



KASUBI

TOMBS OF BUGANDA KINGS AT KASUBI

Tour Guiding Manual | 2015



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Archive photographs provided by Uganda Museum

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Kasubi Hill



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KASUBI
UGANDA

Kampala 1897



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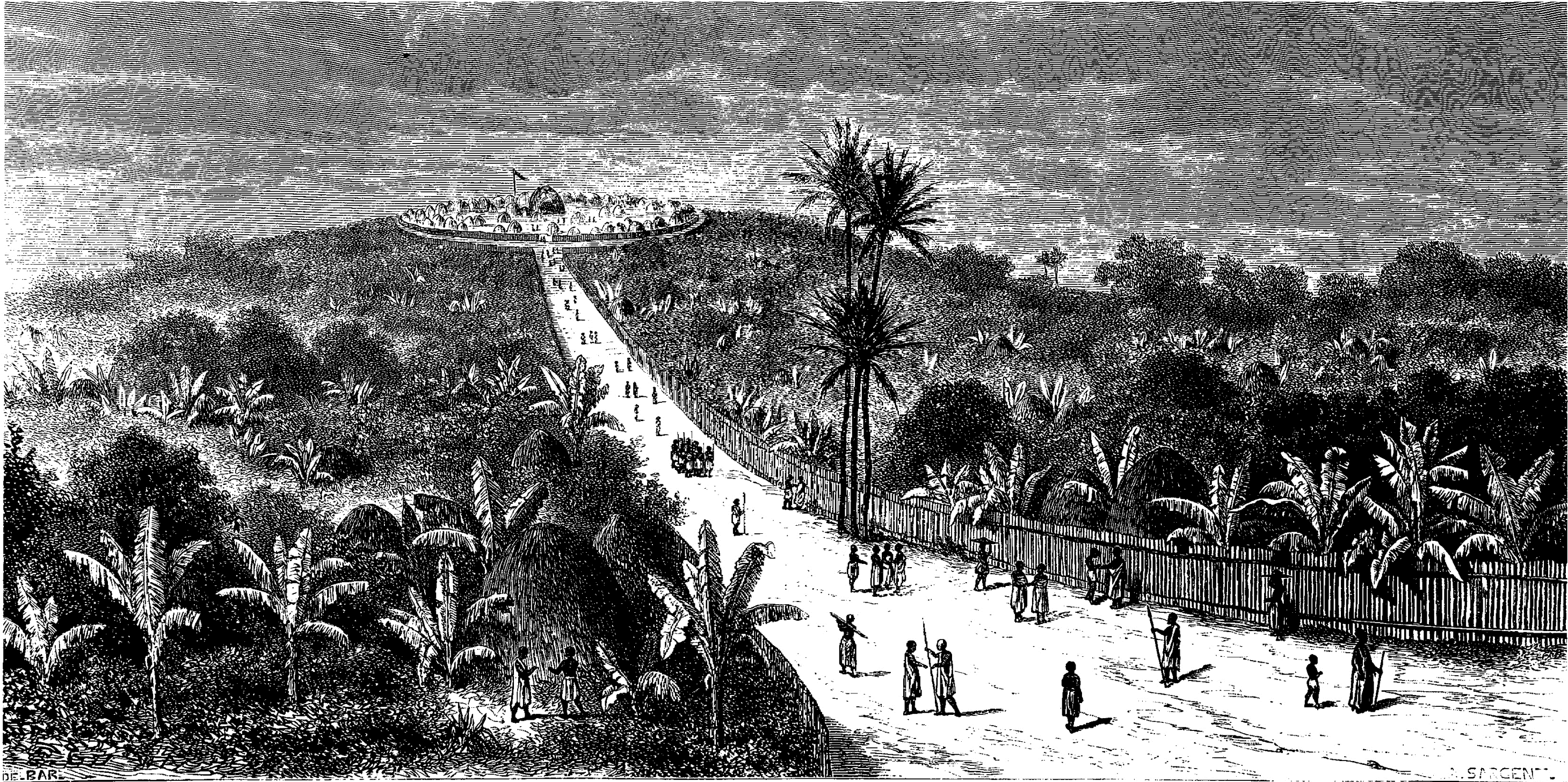
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History of the Kingdom



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Kabaka Muteesa I Palace on the Rubaga Hill in 1875. Drawing by A. de Bar. from the “World tour through the mysterious continent”, Vol XXXVI p. 37 by Henry M. Stanley - 1874 - 1877

History of the Kingdom



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Mutesa s Palace in 1864 engraving from J H Speke s book Journal of the disvovery of the source of Nile



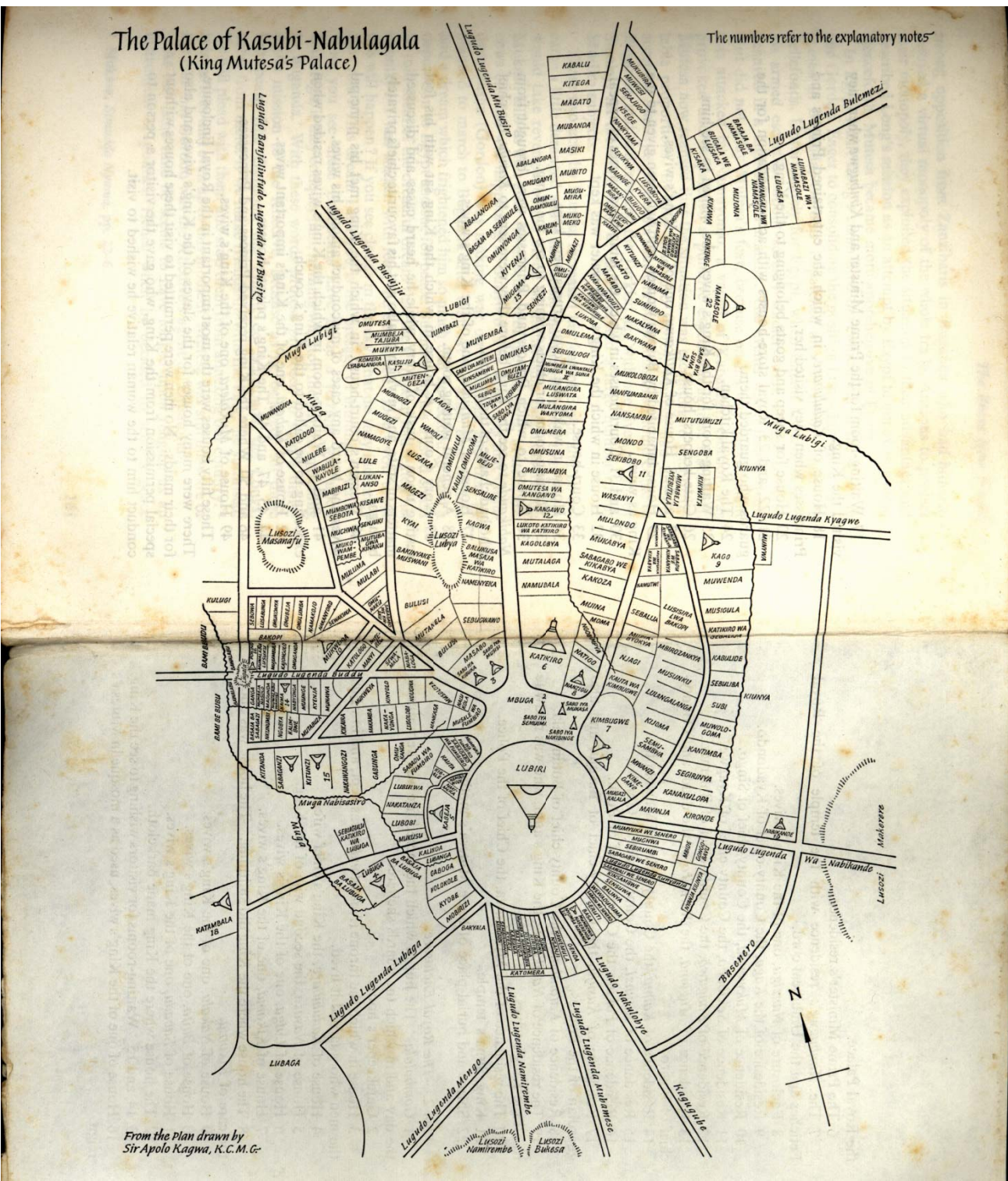
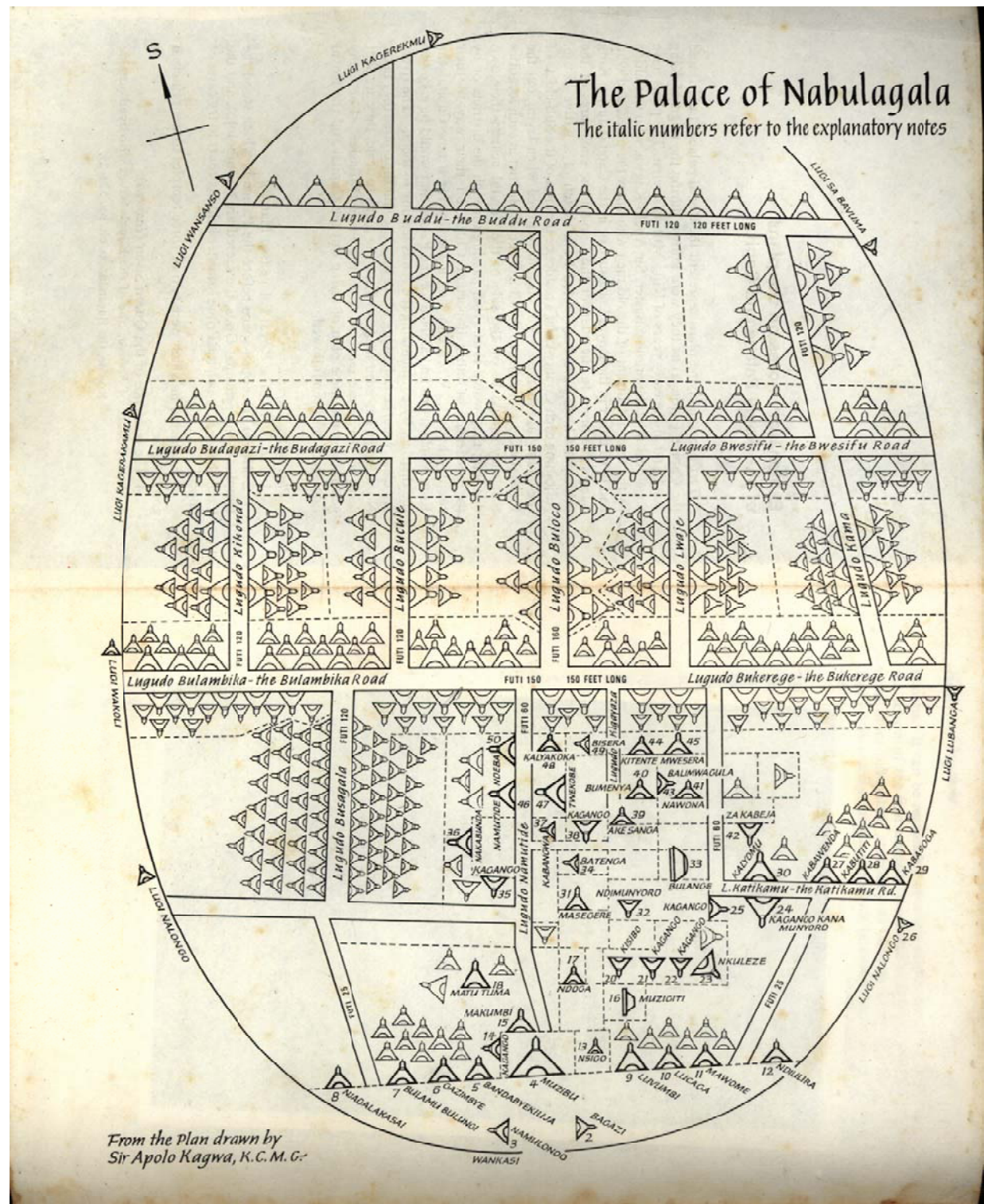
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KASUBI
U G A N D A

