

Kakuwâ Legends

Amin Nyabira: Amin Nyabira was from the clan of Adibu (**Likaméro** sub-clan). He was born in 1889 and died in 1976. Amin was the father of Awónjó (President Idi Amin Dada).

Awónjó (Idi Amin Dada): Awoño was born on 10th Dhul Hija (*Eid al Adh ha*) which works out to either May 17, 1928, or May 30, 1928, or May 29, 1928. He died on August 16, 2003. Awoño was from the Adibu clan in Ko'buko District. He joined the Uganda Army in 1948, and was later promoted to Army Commander and eventually Field Marshal. He was the President of Uganda from 1971 to April 11, 1979.

Ramadhani Amin Dada: Ramadhan Amin was the elder brother of Awoño (Awónjó Idi Amin Dada). He was a prominent Ugandan business man who died in 1999. There are now no remaining male children of the late Amin Dada who died in 1976, at his ancestral home. His male children who have died have included Ramadhan Amin (2002), Idi Amin Dada (2003), Lopuli Ali Amin Dada (1967), Flight Captain Amule Amin Dada (2007), Moshe Amin (2001) and Ruba Amin Dada (1976)

Silvanus Wani: Wani was born into the clan of Nyanjiliya in Ko'buko District. He, along with John Dronyi, was ordained as a Reverend by the African Inland Mission (A.I.M.) in 1942. Bishop Wani served as the Chief Chaplain in the Uganda Armed Forces. He became Arch Bishop of Uganda, Rwanda and Boga-Zaire in 1977. He died in the mid-1998.

Rembi: Rembi was an illusionist, a teacher, leader, healer, magician, mentalist, shaman, “priest”, prophet, and revolutionary who fought the Belgians and the British administrators in Uganda in the early 1900s. He was from the Yondu clan. The literature claims that the British captured Rembi, and eventually hanged him in Western Uganda (at Masindi) but the Kakuwâ believe that given his powerful *yakanye*, and *tobura*, the British took Rembi to England where he has perhaps continued to produce Kakuwâ children and live to this day.

Babá Dî: Baba Di sailed from the village of Azu near the present town of Baaze-Kengezi, in the Kakuwâ County. The name *Dí*, was a nickname given to him when he jumped off the high slave prison wall called *Kanda*, located at Adumi Sub-County, and hitting the ground making the characteristic landing sound “Diiii!!!”

Áli Kenyi: Kenyi was a very handsome and strong young man who sailed from the Drimu clan in Ko'buko District. These qualities drew immediate admiration from the British officials then running the newly-created West Nile District. Consequently, they made him County Chief of the Kakuwâ people of Ko'buko District in Uganda. Then for about four decades, Ali Kenyi continued to rule the Kakuwâ with an ironfist until his death in 1946. He was buried in the Muslim cemetery, found just outside one of the soccer fields of Ko'buko Secondary School and owned by Malimu Sakari of the Morodu clan.

Asumáni Yobúta Yugá: Asumáni (the maternal grandfather of the author of this website), sailed from the Parikile clan of the Kakuwâ County. He was the one who introduced Islam to that part of the clan.

Pejá: Peja was Ali Kenyi's most trusted body guard and he sailed from the Kulu'ba clan.

Nuwa Ukuni: Chief of Ko'buko County in the 1960s

Ayumê Francis: Lawyer by profession, Ayume held several posts in different administrations in Uganda, the last one being Attorney General (AG) (1998-2001). Before that, he held the following posts: Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda (1998-2001); Minister of State Office of the President (1996-1998); General Manager Fourways Group of Companies (1991-1994); Secretary to the Electoral Commission (1985-1994); Secretary of the President, Permanent Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister (1983-1985), Solicitor General (1977). Ayume was from the clan of Leyiko in Ko'buko District. He died on May 16, 2004.

Agéle: Poet and musician, Agele, composed most of the present *lorújó*, *bayiko*, and *mútre* songs that are now freely and widely used in Kakuwâ traditional dances. He sailed from the Ginyako clan in Ko'buko District.

Meta Alórô Rubá: Meta Aloro Ruba was a prominent businessman in the Kakuwâ County. He brought electricity to the Godriya Gombe town and built roads linking Kaya-Toliga Mago and Gombe in the 1980s. He sailed from the clan of Róbú in the Kakuwâ County. He died in the late 1980s.

Áseni Éli: Eli got the rank of Colonel in the Uganda Army (UA), and was Uganda's Ambassador to Moscow in the late 1970s. He sailed from the clan of Godriya in Ko'buko District. He died in 1992.

