



Beloved

MAMA RACHAEL KABWAYI BUGUTSA SABWA

1923 - 2023

Programme

THE LATE MAMA RACHAEL KABWAYI BUGUTSA SABWA

- Opening prayer** - P/C Keveye monthly meeting at 9:00 AM
- Three songs TTN 44, 110 INJILI 69, TTN 194
- Scripture reading** - Pastor Nick Obaga

Programme Guide Keveye Monthly Meeting

SPEECHES

- Clan Elder John Ilavusa
- Keveye School Admin
- Neighbour- Asuga
- In-laws both sides
- Brothers/ sisters
- Aunts/ Uncles/ Cousins
- (Vasanji)
- Daughters/ sons-in-laws
- Friends to Lt.Colonel Sabwa
- Keveye Primary Rep
- Kaimosi Girls
- Grandchildren/ Great grandchildren
- Children
- Care taker (muuguzi) Margret Sabwa

Kanisa/ Church

Eulogy

- Prayers for the pall Bearers** -Pst Enos Sande
- Sermon** -Pst Elizabeth Odera USFW pastor
- Administration/ Offertory** -Pst Milkah Kasavuli
- Burial guidance** -Pst Christopher Ulubafu
-Pst Nathan Kiguhe
-Pst Ben Kilibwa

- Prayer** -Pst. Benard Igadizi
- Vote of thanks** -Bob Sabwa
- Closing prayer/ Burial**



Life History of

THE LATE MAMA RACHAEL KABWAYI BUGUTSA SABWA

BIRTH AND EARLY CHILDHOOD

Rachel Bugitsa Kabwayi Sabwa was born 1923 to the late Nicodemus Senelwa and Sarah Adego being the first born in the family.

She was born in Womalalu village, Kidundu Sub-location, Central Maragoli Location, Vihiga County. She was of the Avamavi (Valogovo) clan and uncled to the Vafunami clan. She was born a healthy and lovely child to her parents.

DEDICATION

She was dedicated in Kidundu Friends Church in August 1923.

EDUCATION

The late Rachel Started her education at Womalalu Primary School up to Sub-Standard A. She later joined Vihiga intermediate school.

In the year 1933, she joined Kaimosi Girls Boarding School (GBS) upto 1936. She was in the pioneer class of Kaimosi GBS.

1937-1939 she joined Kaimosi Mission Hospital as a nurse trainee. She also trained in homecraft studies. She continued to take refresher courses in homecraft and attended the following institutions: Rosterman in Kakamega County, Kabete in Kiambu County and Itando in Vihiga County.



MARRIAGE LIFE

The late Mama Rachel was married to Simeon Lizang'a Sabwa on 23rd August 1939 in a colorful wedding at Chavakali Friends Church which was presided over by Bwana Hoyt. They were blessed with twelve children six boys and six girls namely: The late Alexander, the late Benjamin Ambembo, the late Francis Kidiavai, John Sabwa, Margaret Sabwa, Mary-Linda Kadenyi, Eda Lusigi, Elizabeth Owino, Lt.Col Bob Sabwa, Dr. Diana Karanja, Serrah Sabwa and Allan Amuguni.

CHRISTIAN LIFE

The late Rachel was baptized as an associate member (BK1) in 1938, Full member (BK2) in 1946 by MR. FORD.



CHURCH WORK

- Secretary Keveye village meeting
- Treasurer Keveye Monthly meeting
- Secretary Keveye Monthly meeting main
- Pioneer USFW prayer meetings
- Treasurer EAYM of Friends in 1952 - 1979
- Secretary EAYM SOUTH Vihiga Yearly meeting.
- 1ST Presiding Clerk USFWK
- Founder member Handidi Resort Centre
- Care-taker of the less fortunate.

Because of her dedication and hard work, she was honoured and awarded two Symbolic lamps, in 1980 by the EAYM of Friends Church.

WORK

- Nursing assistant Kaimosi Mission Hospital.
- Social Worker with the Child Welfare Society of Kenya.

AT HOME

- Farmer
- Producer of jikos - Energy Saving Jikos (GIZ)
- Knitting and weaving (sweaters)

SICKNESS

The late Rachel Sabwa enjoyed and lived a healthy life. In 2000, she developed High Blood Pressure which was well managed.

On 27th April 2023, she slipped and fell, breaking her hip. On 3rd May 2023 she developed a complication and was rushed to Agakhan Hospital (Kisumu) and was admitted in the ICU Ward. The doctors tried but unfortunately on 5th May 2023 at 3:00 pm. She rested in the Lord.



