

**Files of Melanne Verveer,
Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff to the First Lady
Box 40: Files**

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Uganda

Uganda Children's Rights

UK/Ireland

Ukraine

Ukraine – Trafficking
- Vital Voices

Ukraine – Trafficking
- Vital Voices

Ukraine

Ukraine Health Care

UN

UN – CSW

UN Public Support

UNPD

UNFPA

UNICEF

ENCLOSURES FILED OVERSIZE ATTACHMENTS

20056

NANA 17260

file Uganda

Concerned Parents' Association

P. O. Box 815
LIRA, Uganda.

**Mr. John Prendergast
Director African Affairs
National Security Council
State Department
Washington, D.C.
U.S.A.**

APPRECIATION FROM CPA

On behalf of Concerned Parents' Association (CPA), I wish to express our deepest appreciation and most sincerely thank you for giving an audience to the representative of the Association, Mrs. Angelina Atyam on the 7th November, 1997.

The visit of Angelina to your country was to enlighten the entire world about child abduction and violation of children's rights in the North and other war affected areas of Uganda.

We were encouraged to learn that you appreciated our problems and expressed sympathies, promised some actions.

Please allow us to report to you that the conditions of the captives have worsened with latest reports revealing indiscriminate executions of the innocent children on orders of Joseph Kony and his commanders.

This should not be acceptable to the civilised world. We appeal to you to use your good offices and do all within your powers to bring these abuses and violations of children's right to an end. And this ought to be immediate and unconditionally.

We shall keep you informed of any development.

Sincerely yours


**BEN PERE
CHAIRMAN**

ROUTINE

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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

*file Uganda
trip book*

PAGE 01 OF 03

PRT: FIRST LADY

SIT: BARKS-RUGGLES JORDAN PRENDERGAST SANDERS WILSON

SIT: NSC

<PREC> ROUTINE <CLAS> UNCLASSIFIED <DTG> 091613Z APR 98

FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3394
INFO RUEHZO/OAU COLLECTIVE
RUEHJB/AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA 0304
RUFGNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0149
RUEKDIA/DIA WASHDC
RUEKJCS/OSD WASHDC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RUEADWW/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 KAMPALA 001871

CAIRO FOR RANDY BERRY

DECL: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (CLINTON, WILLIAM J.), PREL, PHUM, PINS, UG
SUBJECT: VISIT OF FIRST LADY HILLARY CLINTON TO UGANDA

REF: KAMPALA 1678

1. SUMMARY: FIRST LADY HILLARY CLINTON ACCOMPANIED THE PRESIDENT ON HIS VISIT TO UGANDA MARCH 24-25. THE SIGNAL EVENT OF THE FIRST LADY'S SEPARATE ITINERARY WAS HER SPEECH ON EDUCATION, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND WOMEN'S ISSUES AT MAKERERE UNIVERSITY ON MARCH 25, WHICH WAS EXCEPTIONALLY WELL RECEIVED. END SUMMARY

2. FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON ARRIVED IN UGANDA ON THE EARLY MORNING OF MARCH 24 WITH PRESIDENT CLINTON. DURING HER STAY IN UGANDA, SHE PARTICIPATED IN MOST OF THE EVENTS INVOLVING THE PRESIDENT (DISCUSSED REFTEL), WITH THE PRINCIPAL EXCEPTION OF THE ENTEBBE SUMMIT FOR PEACE AND PROSPERITY ON THE AFTERNOON OF MARCH 25. DURING THAT TIME THE FIRST LADY WENT TO UGANDA'S MAJOR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, MAKERERE UNIVERSITY IN KAMPALA, TO DELIVER AN ADDRESS AT "FREEDOM SQUARE" IN THE CENTRAL AREA OF THE UNIVERSITY. OVER 5,000 PERSONS ASSEMBLED TO HEAR THE ADDRESS, REPRESENTING BOTH THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY AND UGANDAN CIVIC GROUPS, ESPECIALLY THOSE ASSOCIATED WITH WOMEN'S ISSUES. ON A BRIGHT SUNNY DAY, THE FIRST LADY SPOKE FROM A LARGE PLATFORM WITH A BACKGROUND OF STRAW MATS AND BARKCLOTH (A LOCAL TEXTILE MADE FROM THE BARK OF A VARIETY OF FIG TREE).

