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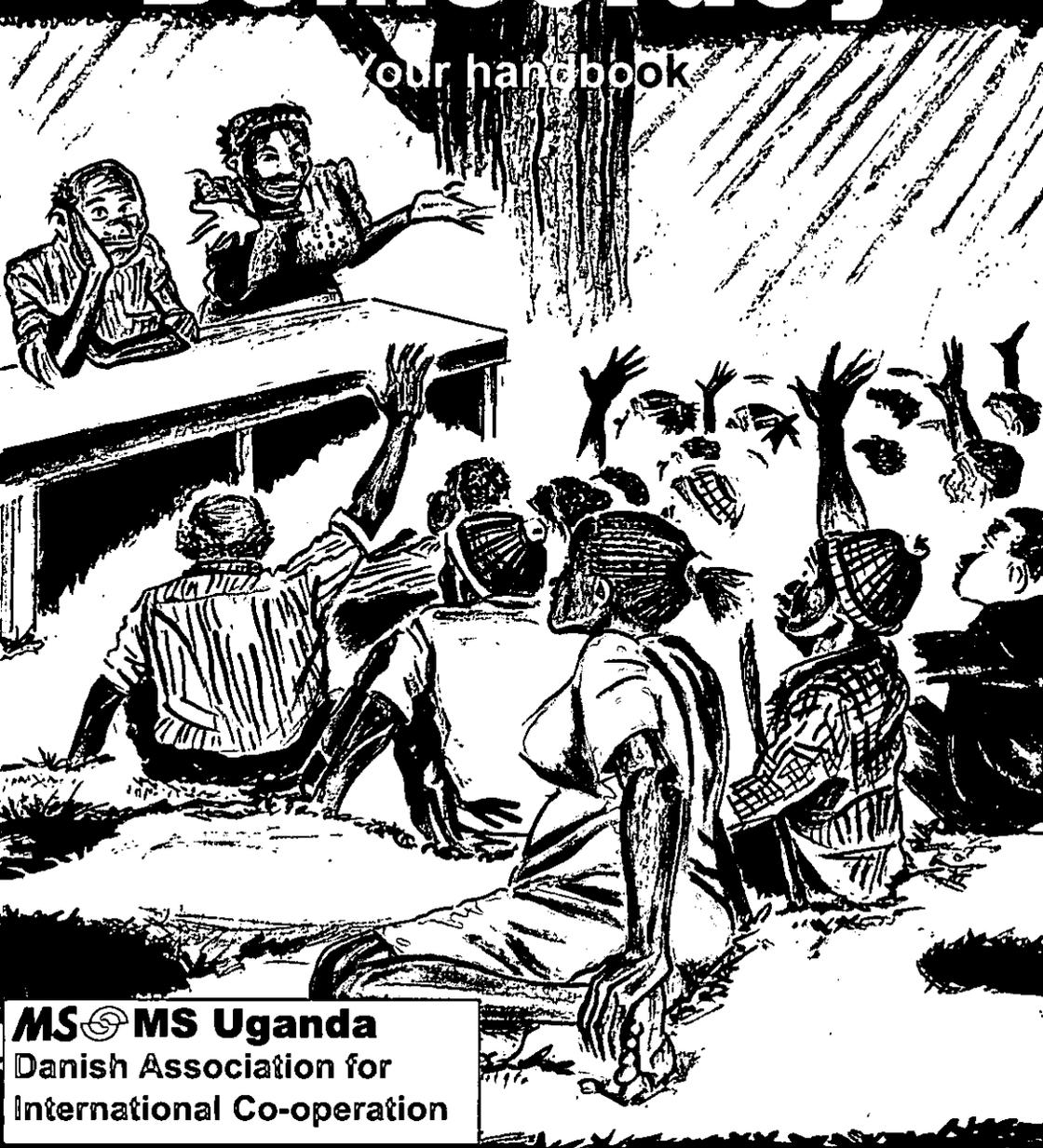
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# Democracy

Your handbook



**MS**  **MS Uganda**  
Danish Association for  
International Co-operation

# **Democracy**

**Your handbook**

Developed by Odoobo Charles Bichachi  
For MS Uganda, based on MS Uganda partners' output

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Edited by: Hands On, Africa Alive Ltd.