History of the Kingdom

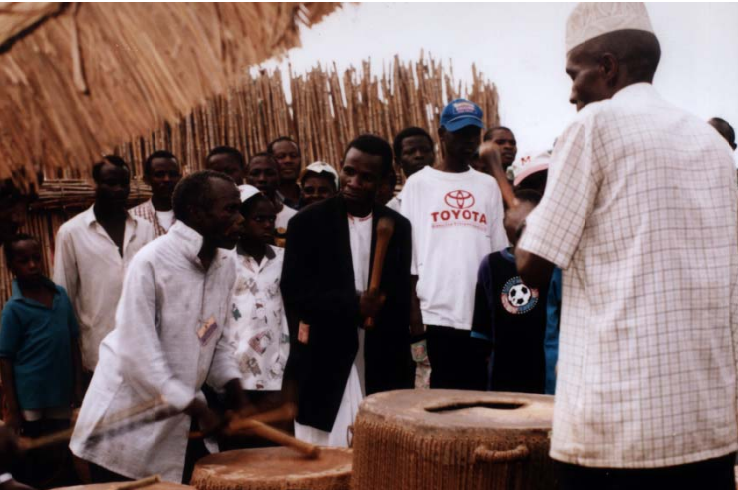


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History of the Kingdom

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Kasubi Tombs main building in 1897

The 4 Kabakas

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MUTESA I
1835-1884



MWANGA II
1867-1903



DAUDI CHWA II
1896-1939



MUTESA II
1924-1969

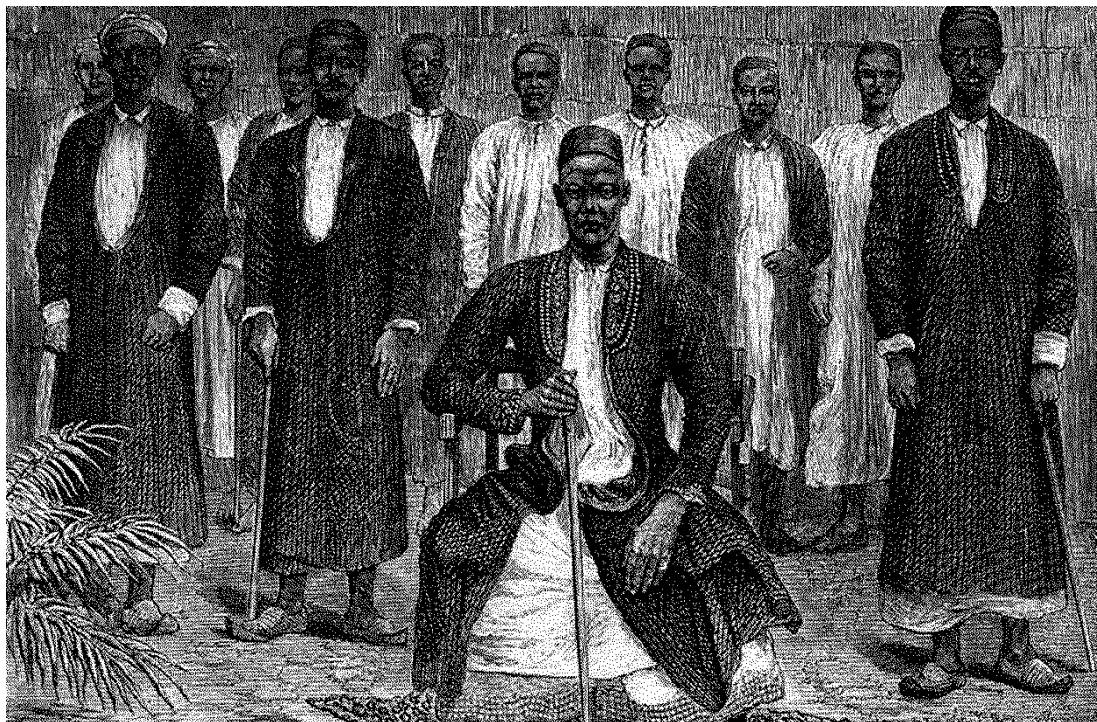
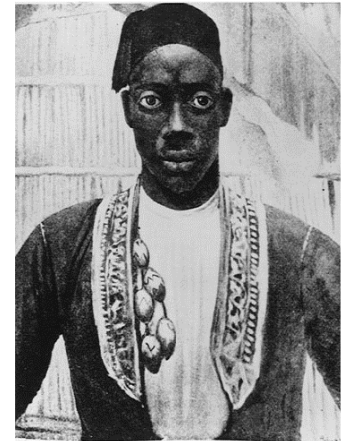
Muteesa I