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3. THE FIRST LADY DELIVERED A 30-MINUTE SPEECH LARGELY DEVOTED TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND WOMEN'S ISSUES. MUCH OF HER ADDRESS DWELT ON THE SITUATION OF PERSONS IN NORTHERN UGANDA UNDER THREAT FROM THE LORD'S RESISTANCE ARMY (LRA) LED BY JOSEPH KONY, TO WHICH SECRETARY ALBRIGHT DREW ATTENTION DURING HER VISIT TO GULU IN DECEMBER 1997. MRS. CLINTON EXPRESSED PARTICULAR ABHORRENCE OF THE LRA'S PRACTICE OF ABDUCTING YOUNG CHILDREN AND TERRORIZING THEM INTO BECOMING LRA FIGHTERS. DURING THESE COMMENTS, SHE INTRODUCED THREE SUCH CHILDREN WHO HAD ESCAPED AND BEEN RETURNED TO THEIR FAMILIES. SHE ALSO REFERRED TO THE 21 CHILDREN STILL UNACCOUNTED FOR AMONG THE 139 KIDNAPPED FROM ST. MARY'S COLLEGE ABOKE IN OCTOBER 1996. SHE MENTIONED AS WELL THE PRESENCE OF SISTER RACHELE FASSERA, WHOSE INTERVENTION WITH THE KIDNAPPERS SECURED THE IMMEDIATE RETURN OF 109 OF THE GIRLS.

4. IN HER COMMENTS ON THE SITUATION IN THE NORTH, WHICH RECEIVED FRONT-PAGE ATTENTION IN LOCAL PRESS, THE FIRST LADY BLASTED THE LRA AND KONY, DECLARING: "THE LRA CALL THEMSELVES SOLDIERS BUT THEY ARE COWARDS. FOR ONLY COWARDS WOULD HIDE BEHIND CHILDREN IN BATTLE. I WANT THE PEOPLE OF UGANDA TO KNOW THAT AMERICANS CARE DEEPLY ABOUT THEIR CHILDREN AND WANT TO STAND WITH YOU AS PARTNERS IN EFFORTS TO STOP THIS TRAGEDY AND CARE FOR ITS VICTIMS." MRS. CLINTON CALLED ON ALL NATIONS TO BRING PRESSURE ON SUDAN TO END ITS SUPPORT FOR THE LRA AND SECURE THE RETURN OF THE KIDNAPPED CHILDREN. AS A FURTHER DEMONSTRATION OF USG CONCERN, THE FIRST LADY ANNOUNCED GRANTS OF \$2 MILLION FOR A NEW THREE-YEAR INITIATIVE TO UGANDA AND OF \$500,000 FOR ORGANIZATIONS DEVOTED TO HELPING ABDUCTED CHILDREN.

5. TURNING TO MORE GENERAL HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS, THE FIRST LADY EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF HEALTH CARE, EDUCATION, ACCESS TO CREDIT, AND OTHER TOOLS OF OPPORTUNITY NEEDED FOR WOMEN TO SUPPORT THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES. SHE SAID THAT SOCIAL PROGRESS REQUIRES THE ABILITY OF PEOPLE TO REACH THEIR POTENTIAL, AND "REAL SECURITY" IS POSSIBLE ONLY WHEN PEOPLE RESPECT EACH OTHER'S FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND ACT COLLECTIVELY TO PROTECT THOSE RIGHTS. TO REINFORCE THE USG'S COMMITMENT TO WOMEN'S ADVANCEMENT, THE FIRST LADY ANNOUNCED A GRANT OF \$2 MILLION TO TRAIN WOMEN ELECTED TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT POSITIONS.