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## **Introduction**

Different people have defined Democracy in different ways, the most common definition being that it is the Government of the people, by the people and for the people.

The documented practice of Democracy dates back to the days of the Greek city-states long before the birth of Christ. Democracy however was being practiced long before that in homes and basic communities all over the world.

Yet over time, many people have tended to equate democracy to just politics and specifically to political parties and elections. But this is merely the practice rather than the principle of Democracy.

This booklet seeks to give a whole new meaning to Democracy; democracy as a way of life; as something we live every day.

**By breaking the stereotype concept of Democracy as politics and showing that true democracy is about how you relate with your neighbours, your family, your friends and enemies. About personal responsibility and accountability; about fairness, tolerance and selflessness; and most importantly about participation in community affairs, we believe that we shall help build a better society.**

This booklet is intended for community leaders, opinion leaders, social workers, teachers, religious leaders, community-based NGOs and the ordinary citizen who can read and write.

These, we hope will propagate the new meaning of Democracy in their communities and together, we shall build a better society based on honesty, responsibility, accountability and tolerance.

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Democracy is how you practice social relations with others, how you relate with your neighbours, your family, your friends and enemies.

**DEMOCRACY**

**IS A WAY OF**

**LIFE**

It is important that you practice Democracy in your home and bring up your children to respect themselves, other people and public property

## 1. What is Democracy?

- ☞ Constitutions in countries around the world put the people at the centre of democratic governance. These constitutions require that the people have a big say in how they are governed and that the people have a right and duty to hold those in leadership accountable for their actions.
- ☞ Democracy is how you practice social relations with others; how you relate with your neighbours, your family, your friends and enemies. It is about personal responsibility and accountability. It is about fairness, tolerance and selflessness.
- ☞ It is about putting the good of society ahead of immediate personal gain. And most importantly, it is about participation, not leaving all the responsibility to others.

### What was said and written by prominent people

- ◆ “All power belongs to the people who shall exercise their sovereignty in accordance with (the) Constitution” [Chapter 1, Article 1 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda]
- ◆ “Democracy is the government of the people, by the people and for the people” [Abraham Lincoln, former US President].
- ◆ “Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country” [J.F. Kennedy, former US President].
- ◆ “In a democracy dissent is an act of faith. Like medicine, the test of its value is not in its taste, but in its effects” [J.W. Fulbright, former US Senator]
- ◆ “So long as we have enough people in this country willing to fight for their rights, we’ll be called a Democracy” [Roger Baldwin]

## 2. What is not Democracy?

Democracy is not an idea that is imported from elsewhere and brought to your country, home or village.

- ☞ Many people tend to equate democracy to political parties, systems like the Movement and local village committees. Democracy is neither political parties nor the Movement system
- ☞ You can have political parties that do not practice Democracy, but if you have democracy, then you will inevitably have political parties, because they are the result of freedom of association, speech, security and respect of other people and a good level of social tolerance.
- ☞ Elections do not necessarily mean Democracy. You can have elections regularly at your local club or nationally. However, there is no Democracy if they are not conducted in a free and fair atmosphere, whereby all the people are able to contest and/or vote without being threatened or paid to do so (bribed)



**Fighting is a sign of weakness.**

### 3. Do you know your Human Rights?

Human Rights are entitlements that a person must have to live in dignity.

Civil and Political Rights include the following:

- ☞ The Right to Life, Liberty and Security of a person
- ☞ The Right to privacy
- ☞ The Right to freedom from cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment
- ☞ The Right to be free from torture
- ☞ The Right to freedom of opinion and expression
- ☞ The Right of free thought, conscience
- ☞ The Right to choose your religion
- ☞ The Right of freedom of association and peaceful assembly
- ☞ The Right of freedom from slavery
- ☞ The Right to immunity from arbitrary arrest
- ☞ The Right to a fair trial
- ☞ The Right to be deemed innocent before being assumed
- ☞ guilty in a Court of Law

Social, Economic and Cultural Rights includes the following:

- ☞ The Right to work
- ☞ The Right to free choice of employment
- ☞ The Right to fair and just wages (salaries)
- ☞ The Right to form and join unions
- ☞ The Right to health
- ☞ The Right to education
- ☞ The Right to participation in cultural affairs of the community
- ☞ The Right to an adequate standard of living

Group Rights include the following:

- ☞ The Right to self-determination
- ☞ The Right to a permanent sovereignty (control) over natural resources
- ☞ The Right to development
- ☞ The Right to national and international peace & security
- ☞ The Right to shelter
- ☞ The Right to a clean environment
- ☞ The Right to proper health care
- ☞ The Right to food

Group Rights as defined in the Uganda Constitution, include the Rights of Women, Children, the disabled and other previously disadvantaged people, whose Rights were not recognised in any previous Constitutions.



