as him who saw pride and pomp as vanity. He was humble and down-to-earth; all one needed to do was walk up to him and you would have his attention. He did everything with excellence.

From all these testimonies that have been given, he knew he had a legacy to leave, a stamp in the books of global history to make, and what a stamp he has made!

My heart bleeds every time I think about that morning call from his ADC(s) asking, "Shirlene, where are you?" He would arrive on the office floor and the aura would change - expect a stopover at his waiting room to see who had arrived, a light conversation and probably a joke with one or two persons, then a "good morning" or "hello" to his admins before he went into his office.

The entire office prayed for a miracle. We hoped for the best but God knew best.

I will miss serving him because every day as I worked for him, I knew I was working for the right kind of man - one who not only opens doors for you but also holds your hand willingly as you walk in.

He was an honest man, a great boss, friend and father to many, high and low. He was a respecter of humanity and a leader like no other.

My story is not long and colourful like many others, but as short as my time serving him was, all I can say is "thank you, Mr Speaker, for the memories and the opportunity to serve you. You served God's purpose for your life and imprinted this on thousands while at it."

Till we meet again, rest in glory at your Master's side.

Shirlene Mukite was a Personal Assistant to the Rt Hon. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah



Jacob L' Okori Oulanyah: The champion of ubuntu and torch bearer for emerging leaders



By Ronald Bills Agaba

My first meeting with the Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah was in August, 2019 when I walked into his office a few minutes past 1.00p.m. together with the Director of Communication and Public Affairs in Parliament, Mr Chris Obore. On that day, Oulanyah was going to chair the House and as soon as we entered his office, he requested us to keep it short and to the point. I expressed my interest in having him as our guest speaker at a youth leadership fellowship dubbed "Mazungmuzo". He never hesitated and immediately said, "Work out the details with my team. I will come."

True to his word, he came to speak to the informal group of youth. I vividly remember him

dressed down in a pair of jeans, matching Tee-shirt and a cap. For a man we held in high regard and had waited for anxiously, his dress code immediately made all of us feel at home around him. He spoke passionately about his humble background and the struggles in the war-torn northern Uganda. He also walked us through his deep convictions on the role of the youth in shaping the fortunes of Uganda. He invited us not to be spectators in the affairs of our nation but rather participants.

His speech left a lasting impression on me.

Two months after the youth fellowship, I gave him a courtesy call and he invited me to his home in Muyenga on a Sunday. Our conversation that day would end up being the



God be with you till we meet again



Rt Hon. Jacob L. Oulanyah

beginning of our close working relationship for the last two years. He placed me in charge of his political and mobilisation affairs. We shared an office every day and travelled to the field together. Our mission was to achieve the trinity - one, becoming Vice-Chairperson of the NRM in northern Uganda; two, re-election as MP for Omoro County; and three, ultimately, becoming Speaker of Parliament. All of which we achieved successfully.

Jacob Oulanyah inspired me to change from an idealist to a practicing political strategist. He was a man of great wit, eloquence, a master of the law, a nationalist and a humanist. He was an "eater of life" with a big spoon - he was a cheerleader, singer, dancer and a consummate mobiliser.

His virtue on time keeping was not as much about time as it was about his expression of respect for other people. He was loyal to his friends and leaders like President Museveni both in their presence and absence.

Working closely with him gave me an opportunity to study his philosophy on decision-making, which again was expressed in trinity - Is it okay with my God? Is it legal? How will it improve the life of an ordinary person? Whenever a project, function or assignment passed this test of his decision-making ethos, you would be sure he was on board.

One poignant lesson he taught us in politics was the change of paradigm in political mobilisation. He despised NRM cadres who would introduce themselves as "NRM mobilisers". His view, which he was not shy to share, was that individuals

do not mobilise but interests do. During every campaign, he insisted on having a message that rallied people around common interests. With his gift of the gab, he used less money in politics than all his opponents as he motivated and won over people to support him. His was the idea around which people wanted to achieve their interests.

High on the list of his unfinished political dreams was the debate on "the Uganda we want". He had asked us to come up with a structure for this debate and suggested that it would happen immediately after he had finished a semi-formal capacity building session with all first-time Members of Parliament on the Parliamentary Rules of Procedure. He had set this as the first official business of 2022.

After a successful tour of the northern region to deliver his "thank you" to the region for supporting the party chairman, himself and other leaders, he had instructed party whips to form sub-regional committees to help in the execution of his works. He hoped to turn Omoro into a model constituency.

To keep his legacy alive, I propose and commit to work with official and non-official actors to establish the Jacob Oulanyah Annual Memorial Lecture that would act as an inspiration to the new generation of leaders for a united and prosperous Uganda that he envisioned.

Rest in peace my most consequential mentor.

Ronald Bills Agaba is an Assistant Secretary, Office of the Speaker



Tribute to Rt Hon. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah, Speaker 11th Parliament of The Republic of Uganda



By George Piwang-Jalobo

In 1980, 15-year-old Jacob Oulanyah was my Senior One (S.1) mathematics student at St Joseph's College, Layibi, Gulu. I was a 24-year-old Grade V teacher of mathematics and physics who had just graduated the year before (1979) from National Teachers' College, Kyambogo.