Tributes

UNITED SOCIETY OF FRIENDS WOMEN- KENYA TRIBUTE: USFWK

Today we are gathered here to celebrate, a life well lived, of a great woman of God. A visionary leader, a mentor, a prayer warrior, a mother and a friend to all, Mama Rachel Kabwai Sabwa.

Rachael sabwa Purposed to give her life as a living sacrifice, as described in Rom 12:1. She accepted a call to missionary which reflected in the following:

- Prayer life
- Administration
- Guiding and counselling
- Generosity

PRAYER LIFE

Rachel was a powerful prayer warrior, praying for her family needs and the needs of others, during the split of East African Yearly Meeting of Friends Church, she set a group of women in her house for prayer, it is out of that group that USFWK prayer meeting was born. It was a painful occasion but Rachel said, and I quote, "*keve ku ho kitama Nyasaye dave*", end of quote. We thank God for her determination.

ADMINISTRATION

Rachel was a treasure for East African Yearly Meeting USFWK from 1952-1979. It was during her tenure under the leadership of Mama Leah Mwenesi, the Amalemba Friends Church Plot was bought and the meeting house built in 1978. It was dedicated in 1980, she was USFW clerk for EAYM South, now Vihiga yearly meeting. She was the 1st clerk for USFWK. During her leadership she said to us, and I quote, "*vakana munyi kuhenze ku havundu kuumbake ho kindu kali niva icho, kulange USFWK*" end of quote. It was during this time we looked for Handidi plot, she came and prayed for ground breaking in Nov 2015, and the three storey-building called, Quaker Resort center came to being through her initiative.

GUIDING AND COUNSELLING

Rachel committed herself to counselling and resolving of disputes in and out of church. Her house became a baraza where many people came for any type of help they needed. She mentored so many, church leaders depended on her for advice even when things went wrong: she helped to resolve conflicts and guided many who were close to divorce. She intervened in difficult situations and helped to find solutions. We thank God for Rachel.

GENEROSITY

Mama Rachel and her late Husband Simion Sabwa were generous, they welcomed many with open arms, they raised many children who were not their own, fed, clothed and even educated them. We came for prayers and committees in their house, ate and left without giving a single penny to them. In all my life I had not seen anyone as generous as the Sabwas.

Rachel was a person of extra ordinary integrity and personal strength, very humble, soft spoken yet very strict. She was a strong leader among Quakers and was respected by many. As the National Chairlady for USFWK she has set an example for all the women in our church, she has united all the women regardless of our region balances. On 25th of June 2022, we gathered at Hadindi Quaker Resort Centre, all sitting clerks and retired clerks of all our Y.M.S, all our pastors, then we invited Rachel to come and pray with us. She said to us, I quote, "*vakana munyi, muhambane, muyanzane, ma mulindi livugana vulahi*" end of quote, then she prayed. That was our last time with her. We thank God for the many blessings we received in our midst.

SUMMARY

Mama Rachel was:

- A great leader
- A person of extra ordinary power and integrity
- A faithful servant of the God
- A role model
- A mentor
- A visionary leader
- A spiritual advisor
- A Quaker icon
- A woman of valor
- Umukali wi Kivuni

Rachel you have fought a good fight, you have finished the race, you have kept the faith. 2 Tim 4:7

Rest in peace Mama.

*Everline Choge,
Presiding Clerk
Usfwk
20/05/2023*



GRANDCHILDREN

Grandma, our Guku, a best friend, a mentor, words simply cannot describe what she was and still is. We had her for so many wonderful years and could never imagine her suddenly not being there. We truly thank God for the precious times and moments that we were privileged to spend with this precious gem, who influenced us to honor God. She was love in its purest form, encouraged us, celebrated our triumphs, picked us up when we fell, she had that

inexplicable strength and never faltered. She was the glue and pillar for a large family, and instilled values in us, that make us a close-knit family - always there for each other no matter what. As a pillar of the community, her selfless acts of generosity and kindness cascade to us and even for the generations to come. Her great deeds live on within us even though she is no longer physically with us. Guku always reminded us that, the most important thing in life is to live a peaceful life, a life of faith and trusting in God with her phrase, "Uyanze Nyasaye na umenye ni mirembe na vandu vosi". A compassionate giver, she did not amass anything for herself and always selflessly extended a helping hand to those who really needed it. We have learnt to be diligent, dutiful, responsible, God fearing, kind, compassionate and caring through the hands of our grandma. As we reflect on her memorable life, we appreciate her work here is done, and will pick up where she left off. She is remembered fondly, and even through our tears, will smile thinking of the great memories we are left with. Her love remains implanted in our hearts, her awesomeness imprinted on our faces, her memories stuck in our minds.