6. IN ADDITION TO VICE CHANCELLOR P. K. SSEBUWUFU, OTHERS IN THE AUDIENCE INCLUDED UGANDAN FIRST LADY JANET MUSEVENI, VICE PRESIDENT DR. SPECIOZA WANDIRA KAZIBWE, SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT JAMES WAPAKHABULO, AND

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DEPUTY SPEAKER BETTY OKWIR. THE AUDIENCE RECEIVED THE FIRST LADY'S REMARKS WELL, INTERRUPTING THE ADDRESS ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS FOR APPLAUSE.

7. FROM THE EVENT AT MAKERERE, THE FIRST LADY WENT TO ENTEBBE, WHERE SHE JOINED PRESIDENT CLINTON FOR THE RECEPTION AT THE IMPERIAL BOTANICAL BEACH HOTEL AND UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 KAMPALA 001871

CAIRO FOR RANDY BERRY

DECL: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (CLINTON, WILLIAM J.), PREL, PHUM, PINS, UG
SUBJECT: VISIT OF FIRST LADY HILLARY CLINTON TO UGANDA

REF: KAMPALA 1678

OTHER CLOSING EVENTS FOR THE VISIT.

8. COMMENT: AS WAS THE CASE WITH HER SPEECH AT THE NILE CONFERENCE CENTER DURING HER VISIT TO UGANDA ALMOST EXACTLY A YEAR BEFORE, THE FIRST LADY'S SPEECH AT MAKERERE WAS A SOLID SUCCESS WITH THE AUDIENCE AT THE SITE AND WITH THOSE WHO VIEWED IT LATER ON LOCAL TELEVISION. HER REMARKS RECEIVED EXTENSIVE AND ENTIRELY FAVORABLE LOCAL PRESS ATTENTION AS WELL. END COMMENT

9. BUJUMBURA MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.

POWELL

<^SECT>SECTION: 01 OF 02

<^SSN>1871

<^TOR>980409144025 M3238240

<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 02

<^SSN>1871

<MSGID> M3238240

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HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH

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file Uganda

**HUMAN
 RIGHTS
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United Nations Representative
 Jonathan Fanton
Chair

April 7, 1998

First Lady Hillary Clinton
 The White House
 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
 Washington DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

On behalf of Human Rights Watch, I want to offer our deep thanks for your powerful words on behalf of children abducted by the Lord's Resistance Army in northern Uganda. Both your speech at Makerere University and your recent "Talking it Over" column vividly communicated the terror and anguish that the Lord's Resistance Army has brought to families like Angelina Acheng Atyam's.

Angelina was very thankful to have the opportunity to meet you last month at the White House, and afterwards spoke repeatedly about how attentive and caring you were in responding to her story. It gave her great hope to know that someone of your influence was willing to listen and speak out about the abductions. Angelina continues to hope that attention and action by the international community will result in the release of her daughter Charlotte, and that of all the other Ugandan children in LRA captivity.

We are also encouraged by your announcement of new USAID funding for the Concerned Parents Association, other local groups working with abducted children, and for development and job projects in Northern Uganda. These initiatives will help provide critically needed support to children who escape from captivity, and to the communities that have been devastated by the decade-long war.

We hope that you will continue to speak out against the use of child soldiers around the world as part of your advocacy for children. We know that yours is a powerful and influential voice, and that you can play an important role in bringing these unspeakable abuses against children to an end.

Thank you again for meeting with Angelina, and for speaking out on her behalf.