**Democracy is  
how you practice  
social relations with  
others, how you relate with  
your neighbours,  
your family, your friends  
and your  
enemies**

## 4. What About Your Responsibilities?

Responsibilities are duties and obligations that are expected of you by Society.

- ☞ You must be **loyal to your Country**. You must not engage in activities that will bring harm to or rob your Country and other Citizens of their Rights or Property
- ☞ You must **pay all your taxes promptly**. This will help the Government to fulfil its obligations to you and the rest of the Community. Without your taxes, the Government has no money to purchase medicines for the hospitals, nor payment of the security forces (the police) who are appointed to ensure security for you and your property.
- ☞ You must **protect public property** from thieves and abuse at all times.
- ☞ You must **cooperate as much as possible with the Authorities** (the Police, local Councils, Local LC's), so as to ensure the maintenance of law and order.
- ☞ Do not harbour or protect a known criminal or felon. You could be arrested and/or charged for aiding and abetting. Protection of criminals only increases the possibilities of the offenders repeating the crimes.

- ☞ It is your duty, as a Citizen to join the National Service, whenever you are called upon to do so. If Uganda goes to war with one of its neighbouring countries, an individual may be called upon to assist in defending the Country. It is your duty to do so. However, it is also your right to have the choice to decide to refuse to fight an unjust or senseless war, especially an internal war, which can perhaps be solved peacefully with negotiations.
  
- ☞ You should **champion the sustainable use of the environment**, by protecting the Natural Resources e.g.: the forests and swamps (or Wetlands).
  
- ☞ Most important is your obligation to **actively participate in the democratic political process** so as to determine the affairs of your Community and Country.
  
- ☞ You can, for instance, participate by Voting for Leaders that are fair and just or protest for what you think is wrong or unacceptable.
  
- ☞ You can also involve yourself in the good Management of your Local Schools, so as to ensure a fair and just education for all children, not only your own. It is not enough to pass the blame of poor academic results onto your child. Inquire into the Schools Educational System, make the Headmaster accountable.

**PRACTICE DEMOCRACY**

**BY**

**Knowing your Rights,  
exercising them and  
insisting that those Rights are  
respected  
and upheld by all, without  
infringing on other  
people's  
Rights**

**Fulfil all your responsibilities  
to the state, your community  
and your family**

## **5. How do you Practice Democracy in your Family?**

The family is the basic unit of society, and the Democratic culture starts from this level and spreads from the village, up to the national level.

- ☞ It is therefore important that you practice Democracy in your home and bring up your child/ren to respect themselves, other people and public property.
- ☞ Bring up your children to love and care for each other and other people in the Community; to appreciate differences; to apologise when in the wrong; to feel a sense of shame for doing wrong and to be upstanding and law abiding. They will grow up to be responsible citizens. We will then have a very good Society to live in. The opposite will create a bad Society.
- ☞ Do you for instance, fight with your wife, partner or husband, whenever there is a disagreement? Do you cause the other physical harm? Even worse, do you do this in front of your child/ren? If the answer is yes, there is a very high chance that your child/ren will grow up with the same inclinations. The child/ren often look up to the adults for direction and guidance.
- ☞ This aggressive situation has been know to be repeated through the generations, from grandparents up to the present sibling/s. The end result being that aggression begets aggression thus helping to build a violent and undemocratic society.

- ☛ The aggressive example shows a great deal of intolerance and disrespect for others, not only on the home front, but across the board to the whole of society, e.g. your political leaders, councilors and appointed members in authority.
- ☛ You must also remember not to discriminate against your children on the basis of their sex. Boys and Girls must be treated as equals and as such, be entitled to equal opportunities in education, social standing in society, or place of work.



