

Young people should embrace discipline and a transformed mindset if the country is to achieve national development, the national co-ordinator of the National Secretariat for Patriotism Clubs (NSPC), Hellen Seku, has said.

While delivering a lecture to 915 patriotism trainees at Nyakasura School in Fort Portal city on Saturday, Seku reminded the young patriots that knowledge, discipline and a strong value system form the backbone of national development.

The session was part of a joint patriotism training involving Nyakasura School and Bukuuku Community Secondary School. The training is aimed at equipping learners with ideological clarity, self-discipline and a renewed commitment to national values.

Addressing the trainees, Seku emphasised the power of knowledge

Youth tipped on discipline as 915 students get patriotism training

in shaping a progressive generation.

"You should love knowledge. Research and read good books outside your academic syllabus. Don't do cram work. Read to understand because in the 21st century, we should love knowledge. The more you love knowledge, the wiser you become," she said.

Seku encouraged the trainees to be responsible not only for their education, but also for their surroundings.

She wondered whether Fort Portal still holds its title as Uganda's cleanest city, and urged the youth to participate in community work.

"You patriots should clean hospitals, roads and markets to demonstrate to the public what we are supposed to be doing," she said, before urging students to reject laziness.

Seku added: "We should change our



Hellen Seku

mindset as young people. We should not sleep like we are competing for a certificate with the dead. When you are at home, wake up at 5:00am and take a shower before starting work.

Be women and men of substance, not circumstance."

She stressed that the future belongs to those who are prepared, focused, and ideologically grounded.

Seku revisited the effects of colonialism on Uganda's cultural and spiritual foundations.

Referring to Lord Macaulay's 1935 letter advocating the introduction of English in Africa, she argued that the language was used as a tool to weaken African identity and self-esteem.

"Colonialists destroyed Uganda's consciousness, identity and pride. Ugandans adopted foreign languages and names, abandoning their own," Seku said.

She warned patriots to remain alert and prepared to defend the country from any form of renewed external exploitation.

"If colonialists return to steal and destroy Uganda, patriots should be ready to crush them."

Seku's lecture left the trainees energised as it reflected on their renewed commitment to patriotism, national duty, and cultural pride.

Established in 2009 by President Yoweri Museveni, the National Patriotism Corps continues to roll out engagements across the country as part of its mission to build a disciplined and ideologically-conscious generation.

Thousands of youth, especially in secondary schools, have undergone patriotism training since then.

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