

# MUSEVENI OFFERS SH20B TO MUSLIM WOMEN

By Eddie Ssejjoba, Joseph Mutebi and Ali Twaha

President Yoweri Museveni has offered sh20b towards the Savings and Credit Co-operative Organisation (SACCO) for Muslim women countrywide to help them get out of poverty.

Museveni made the announcement yesterday during an iftar dinner for over 50,000 Muslims who are low-income earners from greater Kampala area at Millennium Park in Lugogo.

In October 2024, Museveni promised sh2b towards Muslim women and the money was released towards their SACCO.

However, the head of the Office of the National Chairperson of the National Resistance Movement (NRM), Hajat Hadijah Uzeiye Namyalo, informed Museveni that the sh2b was not enough, which prompted the President to announce the sh20b offer for all Muslim women countrywide.

The President also said some adjustments will be made in the way the Parish Development Model (PDM) money is allocated, saying men with more than one wife will have each wife considered separately.

"My *muzzukulu* Namyalo has told me that Muslim men marry many wives and each wife should be considered separately. I informed the PDM officials about this so that each of the wives is considered as a separate family," he said, adding that the matter will be discussed afresh in the PDM management meetings. He said the issue would be discussed further so that women do not suffer with children.

The President's decision to host Muslim low-income earners followed concerns they raised with Namyalo.

According to the low-income earners, the past iftar invitations held at State House have been largely extended to affluent Muslims, leaving out the ordinary supporters of the NRM party.

Consequently, Namyalo informed the President about the low-income earners' concerns. As a result, Museveni agreed to host them to an iftar dinner, which attracted Muslims from Kampala, Wakiso, Mukono, Kayunga, and Mpigi districts.

According to Namyalo, many Muslims in the informal sector



PHOTO BY JOSEPH MUTEBI

Namyalo (right) interacting with Muslim women during an Iftar dinner for over 50,000 Muslims who are low-income earners from greater Kampala area at Millennium grounds in Lugogo, Kampala yesterday



PHOTO BY EDDIE SSEJJOBA

Kamoga(second-right), Kamulegeya (left) and other Muslim clerics during an Iftar dinner. (Scan picture with Vision Digital Experience to watch video)

## INSURANCE CHIEFS SPEAK OUT

Ibrahim Kaddunabbi Lubega, the IRA chief executive officer, said the Tamini licence followed the gazetting of Islamic insurance regulations in October 2025.

"With the licensing of Tamini, we have opened a new chapter in the financial and social fabric of our nation," Kaddunabbi said, adding that it would deepen financial inclusion and boost industry growth.

Tamini chief executive Mohamud Mohamed Omar, said the insurer would complement the bank's sharia compliant financing.

"By granting this licence, you have legalised a new form of social security

rooted in mutual protection and solidarity. The bank and insurance are the twin pillars of ethical finance. The bank was incomplete without the insurance arm. We now offer a complete eco system," Omar said.

He noted that farmers and producers who access halal financing from Salam Bank would now be able to insure their crops and businesses through Tamini.

Omar said the group's investment strategy is anchored on reinvesting African capital within the continent. "For too long, wealth generated from our continent has flowed elsewhere while some of our communities remain underserved," he said.

President to consider more amnesty to other Muslim leaders still in prison.

Kamoga cited Sheikh Yahaya Mwanje, the former leader of the Tabliq sect, who was arrested in November 2022. He thanked Museveni for giving amnesty to several leaders including himself and most recently, Haji Muhammad Ssebuwufu, the owner of Pine Car Bond.

Other prominent Muslim leaders present included Sheikh Sulaiman Kakeeto, who led the prayers before breaking the fast (iftar), Sheikh Obeid Kamulegeya, Nakawa Division Kadhi Sheikh Bruhan Zakiyu and Wakiso District Kadhi, Eriasa Kigozi. After the prayers, Muslims ate and drunk to their fill.

### MUSLIM INSURANCE LAUNCHED

During the same event, Museveni launched Tamini General Insurance, Uganda's first Islamic insurance company.

The Insurance Regulatory Authority (IRA) licensed the insurance company last year, opening the door for sharia compliant cover in a market long-dominated by conventional insurers.

The launch, marks the formal entry of takaful into Uganda's financial sector. Takaful, an Arabic term meaning solidarity and cooperation among a group of people, is a form of cooperative insurance that complies with Islamic sharia law. It is based on shared contributions and mutual assistance, with participants

pooling funds to compensate one another in the event of a loss.

Regulators and executives said the new insurer is expected to widen access to insurance, particularly among Muslims who have been reluctant to use products built on interest-based (riba) models.

Museveni said the Islamic insurance will enable the Muslim community to participate in the financial sector under conditions tied to Islamic principles.

"Insurance helps you prepare in case of accidents so that you have a fallback. This will now be done by Tamini for the Muslim community. This concept is our old way of doing things; you lend me a cow and I bring back a cow," Museveni said.

He thanked Salaam Bank for bringing that formula in Uganda and completing the cycle. "When you go, borrow and save, what if things go wrong? This is where insurance comes in."

Tamini is part of Salam Group, which also owns Salam Bank Uganda, the country's first Islamic bank launched two years ago.

Museveni thanked Tamini for system of saving and borrowing without interest. He, however, said insurance was not new in Uganda, citing the National Insurance Corporation that has been operating in Uganda for long.

"National Insurance Corporation started long ago but as Namyalo said, it was being used by the rich people. So, this is now the insurance for the low earners," he said. But he asked the rich to as well participate because nobody would stop them.

The President said he was happy that Tamini General Insurance had already been granted a licence to operate and that he was sure that Bank of Uganda had already approved them.

### ABOUT ISLAMIC INSURANCE

Islamic insurance remains at an early stage across Africa. According to industry estimates cited by the regulator, the global takaful market was valued at about \$36.6b in 2024 and is projected to reach \$75.3b by 2033, implying annual growth of about 8 to 9% between 2025 and 2033.

Several African countries, including Kenya, Tanzania, Nigeria and South Africa, have already adopted Takaful frameworks.

have consistently supported Museveni, including during the recently concluded general election. However, they felt excluded from iftar dinners,

traditionally hosted at State House.

### NOTABLE ATTENDEES

Yesterday's function was

attended by several Muslim leaders, including Sheikh Yunus Kamoga, the head of the Nakasero-based Tabliq Muslim sect, who asked the