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1835-1884



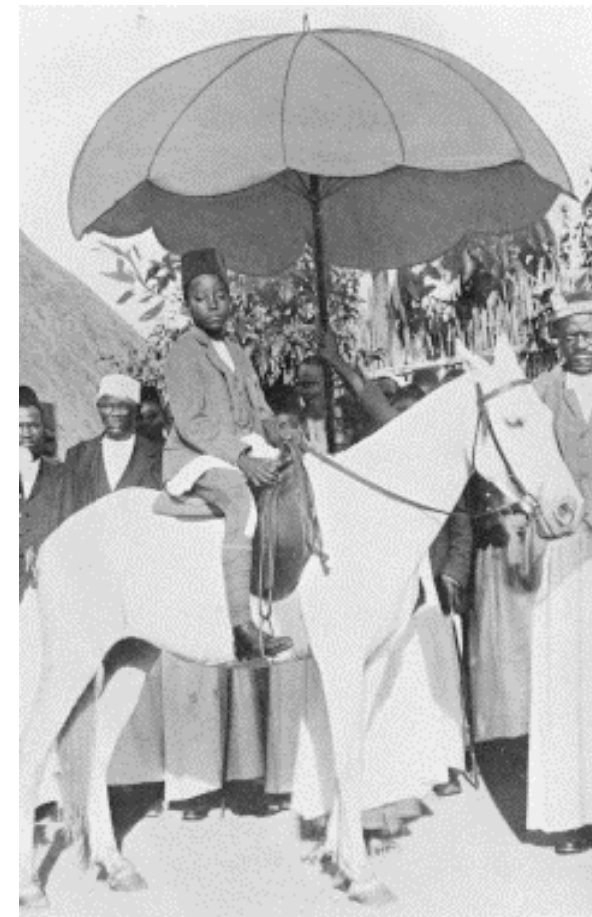
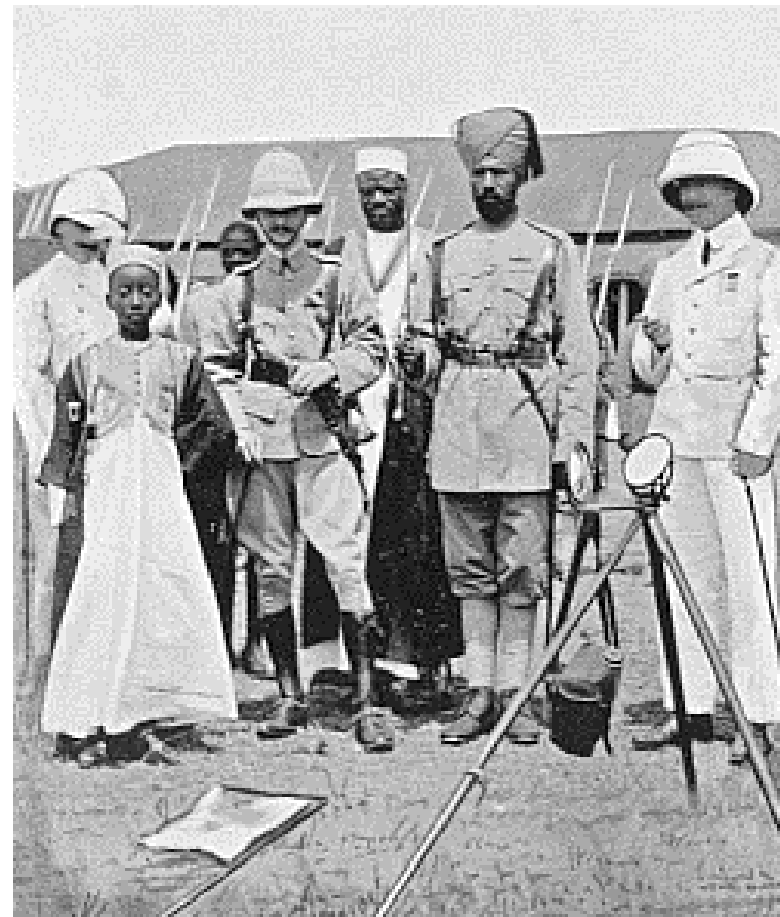
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KASUBI

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Daudi Chwa II

1896-1939



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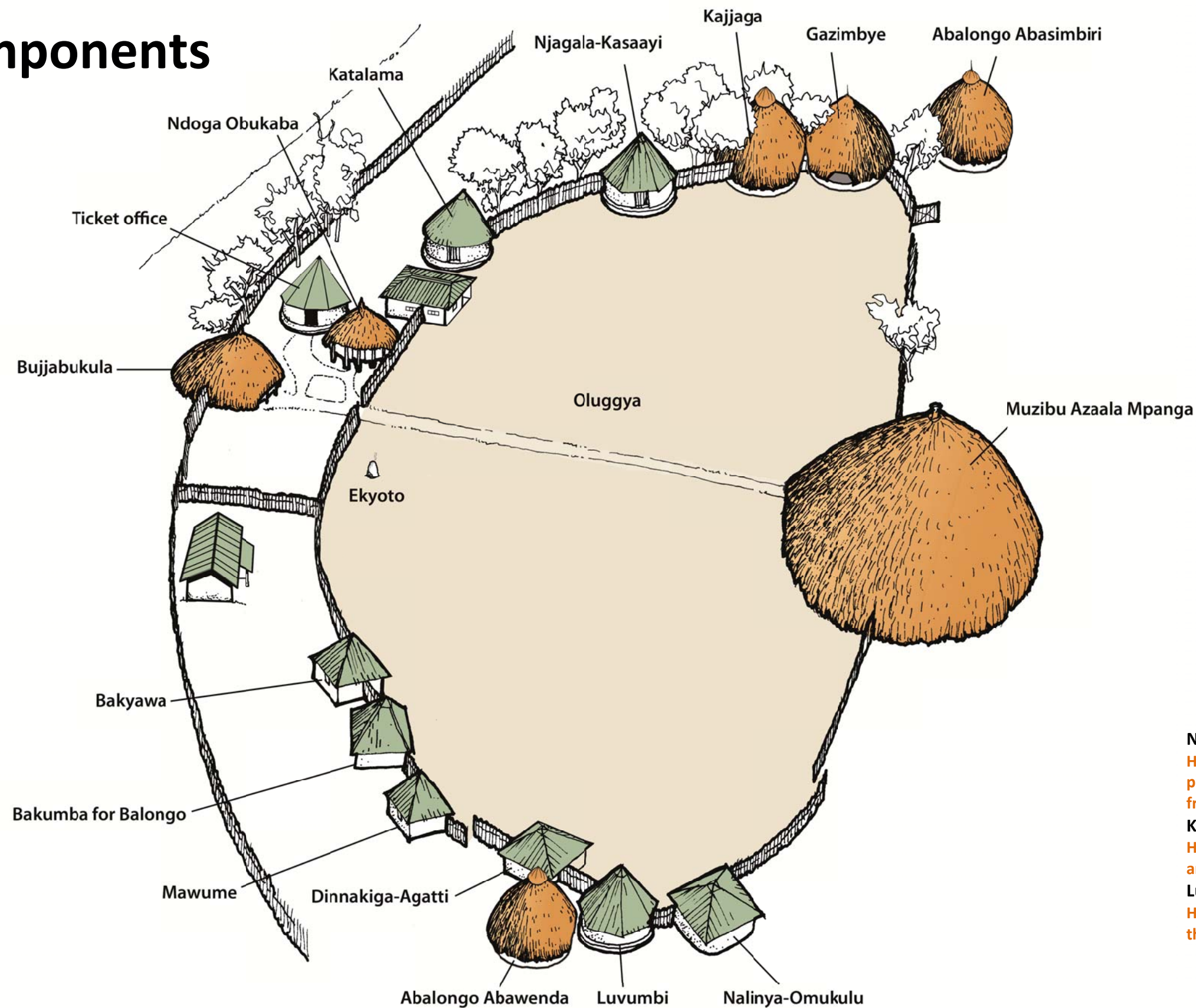


Daudi Chwa II succeeded Mwanga II at the age of one year in 1897. He ruled with a regency of 1 Catholic and 2 Protestant chiefs until he attained maturity at the age of 18.

Site components



© Drawing Sebastien Moriset



- Njagala-Kasaayi**
House where disputes between princesses and princes are solved. It is occupied by Kikome from the lungfish (mamba) clan.
- Kajjaga**
House where the umbilical cord of the royals are treated (Okusiba Abalongo).
- Luvumbi**
House for Mukwasa, wife responsible for all the girls in the Palace.