Sincerely yours,

Jo Becker

Jo Becker
 Advocacy Director
 Children's Rights Division

cc: Melanne Vermeer

BRUSSELS HONG KONG LONDON LOS ANGELES MOSCOW NEW YORK RIO DE JANEIRO WASHINGTON

ROUTINE

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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

*file
Uganda*

PAGE 01 OF 02

PRT: FLOTUS

SIT: BABBITT BARKS-RUGGLES FRAZER SANDERS SMITHG

SIT: NSC

<PREC> ROUTINE <CLAS> UNCLASSIFIED <DTG> 111334Z JUN 99

FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5985

RUEADWW/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC

INFO /////

UNCLAS KAMPALA 002722

FOR S/S-S AND AF/E

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPDC, UG

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM UGANDAN FIRST LADY JANET MUSEVENI
TO FIRST LADY HILLARY R. CLINTON

1. WE HAVE BEEN REQUESTED BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA TO FORWARD A LETTER
FROM MRS. JANET MUSEVENI TO MRS. HILLARY R. CLINTON.
FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE LETTER:

DEAR MRS. CLINTON,

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP AND SUPPORT IN DRAWING
ATTENTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT NEEDS OF OUR COUNTRY
PARTICULARLY THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL NEEDS OF OUR
CHILDREN AND THE WOMEN OF UGANDA. I ALSO THANK YOU
FOR THE WHITE HOUSE MILLENNIUM PROGRAM THAT SEEKS TO
'INSPIRE CITIZENS TO PARTICIPATE IN GRASS-ROOTS
ACTIVITIES AND TO GIVE PERMANENT GIFTS TO THE FUTURE'
AS WELL AS 'EXPAND THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNICATION AND UNDERSTANDING'.

I WANT TO EXPRESS MY SUPPORT TO YOU ABOUT A JOINT
PROGRAM BETWEEN THE CHURCHES OF YOUR COUNTRY AND MY
COUNTRY (ANGLICAN AND ROMAN CATHOLIC) CALLED SOLAR
LIGHTS FOR THE CHURCHES IN AFRICA (SLCA). THE PROGRAM
HAS BEEN INSTALLING SOLAR LIGHTING UNITS IN SCHOOLS,
ORPHANAGES, HEALTH CLINICS AND THE HOMES OF RURAL
PASTORS WHERE NO RELIABLE ELECTRICITY IS PRESENTLY
AVAILABLE. FUNDING IS ACHIEVED THROUGH A 50/50 MATCH,
WHEREBY AMERICAN CHURCHES AND CITIZENS CONTRIBUTE HALF
THE NECESSARY COSTS FOR A SYSTEM. OUR PEOPLE PAY THE
REMAINING COST OUT OF THE SAVINGS FROM THE ELIMINATION
OF KEROSENE LAMPS AND INCREASED INCOME DERIVED FROM
THE ABILITY TO USE THE LIGHT TO PRODUCE MORE GOODS AND
SERVICES. TO DATE, FEWER THAN 400 SYSTEMS HAVE BEEN
INSTALLED, YET IT HAS MADE A PROFOUND IMPACT IN

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PROVIDING OUR PEOPLE WITH THE HOPE OF PEACE,
PROSPERITY AND BETTER HEALTH.

WE SUPPORT SLCA EFFORTS TO ELECTRIFY 5000 MORE
LOCATIONS AND BRING AMERICAN YOUTH TO UGANDA TO WORK
WITH OUR YOUTH INSTALLING SYSTEMS.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE PROGRAM IS TO BE SUBMITTED, BY
THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, AS A MILLENNIUM
PROJECT. I AM DELIGHTED TO ENDORSE SLCA AS A
MILLENNIUM PROJECT BECAUSE IT WILL ENABLE THE PROGRAM
TO MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE FOR UGANDA.

THEREFORE, I ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND DESIGNATION OF
SLCA AS A MILLENNIUM PROJECT.

THANK YOU, AND MAY GOD BLESS AMERICA AND UGANDA.

YOURS SINCERELY,
JANET K. MUSEVENI (MRS.)