May her dear soul rest in eternal peace.



*The Life
And Times
Of The Late*



Tributes

MAGGIE



Who was Rachel Sabwa? My Mother, my Friend, my Mentor, my Protector, my Advisor, my Prayer Warrior. Mama I will miss you but I know that you are in a good place with the Lord. I promise we will do our best to keep your light burning. All I know I learned from the best.

Rest in Eternal Peace Mother Dearest.

All my Loving. Maggie.

Your Big Girl.

MARY-LINDA

Mama was a special Woman. She was a mother to us and to so many others in our extended family and the Keveye village. Our loss is theirs too. We will miss her constance in our lives, her direction and sheltering love. While we mourn her loss , we are grateful to you all for joining us in celebrating her life. May she RIP.



DIANA

Mom. It was an honor having you as a mother. You taught us right, and your strong Faith constantly sustained us all. Your love for all always radiated from your smile, and taught us to how to love. You bonded us as a family and kept us as one. We shall miss you, but we shall keep your lessons. We celebrate who you were to all, even beyond the immediate family. We love you.



SERRAH

How do you thank someone who has taken you from crayons to perfume? Taught you right from wrong? Made you strong when you are feeling weak? It isn't easy but I'll try. My Mama, my best friend, my mentor, thank you for being there for me. In my mind, I know you will live on and on.

I love you mama.

Mkana mkogoti: Serra



BETTY

Mama you were a very special lady. You were caring, supportive and loving. What a great Jewel you were. You lived for all of us, loving us immensely. Mama you were an inspiring soul, always there for everyone. Mama, I will miss you kabisa.

Rest in peace Mama Rest in perfect peace.



EDAH

Dear mum, No words can Express the gap you have left in our hearts. You have made me what I am and your love is immeasurable. I want to admit that sometimes I felt that your extended Love to those around you was sharing you too much.. But Today I am proud of you for being so kind and caring. May the Lord reward you in heaven for your Contribution

on this earth.

Love you and will miss you. Your daughter Edah Rose.



Hymns

NYIMBO NA TUZIIMBE TENA

TTN 69

Nyimbo na tuziimbe tena
Za alivyotupenda mbele;
Kwa damu ya thamani
sana!
Mbinguni twonane milele.

Twonane milele,
Twonane bandarini kule;
Twonane milele,
Twonane bandarini kule.

Hupozwa kila aoshwaye,
Kwa damu ya Kondoo yule;
Ataishi afurahiye
Vya Yesu mbinguni milele.

Hata sasa hufurahia
Tamu yake mapenzi yale,
Je, kwake tukifikilia,
Kutofarakana milele?

Twende mbele kwa jina
lake,
Hata aje mwokozi yule,
Atatukaribisha kwake,
Tutawale naye milele.

Na beramu tuikunjue
Kumsifu mwokozi yule
Ili watu wote wajue
Wokovu u kwake milele

YESU BWANA WANGU ANIPENDA

TTN 194

Yesu Bwana wangu
anipenda,
Nguvu zote
hazitatutenga;
Akatoa uzima wake,
Niwe mali yake.

(chorus)

*Yesu ni Bwana wangu,
Mimi mali yake;
Si kwa muda wa miaka
tu,
Bali kwa milele.*

Nilipotea mbali
dharnbini,
Yesu akaja toka
mbinguni;
Akanivuta na pendo
lake,
Niwe mali yake.

Furaha tele,
nimeokoka,
Kutoka dhambi
nimefunguka;
Akaniponya kwa damu
yake,
Niwe mali yake.

REHEMA YA BABA YETU TTN 44

Rehema ya Baba yetu,
Yang'aza nchi yake;
Lakini ametuweka
Tuwe walinzi wake.

(Chorus)

*Taa zenu na ziwake,
Nuru zenu tumeni;
Msafiri asizame,
Mwokoeni majini.*

Giza ya dhambi twaona,
Mawimbi twasikia;
Wengine wanatafuta
Nuru za kutulia.

Taa zitengenezeni,
Mwokoeni msafiri;
Aangukaye majini,
Na asife gizani.





2 Timothy 4:7

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith

Appreciation

Thank you for standing with us during this difficult time. We thank you for your generous contributions, moral support and prayers. Thank you for your valuable time and for being with us during this celebration. God Bless you all

A life well lived.

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