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Bujjabukula - The main Entrance

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Nsigo, the traditional guard, belongs to the Buffalo clan (Mbogo)

The courtyards

© Photos Sebastien Moriset

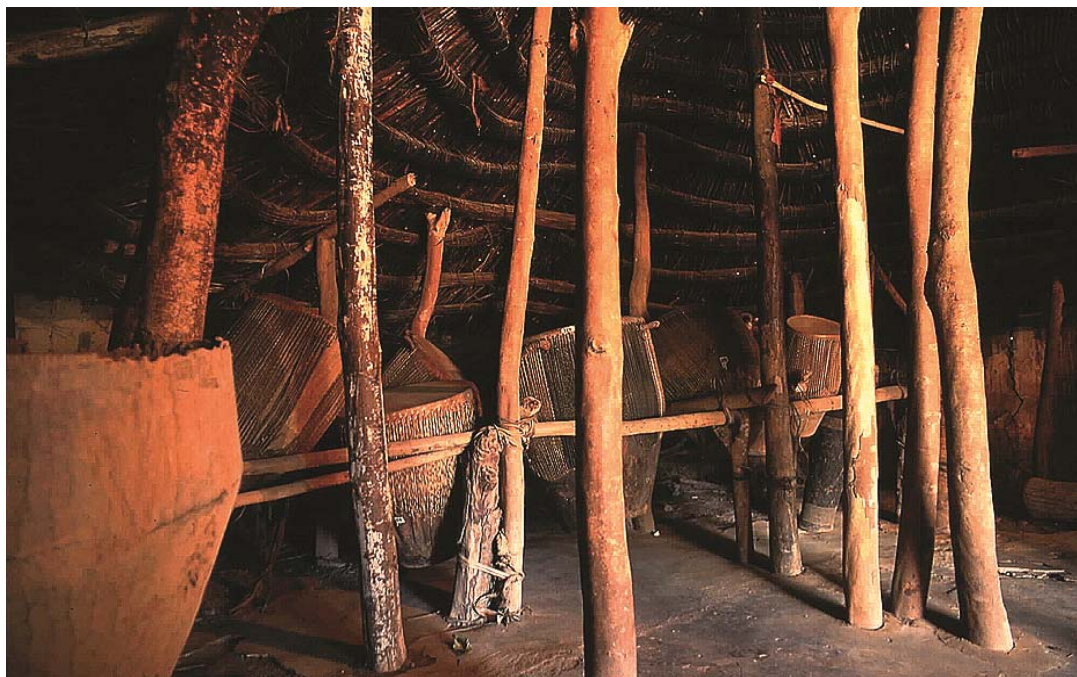


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Kawuula: chief drummer

Most of the drums are more than hundred years old, only the skin has been changed.



Buganda Royal symbols

© Photo Thierry Joffroy

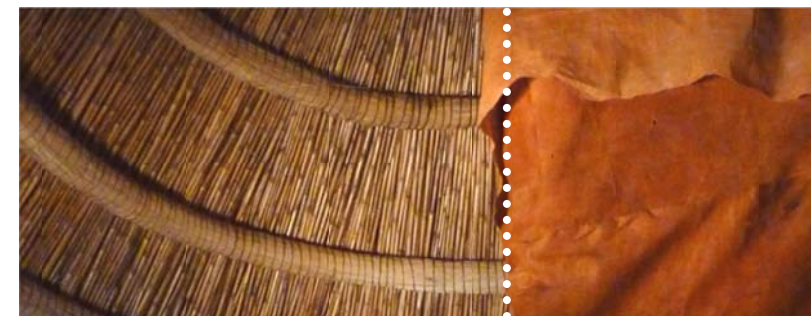


52 rings representing 52 clans

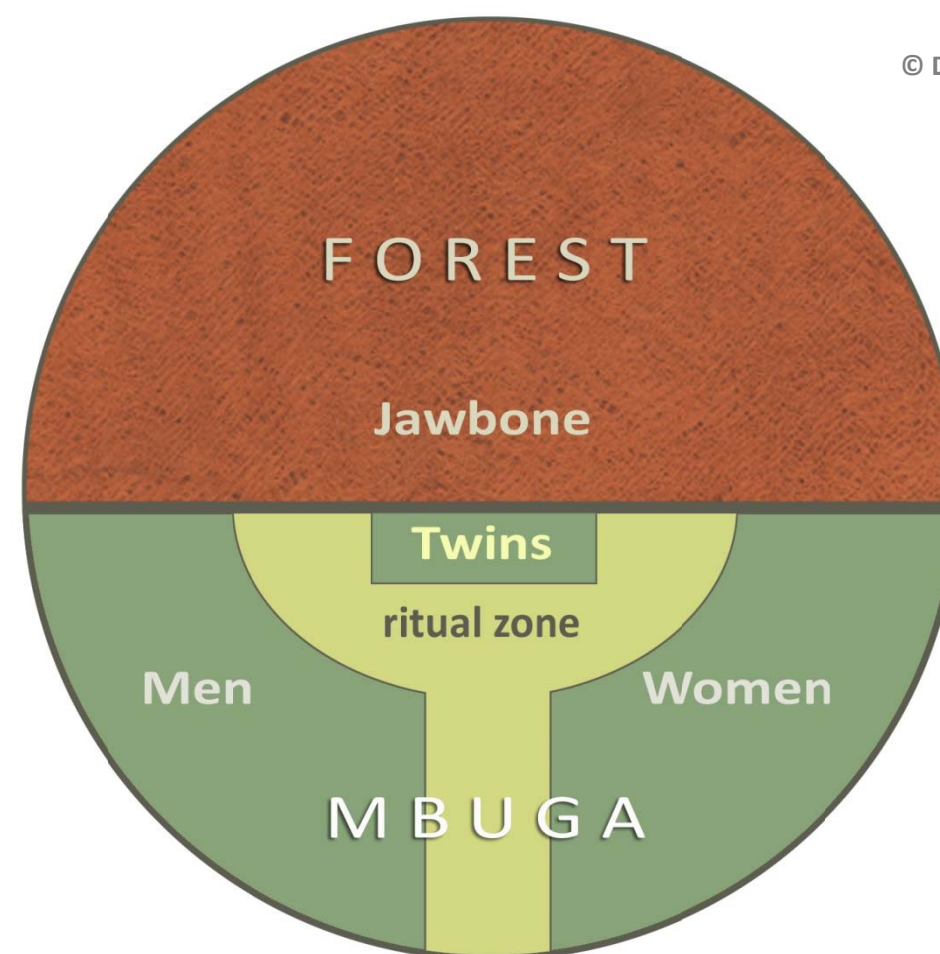
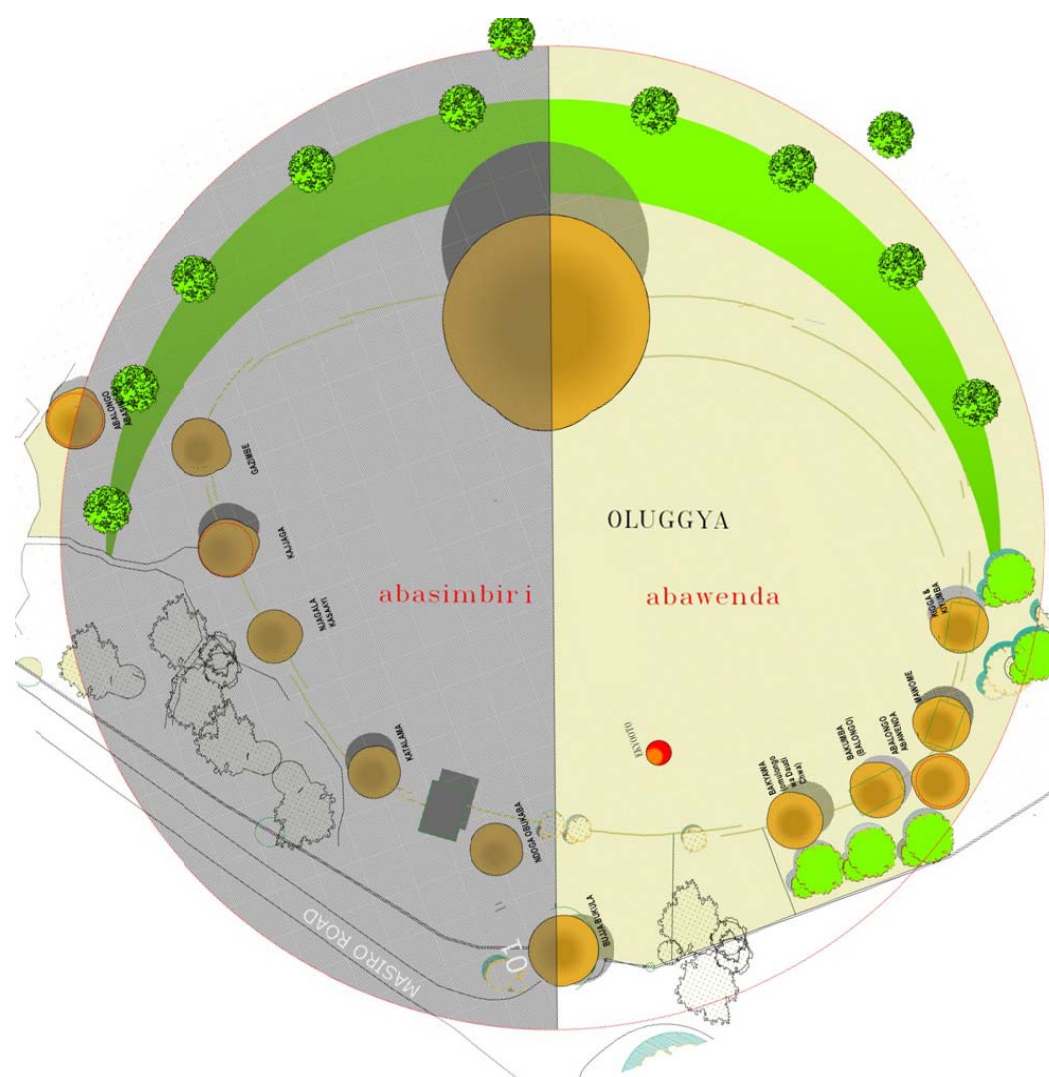
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Royal regalia, spears and shields