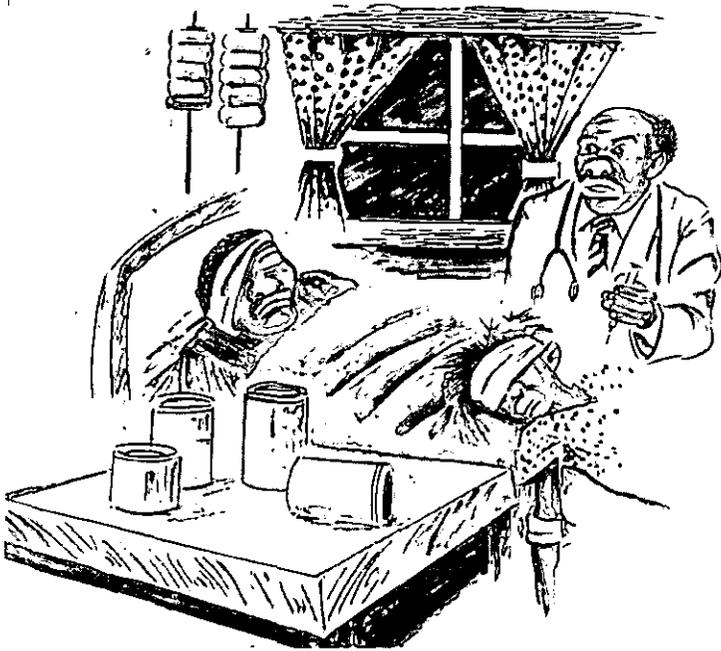
Practice Democracy  
in your  
family

## 6. How do you practice Democracy in your Community?

You can participate in building a democratic society by:

- ☞ **Contributing services** to your community through social activities like educating others on health or human rights, carrying out development programmes like building schools and locating clean water sources.
- ☞ **Organising people** to participate in planning for the development of their community. It is easier to **effect change as a group**, as it has a stronger voice and a greater capacity to bring about change.
- ☞ **Providing a voice** for the oppressed and disadvantaged groups in the community (e.g. street children, deprived orphans and disabled persons) in order to **lobby those responsible** for improving their situation
- ☞ Carrying out activities to **educate your community** on relevant social, economic, political, human rights and development issues **for a better understanding** of how to work together.
- ☞ **Keeping an eye** on appointed leaders and **exposing corruption** and **bad governance**.
- ☞ **Sharing and exchanging information** and resources with other people in international bodies and organisations on issues of international interest, such as the rights of women and children.

- ☛ **Mobilising people** to help those most in need during natural disasters whilst drawing the attention of the relevant authorities and leaders to the problem.
- ☛ **Exercising tolerance and providing a voice** of reason in your community; participating in solving problems peacefully.



**When you pay taxes, demand that there are adequate medical facilities and medication in the centres.**

## 7. What is the role of Civic Organisations in promoting Democracy?

Civil Society is made up of organised groups of people, who come together to work for development of their Community, outside of the Government.

For example:

- i *If the fishermen of Butemba Island come together and form an Association to promote their interests, then the Butemba Development Association is considered a Civic Organisation.*
- ii *Civic Organisations can lobby for Democracy in all manner of ways, for instance: educating voters before an election; campaigning for the Rights of women, children, the disabled; fighting against harmful cultural practices such as female circumcision.*

Civic Organisations contribute to the process of building a Democratic Society by implementing the following policies:

- ☞ **Educating people about their Rights**, usually through seminars, Workshops, Public Rallies and advertising materials in the form of pamphlets
- ☞ **Being at the forefront of defending people's Rights** due to their organised nature. They are not easily threatened because they belong to a wide social network

Mobilising Communities for development initiatives.  
Development initiatives should protect Democracy.

## 8. What is the role of Government in building a Democracy?

The government is a powerful instrument of society and controls Uganda's resources, administers justice and spearheads development. A government that does not do this is not worthy of its name.

The government can help build a democracy by:

- ☞ **Conducting its affairs in a transparent and accountable manner.** People must know why the government has taken a certain decision, how much it will cost and how it benefits the country, in both the long and the short term.
- ☞ **Ensuring a level political field** during elections in which all candidates in the governing party and those in opposition have equal access to the state media and availability of political space to campaign before the public.
- ☞ Making sure that all its **officers that are found guilty** by courts of law of any felony, **are punished according to the law** without fear or favour.
- ☞ **Treating all people fairly.** Citizens should not be denied development projects because they disagree with the government of the day.
- ☞ Implement policies that bring development and benefit society.