Layibi College in 1980 had a happy, optimistic and well-resourced school and academic environment. It is, therefore, not surprising that most of my S1 class excelled and three of them went on to become global stars: Jacob L. Oulanyah (RIP); Dr Jimmy Lamo of the National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO); and Dr Walter Ochan, a successful medical doctor practicing in South Africa.

Later, I was transferred to Gulu High School (1981-1983) and it was not until the mid-1990s that I would again run into Jacob Oulanyah in Kampala City. I had left Uganda in 1989 for further studies in the USA and returned in October 1996. I had gone to consult my friend, Lawyer Charles Owor (RIP), at his law firm in Uganda House

wing on Nkrumah Road, only to find that it was the law firm of three idealistic young Acholi lawyers: Charles Owor, Jacob Oulanyah and Nobert Mao. All were passionate for justice, especially for northern Uganda.

You may recall that Charles Owor was a Commissioner in the Stephen Akabway-chaired Electoral Commission that supervised the 1996 Presidential Elections; Norbert Mao has risen to become the President-General of the Democratic Party; and Jacob Oulanyah rose to become Speaker of the 11th Parliament of Uganda. What a trajectory for the three idealistic young Acholi lawyers I encountered in the mid-1990s!

My next encounter with Jacob Oulanyah came in 2002/2003 when he was a first-term MP for Omoro County. By then, I was a Lecturer in Peace Studies and Founder Director, Centre for Conflict Management and Peace Studies, Gulu University. A group of Acholi MPs, including Hon. Oulanyah, Hon. Hilary Onok and Hon. Zachary Olum, were addressing a Town Hall meeting at St Monica's Vocational Centre, Gulu. I attended and sat at the back of the hall. Hon. Oulanyah noticed me and he pointed at me and said



Rt Hon. Jacob L. Oulanyah

loudly and clearly for the hall audience to hear, "You see that man sitting over there; that was my teacher in Layibi College. I loved the way he spoke English and since then, I have wanted to speak like him."

From then on, I became Lapwony (Teacher) whenever we met or spoke on the phone, and he became Latin kwan, meaning "student", although the literal translation of Latin kwan is "Child-reader" with teacher-student power hierarchy connotations. In 2018, however, Deputy Speaker Oulanyah flipped this teacher-student power hierarchy on me, with his characteristic mischievous humour.

Jacob Oulanyah was as passionate for justice for the down-trodden and voiceless as he was intellectually reflexive. One particular religious encounter, which genuinely baffled him during the Juba Peace Talks, was the fervency and seriousness with which Joseph Kony LRA rebels prayed to "God". He later remarked, "Lapwony, those guys prayed so fervently and seriously that I felt ashamed of my own shallow prayers."

I encouraged him not to feel ashamed of his prayers because most Acholi Christian leaders - Anglican, Catholic and Pentecostal - did not have the courage to confront Joseph Kony and rebuke him about his LRA "holy spirit" that sanctioned violence and death against the same Acholi people he purported to liberate. I told him that Alice Lakwena and Joseph Kony's LRA "holy spirit" was probably a reification of



"jok lubanga", the much feared pre-Christian deity that sanctioned violence and death against the very Acholi it purported to liberate.

When Oulanyah became Deputy Speaker in 2011, he introduced me to his office secretary in Parliament as his former teacher in Layibi College. Henceforth, the secretary would always welcome me with a warm smile when I went to see him in his office. She would say, "Lapwony madit; wapwoyo bino" (Big teacher, welcome).

In 2018, Hon. Jacob Oulanyah seized the opportunity to flip our Lapwony (teacher)-Latin kwan (child-reader) power hierarchy. This was during Mama Alice Ogwal's funeral service at All Saints Cathedral, Kampala, on 31 July 2018. He was the Chief Mourner and I was the emcee.



I had recognised Dr Ruth Senyonyi, daughter of the late Bishop Misaeri Kauma, but forgot to introduce her as the incumbent President of Mothers' Union. When she stood to eulogise Mama Alice Ogwal, Dr Ruth Senyonyi joked: "This young man, George Piwang-Jalobo, does not know I am the incumbent President of Mothers' Union." Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah picked on this as his opener. With his characteristic mischievous humour he said, "I am happy for the first time someone has called Mr George Piwang-Jalobo a child (latin)."

One my most memorable times with him was shared in 2019 when my big brother, retired Archbishop Henry Luke Orombi, received his honorary doctorate at the Kampala Serena Hotel. The Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah was the guest of honour. I had gone fully clad, with my decorated "bila" (horn) round my neck. I blew it when my brother was hooded and robed with his honorary doctorate regalia.

When I went to greet him, Rt Hon. Oulanyah said, "Lapwony, if you see my bila, you will run!" I then taunted him and said, "But where is it? It should be around your neck!" He replied, "I have left it in the car." To which I said, "Next time, wear it." He replied, "I will". Therefore, I was mighty proud of him when he wore his bila around his neck and blew it throughout the presidential campaigns in 2020 and 2021. When they played "Yoo Leng, Piliiii", it was beautiful to watch him dance with his bila round his neck and blow it too.

