



DIOCESE OF HOIMA

Bishop's House
P.O. Box 34,
Hoima, Uganda

Phone: (256) 465 40061

Email: hoima.bujdio@yahoo.com

Office of the Bishop

DATE

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

SUBJECT

Message on 29th Coronation Anniversary of HM.
Solomon Gafabusa Iguru I, King of Bunyoro due
on Sunday, June 11, 2023

***The presence of Institutions like the Kingdom is a
symbol of Unity and Social Progress***

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 1:2).

Today, I join a myriad of gallant sons and daughters of Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom to thank the Lord for the existence of this cultural institution and for the gift of life that He has lavished upon our beloved King, the royal family and to us all, his people.

By the grace of God, it is my inmost desire to impart my apostolic blessing to His Majesty, the royal family; the kingdom's hierarchy and to you all dear people of God as a pledge of my abundant prayers for divine assistance upon the Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom establishment.

On this auspicious occasion, it is foremost an honour for me and on behalf of Hoima Catholic Diocese to congratulate His Royal Highness Solomon Gafabusa Iguru, I upon his 29th Coronation Anniversary.

At the same time, I would like to deliver my message of appreciation to the Kingdom for standing out until now as a custodian of our culture and for the oneness with Hoima Diocese.

Looking at the historical inheritance of this great cradle land, it's my prayer, that this occasion does not only appear as a single day's event, but a special moment of reflection and a culmination of our common heritage, a climax to recount all pertinent life situations and practices of true African humanism among the People of a largely common descent of Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom.

Culture plays a role in the unification of people with diverse faiths and creeds. It's a nearer meeting point of people navigating different road accesses, but speaking a common tongue.

The presence of leadership institutions like the kingdom is a nuance of unity that at times stands out even in diversity because of intermarriages and constant immigrations.

This coronation anniversary is the apex of our unity in the figure of the King, and with the kingdom institution as a symbol of our common heritage and sense of belonging.

It is my desire, that all people learn primarily their language and the good elements of culture. We should avoid the false hope and treasure that, “we have it all when we are ignorant of our ancestral humanism.”

In anthropology, we read lines from J. Donceel where he presents man as being more cultural than natural. Whereas at conception man is naturally arisen, this nature does not give him much opportunity to survive, but culture does. In his argument he concludes that man is more cultural than natural.

By culture, he refers to the general process of nurture in its different facets.

Thus, uncultured people have limited space in decent day to day life although by nature they are God's people, created in his holy image.

Let this moment be a reminder to us all; to look at the different positive elements of culture and engrave them in our hearts for posterity. This will alleviate dehumanizing aspects of human life with African humanism. Look at the increasing acts of murder in our society, which is largely out of a deep seated ill-thinking of "the end justifies the means."

In the Gospel according to St. Mark 12:1-12, we read about uncultured tenants who wanted to inherit the vineyard through inconsequential means by killing all messengers and the son to their Landlord. At all cost, they never wanted any form of accountability and to tender in any fruits to their master.

On our part, collectively as a community of Bunyoro, we have this Kingdom for our heritage whose development we can stagnate and retrogress if we do not work hard in all spheres.

The onus is still on us to work together accountably for the progress of this institution. Apparently, there is no institution in the world that has reached total maturity that it requires not constant metamorphosis in service delivery. If it still serves interests of the human race, it would require such a work plan and resolute training of its posterity.

My desire is to see a changed Bunyoro from time to time, moving from strength to strength.

We need a community that trains its young to be responsible because a society that does not train its young responsible living at all levels; educate good morals and impart genuine faith is doomed.

I acknowledge all efforts by the kingdom towards this direction.

I was motivated by the initiatives of the Kingdom Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Andrew Byakutaaga of advocating for a model family that is self-sustaining.

I pledge synergy in such programmes of advocating for quality life, self-reliance, and collective community development as a family of God.

I continue to rally spouses in all families to adhere and make shared decisions and have shared happiness. We need men to get on board to build our families to a desirable level.

It was a divine plan that man and woman should live together as husband and wife and the two become one body and are bound to complement one another in all aspects of the family until death should do them part. (cf. Gen.2:18-24).

When one sex outshines the other, the result is not a natural community but an unbalanced world.

Our desire and so the will of God, is to see both men and women committed to working and supporting each other rather than competing and overshadowing one another.

It is lamentable seeing a good number of men resorting to drunkenness and leaving the mantle of parenting to only women. What example are we giving to our boys? Who will inspire them to be good fathers if the only available example is a good mother? God come to our aid!

We thank God who has given us this opportunity, to celebrate together as a kingdom but also to re-think and re-organise our house for a better Bunyoro and the world at large.

I wish a happy 29th coronation anniversary to our King and all his subjects.

May God bless our King with long life and make our Kingdom fruitful.

**+Vincent Kirabo Amooti,
Bishop of Hoima Diocese**