## 9. What should you apply in a Democracy?

- ☞ **Vote for your Leaders** on a regular basis, under circumstances that give a fair chance to all who are interested in participating.
- ☞ **Demand** that those elected in positions of responsibility, report back to you and give good reasons for all their actions, decisions and activities.
- ☞ You are entitled to **enjoy fully all the Human Rights**. Civil, political, social, economic and cultural and educational, as provided for in the Constitution of Uganda, and other international covenants.
- ☞ You must **be tolerant and accept other people who hold views different from yours**. Not only about politics, but also any other issues. Such persons also have good ideas and should not be discriminated against by virtue of their views. You can always reach a compromise.
- ☞ Demand that **anyone who stands for election should be asked to state** why he/she wants to run for Office. The person who wants to be elected should list out the benefits of electing him/her. In this case, **he/she can be held accountable**, should they fail to perform as promised.
- ☞ To understand and do some, or all, of the above, requires that you have the necessary information.

If you are in a financial position to purchase a newspaper, then it is important that you do so, so as to keep abreast of current affairs.

Try and listen to the radio, and watch the television as often as possible.

Try and visit the relevant Government Offices and Departments for updated information.

- ☞ Keeping yourself informed would help you to keep up with other organisations, bodies and individuals who have either the same or similar concerns as yours. You will then be able to link up with these groups, hold workshops if necessary and discuss the problems, and plan a conclusive and amenable solution remembering the old adage “there is strength in numbers”.
- ☞ In the case of elections do not be afraid to approach your Civic or Human Rights Organisation such as HURINET, NOCEM and other government departments
- ☞ You can encourage peaceful sit-ins. Do not show any form aggression, use abusive language or gestures.
- ☞ We have a right to be protected. The Authorities must guarantee our security. If for any reason someone approaches you with the intent of arresting you, you have the right to demand the reasons for your arrest, to demand to see an arrest warrant. Should this not be produced, you have the right to report the arresting officers to the Authorities.



**Even people with views different from yours  
have something useful to say**

## 10. Situations you must not accept

- ☞ As a Citizen, you must pay your taxes. These taxes should be used by those in authority to improve your well being, e.g. Providing clean water, health care centres and schools that are adequately equipped.

If these **Services are not provided** and yet you still pay your taxes on a regular basis, then **you are** entitled to **question your Local Councillor**, either **collectively/individually**.

- ☞ **Always insist** upon a full and detailed report or explanation. This explanation/report has to be acceptable and satisfactory.

Should this not be forthcoming, then you have the right to **request the appointed persons/ individuals to resign** and to then appoint someone else in his/her place.

- ☞ Some of the corrupt leaders that are still in office will try their best to cling to their positions/seats. They may do this by offering bribes or other incentives, so as to remain in their given posts.

### *Do not accept this.*

- ☞ You can only vote out corrupt people before the end of their term if the Constitution that governs your Organisation has provisions for it.

You must have a Constitution or a Code of Conduct if you form an Organisation. This Constitution must have provisions that guard against bad practices like corruption.

Corruption always benefits individuals or a tiny minority, at the expense of the majority. Those that are corrupt, are in actual fact selfish people.

☞ Two examples of how this could work are:

- I. If traders at the Eastern Border points of Busia, Malaba and Lwakhakha (in Mbale) feel that cross border trade is made difficult by corrupt customs officials, these traders can co-ordinate their activities and lobby the authorities to take action. This can be more effective than if the Busia Traders raised the matter on their own. Action might be implemented, but it could take a little longer.
- II. The Mbarara Residents can rise and demand that the Municipal Council overhauls the Sewerage System, collects the garbage and rubbish regularly, as the residents are taxpayers.



