

***THE ROLE OF MIRACLES  
IN THE OVERTHROW OF  
GOVERNMENTS IN UGANDA.***

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## ***MIRACLES AS A BREACH OF NATURAL LAW.***

Few things appear to experts on Uganda Affairs more inexplicable, than the role that miracles are alleged to play, in overturning governments of Uganda.

Consciously or unconsciously, claims of a miracle, predicting the fall of a Government, invariably invokes a degree of credibility that the Government will actually fall.

A cry that a miracle has taken place, or a Gourd has spoken, is repeated by any voice however feeble, and for any object, however mean. It is instantly caught up, echoed through the hills and valleys of Makerere, Mulago, Muyenga, Makindye and so on.

Anti-Government miracle does, or is believed, for good reasons, to discredit the Government much more than reason can. It does not call for argument. It only calls for submission. It does not answer questions. It begs the question. It does not settle the problem. It declares the problem settled.

When the critics of a miracle point out its impossibility, the believers in miracles label the critics as non-believers, atheists, or pagans! And so on.

It seems bad enough that a man may talk the kind of nonsense, illustrated by the Miracle of the Talking Gourd, by his own fireside. But it appears an insult to our nationhood that others, after having heard such garbage, should, not only believe it, but also narrate it to some others, as if it were Gospel truth!

I tend to look upon a miracle as a breach of immutable universal laws. It is not obedience, but disobedience to God's law. It is not a pro-God, but an anti-God act.

God is a Supreme Lawmaker and a Supreme Law Enforcer. Miracles, which, by their nature, constitute exceptions to the law, are a denial of the supremacy of natural law, as well as a denial of universal applicability of natural law.

The word miracle thus connotes rebellion. It is a breach of universal laws. Under universal laws, reptiles do not talk. Nor do inanimate things talk.

## **THE MIRACLE OF THE TALKING LIZARD.**

It was sometime in 1968 that a Miracle, predicting the fall of the UPC Government, was alleged to have taken place. A British foreign officer, Mr Brian Lea, a Protocol Officer, disappeared from Kampala. Pipe Smoking Prime Minister Harrod Wilson of Great

Britain was notified forthwith, about it. He was at the Old Vic Theatre, watching a play. He left the theatre forthwith, to follow the investigation.

Thereafter, various newspapers, all over the world, reported alleged kidnap in screaming headlines.

Two British youths who heard about the kidnap were a little bit skeptical. They had, two days earlier, heard Brian Lea arrange for the headlines of a Kenya Paper to be reserved for him! It thus seemed the them that Lea knew that he was going to be kidnapped!

President Obote of Uganda immediately ordered a public enquiry of the Disappearance and Reappearance of Brian Lea The Judicial Enquiry was conducted by an English Judge, Mr. Justice Russell.

It was during that enquiry that one day, in Kamucha, Kampala, a lizard, which became known, by Luganda Word, Embalasasa, was said to have attracted the attention of the passers-by. It stood on its hind legs. Its eyes flashed. According to those who claim to have seen it, it seemed, as it were, lost for words. It gave the impression of suppressed fire. As one person put it, It made you feel that if you took your eyes off it, it might jump on you! At long last, when *it* felt that there was a sufficient audience watching it, it shrieked out audibly:

## ***"Lea will go. UPC will go".***

That was all it said. It was enough. It meant that Lea would be removed from Kampala. And the Uganda Peoples Congress (UPC) Government in Kampala would fall.

Overnight, the Embalasasa had become a National **Myth**. The UPC regarded its alleged prophecy as a "Big Joe, '. They did not see how Embalasasa could topple their government!

If their opponents were waiting for the Embalasasa to topple the UPC Government, then the opponents were hoping against hope.

On the other hand, the Democratic Party (D.P) Members regarded the miracle as "God-sent,.,. They did not see how the word of God, miraculously uttered by a lizard, could be uttered in vain.

The Embalasasa became so popular that a variety of things were named after it! There was the Embalasasa Dancie. The Embalasasa Cocktail. The Embalasasa Walk. The Embalasasa Talk. And so on.

On 25 \_January\_1971 the UPC Government of President Milton Obote , was toppled by its army Commander, Major General Iddi Amin.

## ***THE MIRACLE OF THE TALKING TORTOISE.***

Some two years before the fall of the Amin Regime in 1979, another miracle was reported. A young man who was riding a bicycle from Jinja towards Kampala, saw a tortoise. Its appearance even for a tortoise, was Singular! So he stopped to watch it. Its neck was longer and its legs loosely jointed. Its eyes were tragic. It had a cadaverous air about it. For a few moments, the man looked at the tortoise. And the tortoise looked at him. They continued to look at each other in an amused surprise. None of them spoke. Then the tortoise said:

**"Take me to the Police".**

The man could not believe his ears! He looked around but there was none around. The tortoise repeated himself:

**"Take me to the Police".**

The man did as he was ordered. He put the Tortoise on the seat of his bicycle and took it to Jinja Road police Station. At the Police Station, the Tortoise asked to be taken to the State House. He was not taken to the State House. But, he was taken the International Hotel. It was there that the Tortoise amazed its spectators by saying:

**"Amin is finished".**

The news spread in various Ugandan languages: Amin nakwisha! Amin kalas! Amin otumu! Amin akufaf Amin awede! Amin aganze! Amin

afude! And so on.

