STATEMENT OF THE FINISHERS REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT

The Finishers Will Not Be Finished

14 November 2026

Who We Are

At the beginning of this year, young Ugandans (activists, researchers, academics and lawyers) came together under one roof to confront a question that could no longer be postponed: what becomes of Uganda after the sham elections of January 2026?

With the possibility of Muhoozi Kainerugaba succeeding his father, we gathered around a simple conviction: Uganda must not be handed from one generation of the same ruling family to another. Succession is not liberation. Changing the face at the top while preserving the same machinery of patronage, militarism and corruption is not the future Uganda deserves.

Under the name Finishers Revolutionary Movement, we committed ourselves to organizing Ugandans to reject this succession project and to take up the unfinished work of national democratic liberation.

What We Stand For

The Finishers is more than a name. It is an idea: that Uganda's liberation cannot remain an unfinished historical promise, and that our generation has a responsibility to finish the task. That means we will:

- End dictatorship.
- Dismantle systems of patronage and impunity.
- Reclaim democratic power for the people.
- Build a country capable of true economic independence.

What We Have Done

Since the beginning of the year, we have been organizing, teaching and rallying people to confront injustice and corruption and to recover the spirit of resistance that every generation of Ugandans has inherited. We have reminded our people that oppression survives not only through the violence of the state, but also through fear, silence and the belief that nothing can change.

Because political freedoms in Uganda have been brutally restricted, we have had to organize with caution. Much of our work has been quiet and covert, because even the ordinary act of bringing Ugandans together has become dangerous.

Why We Write in Mourning

In the last month, the state has descended on the Finishers with an iron hand. Three of our comrades have been arrested or disappeared.

- **Praise Aloikin** was arrested, later released on court bail, and continues to face the state through an ongoing court case.
- **Byakika Abubaker** and **David Musiri** have been taken, and their whereabouts remain unknown.

We mourn them. We fear for them. We are angry.

Yet we refuse to let their disappearance become the disappearance of an idea. The state may arrest a Finisher. It may abduct a Finisher. It may intimidate a Finisher. But it cannot arrest the hunger for freedom that brought us together.

We are Finishers. We are not terrorists. We are young Ugandans who looked at the country we are inheriting and decided we cannot remain spectators to its destruction. We chose to organize. We chose to resist. And we choose to continue.

Our Demands

1 That the state immediately disclose the whereabouts of Byakika Abubaker and David Musiri, and return them safely to their families.

2 That the state end enforced disappearances and abductions of Ugandans for their political beliefs and organizing.

3 That the state stop criminalizing the right to organize, assemble and hold political ideas.

4 That Praise Aloikin be afforded a fair process, and that the case against her be dropped.

Our Appeal to the People of Uganda

Do not leave the Finishers alone. Protect your own. Protect the people who are standing up for the country we all claim to love.

When a Finisher is taken, ask where they are. When a family is left searching for a disappeared son or daughter, stand with that family. When the state attempts to criminalize an idea, refuse to repeat its lies. When fear tells you to look away, remember that the person taken today could be your neighbour, your child, your brother, your sister, or you tomorrow.

The Finishers belong to the people, and so does the idea. You do not have to carry our name to carry it. You do not have to stand where we stand to believe that dictatorship must end. You do not have to be an activist to understand that Uganda cannot be inherited like a family estate.

Our Resolve

We do not know what the state will do next. We know only that repression is meant to make us disappear one by one, to isolate us from each other and to convince Uganda that resistance is futile. We refuse that outcome.

The disappearance of our comrades has deepened our grief, but it has also clarified our resolve. We will remember those who have been taken. We will stand with their families. We will demand their return. And we will continue the work they were part of.

Because the Finishers are more than their members. The Finishers are an idea, and an idea whose time has come cannot be disappeared.

Protect the people. Protect the idea. Protect the future.

The Finishers