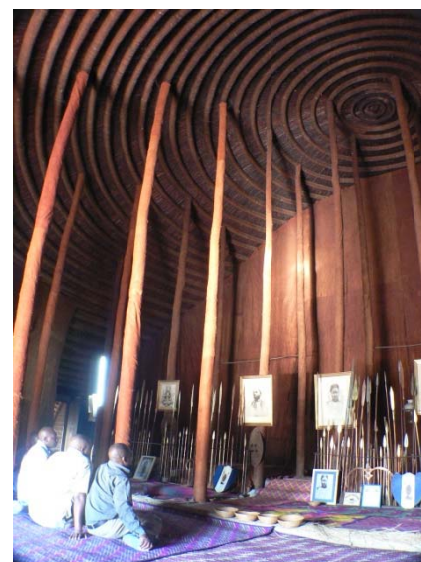
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WORLD OF THE LIVING

KASUBI

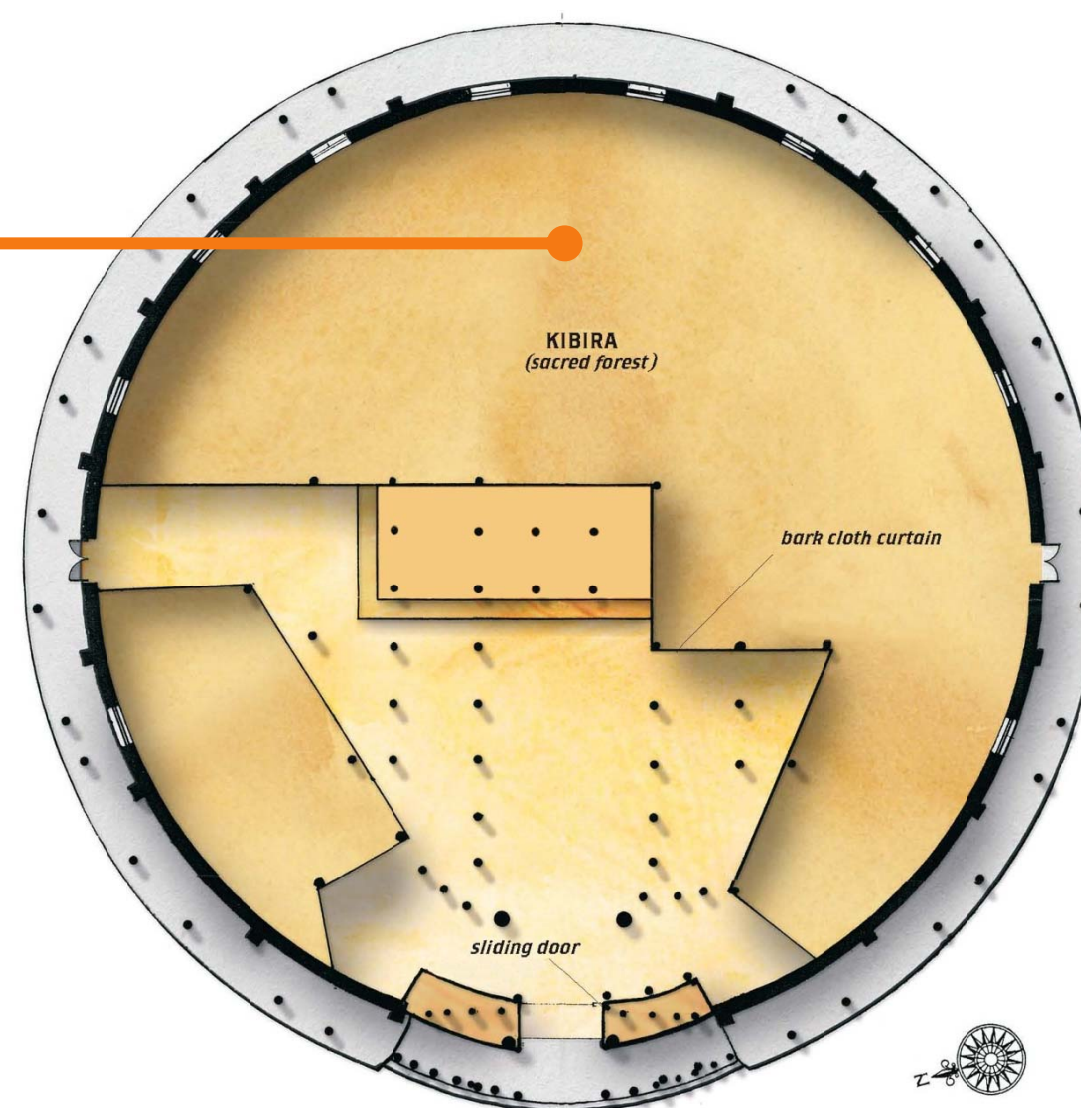
UGANDA



Architectural cross-section drawing of a traditional East African house. The drawing shows the internal structure, including the roof trusses and the floor. A person is standing outside on the left. An inset photo shows people sitting on a patterned rug inside the house. A label "FOREST" with an arrow points to the right side of the drawing.

© Drawing Jonathan Nsubuga

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The Totems (clans)



- | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Lugave (Pangolin) | 22. Butiiko (Mushrooms) | 38. Kinyomo (Type of ant) |
| 2. Mmamba (Lungfish) | 23. Kasimba (Genet) | 39. Kiwere (Purple dye plant) |
| 3. Ngeye (Colobus monkey) | 24. Kayozi (Jerboa) | 40. Lukato (Stiletto or awl) |
| 4. Njaza (Reedbuck) | 25. Kibe (Fox) | 41. Mbuzi (Goat) |
| 5. Ennyange (Cattle egret) | 26. Mbogo (Buffalo) | 42. Mpindi (Cowpea) |
| 6. Fumbe (Civet cat) | 27. Musu/Omusu (Edible rat) | 43. Mutima muyanja (Heart) |
| 7. Ngonge (Otter) | 28. Ngabi (Bushbuck) | 44. Mutima musajji |
| 8. Ekkobe (Liana fruit) | 29. Nkerebwe (Jungle Shrew) | 45. Nakinsige (Brown grass finch) |
| 9. Mbwa (Dog) | 30. Nsuma (Elephant-snout fish) | 46. Ndiga (Sheep) |
| 10. Mpeewo (Oribi antelope) | 31. Nseenene (Edible grasshopper) | 47. Ndiisa (small basket used for coffee berries) |
| 11. Mpologoma (Lion) | 32. Abalangira (Descendants of male Royalty from Buganda) | 48. Njaali (Crested crane) |
| 12. Namunjoona (Pied crow) | 33. Babiito (Descendants of male Royalty from Bunyoro) | 49. Njobe (Marsh antelope) |
| 13. Ngo (Leopard) | 34. Basambo | 50. Nkebuka (Red finch) |
| 14. Njonge (Otter) | 35. Baboobi (Millipede) | 51. Nkula (Rhinoceros) |
| 15. Njovu (Elephant) | 36. Kasanke (Finch with black wings and white chest) | 52. Nsunu (Kob) |
| 16. Nkejje (Sprat) | 37. Kikuba (A pad used to brush aside morning dew when walking through tall grass) | 53. Nte (Ox or cow) |
| 17. Nkima (Vervet monkey) | | 54. Nswaaswa (Monitor lizard) |
| 18. Ntalaganya (Blue duiker) | | |
| 19. Nvubu (Hippopotamus) | | |
| 20. Nvuma (Pearl) | | |
| 21. Bugeme | | |



