

KWANJULA CEREMONY - PROGRAM OUTLINE

(TYPICAL TIME: 3 - 4 hours)

1. ABATAMBUZE BALI KU MULYANGO (Groom's party are "travelers and strangers" until allowed in by the "father's mouth")
2. ABAGENYI BAYINGIDDE (Groom's party is allowed in as visitors)
3. ABAGENYI BATUDDE – ABAANA BALAMUSA (The bride's siblings greet the visitors)
4. ABAGENYI BANYONYOLA EKIBALEESE (The "groom's mouth" explains the visitors' trip - Ensonga)
5. EKYALEESE ABAGENYI KIMANYIBWA (The aunt who invited the visitors gets to admit, after she is "ultimately found" – Ssenga Ow'ensonga)
6. ABAGENYI BALEETA ENJOGEZA (The visitors bring the "conversation drink")
7. OKW'OGERA EBIKWAATA KU MULENZI (The "groom's mouth" presents the groom's family background, ancestry, and achievements)
8. OLUKIIKO LULAMUSA (Uncles, aunts, Jajjas, and "neighbors" in the assembly separately greet the visitors – the women among the visitors kneel during each greeting)
9. OKW'OGERA EBIKWAATA KU MUWALA (The "father's mouth" presents the bride's family background, ancestry, and achievements)
10. OKUSIIMA EBIRABO (The "groom's mouth" asks for permission to show their appreciation of the great job that the family has done in bringing up their beautiful and intelligent daughter - then presents gifts for the father, mother, muko, Ssenga, other aunts, grand parents, etc.)
11. OKUYINGIRA MU NJU - OKULYA ENTABA LUGANDA (A party of 4-5 visitors, including the groom and the "groom's mouth", enter the house for a 10-20 minute private briefing by the uncles and aunts and to formally accept the groom as a "son" – roasted coffee beans and water drinks are shared to "seal Oluganda".)
12. OKULYA EKIJJULO (The tone of exchanges changes to a family conversation – plans for the main feast are announced and the groom is accompanied by another team to eat inside the house, but not with the parents)
13. OBUSIIMO, EMPETA NE CAKE (Additional presents, photography, engagement ring exchanges, and cutting of a cake may take place at this time – all these are optional and not required by Ganda culture)
14. OKUSIBUULA (The visitors ask for permission to "go walk around and get to know the village" and after permission, they leave for home – the bride to must stay and is fetched as part of the KASUZE KATYA CEREMONY)

Contributed by: Omutaka Lawrence Matovu, Professional Ganda Ceremonies Planner and Speaker.