2. ORIGINAL LETTER IS BEING SENT VIA POUCH TO AF/E.
POWELL
<^SECT>SECTION: 01 OF 01
<^SSN>2722
<MSGID> M3905393

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Please file
Uganda

THE WORLD BANK GROUP
Headquarters: Washington, D.C. 20433 U.S.A.
Tel. No. (202) 477-1234 • Fax (202) 477-6391 • Telex No. RCA 248423

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET AND MESSAGE

DATE: February 14, 2000 **NO. OF PAGES:** 4 **MESSAGE NO.:**
(including cover sheet)

TO: ERIK WOODARD **FAX NO.:** 202-456-6244
Title:
Organization: White House
City/Country: Washington DC,

FROM: Hazel Denton **FAX NO.:**
Title: Division Chief **Telephone:** 202-473-4895
Dept/Div: **Dept./Div. No.:**

SUBJECT: UGANDAN CHILDREN'S CHARITY FOUNDATION (UCCF)-VISIT TO THE WHITE HOUSE

MESSAGE:

Here is some basic information on this remarkable group.

In Uganda a staggering 1.4 million children have been orphaned because one or both parents have fallen victim to the AIDS virus.

In 1994, some of the children came to the US to raise funds by performing traditional African songs and dances. The Tour of Light has now become a biennial event.

This group is just starting out on a three-month tour of the United States --what they raise on this trip plus the support of its donors and sponsors will support over 600 orphans for the next two years.

They range in age from 4 to 17 years of age.

It's a grassroots effort, to help those who have suffered from the AIDS crisis. They will be escorted by the founder of UCCF, Ms. Alexis Hefley, from Texas.



Transmission authorized by:

If you experience any problem in receiving this transmission, inform the sender at the telephone or fax no. listed above.

Children of Uganda

Tour of Light 2000

produced by

Uganda Children's Charity Foundation

About UCCF

The Uganda Children's Charity Foundation is a non-profit organization based in Dallas. Because of the financial commitment of its donors and sponsors, UCCF directly supports over 600 orphans – paying for their education, food, medicine and shelter. UCCF's support also extends to three orphanages, two primary schools, a school for the disabled, and a special outreach program for children of HIV positive widows.

Children of Uganda's Tour of Light has been produced in the USA on a grass roots level biennially since 1996. Through appearances at universities, community and civic theaters, schools and churches, the Tour of Light, a project of the Uganda Children's Charity Foundation (UCCF), is designed to promote global awareness of the AIDS related crisis in Uganda and to raise funds to provide basic necessities and education for Ugandan orphans.

The 2000 tour – from February 5 to April 28 – includes performances and educational activities in Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, and Austin, Texas; in Scottsdale and Tucson, Arizona; in New York City and Washington DC; and in Davis, Palo Alto, Pasadena, and Santa Barbara, California.

Alexis Hefley, the President and Executive Director of the Uganda Children's Charity Foundation first traveled to Uganda at the invitation of the First Lady, Janet Museveni in June of 1993. During her 18 months in Kampala, Ms. Hefley lived and worked with AIDS orphans. It was there that she saw the overwhelming need for international humanitarian assistance to address both the AIDS and orphan crisis in Uganda. She returned to the United States in 1994 having organized the first national tour of the Daughters of Charity Dance Troupe comprised of 17 orphans performing traditional African songs and dance. Upon completion of this tour, Ms. Hefley founded UCCF as a continuation of her efforts to assist these children.

Prior to going to Uganda, Ms. Hefley worked in the banking industry for ten years after graduation from Texas A&M University. In search of a calling and the meaning of passion, she quit her job and moved to Washington D.C. where through a volunteer commitment with the International Foundation she had the opportunity to meet Congressman Tony Hall and his wife Janet. Their commitment to God and their personal and political commitment to third world countries sparked Ms. Hefley's initial interest in Uganda.

About the Company

Winners of the "best performers" category at the acclaimed 1993 Children's Festival at Wolf Trap in Washington, DC, **Children of Uganda** is composed of eighteen children ranging in age from six to sixteen years. Most come from the Daughters of Charity Orphanage, the largest in the capital city of Kampala, Uganda. Sister Rose Muyinza, a Catholic nun, founded the orphanage in 1972. Its mission is to care for thousands of children who have lost their parents to war, AIDS and other diseases. The Children of Uganda serve as goodwill ambassadors for the 1.4 million orphans living in their country today.

