

Students Host a Two-Day Human Rights Exhibition

Makerere University

Kampala October 28 – 29 2025.

Makerere University students in conjunction with the Department of Philosophy in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, held a two-day Human Rights Exhibition, from October 28th to 29th, in the university auditorium. The event, themed "Human Rights as a Foundation for Good Governance, Economic Transformation, and Inclusivity," brought together students, lecturers, and human rights advocates to discuss the importance of promoting and protecting human rights in society.

The exhibition aimed to provide students with hands-on experience as they embark on their journey to champion electoral rights, cultural rights, digital rights, and minority rights—essential pillars for advancing economic development, inclusivity, and good governance. According to Manzi Victor, one of the organizers and a student leader at Makerere University, the expo focused on promoting human rights by fostering meaningful engagement and practical learning among students and human rights organizations.

The event was supported by prominent organizations, including Global Rights Alert, Resource Rights Africa, the Uganda Human Rights Commission, and the Norwegian Association of the Disabled. College Principal, Professor Hellen Nkabala, expressed her appreciation for the Department of Philosophy and student leaders stating: "The exhibition was a great opportunity for both students and the community to reflect on how human rights affect everyday life".

The chief guest, Mariam Wangadya, who had not visited Makerere in 35 years, encouraged participants to promote human rights starting from their homes and communities. "Human rights are part of everything that we do," she emphasized. "The observance of human rights begins with respect—respect everything, respect everyone, and treat them fairly. Let us not wish others bad things we wouldn't want wished upon us." She also urged parents to teach their children about human rights at the family level and called on leaders in positions of power to respect people's rights and provide equal opportunities for all.

During the event, participants viewed exhibitions, shared ideas, and discussed how human rights can lead to better governance and economic transformation in Uganda. The exhibition concluded with a call for continued collaboration between universities, organizations, and communities to build a more inclusive and just society.

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