A couple of years thereafter, the Amin regime was toppled by Ugandan liberators assisted by Tanzanian troops.

## ***THE MIRACLES OF ALICE AND LAK- WENA.***

However, the Ugandan Miracle which received *world-* wide publicity: and was based on fact, took place during the reign of President Yoweri Museveni.

An Acholi girl, a fishmonger, in her early twenties, declared that she was the **Mystery of Duality!** Or the **Miracle of Duality!** She declared that she had become two persons in one!

At times, she was simply an individual, Alice. At times, a Holy Spirit who called himself, an Angel, took possession of her and spoke through her, The Angel of God, who spoke through her, was named Lakwena (a Luo word for a messenger). Hence the name Alice Lakwena, meaning Alice, and Angel Lakwena. The Miracle of Alice and Lakwena have now been

Reduced in writing by Professor Isaack Newton Ojok.

After graduating from the university of Makerere in 1966 Isaack Newton Ojok received accelerated promotions. He was appointed a don in the University of Makerere, a Lecturer in the University of Zambia, and, finally, a Professor in the University of Swaziland. In 1980, He was elected a Member of Parliament and appointed Minister of Education in Uganda.

In his own words, the more promotions he received, the more his Universe of Sin, widened! It was Angel Lakwena who was to convert him from his Universe of Sin.

In 1987 the Holy Spirit Mobile Force; a guerrilla movement, that was fighting against the NRM Government of President Museveni, raided the hiding place of Isaack Ojok, at Abako, and took 30 captives, including Isaack Ojok himself. The captives were forcefully recruited into Holy Spirit Mobile Force.

It was, as a new recruit, that Isaack Newton Ojok was introduced to Alice, the leader of the Holy Spirit Mobile Force. Her followers called her Prophetess Alice. The world knew her as Alice Lakwena whose followers fought battles, against guns and mortars, by throwing stones and splashing water alleged to have supernatural power!



Alice was seated outside an old, grass-thatched building to which Professor Ojok was admitted. She introduced herself in three words:

**"I am Alice".**

She spoke authoritatively about the war being waged by the Holy Spirit Mobile Force, against Government Troops, as well as against other men and women of violence.

After the introduction was over, Prophetess Alice went behind the inner room and re-emerged wearing a long white robe, and a wooden crucifix on her neck. She moved forward and sat on a wooden chair specially made for divine purpose. She made the sign of the Cross as if to begin to pray. Then, she was suddenly filled by Spirit and spoke in strange tongues. The person speaking was Alice. However, the voice was not that of Alice. The voice was masculine!

After sometime, she reverted to Luo. Then she turned round, and looked at Professor Ojok and specifically addressed him in one sentence. She said:

**"Professor Isaac Newton Ojok. Your orders are to look after the welfare of troops, and to explain to the world, why I am fighting."**

Alice and Lakwena explained that the war against the NRM Government and all other violent forces in the country, was ordained by God, to prevent genocide.

She explained that the NRM was vindictive in its treatment of the people in Eastern and Northern Uganda. It particularly, hated the Acholis. It claimed that the Acholis had committed genocide in the Luwero Triangle, during the previous UPC Regime.

Lakwena pointed out the secret of the successes of the Holy Spirit Mobile Force so far. She said that it was worthwhile to obey the Will of God, to rid the nation, of a regime, whose main attribute was: Hate Thy Neighbour!

Lakwena explained that God was not happy with a regime based on revenge.

Nor was God happy with Uganda. The nation, she said, was under God's judgement because of its sins: its curse of blood spilling: the murder of innocent people, the widespread violence, and looting.

Hence, God had sent its Messenger, Lakwena, to call upon Uganda to repent its ways.

## ***PRAYER-WARRIORS.***

Thereafter, Professor Isaack Ojok was taken for train-

ing in his new profession of Prayer-Warrior and Prayer-Intercessor. It was thus necessary for him to Learn the use of the weapons of spiritual warfare. These were:

- (a) Strict observance of the 17 Code of Conduct taken from the 10 Commandments. The use of charms and fetish, practising of witchcraft and indulgence in superstitious beliefs, were strictly tabooed.**
- (a) Fervent Prayers.**
- (a) Sacrifices.**
- (a) Fasting.**
- (a) And Purification by use of water and shea butter oil as practised in Mosaic time.**

It was Prophetess Alice herself who trained Professor Ojok and the new recruits, on the use of prayer- weapon in the battlefield.