Dirí: Diri was a Kakuwâ teacher and Deputy Headmaster of Ko'buko Secondary School, who later became a full headmaster of the School. He sailed from the clan of Adibu in Ko'buko District. He died in the 1990s.

Tító Arubé: Tito Arube was a Colonial Chief from Ludrara Sub-County who ruled much of the then Ko'buko County in the 1950s.

John Dronyî: Dronyî was a Protestant Reverend in Ko'buko District, and was ordained in 1942, along with Silvanus Wani. He sailed from the Godriya clan in Ko'buko District. He died in November, 1980.

Gbangale: Gbangale was a Kakuwâ Chief in the present area of Móróbó and Gulúmbí who served the Turkish-Egyptian administration in the mid-19th Century. He was very ruthless and often colluded with the invading Arabs to capture the Kakuwâ and surrounding tribes for slaves---as far as parts of the present areas of Ko'buko and the Kakuwâ County.

Charles Arubé: Arubé was a Sandhurst-trained soldier in the Uganda Armed forces, and who at one time held the post of Army Chief of Staff in the Uganda Army. He came from the clan of Kaliwara in Ko'buko District. He died in 1974.

Paul Yosa: Yosa was an Army Commander in Mobutu's Army in the 1970s and 1980s. He held the post of General.

Yusufu Fataki: Yusufu was a teacher, and very popular dancer and singer in Yeyi County in the 1950s and 1960s.

Samuel Lugalá: Lugalá was a famous *duluka* dancer and singer in Yeyi County in the 1970s and 1980s.

Kokóle Omari Haruna: Kokóle was a Professor of Political Science. He was teaching at Bimingham, New York, when he died on September 21, 1996, at the age of 44. He was from the clan of Lurujo, near Mount Liru in Ko'buko District.

'Burúgá Joseph: 'Buruga was a Professor of Genetics at Makerere University. He died in 1998.

Agabító Kenyí Yugá: Agabito was the first Kakuwâ Senior Customs Officer with the Uganda Customs. He sailed from the clan of Parikile-Oka in the Kakuwâ County. He died in 1992.

Benjamin Moró: Benjamin Moro was from the Ludrara clan in Ko'buko. He dedicated most of his time to serving as Education Officer of Arua District and later became MP of the then Ko'buko County. He died in 1998.

Séme Luwáté Solomóna: Bishop Seme Luwate Solomona (Sololomon) was born in 1939 in the village of Longaju, Longamere, in Yeyi County. He received theological training beginning in the Sudan in 1960, and later in Nigeria. He was ordained a Deacon in 1964, and in 1985, was consecrated as Bishop of Yeyi. The Bishop did a number of important things for the people of the Sudan and Uganda, such as building the Bishop's Office, a Health Centre, and an Orphanage Centre (currently Diocesan Guest House), all in Yeyi Town. He was also a founding member of the following: the New Sudan Council of Churches (NSCC) in Torit (in 1991), the Bishop Alison Theological College in Arua (now the Pastor's Training Institute for ECS clergy in New Sudan, Nyanjiliya Secondary School (in Ko'buko District), and West Nile Vocational Training Institute in Arua etc. Bishop Seme Solomon died on August 10, 2003, following complications from a stroke six years earlier.

Charles Abugó: Charles Abugo was a Kakuwâ Chief in the Yeyi Town in the 1990s. When the Southern Sudanese sought refuge in the neighbouring Congolese town of Aba, he continued to serve them there. Chief Abugo also rescued many innocent Refugees who were being constantly harassed and beaten by the unruly Congolese (then Zairian) local authorities. A primary school, Abugo Primary School, has now been named in memory of the late Chief Charles Abugó in Yeyi County.

Ismail Abugó: Abugo was founding member and singer of the famous Rajaf Night Club (Rajaf Jazz Band) which originated in Yeyi Town.

James Yeka Aziyo: Yeka was a successful Kakuwâ businessman who originated from the Congo Kakuwâ but operated mainly in the Uganda and the Sudan. He died in Arua, in 1990.

Lokulú: Lokulu was the Chief of the Kakuwâ in the Aba area of the Kongo Kakuwâ. His rule was disrupted by the Belgians in the mid-1900s. He died in 1990.

Elíya Lúpe: Eliya Lúpe was the first South Sudanese to become a Police Officer. He was also the first Kakuwâ to train at a Police College during the Anglo-Egyptian Sudanese Condominium rule of 1899.