**As a leader in your community,  
it is wrong to take bribes or seek favours.**

## QUESTIONNAIRE

Test yourself in relation to the activities of your Community or Organisation by answering the following questions:

### YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

- 1) Who influences decisions in the family?  
(a) CHILD(REN) AND PARENTS      (b) MOTHER/FATHER
- 2) If the head of a family wants to make a decision, does he/she consult any other member of the family?  
(a) YES      (b) NO
- 3) Do the children participate in any major decisions in the family?  
(a) YES      (b) NO
- 4) Do the children respect their parents, and/or their elders?  
(a) YES      (b) NO
- 5) Has any member of the family ever been chased (sent) away, because he/she has a different point of view?  
(a) YES      (b) NO
- 6) In your family, who decides when to have children?  
(a) BOTH PARTIES      (b) THE HUSBAND/WIFE  
(c) THE MOTHER-IN-LAW/OTHERS

For any questions answered with (a) 10 marks are awarded,  
(b) 5 marks awarded.

0-30      poor

30-40 good

**YOU AND YOUR DEMOCRATIC LIFESTYLE?**

- 1) Do you fulfil the assignments given to you by your community/  
leaders?  
(a) YES (b)NO
- 2) As a Leader, do you report back to your Community the Projects  
Programmes you have carried out and those that have not been  
started/completed?  
(a) YES (b)NO
- 3) Have you ever diverted Public Funds to your private use?  
(a) YES (b)NO
- 4) Do you question the actions of Leaders?  
(a) YES (b)NO
- 5) Have you ever lost your temper in or with a clan or at the local  
council meeting, because somebody disagreed with you?  
(a) YES (b)NO
- 6) Do you often relate to those who do not share your political opinion?  
a) YES (b)NO
- 7) Have you ever denied anyone an opportunity in favour of another who  
is your relative, friend or has paid you?  
(a) YES (b)NO

- 8) Have you ever sought a favour from a public officer because he is your friend?  
(a) YES (b) NO
- 9) Do you regularly fight with your fellow men or women?  
(a) YES (b) NO
- 10) Would you rather remain seated than surrender your bus seat to a pregnant woman or an elderly person?  
(a) YES (b) NO
- 11) Do you help less fortunate members or people in your community?  
(a) YES (b) NO

For any questions answered with (a) 10 marks are awarded,

(b) 5 marks are awarded

0-50 -poor

50-70 -good

70+ -very good



**Fighting is a sign of weakness.**

## YOU AND YOUR VILLAGE COUNCIL

- 1) Who initiates the village meetings?  
(a) YOUR COUNCILOR (b) INDIVIDUALS  
(c) GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
- 2) How often are the meetings held?  
(a) FREQUENTLY (b) RARELY (c) NEVER
- 3) Do you attend these meetings as a matter of Obligation?  
(a) YES (b) NOT SURE (c) NO
- 4) Are you allowed to participate in the meetings  
(a) YES (b) SOMETIMES (c) NO
- 5) Do you always get a feedback from the LCs about any proposals made in the meetings?  
(a) ALWAYS (b) SOMETIMES (c) NEVER
- 6) Who makes the final decision(s)?  
(a) MAJORITY VOTE (b) LC EXECUTIVE (c) CHAIRMAN
- 7) Are the members of your community aware of the Right(s) to attend these meetings?  
(a) YES (b) SOME DO (c) NO
- 8) Are there rules that are followed?  
(a) YES (b) FEW (c) NO
- 9) How often do you have elections to change your leaders?  
(a) WHENEVER NECESSARY (b) AFTER FIVE YEARS  
(c) NEVER

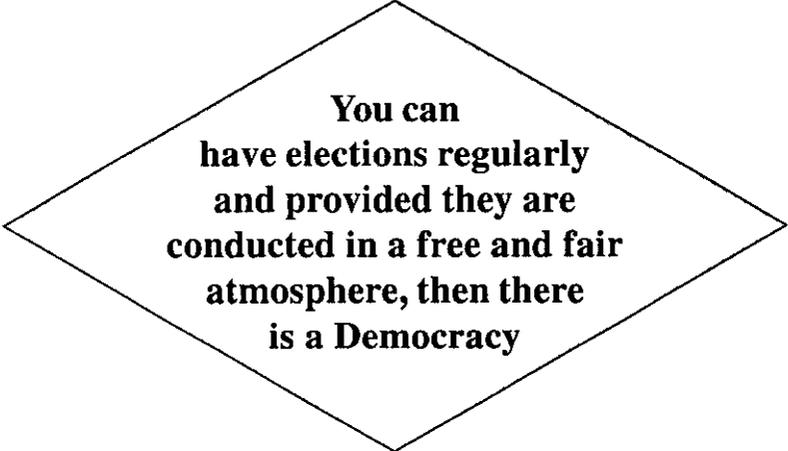
- 10) Have you ever participated in choosing your Leaders?  
(a) ALWAYS (b) ONCE (c) NEVER

For any questions answered with (a) 10 marks are awarded,  
(b) 5 marks are awarded, and (c) 2 marks are awarded.

