



THE GENERAL WHO SAT AMONG US

TRIBUTE TO GEN. MOSES ALI
(15 APRIL 1939 – 18 JULY 2026)

Kampala, Uganda - 19 July 2026: The Uganda Law Society receives with profound sorrow the news of the passing of our esteemed member, Gen. Moses Ali, at the age of 87.

Gen Moses Ali was my classmate at Makerere University School of Law (LLB Graduating Class of 29 January 2008) and at the Law Development Centre (2008–2009). He joined law school at the remarkable age of 64 and was called to the Bar at 73 — a powerful demonstration of his extraordinary resilience, intellectual ability, unwavering commitment, and dedication to lifelong learning. He even shared the same classroom with his son, Ahmed Kassim.

During our university days, Gen Ali greatly enriched our learning experience. He took the initiative to invite top public servants to deliver Cabinet-level briefings on contemporary matters, moving us beyond stale reading lists to gain real-world insights and a panoramic understanding of governance and policy. Among the memorable contributors were the late Keith Muhakanizi (PSST) and Sarah Kulata Basangwa (formerly the Commissioner Land Registration). In class, he was the epitome of egalitarianism — no rank, no bodyguard, and no gun in sight. He was simply one of us, learning on equal footing with the rest of the students.

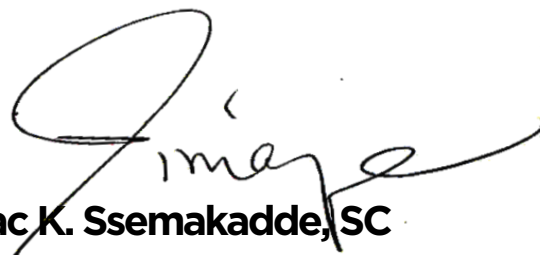
A prolific chronicler of history and identity, Gen Ali authored the significant work ***The Odyssey of the Nubi: From Soldiers of the British Empire to Full Citizens in Uganda***, which documents the contributions and struggles of the Nubi community. For five decades, he anchored peace and stability in the West Nile region through military service, peacemaking, and public duty. He lost defamation cases to the *Daily Monitor* and to his rival, former East Moyo MP Santos Eruaga Pino. Yet the General who commanded armies never once used them against his critics.

I also recall with deep gratitude his strong support during my campaigns for President of the Uganda Law Society. As the lead mobilizer of advocates at Parliament, he worked tirelessly to rally and unite members of the profession for the table-banging candidate.

Beyond his service to the nation as a soldier, mediator, advocate, and statesman, Gen. Ali taught by example. In his later years, his son Bashir Musa was a constant companion, giving voice to his father's thoughts. His other son, Senior Advocate Siraj Ali, former member of the Tax Appeals Tribunal, now carries forward that same tradition of public service as a Cabinet Minister.

His humility, patriotism, dedication to the legal profession, and commitment to documenting our shared history have left an indelible mark on all who knew him. The Bar has lost a true gentleman and a rare example of lifelong pursuit of knowledge and service.

On behalf of the entire Uganda Law Society, I extend our heartfelt condolences to his family, his classmates, the people of West Nile, the UPDF, the Parliament of Uganda, and all those whose lives he touched. May the soul of Gen Moses Ali rest in eternal peace.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Isaac K. Ssemakadde', with a large, stylized initial 'I'.

Isaac K. Ssemakadde, SC
President, Uganda Law Society & Head of the Bar