

By Dallen Namugga

King's College Budo has won medals and multiple team trophies in its first-ever appearance at the 2025 International Young Mathematicians' Convention (IYMC) in Lucknow, India.

IYMC 2025 convened from November 3 to 6, under the support of the City Montessori School, Gomti Nagar Campus I, Lucknow.

The four-day event brought together youth teams from across Africa, Asia and beyond, offering tests that ranged from individual math Olympiads to teamwork-based coding, puzzle challenges, robotics and cultural presentations.

Budo's delegation included 17 students, accompanied by five mathematics teachers. The students competed among a field of several hundred young mathematicians, across junior and senior categories.

Several earned medals in individual contests, among them three junior students who secured silver and a senior student who earned bronze, alongside other junior-level bronzes.

Under its name Team Nebula (Uganda), the school clinched multiple team-level honours: First runner-up in the Mathmania team event; multiple second-runner up finishes in team competitions

like Mathmania (twice) and Crack the Code (puzzle contest); a second-runner up overall in the junior category ranking plus a Most Popular Team Award titled "The Beloved Bunch."

The team also won a trophy for Best Cultural Presentation, which represented Uganda's rich heritage.

Speaking after their return, James Lubega, the head of the mathematics department at the

school, attributed the strong showing to more than talent. He emphasised the role of their mathematics club, a group of dedicated learners who support one another, sharpen each other's skills and prepare rigorously for competitions.

Lubega said even students who might struggle in regular class settings find a different rhythm within the club.

"These young men and women help one another, with

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## HOW MATH CONVENTION STARTED

The International Young Mathematicians' Convention began as a modest intercity mathematics contest in 2002 before evolving into an international convention. It aims to nurture mathematical reasoning, creativity, teamwork and cross-cultural exchange among youth from diverse national and educational backgrounds.

the guidance of the teachers which ensures that in any competition their team is well prepared," he said.

He added that the dedication of the school, from staff to leadership, allowed students access to international

platforms. As a result, certificates earned at IYMC are expected to strengthen students' applications for further studies abroad.

Prof. Geeta Gandhi Kingdon, the manager of the City Montessori School, said mathematics cultivates problem-solving ability.

"Mathematics nurtures reasoning, logic, and analytical thinking, the very foundation of sound decision-making."