Uganda's devastating crises during the latter part of the 20th century have seriously disrupted the complex fabric of family and village life that previously nurtured and depended on a rich and varied oral culture. Traditions of storytelling, teaching and performance that had been transferred from generation to generation over time have become seriously threatened. Children of Uganda began as an effort by the Daughters of Charity Orphanage to teach orphaned children the songs and dances – and the lessons and history they conveyed – to a generation for whom they would have otherwise be lost; to empower these children with the hope and joy that singing and dancing offer. Too, in a country with a high illiteracy rate and no public education system, Sister Rose Muyinza recognized a real and important opportunity for the children to become advocates for HIV/AIDS prevention. At first performing as part of local ceremonies – weddings, births, and other events – Children of Uganda, under the direction of Frank Katoola, now travel throughout Uganda, sharing their message of hope, instructing the public and celebrating the rich heritage and history of their parents, grandparents and great grand parents.

About the Choreographer/Director

Frank Katoola has taught music, dance and drama in Kampala, Uganda since 1989. He attended Makerere University in Kampala, where he received a Diploma in Performing Arts for Music, Dance & Drama. Frank has worked and structured educational programs for World Vision Uganda, Vision in Action, American Peace Corps, Habitat International, The British Council and The National Theatre, and Uganda Children's Charity Foundation.

Since 1987, Frank has performed with *Ndere Troupe Cultural Performers* – touted the "most outstanding cultural troupe in the country." He has conducted artistic workshops and seminars in Uganda and other parts of the world, including Germany and the United States. His focus is developing children's theatrical talents. His groups have participated in *East Africa's Winners Festival*, Ligen, Germany's *International Theatre Festival of Children*, and since 1996, Uganda Children's Charity Foundations' *Tour of Light*. Frank wrote, produced and directed three theatre in education dramas: *The Sweet Filth* (1993), *Your Choice* (1994), and *This Evil Chain* (1995).

He is founder of the *Tender Talents Theatre Company* – an umbrella organization for children's theater work in Uganda. Through drama and performing arts, the company focuses on issues of child abuse and the welfare of children and youth in his country. Frank has since founded the *Tender Talents School*, which provides secondary education to young people in Kampala while specializing in music, dance and theater in its pedagogical approaches. Frank is excited to be returning for another tour as choreographer of the *Children of Uganda – Tour of Light 2000*.

About Uganda

Uganda is a landlocked African plateau country straddling the equator and bordered by Sudan to the north, Congo to the west, Rwanda and Tanzania to the south and Kenya to the east. The country lies in a cradle of mountains on its east border with Kenya, Mount Elgon and Mount Moroto in the northeast and in the southwest Rwenzori ranges. The region receives abundant rainfall and is rich in tillable land. Major products include coffee, sugar, and cotton.

The nation of Uganda is the result of the unification of ancient kingdoms and many smaller independent chieftainances. In all, Uganda has 52 different ethnic groups, each with its own language. The largest cultural group (tribe) is the Buganda people, whose kingdom, located in central Uganda, has always been influential in Ugandan affairs. Their language is Luganda. Other major tribes include the Acholi, Batoro, Karamajong, Banyankole, Banyoro, Basoga, Basamia, Bagisu and the Lugbara. Music and dance are an integral part of all of these cultures as is a rich tradition of storytelling and folklore.

HIV Virus in Uganda

It is difficult for many Americans to understand the nature and severity of the crisis, which faces Uganda today. Over the past decade as Uganda's government, religious and community leaders have been tending to the primary needs of infrastructure, the HIV virus has emerged as an overwhelming threat. Uganda has the highest number of reported HIV cases in all of Africa. AIDS is a leading cause of death in Ugandan adults, taking its greatest toll on the 25 - 40 year old population and leaving more than 1.4 million orphans.