Nyemedriya: Nyemedriya was a charismatic Kakuwâ native doctor and soothsayer who reigned in the 19th century in what is now Lúdrará County. His reign included the areas of Arindre (near Ke-i and the present international border between the Sudan and Uganda). He also covered Keruwa, Kulu'ba, Ora'ba, Lojira, Jobu, Lurunu, up to River Kochu. Nyemedriya is credited with bringing the Bura people from the present Yeyi County area to help him administer his empire. The Bura people are, of course, considered the rain-making geniuses among the Kakuwâ people. Nyemedriya is said to have reigned at the same time as Gbangale.

Nyôkpa (variant **Nyôpa**): Nyôkpa was the founder of the present Kúlú'bá clan in Ko'buko District. He was said to have been brought into the Kúlú'bá area from the Koro'ba Mountain (found in Yeyi County) by the Bura people now living around Keri town, to defend them against their enemies since they were few in number. Nyôkpa had magic known as tobura but the Bura took it away and instead gave him *tulaliya*---extraordinary courage and aggression making the Kulu'ba very fierce fighters. Nyôpa died in Keri and his grave can be founded under a big and tall *kire* (Mahogany tree) near the junction between the road going to Lojira and that going to Ludrara. This tree can be seen as far away as the Sudan, across the River Kaya!

Sorólitá: Sorólitá was a Chief from the Gulumbi area in Yeyi County. He traces his origins to Gbangale.

Banja: Banja was a chief from the area of Payawa in the present Yeyi County.

Baraba: Baraba was a Chief from the area of Abege?

Pastors Abukaya from the Turupa clan in Ko'buko and Enosa Baja from the Longamere area, were the first Kakuwâ priests ordained and were the ones who opened Kulu'ba Parish.

Female Kakuwâ Legends

Múri: According to Kakuwâ mythology, Muri was the first woman on earth. She was the wife of Mungura, the first man on earth.

Íba: Iba was the twin sister of Biyu who, after marrying each other, gave rise to Nyingbo, grandfather of Yeki.

Gbéle: Gbéle is said to have sailed from the clan of Yata (according to the Lugbara), and she was Yeki's first wife.

Da'dâ: Da'dâ was of the Kupera clan, and Yeki's second wife who became the mother of Zaki.

Líndro: Lindro was the sister of Yeki who followed her brother in his wonderings to Mount Liru.

Aáte Aisha Chumaru: Aáte Aisha Chumaru came from the Okapi clan in Maracha County. She was the mother of Awoño (Idi Amin Dada) and Ramadhan Amin. She died in 1970.

Hajat Arába Deiyah: Hajat Deiya was born in 1925, three years before her brother Awoño Idi Amin Dada of the Adibu Clan (Likamero sub-clan). Her mother Mama Mariam Paya, came from the Gimo-Kakuwâ-Aringa clan. She died in 2008 at the age of 83. She was a successful business woman with close Textile Business links to the late Tom

Mboya's family in Kenya. Being a sister to the late president Amin, her assets were quickly frozen by the UNLA in 1979. She also owned Constitution Hotel on Constitution Square in Kampala, and this too has been confiscated by the Museveni Government. Field Marshal Mobutu had built for her a Lodging Complex in Baaze near the Congo-Sudan border in the 1980s but the combined UPDF and SPLA forces razed it to the ground in pursuit of the West Nile Bank Front fighters during the 1995-2005 incursions in the area. Hajat Deiyah is survived by three sisters (Hajat De Rasas Amin, Hajat Rafah Ismail Amin and Ajonye Amin).

Mary Nura Bassiouni: Mary, the second eldest daughter of Elizabeth Soro Sanguwa Luwo and Philip Soro, was born at Kator in Juba, on June 12, 1946. She died on August 12, 2008, at Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, of complications from cancer. Her parents were originally from Yeyi. Mary was a politician and a strong advocate of women's issues around the world. She was a prominent member of the Sudan Socialist Union (SSU), and chief female delegate at the Addis Ababa Accord of 1972.

Cecilia Tito Oba: Cecilia was a former mayor of the important Yeyi (Yei). She, together together with her office manager, was brutally murdered by "unknown assailants" in Jebel, a Juba suburb, in Juba on November 9, 2014. Cecilia who was fired from her mayoral post in September 1914, was replaced with Santo Paul Lasuba. She previously served as Central Equatoria State's minister for Parliamentary Affairs.

Other Kakuwâ Legends

Do you know of any other Kakuwâ legendary figures? If so, please state their full names, their clan and why they should be remembered. Also, for the sake of consistency and respect, please let us restrict or search to those of our Kakuwâ relatives who have prematurely departed us.

May the ***Ka-gbiya-ni lo*** rest all their Souls in Eternal Peace!