Ngeye Clan
(Colobus monkey) : Thatching



Ngo clan
(Leopard) : decoration



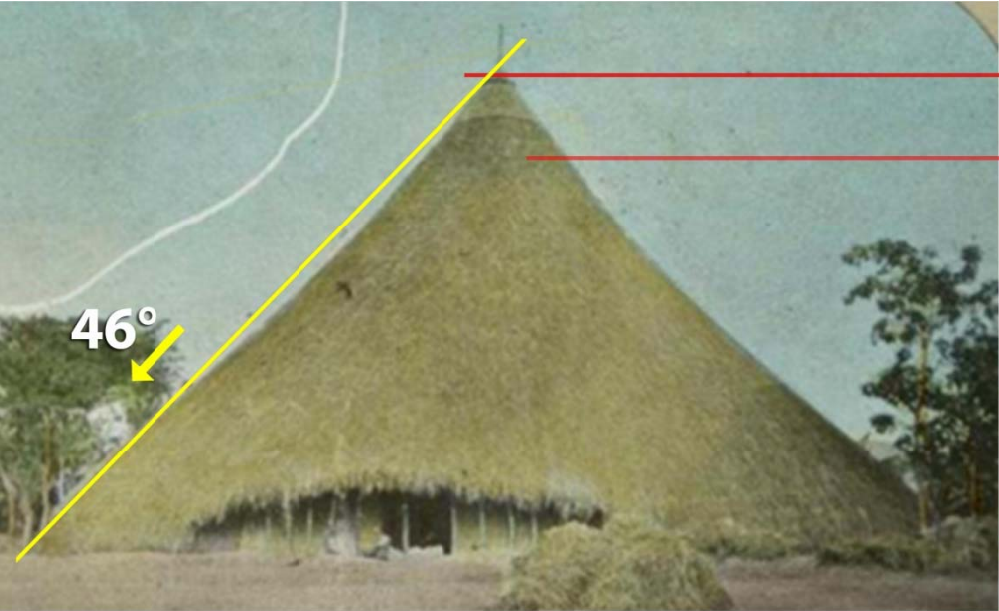
Lugave clan
(Pangolin) Royal Drums maintenance and beating



Butiiko Clan
(Mushroom) : Gate guards

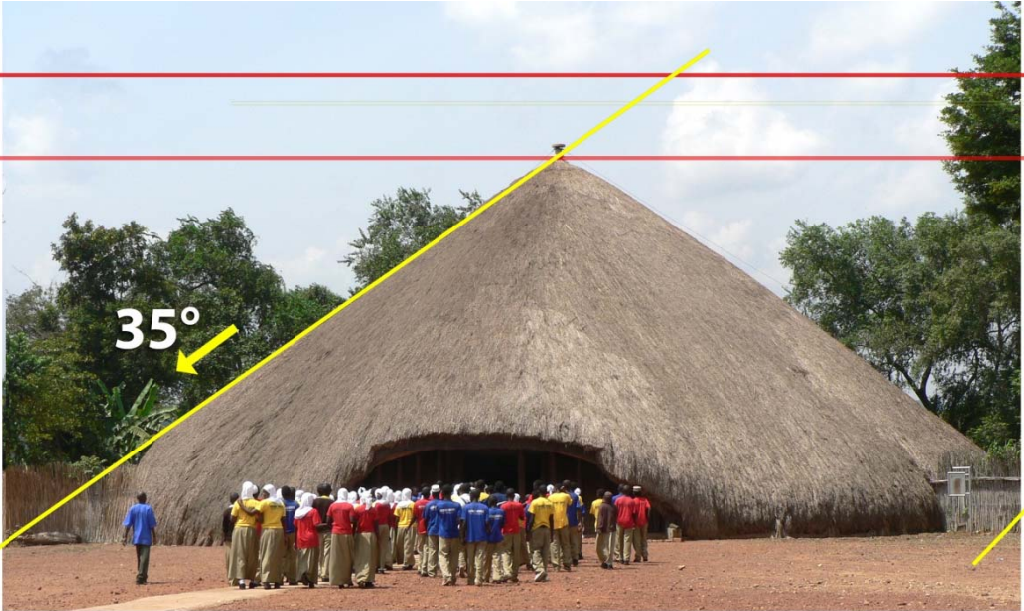
Muzibu Azaala Mpanga (size evolution)

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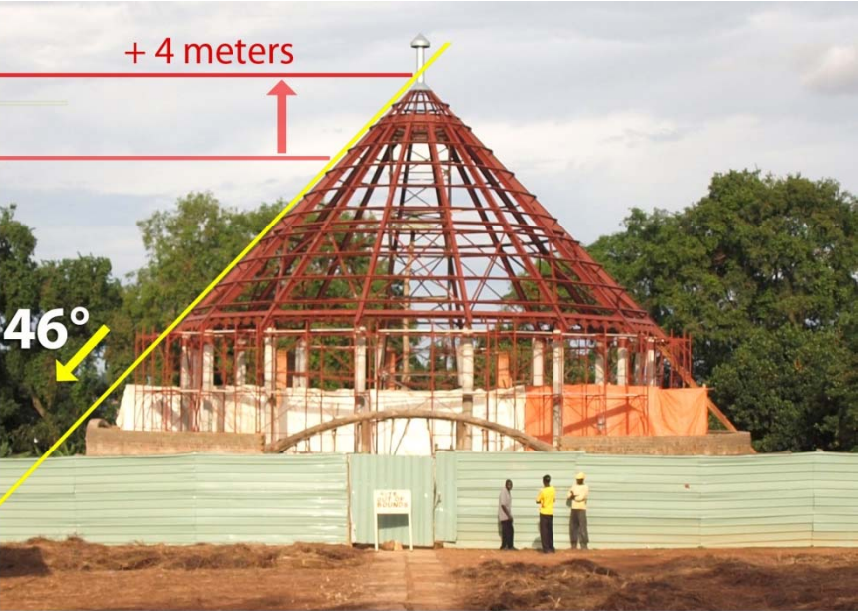
1897

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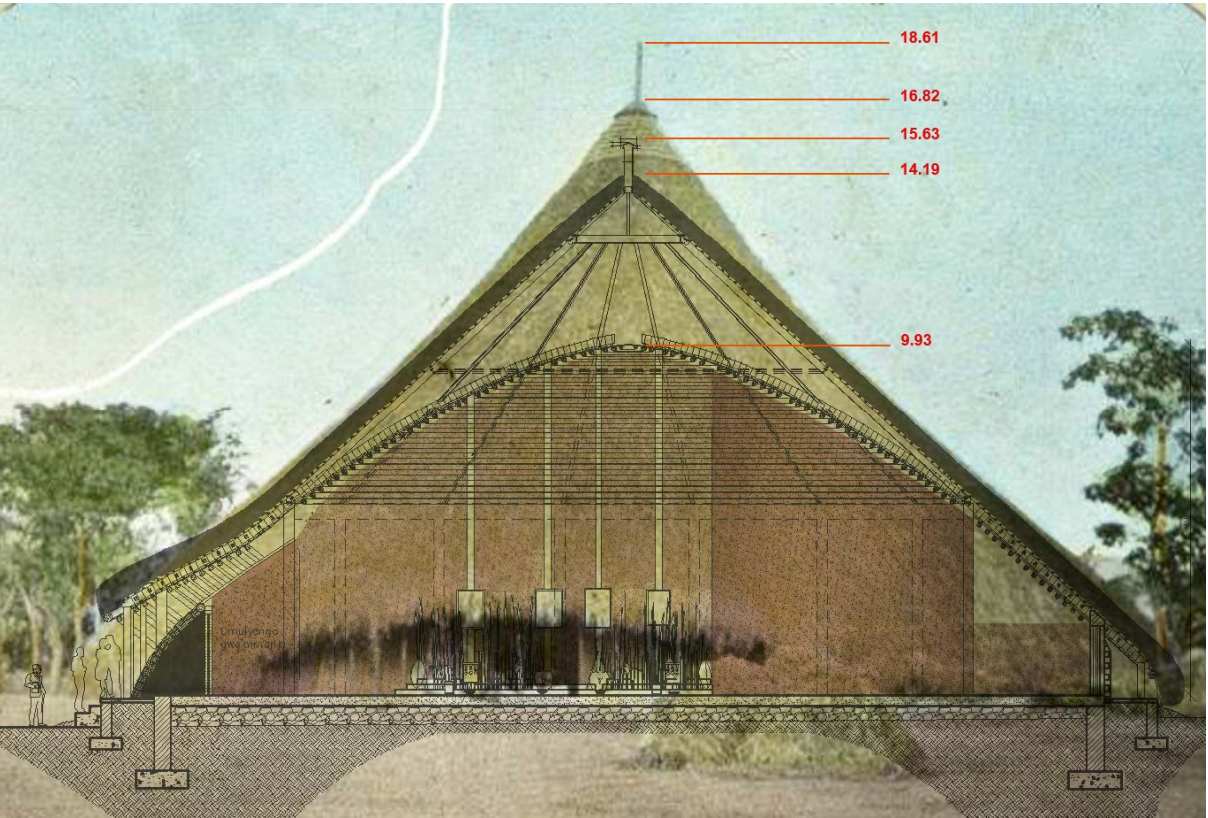


