



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

I am very pleased to join Ugandans everywhere, in welcoming this timely book on the role of the Asian community in Uganda. I understand that it is published as part of our Golden Jubilee Celebrations.

The expulsion of Asians in 1972 led to a catastrophic decline in the economy. On taking over power in 1986, the NRM Government made a bold decision to expedite the restoration of the expropriated Asian properties to their previous owners. It has been my privilege to preside over this dynamic phase of the economy.

The Asian returnees have contributed significantly to our economic revival. I believe the book will strengthen our commercial diplomacy in attracting more diaspora Asians and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to Uganda by highlighting the multicultural face of the Ugandan economy.

I commend economist Dr Vali Jamal, an original Ugandan Asian, for this important publication and join all Ugandan Asians in celebrating their success story. Your success is Uganda's success.

Yoweri K. Museveni

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

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18th March, 2012

Dr Vali Jamal
Author
Uganda Asians: Then and Now,
Here and There, We Contributed,
We Contribute
KAMPALA



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

FOREWORD BY H.E. PRESIDENT YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI

I am very pleased to join Ugandans everywhere in welcoming the publication of this book, which highlights the role of the Asian Community in Uganda's socio-economic growth since 1870. Although their input was abruptly ended by their expulsion from Uganda in 1972, I am glad that several of them returned and have subsequently made pivotal contributions to the development of various sectors of Uganda's economy.

I commend the author, Dr. Vali Jamal for his 8 year-long dedication to recording and telling the history of the Ugandan-Asians. This book will, no doubt, provide a very valuable historical resource for the younger Ugandan-Asian generations.

Dr. Jamal provides insights into the centuries-long ties that have existed between Uganda and India since the immigration of the first Indians to East Africa that was spearheaded by the Ismailis under the leadership of the Aga Khan family. Just like their forefathers who enabled the Indians to come to Uganda, the Aga Khan and his uncle, Prince Nadruddin, then head of UNHCR, played a very important role in rescuing and resettling thousands of Ugandan-Asians in Canada and other countries around the world.

In telling the story of the Ugandan-Asian pioneers, their expulsion and return, this book emphasizes the multicultural face of the Ugandan economy. It will strengthen our commercial diplomacy by attracting more diaspora Asians and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). Uganda's liberalised economy is, in fact, open to all people that are interested in participating in the country's development.

I join the Ugandan-Asian Community in celebrating their success story. Your success is Uganda's success.

Yoweri Kaguta Museveni
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

15 March, 2016