0-50 poor

50-80 good

80+ very good



**You can  
have elections regularly  
and provided they are  
conducted in a free and fair  
atmosphere, then there  
is a Democracy**

## YOU AND YOUR ORGANISATION

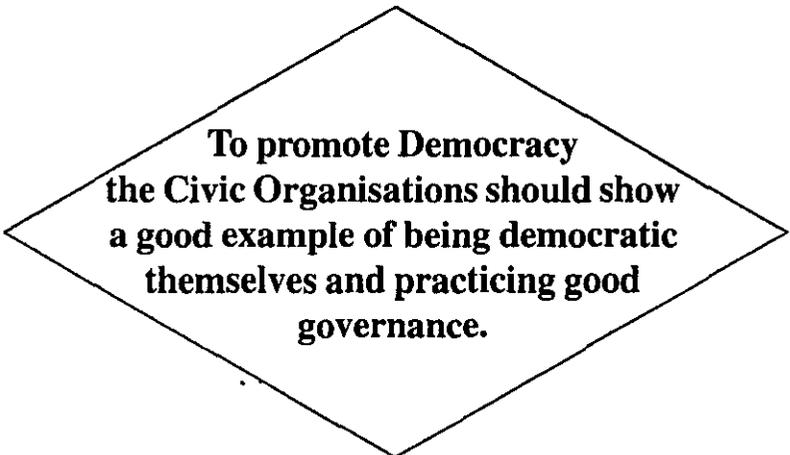
- 1) Who makes decisions in your Organisation?  
(a) ALL MEMBERS      (b) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
(c) CHAIRMAN
- 2) Are you allowed to participate in decision making in your Organisation?  
(a) YES      (b) SOMETIMES (c) NEVER
- 3) Does your Organisation encourage Group participation?  
(a) YES      (b) NO
- 4) Do your Leaders respect views, which are different from theirs?  
(a) YES      (b) SOMETIMES (c) NO
- 5) Are there rules followed while meeting with your Leaders?  
(a) YES      (b) NO

For any questions answered with (a) 10 marks are awarded,  
(b) 5 marks are awarded, and (c) 2 marks are awarded.

0-25    poor

25-40    good

40+    very good



**To promote Democracy  
the Civic Organisations should show  
a good example of being democratic  
themselves and practicing good  
governance.**

## **How can you get your local problems solved?**

Below are some examples of letters that you can write to the relevant authorities, seeking assistance over your local problems.

**The Inspector General of Government, (IGG)  
P.O. Box 1682,  
Kampala,  
Uganda**

Date: (insert date)

Dear Sir,

We would like your office to authorise in writing an inquiry into the affairs of (Namulanda Hospital).

At this hospital, the Hospital authorities have not only neglected their duties, but they also abuse their appointed positions (office).

We are aware that cost sharing exists, but this should not be at the expense of the sick.

Unfortunately, the authorities make us pay for all the services and what is more, it is on rare occasions that a patient is given all the medicines that are required. Part of this money is expected to meet workers salaries, but they are not paid.

Our Hospital lacks a Management Committee. We need proper guidelines on what we should pay for and what contributions will be forthcoming from the Government.

Your earliest attention to this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

Date: (insert date)

**To: The Chairman  
Kikungu LC-II**

Dear Sir,

On (insert date), I was involved in a minor accident and our LC I Chairman kept my bicycle. He said he would only release it after the child I knocked down, had healed.

I paid for the child's hospital bills and he has since gone back home and thence to school, but I still have not received my property back from the LC despite my requests.

I would like your office to help me recover my bicycle, as I am unable to continue my work as a boda-boda and thus unable to provide food for my family.

Jimmy Chakulaga  
Kikungu LC-1

Date:(insert date)

**To: The LC-1 Chairman  
Kiwawu Village**

Dear Sir,

We the undersigned have noted with concern that we are missing out on the 25% share of taxes that our village should receive from the parish Headquarters.