2009

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2014



1891



1911



1971



2008

External Diameter: **30,2 m**

Internal Diameter: **26,3 m**

External Height: **16 m**

Height of the ceiling inside: **8,6 m**

Internal floor surface: **543 m²**

Artefacts



© Photo Sebastien Moriset



Board Game / Omweso

© Photo Thierry Joffroy



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The Twin's house



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Traditional dresses (Gomesi/Kanzu)



Kanzu



Gomesi

The Governance of the Kasubi Tombs



Kingdom Governance



Ssabasajja Ronald Muwenda Mutebi II
King



Katikkiro of Buganda
Prime Minister

Governance at the site level

© Photos Sebastien Moriset



Mukumba
One of the wives



Nsigo
Gate keeper



Wabulakayole
Chief thatcher



Luyiga
Decorator / mats producer

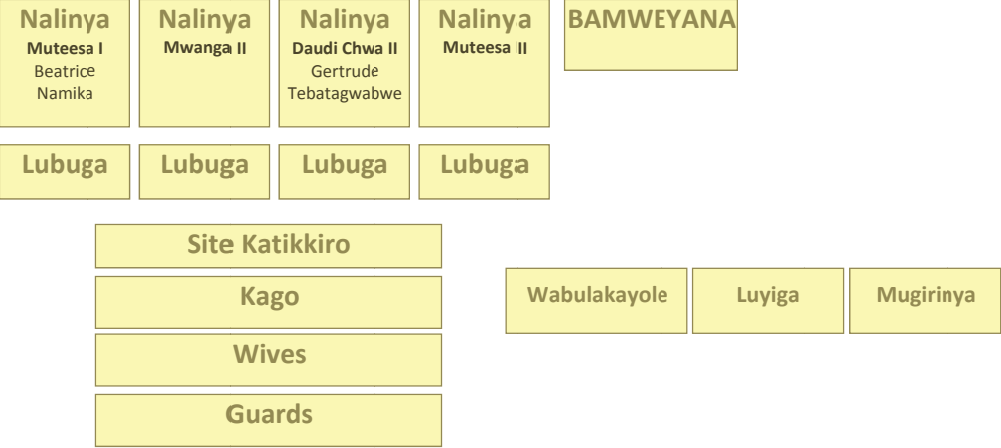
KINGDOM ADMINISTRATION



KINGDOM ADMINISTRATION



CULTURAL LEADERSHIP



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Roles played by the wives at the Palace

© Photo Remigious Kigongo



Namasole of Mwanga II, the keeper of the “twin” Nalumansi

© Photo Thierry Joffroy



Mulama, wife (Kabajja) of Muteesa I

A photograph of a traditional circular mud-brick house with a conical roof, surrounded by lush green trees in a rural setting. The house has a dark doorway and a small window. The roof is made of mud-brick tiles, and the walls are made of mud-brick. The house is situated in a clearing with a dirt path leading to it. The background is filled with large, leafy trees under a clear blue sky.

A photograph of a traditional mud-brick house with a thatched roof. The entrance is open, revealing a dark interior where a person is visible. A wooden door is partially open on the right side of the entrance.

A man is sitting on a large pile of harvested grain, possibly sorghum, in front of a large, traditional thatched-roof hut. The hut has a steep, conical roof made of dried grass or straw. The man is wearing a light-colored shirt and dark trousers, and he is smiling at the camera. The background shows a clear blue sky and some trees.




 United Nations
 Educational, Scientific and
 Cultural Organization

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A large, open-sided wooden structure with a corrugated metal roof, used for drying palm fronds. The fronds are stacked in large piles on a raised wooden platform. The structure is surrounded by lush greenery and trees.

A man wearing a blue shirt and a dark cap is shown from the side, leaning over a large, messy pile of harvested rice straw. He is holding a bundle of the straw with both hands, appearing to be sorting or organizing it. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.



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Bark cloth



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A large fire burns at night, with people silhouetted in the foreground and background. The fire is intense, with bright orange and yellow flames rising high into the air, creating a massive plume of smoke. In the foreground, a person stands with their back to the camera, looking towards the fire. Other figures are visible in the background, some appearing to be near the burning structure. The scene is dark, with the fire providing the primary light source.



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A close-up portrait of an elderly man with a weathered face, showing deep wrinkles and a serious expression. He is wearing a dark checkered shirt over a blue undershirt. The background is an outdoor rural setting with trees, a fence, and a building under a bright sky.

A man is sitting on the thatched roof of a traditional house, surrounded by lush green trees. The roof is made of woven reeds or bamboo, and the man is wearing a striped shirt and dark pants. The background is filled with dense foliage, including large green leaves and some yellow flowers.



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A close-up photograph of a person's hands weaving a textile on a loom. The person is wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt. The loom is set up on a wooden frame. The weaving process involves interlacing threads of various colors, including red, yellow, and black. The resulting fabric has a complex, geometric pattern. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

A group of five people, three men and two women, are sitting on a large, patterned rug in a dimly lit room. They appear to be engaged in a discussion or meeting. The room has tall, dark wooden pillars and a dark, draped background. The lighting is warm and focused on the group.



Matoke



© Photo Lydia Nabaganda



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Traditional medecine



**HIGH BLOOD
PRESSURE
HEADACHE**



**MIMOZA
MUKO-WEWUMBE
WOUNDS
FEVER
SEEKING FAVOURS**



**AKEEYEYO
BODY INJURIES
BODY SWELLING
SMALL FRACTURES**



**EKIYONDO
MALARIA
WOUNDS
HEADACHE
STOMACH ACHES
SOUR THROAT**

Birds

© Photo Sebastien Moriset



Marabou storks. Birds can more easily be observed in the morning and evening, and at the end of the year, during the grasshopper season

Buganda Tourism sites



OTHER GANDA SITES

AUTRES SITES GANDA

KATEREKE PRISON DITCH

Katekere prison ditch was dug by *Kabaka Kalema* in 1889. It is a unique relic from a particularly unstable and violent period in *Buganda* history. Today, it is an attractive, peaceful and shaded site comprising a circular ditch enclosing an area of about 70 meters in diameter. The ditch and bank are impressive earthworks about 10 meters from top to bottom.

How to get there?
Katekere prison is a 30 minute drive from Kampala past Buddo on Masaka road. Turn right at Nsangi trading centre (opposite the police post) and follow the dirt road for about 1 km.

La prison de *Katekere* fut creusée dans le sol par *Kabaka Kalema* en 1889. C'est un témoignage unique d'une période particulièrement instable et violente de l'histoire du *Buganda*. Aujourd'hui, cet endroit est un site attrayant, calme et ombragé où l'on peut voir un grand fossé circulaire entourant une aire d'environ 70 m de diamètre. Cet espace représente un ouvrage d'art impressionnant, avec un dénivelé de 10 mètres entre le bas du fossé et le sommet du talus.

Comment s'y rendre?
Katekere prison se situe à 30 minutes de Kampala après Buddo, sur la route de Masaka. Tournez à droite à "Nsangi trading centre" (en face du poste de police) et suivez la route en terre sur environ 1 km.

WAMALA KING'S TOMB

Set on a hilltop with beautiful surroundings, *Wamala* tomb is the sacred burial place of *Kabaka Suuna II* (1836-1856), who had 148 wives and 218 children. *Suuna* was the last King to be buried in his own palace. He was also the first King to admit outside traders into *Buganda*. A magical but almost forgotten place, *Wamala* Tomb is quite simply unique.

How to get there?
Wamala Tomb is a 30 minute drive from Kampala along Hoima road, located on a hilltop about 2.5 km after the right turn on the dirt road.

