



ULS STATEMENT ON ILLEGAL DETENTION OF UGANDANS

Article 23 (4) of the Constitution of Uganda grants suspects under detention a right to be brought before court not later than 48 hours from the time of their arrest. This right should not be violated regardless the excuse.

Uganda Law Society is alarmed at the growing list of Ugandans that have been arrested and detained beyond the prescribed 48 hours. The latest of these is the arrest of journalist Mr. Joseph Kabuleta on Friday 12th July 2019; he has since been detained at the Special Investigations Division, Kireka.

The Uganda Law Society condemns such acts as not only illegal but also unconstitutional. We therefore demand that Mr. Kabuleta be released immediately in observation of the constitutionally provided due process. We also in the same light detest prosecution arising from such impunity and require court to adhere to the law.

As the Uganda Law Society, we are currently reviewing the option of taking legal action against errant officers starting with the Officer in Charge and his deputy at Kireka Police Station for illegally denying Mr. Kabuleta's legal team access to him, and denying Mrs. Rebecca Kabuleta access to her husband since Saturday 13th July 2019.

We therefore call upon the Inspector General of Police (IGP) to prevail over the officers responsible for this act by holding them personally accountable as enabled by the recently passed Human Rights (Enforcement) Act of 2019.

For God and My Country.

Simon Peter M. Kinobe

President Uganda Law Society