We would expect that the money improves and maintains our roads, wells and security, but nothing is there to show for it. We have also noted this money is not mentioned anywhere in the books of accounts, yet we are aware it was paid to the parish.

We request that a meeting is convened and an explanation given in the very near future.

Jolly Kateeto  
Steven Otim  
Joseph Wandera

**Kiwawu Village**

## **GLOSSARY**

**Constitution:** A Constitution is a collection of laws and principles according to which a State/Country or any other Organisation is governed. Uganda is now governed by the 1995 Constitution.

**Arrest Warrant:** This is a letter issued by a Magistrate or sometimes a Judge to police officers allowing them to arrest a person who has committed an offence.

**Inspector General of Government (IGG):** This is an office set up by the Constitution giving it the right to investigate all cases of abuse of office (corruption, misuse of public property) wherever they may be reported. Anyone who has any complaints regarding abuse of Office, is free to report to the IGG, who then investigates and decides whether there is enough evidence to take the person/organisations concerned to Court.

You can also have some of your local problems solved by lodging a complaint with:

- Courts of Law, like the Magistrates Court
- Family Court
- Local Councils(LCs)
- Police Stations/Posts

**Practice Democracy  
in your family**

**DEMOCRACY  
IS A WAY OF  
LIFE**

**Fulfil all your responsibilities  
to your family , your community  
and the state**



**Fighting is a sign of weakness.**



**Even people with views different from yours  
have something useful to say**

## NOTES

What do you think of this booklet?

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What have you learnt from this booklet?

1. -----  
2. -----  
3. -----  
4. -----

Is there something you feel is missing which you think should have been included?

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Do you have any suggestions for the improvement of this book?

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**Send to: MS Uganda,  
P. O. Box, 6331, Kampala.**



**YOU AND YOUR DEMOCRATIC LIFESTYLE?**

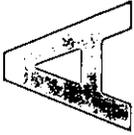
- 1) Do you fulfill the assignments given to you by your community/leaders?  
(a) YES (b) NO
  
- 2) As a leader, do you report back to your Community the Projects Programmes you have carried out and those that have not been started/completed?  
(a) YES (b) NO
  
- 3) Have you ever diverted Public Funds to your private use?  
(a) NO (b) YES
  
- 4) Do you question the actions of Leaders?  
(a) YES (b) NO
  
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(a) NO (b) YES
  
- 6) Do you often relate to those who do not share your political opinion?  
(a) YES (b) NO
  
- 7) Have you ever denied anyone an opportunity in favour of another who is your relative, friend or has paid you?  
(a) NO (b) YES

- 8) Have you ever sought a favour from a public officer because he is your friend?  
(a) NO (b) YES
- 9) Do you regularly fight with your fellow men or women?  
(a) NO (b) YES
- 10) Would you rather remain seated than surrender your bus-seat to a pregnant woman or an elderly person?  
(a) NO (b) YES
- 11) Do you help less fortunate members or people in your community?  
(a) YES (b) NO

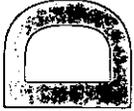
For any questions answered with (a) 10 marks are awarded, (b) 5 marks are awarded

0-50 poor      50-70 good      70+ very good

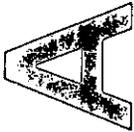




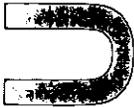
**MS Uganda** is a programme under MS, The Danish Association for International Cooperation. The main focus of MS is to build bridges between people of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds, political convictions and religious beliefs. Such cross-cultural understanding, MS believes, will contribute to her ultimate aim - a more just distribution of the resources in the world.



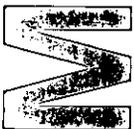
In relation to development in the South MS is applying a two sided strategy - on the one hand supporting development initiatives to actively support change on the ground, on the other hand through information activities and advocacy work in Denmark and Europe to work for more favourable policies towards developing countries.



**MS Uganda** is not a donor. MS does not see itself as a mere funding agency. MS implements its two sided strategy for development in the South through active partnerships. MS cooperates with local organisations or institutions in long term partnerships. These partnerships should benefit both the Ugandan partner and MS. The partner gets support to her development initiatives. While MS gets input to her information and policy work in Denmark.



**MS Uganda** currently cooperates with Ugandan organisations, groups and institutions. MS aims at working mainly with partners in the northern and northwestern districts of Uganda.



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