



**REMARKS BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR,
PROFESSOR JOHN DDUMBA-SSENTAMU**

**ON THE OCASSION CELEBRATING OKOT
P'BITEK'S *SONG OF LAWINO* @ 50**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2016, AT MAKERERE
UNIVERSITY'S MAIN HALL**

- **Government Officials present**
- **Representatives of Foreign Missions**
- **Cultural Leaders**
- **The Keynote Speaker, Professor Simon Gikandi**
- **Discussants; Professors Molara Ogundipe-Leslie and Dominica Dipio**
- **Distinguished Panellists, Readers and Performers**
- **The Family of Okot P'bitek**
- **Members of University Management, Principals, Deans and Directors**
- **Members of Staff present**
- **The Media**
- **All Invited Guests in Your Various Capacities**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen: Warm greetings and welcome to Makerere University.**

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Today is an important day for Makerere University and particularly the Department of Literature, in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. We have gathered here this morning in honour of the late Okot p'Bitek, who is perhaps Makerere University's greatest poet, thinker and cultural icon.

We are extremely proud to have produced an alumnus and eminent writer and scholar of his calibre and kind. We are therefore grateful to you all, our distinguished guests, for joining us to celebrate a true literary icon.

In a special way, I welcome our Keynote Speaker, Professor Simon Gikandi. Thank you very much for accepting to give the main talk during this event. We are truly honoured by your presence and look forward to your talk.

