



# AFRICAN CENTRE FOR TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION OF TORTURE VICTIMS (ACTV)

A HAPPY JANANI LUWUM DAY 2023!

ACTV joins the rest of the world in commemorating Janani Luwum Day 2023.

The late Archbishop Janani Luwum was a human rights defender tortured for his contribution in human rights advancement during the late Idi Amin reign characterised by human rights violations and abuses. His martyrdom should remind us; Rights Holders and Duty Bearers of the spirit enshrined in Article 1 of the 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda where all authority in the State emerges from the Rights Holders and where governance is based on their will and consent, which is a major facet of democracy and governance and an enabler of human rights realisation. We also need to remind ourselves of Article 17 in the 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda that it is every citizen's duty to 'respect the rights and freedoms of others' as well as to 'cooperate with **lawful agencies** in the maintenance of law and order since with rights, comes responsibilities.

Therefore, on this Day, we urge the State to invest in an environment where Freedom from Torture and Ill treatment guaranteed under Article 44 (a) of the 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda is **respected** by encouraging **participation, accountability, non-discrimination, empowerment** and the **rule of law**. The State should encourage rights holders not only to report violations and abuses suffered but also enact a Witness Protection law to enable citizen safety and security in our collective efforts as State and Non-State actors to promote, protect and account for human rights and freedoms besides fostering timely access to justice in Uganda.

ACTV wishes both rights holders and duty bearers a meaningful Janani Luwum Day 2023. Remember, we are all born equal in dignity and rights.



**African Centre for Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture Victims  
(ACTV)**



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