That explains how and why in 2021, northern Uganda voted overwhelmingly for the NRM - all because of Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah, NRM Vice-Chairman for northern Uganda. For the first time since 1986, it could be said that the Northern Resistance Movement (NRM) has possibly begun to transform into the National Reconciliation Movement (NRM).

But alas, Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah, Twon coo, oteka olweny (you are silent now) though your bila pwod kok over the hills from yonder! You showed Uganda that excellence is still possible in our governance and political discourse even though mediocrity fights tooth and nail to become the norm. You were a straight-line, hence a BIG threat next to every crooked line. You were the genuine, original article, hence a NIGHMARE next to every counterfeit!

Jacob Oulanyah, you shot from the skies of Omoro, Acholiland, northern Uganda, and lit up the skies over Uganda and then you quickly vanished like a meteorite into many twinkling stars. You have now kissed the face of God. And now you smile and dance with the Angels.

Smile on. Dance on. Twon Coo, Oteka lweny, Oluma!

Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah, our true NORTH STAR!

George Piwang-Jalobo was a Maths and Physics teacher at St Joseph's College, Layibi, Gulu (1979-80) and Gulu High School (1981-83).



Rt Hon. Jacob L. Oulanyah

Jacob supported the work of God selflessly



By Most Rev Dr Stephen Samuel Kazimba Mugalu

Praise God from whom all blessings flow! On behalf of the Provincial Secretariat, the entire Church of Uganda and on my own behalf, I would like to express our sincere and heartfelt condolences to the children of the Rt Hon. Oulanyah, to Mzee Nasani Okori and your entire family, the Acholi fraternity and Uganda at large at this critical moment as we mourn the passing on of your beloved one. We thank God for the years He gave him and the many lives he touched through his various roles both in private and public service.

We praise God for using the Rt Hon. Oulanyah in all the roles he performed as an advocate for freedom, democracy and justice for all. His simplicity, honesty, decency and down-to-earth character is rare in our midst today. He exhibited all these qualities even as he held the offices of Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda, Deputy Speaker and Member of Parliament for Omoro constituency.

He served with all his heart and did not mince his words on issues that concerned

the future of Ugandans; notable is his statement on Anti-corruption Day: "We are all corrupt and in need of redemption". He spoke with clarity, conviction and great confidence whether in Parliament or other gatherings.

Rt Hon. Oulanyah's love for the Gospel and exuberant participation in Church worship revealed a man who knew his Lord and Saviour, which made him the better leader that we testify of today. We will always remember his selfless support for the work of God with his personal income and resources.

I had the rare opportunity to share with him the 23rd of December 2021 at the Archbishop's palace as he led several Members of Parliament to celebrate Christmas with the Archbishop. He did not show any sign of the pain he was enduring but informed us that he was going for further review. He was full of thanks to God for life and opportunities to celebrate; he enjoyed every moment with the Secretariat staff and fellow MPs. He gave his contribution of Shs 100 million (One hundred million Uganda Shillings) to redeem the Church House and challenged other Members of



Parliament to follow suit in supporting the Church and God's work.

We are grateful that God gave him to us for the season He did. We have hope beyond affliction; because Christ lives, we can face tomorrow and because of God's steadfast love, compassion and new mercies, we have hope.

Let us all be reminded that we are here on earth for a season and we must use the opportunities we have properly; we must live our lives in a worthy manner that honours God and values humanity, for God's word is clear: **"For none of us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves alone. If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord."** (Romans 14:7-8). We shall give account to the Creator.

Jacob is no longer with us but he is with the Lord who loved him and promised to give us rest.

Leaders eulogise Rt Hon. Oulanyah

Norbert Mao, President of Democratic Party (DP):

In a statement, called on all Ugandans to learn from the death of the Speaker of Parliament, Jacob Oulanyah and preach unity rather than hatred amongst themselves. Mao said he was heartbroken and sad about Oulanyah's death but thanked God he was one of the few people that saw the Speaker alive before he slipped away. He advised that Oulanyah's suffering and death be a turning point for Ugandans to confront things that divide them if they want

to progress in whatever they do. Mao noted that amidst all the sorrow, confusion and cynicism, there is always a choice between validating conspiracy theories and celebrating a life of significance.



"It is my prayer that our brother's death may plant a new seed of hope that will overcome the despair that make us turn on each other rather than to each other. For now, let us celebrate life lived with uncommon courage and conviction."

Hon Catherine Lamwaka, MP Omoro District:

He was very passionate about services reaching the common man at the grassroot. He lobbied and had Omoro district created out of Gulu. Gov't should fast track the construction of the cancer institute in Omoro.

Hon Nathan Nandala Mafabi, MP Budadiri West:

In 2001, I joined Parliament with Rt Hon. Jacob Oulanyah. We treated each other as brothers, as friends. He called me "Mukwasi," meaning "brother in-law." May his soul rest in peace.





*God be with you till we
meet again*



“ I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing ”

2 Tim 4:7-8

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