The sole weapon used by Prayer-Warriors was the recitation of a hymn! Prophetess Alice pointed out that recitation of the hymn was the most potent weapon they had. A war-situation, she said, when bullets are flying all over you, called for unflinching faith in God! The more they recited the hymn, the more their faith was redoubled. The hymn that they were made to recite was:

- Christ has died;
- Christ is risen;
- Christ will come again;

Alice emphasised again, and again, that if the recruits recited that hymn during the war, nothing harmful would ever befall them. -

The recitation was on the one hand, a war cry, to frighten the enemy and embolden the faithful. On the other hand, it was a shield to protect the faithful from the bombs and bullets of the enemy.

The 4 mandatory requirements for Prayer-Warriors, during battle were:

- (a) **Remain standing throughout.**
- (a) **Stand in full view of the enemy attackers.**
- (a) **Recite the Hymn at the top of your voice.**
- (a) **Above all, never try to run away or to take cover behind any object. The sin of taking cover or running away was known as cowardice. Its punishment was instant death by the bullet of the enemy.**

## ***STONE-THROWERS.***

Apart from Prayer-Warriors, there were other classes of combatants. There were, for instance, Water Controllers and Stone-Throwers. Water was alleged to cool the enemy fire, cast out demons, heal the sick, purify the soul, and to seal the presence of the Holy Spirit Warriors from the enemy.

The stone was believed to acquire miraculous power that enabled it, when thrown at the enemy, to explode as a bomb or as a hand-grenade.

The Holy Spirit Mobile Force also had Military-Warriors, who used guns, and hand-grenades.

## **THE BATTLE OF KAHIKI**

The prayer-warrior training given to Professor Ojok and others, was soon put to the test. While on its way to Iganga District, the Uganda Army unleashed the biggest military attack on the- *Holy Spirit Mobile Force*. It took place at Kahiki. The battle lasted sixteen consecutive hours!

Professor Ojok found himself standing a few yards away from Prophetess Alice who was commanding the defence operation. In accordance with his training as a Prayer-Warrior, he recited the faith-chorus with all his heart. As bullets whisked past him, he called on the name, JESUS, again and again. He continued to intercede for so many lives so hopelessly in perils.

There was a tall leafy tree slightly far ahead of him. In no time, it was reduced to shreds by the flying bombs and bullets.

Sixteen recruits from Kumi district had gathered, not so far away on his left hand. They were terrified by what was taking place. They failed to observe the rule of combat. They did not stand each one, alone by himself, in the open, in full view of the enemy. Instead, they hurdled together. Consequently, a bomb landed on them, and reduced them to burnt corpses!

The NRA began to close in on the Holy Spirit Mobile Force. Alice, speaking with the masculine Voice of Lakwena, ordered the Mobile Force to pull out and move eastward, in single column. Many obeyed the command and joined the queue. Those who did not obey the command, in a desperate attempt to find their own way out of the havoc, were all wiped out.

### ***THE ENEMY TURNS ON ITSELF.***

After the Holy Spirit Mobile Force had moved some three miles away, they heard fresh sounds of bombing and gunfire coming from where they had been! They knew what had happened. The enemy had, this time, turned on itself! It was firing on its own forces that was in pursuit of the Holy Spirit Mobile Force!

Miraculously, the Holy Spirit Mobile Force marched some thirty miles, from mid-night to dawn, along

Tororo-Kampala Road, without being detected and challenged by over three thousand NRA troops assigned to prevent them from reaching Kibimba!

## **THE NEED FOR A SPIRITUAL REVOLUTION.**

It was in Iganga, in a mid-day surprise attack, that the Holy Spirit Mobile Force was completely routed by the National Resistance Army. The attack took place after Lakwena had cynically, announced that his visitors were coming! Lakwena called Uganda Government Troops, as his visitors!

hence between the Holy Spirit Mobile Force and the Government Troops. Both w

Whenever the incidence of sinning, within the Mobile Force, had reached it's peak, Lakwena always exhibited his wrath, by allowing the NRA to come and give the Holy Spirit Mobile Fore a thorough thrashing. He was a very exacting disciplinarian. He punished his own troops as harshly as he punished the government troops! This *time*, Lakwena completely abandoned his troops at the mercy of the government troops!

Lakwena had come to 2 vital conclusions which are of the greatest importance to all would be liberators of Uganda.

First, that *it* was his duty to desert his own troops and he deserted them. He had reached the conclusion that".

there Was hardly any difference imbued with tribal hatred, both were sinners both were selfish and none of them was motivated b; the welfare of all the people

Second, that the war against the NRM must continue. Indeed, he had, while in Soroti District, warned the Holy Spirit Mobile Force that should the incidence of sins within the Mobile Force ruin the chances of victory against the NRM, he was going to start the war all over again.

What then, is the significance of the Lakwena Miracle, in Uganda liberation movements?

Negatively put, miracles, by their nature as the wonders performed by God, is a warning against obsession with the object of bringing about a personnel revolution, in government, by changing one set of rulers with another.

Positively put, miracles dictate the need to bring about a spiritual revolution in government, by establishing the Government on sound Christian Principle of: Love Thy Neighbour.

**END.**