

## UGANDA TEXTBOOK-ACADEMIC AND NON-FICTION AUTHORS ASSOCIATION (UTANA)

## **BOOK EXPOSITION BY Prof. SYED A. H. ABIDI**

THEME: BUSINESS OF BEING AN AUTHOR: RICHES OF PUBLISHIG

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About Prof. Syed Abidi: Prof. Syed Abidi (M.A., M. LiB Sc, PG Dip. Lib, Ph.D. (H.C), D. Lit) has spent half a century at Makerere University, thirty years out of that as Director East African School of Library and Information Science. He brought EASLIS from Certificate and Diploma level to Post graduate Level. His students have reached the position of Ministers, Army Generals, Vice Chancellors, Deans, Professors and so on. He has authored six books including "Information Communication and development in Africa". He edited three books for Professors World Peace Academy, four for Germany Foundation for International Development, seven books for Foundation for African development, seven for Makerere University Press, one for Hamdard Foundation, one for Kiseka Foundation and many others. He has been member of the advisory board of World University Federation, was made ambassador of Peace by "International Inter-religious Foundation for World Peace in 2003 in Seoul, South Korea. He has been Chairman of the Theosophical Society of Uganda (Nile Lodge), Social Service League, Indian Association Uganda and many other organizations. At present, he is Chairman Kampala University Council, Chairman East African University Council (Kenya) and Chairman, Al-Mustafa Islamic College, Uganda.

Abstract to Keynote Address: In any publishing business, ideas are generated through observation, experience, imagination and studies. They are recorded in different ways- writing books, making films, creating art pieces, informal writing of diaries, notes, memoranda, audio records and other modern methods for communication. However, in the societies where reading and writing facilities are not optimal, a lot of useful information is missed out. Efforts should be made to ensure the utilization of informally created knowledge which is valuable national asset. This can be done through intervention of Civil Society like UTANA. This exposition uses Dr. Samson Kiseka's book "Challenges to leadership in the developing world" as a good step in that direction and an effort to preserve the ideas. Dr. Samson Kiseka should not only be looked at as a politician but also as a disciplinarian, political philosopher, social reformer, a patriot and humanist. It will be in great national interest to understand Dr. Samson Kiseka's philosophy, popularize his ideas and utilize his thoughts for the good of Ugandan society