

# 50-DAY PRAYER AND FASTING SEASON: 19th August - 8th October 2025

#### **FOCUS ON THE GOVERNANCE SPHERE**

#### 2026 NATIONAL ELECTIONS AND THE FUTURE OF LEADERSHIP IN UGANDA

#### PRAYER GUIDE FOR WEEK THREE: 1st to 7th September 2025

Day	Day of the Week	Date	Area of Focus
14	Monday	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2025	Land and Soil Management
15	Tuesday	2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025	Water Management
16	Wednesday	3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2025	Biodiversity & the Natural Environment
17	Thursday	4 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Wildlife
18	Friday	5 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Livestock, Fisheries and Agriculture
19	Saturday	6 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Energy
20	<u>Sunday</u>	7 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Minerals and Natural Resources

## DAY 20: 7<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025

#### MINERALS, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND GOVERNANCE IN UGANDA

#### **DEUTERONOMY 8:9-10**

"A land where the rocks are iron and you can dig copper out of the hills... when you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the Lord your God for the good land he has given you."

#### JOB 28:1-2

"There is a mine for silver and a place where gold is refined. Iron is taken from the earth, and copper is smelted from ore."

#### Introduction: Uganda's Hidden Wealth

Uganda is a land rich in natural treasures — gold in Mubende and Karamoja, limestone in Tororo, copper and cobalt in Kasese, sand in Lwera, oil in the Albertine Graben, and gemstones in different regions. These resources have the potential to transform Uganda's economy. But they also pose a test: will they be managed with righteousness for the benefit of all, or misused for private gain?

#### 1. Minerals as a Gift and a Test

Natural resources are divine gifts but they test governance. Gold mining in Mubende and Karamoja, for example, could uplift communities, yet many locals remain poor while illegal miners and smugglers profit.

Job 28:1–2 — "There is a mine for silver and a place where gold is refined. Iron is taken from the earth, and copper is smelted from ore."

#### 2. The Role of Minerals in Development

Resources can drive industries and jobs. Tororo's limestone fuels Uganda's cement industry, a vital input for construction. Oil in the Albertine region is projected to generate billions in revenue. If governed well, these could build infrastructure, hospitals, and schools. But if revenues are misused, they will enrich only a few.

Proverbs 13:11 — "Dishonest money dwindles away, but whoever gathers money little by little makes it grow."

#### 3. Governance Failures in Natural Resource Management

Uganda has faced painful examples of poor governance in natural resources:

- **Illegal Gold Trade**: Billions in gold exports pass through Uganda annually, yet much of it is smuggled with little benefit to citizens.
- Sand Mining in Lwera: Large-scale extraction has destroyed wetlands, threatening Lake Victoria's ecosystem and fisheries.
- Kilembe Copper Mines: Once a thriving industry in Kasese, they collapsed due to mismanagement and corruption, leaving behind unemployment and environmental damage.

Isaiah 5:8 — "Woe to you who add house to house and join field to field till no space is left."

#### 4. Natural Resources, Equity, and the Poor

Too often, resource-rich communities remain poor. In Karamoja, despite gold deposits, many families live in hunger and insecurity. In the Albertine region, communities displaced by oil projects report inadequate compensation and limited benefits.

Proverbs 31:8–9 — "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves... defend the rights of the poor and needy."

#### 5. Resources, Conflict, and Stability

Natural resources can fuel conflict. In Karamoja, cattle rustling and illegal gold mining overlap with insecurity. Oil in the Albertine region has raised tensions over land ownership, environmental risks, and revenue sharing.

James 3:16 — "For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice."

#### 6. Stewardship and Sustainability

Uganda's sand, forests, and minerals are being depleted faster than they are restored. Sand mining in Lwera has left deep environmental scars. Oil exploitation could threaten ecosystems along the Nile and Murchison Falls National Park. Governance must ensure environmental rehabilitation, strict regulation, and investment in renewable sectors.

Numbers 35:34 — "Do not defile the land where you live and where I dwell."

#### **Conclusion: Governance as Stewardship of Treasure**

Minerals and natural resources can be either a **blessing** or a **curse**. Uganda's wealth must be governed with justice, transparency, and long-term vision. Righteous governance will turn these treasures into national blessings; corruption will turn them into curses.



Proverbs 14:34 — "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin condemns any people."

#### PRAYER GUIDE: MINERALS, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND GOVERNANCE IN UGANDA

#### 1. Thanksgiving for Uganda's Resources

Psalm 24:1 — "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it."

Lord, thank You for blessing Uganda with minerals, fertile soils, forests, and rivers. We acknowledge these treasures as Your gifts to this nation.

## 2. Repentance for Exploitation and Greed

Jeremiah 6:13 — "From the least to the greatest, all are greedy for gain."

Forgive us for corruption in mining, smuggling of gold, destruction of wetlands, and exploitation of poor communities. Forgive leaders who have traded away national wealth and citizens who have neglected stewardship.

#### 3. Prayer for Righteous Leadership

Proverbs 29:2 — "When the righteous thrive, the people rejoice."

Lord, raise leaders with integrity to manage Uganda's oil, gold, sand, and minerals. Protect them from bribery and greed. Let contracts be transparent and revenues managed with accountability.

### 4. Prayer for Communities in Resource Areas

Isaiah 32:18 — "My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes, in undisturbed places of rest."

Lord, defend communities in Karamoja, Mubende, and the Albertine region. Ensure they benefit through jobs, infrastructure, and fair compensation. Protect them from displacement and exploitation.

## 5. Prayer Against Conflict and Exploitation

James 3:16 — "Where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder."

Lord, silence conflicts over land and minerals. Break networks of illegal mining and cross-border smuggling. Turn Uganda's resources into instruments of peace, not violence.

#### 6. Prayer for Stewardship and Sustainability

Ecclesiastes 7:14 — "When times are good, be happy; but when times are bad, consider: God has made the one as well as the other."

Lord, guide Uganda to use today's wealth wisely. Inspire reforestation, rehabilitation of mined areas, and investment in sustainable industries for future generations.

### 7. Prayer for National Transformation

Isaiah 60:17 — "Instead of bronze I will bring you gold... I will make peace your governor and well-being your ruler."

Lord, let Uganda's natural resources be governed by peace and righteousness. May minerals build schools, hospitals, and industries. May this nation be exalted through righteous stewardship.

### **Closing Prayer**

Father, we dedicate Uganda's minerals, oil, forests, and rivers to You. Forgive our greed, corruption, and mismanagement. Raise leaders who will steward these treasures with righteousness. Protect communities from displacement, restore ecosystems, and let every resource serve the common good. May Uganda shine as a testimony of Your wisdom and provision. In Jesus' name, Amen.