



Apostle Isi Igenegba and participants dancing at the Mantle of Deborah National Conference at Hotel Africana, Kampala on Friday

By Vision Reporter

The First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Mrs Janet Museveni, has expressed optimism that women can play a pivotal role in spiritual renewal and nation-building.

The First Lady made the remarks while hosting an international delegation from the "Mantle of Deborah" and "A Million Women" prayer movements, who paid her a courtesy call at State House, Nakasero, on Friday.

The delegation was led by Nigerian-based Apostle Isi Igenegba, the founder of the "Mantle of Deborah" Movement and Apostle Laura Allred from the US, who is the president and Global Director of "A Million Women."

The group was visiting Uganda as part of a continental tour to promote the "A Million Women" initiative, which seeks to mobilise intercessors across Africa to rise and pray for their nations.

"Mantle of Deborah" is an apostolic and prophetic movement that empowers women to rise as leaders, influencers and nation-builders in the marketplace, government and society.

"A Million Women" is a global Christian intercessory prayer movement inspired by the biblical story of Esther and aims at saving nations through prayer.

The visitors shared their vision of mobilising and uniting women across Africa to intercede for their nations through solemn assemblies and gatherings aimed at seeking God's guidance, strengthening Christian values and promoting spiritual

FIRST LADY HOSTS MANTLE OF DEBORAH, A MILLION WOMEN PRAYER MOVEMENTS TEAM

renewal across the continent.

Mrs Museveni welcomed the initiative and commended the delegation for mobilising women to pray for their nations. She expressed her profound belief that Africa's time for restoration has arrived.

"God has waited for Africa for a long time," she stated, emphasising that the continent must now rise to utilise its resources and spiritual strength.

"I have always believed that God has a purpose for Africa. What I am hearing from you today is an answer to many prayers that Africa will rise and fulfil its calling," the First Lady added.

She added that Uganda would support efforts to mobilise women in prayer, expressing hope that a similar movement could take root in the country.

"I am hoping that God will raise a million women in Uganda to pray for our nation so that we can rise and become what God intended Africa to be," she noted, adding: "I have no doubt in my mind that God will answer and all the honour and glory will go back to Him."

Mrs Museveni thanked the delegation for visiting Uganda and encouraged them to continue mobilising women across the world to



Apostle Isi Igenegba

rise and stand in prayer for their nations. "When women rise and are determined to do something, they do it. If we all rise and pray, I can't imagine how much more God is going to do for all of us to see that it is His time now to answer," she stated.

On her part, Igenegba explained that the "A Million Women" movement, which began in the US, has already spread to more than 35 African countries and continues to expand across the continent.

"We are mobilising intercessors across Africa to rise and pray for their nations. Our hope is that through united prayer we will see transformation across the continent," she said.

Igenegba thanked Mrs Museveni for being the very

Igenegba thanked Mrs Museveni for being the first First Lady to open doors for her and the Mantle of Deborah Movement.

first First Lady to open doors for her and the Mantle of Deborah Movement.

"I can tell that God's hand is upon your life. I want you to know that there are many women across the world that God is raising to go out there and combat against the kingdom of darkness and bring victory because you prayed and you had enough faith to let a girl from Nigeria that you did not know into your presence and to pray over me. Thank you, Mama, and God bless you," she said.

Apostle Allred said the initiative has grown into an

international movement calling believers to prayer, repentance and spiritual revival.

She added that the movement recently held a large prayer gathering in the US and similar initiatives were now being extended to other parts of the world, including Africa.

Allred praised Uganda's leadership for "keeping the door closed" to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer agendas and ideologies, which she described as a "demonic bullying spirit" in the West.

"We are here to support the stand you have taken for the sake of future generations and maintaining the sanctity of the family unity in the nation," Allred said.

She commended the First Lady, likening her to a "modern-day Esther" for her firm position against ideologies deemed detrimental to future generations.

Also, present was the Reverend Hannah Johnson, "A Million Women's" Africa director, who noted that the movement's activities in Africa include mobilising women's prayer networks and intercessory gatherings across the continent. She said the initiative aims at eventually reaching all 54 African countries.

Johnson added that a continental gathering of the movement is scheduled to take place in South Africa in September this year, where representatives from across Africa are expected to convene for a major prayer assembly.

The Mantle of Deborah Uganda country lead, Apostle Irene Kauma, reported that during their stay in Uganda, the delegation has engaged in several activities, including prayer meetings, Builders Summits targeting influence across the seven mountains of society and a charitable outreach to Masulita Children's Home.

She said the courtesy visit precedes a major National Women's Conference,

organised with support from the Office of the First Lady, which drew thousands of women from across the region on Saturday. On Sunday, most of the ministers will preach to different congregations in the city.

Kauma thanked Mrs Museveni for opening the nation to the work of God and for "being a real Esther of our time". She added: "You carry a huge mantle, a huge burden, but you also carry the grace to do so much and we have seen you do that, Mama, and we appreciate you so much."