

FIRST LADY **HAILS** LUWERO SKILLING CENTRE, OVER 100 YOUTH GRADUATE

PHOTO BY JOSEPH MUTEBI

By Joseph Mutebi

The First Lady and Minister for Education and Sports, Mrs Janet Museveni, has commended Muslim Ambassadors Uganda (MAU) Skilling Centre for its role in transforming the lives of Ugandan youth.

Her message came during the graduation ceremony of over 100 trainees, who acquired skills in various fields, including bricklaying, electrical engineering, catering, tailoring, carpentry, baking, welding and plumbing at MAU in Kikyusa, Luwero district.

The First Lady lauded MAU for equipping learners with practical skills, saying this aligns with Uganda's priorities of industrialisation and job creation.

"I wish to commend the leadership of MAU Skilling Centre for their commitment to empowering young people with practical skills. These are the very skills that drive productivity, reduce unemployment and support Uganda's industrialisation efforts," she said.

The First Lady's remarks were delivered by senior presidential advisor and manager of the Office of the National Chairperson (ONC), Hajat Hadijah Namyalo, who represented her at MAU's inaugural graduation ceremony on Friday.

Mrs Museveni urged the graduands to apply their new knowledge to create opportunities for themselves and their communities.

"Through initiatives, such as MAU skilling centres, we are nurturing a generation



Namyalo (centre) joined by school administrators, graduands and parents in cutting the cake during the graduation ceremony at MAU Skilling Centre in Luwero district on Friday

FIRST LADY AWARDED

Muslim Ambassadors Uganda Skilling Centre Principal Kasim Male presented Mrs Janet Museveni with the Leadership, National Community Service and Mentorship Development Excellence Award, recognising her exceptional leadership, commitment to community service, and contributions to national development.

of skilled, innovative and self-reliant young Ugandans. I urge the graduands to put their acquired skills to good use – be creators of opportunities rather than seekers of jobs," she said.

She reaffirmed the education ministry's commitment to expand skilling programmes nationwide to ensure that no

young person is left behind in the pursuit of meaningful livelihoods.

"The Government continues to prioritise technical and vocational education as a cornerstone of our development agenda. Men and women can transform their communities, create jobs and contribute meaningfully to our national economy," she noted.

Mrs Museveni emphasised that the graduation marked both a personal milestone for the beneficiaries and a national stride in advancing employability and skills development. During the ceremony, over 100 youths received certificates in various disciplines.

On her part, Namyalo encouraged graduates to uphold integrity and hard work as they build their careers.

She commended the First Lady for her steadfast

leadership as the education minister and for championing youth skilling initiatives nationwide.

Namyalo pledged to continue supporting skilling centres like MAU through her office.

She delivered a sh10m contribution from the education ministry, clarifying that the support was part of routine institutional facilitation rather than a political gesture.

MAU Principal Kasim Male expressed gratitude towards the First Lady for her support, noting that the centre offers hope to young people who cannot afford higher education.

"This centre is a lifeline for thousands of young Ugandans. Many would never have access to such training without this initiative," he said.

MAU was founded in 2017 and it operates in 116 districts with more than 80,000 members.