Situé au sommet d'une colline avec une très belle vue, *Wamala* est le site funéraire du roi *Suuna II* (1836-1856), qui avait 148 femmes et 218 enfants. *Suuna* fut le dernier roi enterré dans son propre palais, et le dernier dont l'os de la mâchoire fut retiré du corps après sa mort. Il fut également le premier roi qui laissa les commerçants étrangers pénétrer dans le royaume. Cet endroit magique quasiment oublié, est tout simplement unique.

Comment s'y rendre?
Les tombes de *Wamala* se trouvent au sommet d'une colline à 30 minutes de route de Kampala, sur la route de Hoima. Il faut prendre une route en terre sur votre droite et la suivre sur environ 2,5 km pour accéder au site.

NAGGALABI CORONATION SITE, BUDDO

Naggalabi Buddo, is where the *Kabakas* of *Buganda* have been crowned for the past 700 years. It is said that *Buganda* accession ceremonies take place on *Buddo* Hill because it was there that *Kintu*, the first *Kabaka* of *Buganda*, killed his brother *Bemba* and declared himself King in the 13th Century. It is the most important single site in *Ganda* culture, and lies in the heart of the *Buganda* Kingdom. The coronation of *Sabasija Kabaka Ronald Kimera Mutebi II*, which was attended by tens of thousands of people, took place at *Naggalabi* on 31st July 1993. The site is very pleasant with a panoramic view of the surrounding countryside.

How to get there?
Naggalabi Buddo is a 20 minute drive from Kampala along Masaka road after Kyengera trading Centre.

C'est à *Naggalabi Buddo* que les *Kabakas* ont été couronnés au cours des 7 derniers siècles. Si les cérémonies de succession se déroulent sur la colline de *Buddo*, c'est parce que *Kintu*, le premier des *Kabakas*, y aurait tué son frère *Bemba* et se serait alors déclaré roi au 13^e siècle. Ce site revêt une très grande importance dans la culture *Ganda*, et se situe au cœur même du royaume. Le couronnement de *Sabasija Kabaka Ronald Kimera Mutebi II*, auquel des dizaines de milliers de personnes ont assisté, s'est déroulé à *Naggalabi* le 31 juillet 1993. Ce site très agréable offre une vue panoramique sur le paysage alentour.

Comment s'y rendre?
Naggalabi Buddo se trouve à 20 minutes de Kampala, sur la route de Masaka.

SSEZIBWA FALLS

The beautiful and spiritual *Ssezibwa* Falls have long been the favourite of the *Kabakas*. Here the "black-river water" tumbles over the rocks into the pool below, and a traditional healer performs ceremonies for those seeking love, children, a good harvest or successful business deal. It is said that *Kabaka Mwanga II* planted a giant tree here to show his respect for the Falls, and *Muteesa II* planted another. Both trees are regarded as sacred gifts from the *Kabakas*. Whether you want to enjoy a picnic, explore the many local shrines or make an offering to the spirits, *Ssezibwa* is a wonderful place to visit.

How to get there?
Ssezibwa falls is a 45 minute drive from Kampala and is located on Jinja road after Mukono town. Turn right at Kayanja trading centre onto a dirt road and it is 1.5 km to the Falls.

Les magnifiques chutes de *Ssezibwa* ont longtemps été le lieu de prédilection des *Kabakas*. L'eau de la "black-river" dégringole sur les rochers pour finir dans un bassin, près duquel un médecin traditionnel organise des cérémonies pour ceux qui cherchent l'amour, la fertilité, la bonne récolte ou le succès en affaires. Il est dit que *Kabaka Mwanga II* planta un arbre géant à cet endroit pour montrer son amour pour ces chutes, et que *Muteesa II* fit de même. Ces deux arbres sont considérés comme des cadeaux sacrés des *Kabakas*. Cet endroit est le lieu idéal pour un pique-nique, pour explorer les autels sacrés ou faire une offrande aux esprits.

Comment s'y rendre?
Les chutes de *Ssezibwa* se situent à 45 minutes de Kampala, sur la route de Jinja après la ville de Mukono. Tournez à droite au niveau du "Kayanja trading centre" et restez sur la route en terre sur 1,5 km pour arriver aux chutes.

BAAGALAYAZE NNAMASOLE TOMBS

This site houses the tomb of *Nnamasole Baagalayaze*, the mother of *Kabaka Mwanga II*, who died in 1916. She is revered by the local community as a very generous person. Now the tombs and its enclosure has become a cultural centre that celebrates the people and history of *Buganda*. Visitors can enjoy traditional performances (music, dance and drama), try their hands at arts and crafts, and hear vivid stories about the kingdom and *Kabakas* of *Buganda*.

How to get there?
Nnamasole Kanyange Tombs are a 25 minute drive from Kampala on Gayaza road. Turn left at Mpererwe trading centre (opposite the big *Mvule* tree)

Baagalayaze Nnamasole, décédée en 1916, était la mère du *Kabaka Mwanga II*. Cette femme est respectée par la Communauté locale pour sa grande générosité. Aujourd'hui, les tombes sont devenues un centre culturel dédié aux peuples et à l'histoire du royaume. Les visiteurs pourront apprécier des spectacles de musique, danse ou théâtre, s'essayer aux différentes techniques de l'artisanat local, et s'imprégner d'histoires riches en couleurs sur le royaume et les rois du *Buganda*.

Comment s'y rendre?
La tombe de *Nnamasole Kanyange* se situe à 25 minutes de Kampala, sur la route de Gayaza. Tournez à gauche au niveau du "Mpererwe trading centre".

NNAMASOLE KANYANGE TOMB

Kanyange Nnamasole Tombs are located on a hillside looking across a valley to *Wamala* Tombs. The tomb houses the body of *Nnamasole Kanyange*, the mother of *Kabaka Suuna II* who is buried at *Wamala*. It also houses the body of subsequent *Nnamasoles*. The tombs are an important place for rituals and ceremonies, and contain a special sacred drum used for calling *Suuna's* spirit. An historic walk to the impressive *Wamala* tombs retraces the steps that *Kanyange* and *Suuna* followed to visit each other.

How to get there?
Nnamasole Kanyange Tombs are a 25 minute drive along Bombo road. Turn left at Kagoma trading centre.

La tombe de *Kanyange Nnamasole* se trouve au sommet d'une colline, en face des Tombes de *Wamala*. Cette tombe renferme le corps de *Nnamasole Kanyange*, la mère du *Kabaka Suuna II* qui est enterré à *Wamala*. Ce site comprend aussi les tombes d'autres *Nnamasoles* qui ont suivi. Des rituels et cérémonies se tiennent fréquemment sur ce site, où se trouve aussi un tambour sacré utilisé pour appeler l'esprit du roi *Suuna*. Une promenade historique vers les impressionnantes tombes de *Wamala* permet d'emprunter les pas que suivaient jadis *Kanyange* et *Suuna* pour se rendre visite.

Comment s'y rendre?
La tombe de *Kanyange Nnamasole* se situe à 25 minutes de Kampala sur la route de Bombo. Tournez à gauche au niveau du "Kagoma trading centre".

MUGANZILWAZA'S TOMB AND MOUND KAZO, BWAISE

This site is found in Kaso to the left of Bwaise trading centre. It houses Muganzilwaza's tomb. Near the tomb is a mound on which people would stand to greet the *Kabaka Mutesa I* at Kasubi. A corresponding mound can be seen at Kasubi.

Ce site se trouve dans Kaso à gauche du centre commercial de Bwaise. Il abrite la tombe de Muganzilwaza. Près de la tombe se trouve un monticule depuis lequel les gens pouvaient saluer le roi *Mutesa Ier* à Kasubi. Un monticule correspondant est visible à Kasubi.

MUGANZILWAZA PRISON DITCH, KYEBANDO

This site is found in Kyebando, a hill opposite Kamwokya. This ditch was dug at the instructions of Muganzilwaza, the Queen mother of *Muteesa I* to imprison his rivals to the throne in 1856.

Cette prison se trouve sur Kyebando, une colline faisant face à Kamwokya. Ce fossé a été creusé sur les instructions de Muganzilwaza, la reine mère du roi *Mutesa Ier* pour emprisonner ses rivaux au trône, en 1856.



Wamala Tombs

Mengo Palace

Naggalabi Coronation Site

Katekere Prison Ditch

Ssezibwa Falls

Nakayima Tree (Mubende)

The Royal Mile

The Kings Lake (Kampala)

Fort Lugard (Kampala)

1900 Agreement Site

Bulange (Buganda Parliament)

