



## 50-DAY PRAYER AND FASTING SEASON: 19<sup>th</sup> August – 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025

### FOCUS ON THE GOVERNANCE SPHERE

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

### PRAYER GUIDE FOR WEEK FOUR: 8<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Day	Day of the Week	Date	Area of Focus
21	Monday	8 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	The National Economy
22	Tuesday	9 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Transport and Logistics
23	Wednesday	10 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Information Communication and Technology
24	Thursday	11 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Entrepreneurship, Trade and Commerce
25	Friday	12 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Manufacturing & Industry
26	Saturday	13 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Tourism and Hospitality
27	Sunday	14 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Labour & Employment

### DAY 24: 11<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025

### ENTREPRENEURSHIP, TRADE AND COMMERCE

#### PROVERBS 22:29

*“Do you see someone skilled in their work? They will serve before kings; they will not serve before officials of low rank.”*

#### DEUTERONOMY 8:18

*“But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.”*

#### PROVERBS 31:18

*“She sees that her trading is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night.”*

#### LEVITICUS 19:35–36

*“Do not use dishonest standards when measuring length, weight or quantity. Use honest scales and honest weights.”*

#### ECCLESIASTES 11:6

*“Sow your seed in the morning, and at evening let your hands not be idle, for you do not know which will succeed.”*

Entrepreneurship, trade, and commerce are at the heart of Uganda’s economy. Small businesses, farmers’ cooperatives, cross-border traders, and large enterprises all play a vital role in providing jobs, income, and goods. Governance determines whether these activities

thrive in an environment of fairness and opportunity — or struggle under corruption, weak infrastructure, and poor policy.

### 1. Entrepreneurship in Uganda: The Spirit of Innovation

- Uganda has one of the highest rates of entrepreneurship in Africa, especially among youth and women.
- From agriculture processing to ICT startups, Ugandans demonstrate resilience and creativity.

**Governance Impact:** Entrepreneurs need access to credit, supportive policies, training, and protection from exploitation.

### 2. Trade and Commerce as Lifelines of the Economy

- Uganda's domestic trade fuels local economies, while **regional and global trade** expand markets.
- Exports: coffee, fish, gold, tea, maize, flowers.
- Imports: fuel, machinery, textiles, electronics.
- **Governance Impact:** Trade thrives when there is infrastructure, fair taxation, and strong cross-border agreements. Poor governance creates barriers like excessive bureaucracy, bribery, and poor roads.

### 3. The Role of Governance in Commerce

- **Policy:** Sound trade policies (tariffs, export promotion, customs) shape competitiveness.
- **Infrastructure:** Roads, rail, ports, and digital systems determine trade efficiency.
- **Regulation:** Laws protect consumers, ensure fair competition, and create predictability.
- **Anti-Corruption:** Governance must eliminate bribery at borders, markets, and licensing offices.

### 4. Barriers and Failures in Governance

- High cost of credit for small businesses.
- Corruption and bribes at customs and licensing offices.
- Informal traders harassed by authorities.
- Weak policies on value addition: Uganda exports raw coffee, tea, and gold instead of finished products.
- Trade disruptions due to political instability or poor cross-border cooperation.

### 5. Opportunities for Transformation

- **Value Addition:** Processing coffee, cotton, and other exports locally.
- **Regional Trade:** Tapping into the East African Community and African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).
- **Digital Commerce:** E-commerce platforms expanding access to markets.
- **Youth Entrepreneurship:** Training, incubation hubs, and startup financing.
- **Fair Policies:** Governance that supports SMEs, protects traders, and ensures just taxation.

### UGANDA'S COFFEE TRADE AND THE CHALLENGE OF VALUE ADDITION

Uganda is currently Africa's largest exporter of coffee, a position it secured in May 2025 by surpassing Ethiopia in export volume. Uganda achieved this milestone with a significant

increase in exports, demonstrating strong growth in its coffee sector and a strategic focus on quality standards, farmer support, and government investment.

Coffee is the country's leading export earner, contributing over \$850 million annually and supporting the livelihoods of 1.8 million households. Coffee is often called "*Uganda's black gold*."

Uganda has become the world's largest exporter of Robusta. Yet, while Uganda grows some of the finest Robusta and Arabica beans, most coffee is exported in raw form, with very little local processing. This means the bulk of profits go to foreign roasters and exporters, while Ugandan farmers remain poor.

### The Governance Challenge

1. **Lack of Value Addition:** Less than 10% of Uganda's coffee is processed locally into instant or roasted coffee.
2. **Weak Policies:** Past attempts at enforcing value addition (e.g., the controversial Vinci Coffee Agreement) sparked debates on transparency, fairness, and governance.
3. **Market Barriers:** Export taxes, high electricity costs, and weak infrastructure make it harder for local processors to compete globally.
4. **Farmer Income:** Farmers often sell unprocessed coffee cheaply, while international markets reap large profits.

*Proverbs 13:23 — "The field of the poor may produce much food, but it is swept away through injustice."*

### Opportunities for Uganda

- **Local Processing:** Building roasting and instant coffee factories to capture more export value.
- **Entrepreneurship:** Supporting small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in coffee branding and specialty markets.
- **Global Trade Agreements:** Leveraging the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) to expand African coffee markets.
- **Fair Trade Certification:** Promoting ethically sourced Ugandan coffee to premium international buyers.

*Ecclesiastes 3:13 — "That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God."*

### Lessons for Governance

- Good governance must balance regulation and freedom: encouraging investment while ensuring transparency.
- Policies should empower farmers and entrepreneurs, not just multinational corporations.
- Infrastructure (roads, electricity, internet) and affordable financing are essential for value addition.

*Deuteronomy 24:19 — "When you are harvesting in your field and you overlook a sheaf, do not go back to get it. Leave it... so that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands."*

## **Conclusion: Governance as a Partner in Prosperity**

Uganda's economy depends on the vibrancy of its entrepreneurs and traders. Governance is the silent partner that either enables or cripples their success. Good governance reduces barriers, ensures fairness, invests in infrastructure, and creates a predictable business environment. When aligned with righteousness, governance allows commerce to become a vehicle of prosperity and justice.

## **PRAYER GUIDE: ENTREPRENEURSHIP, TRADE, AND GOVERNANCE IN UGANDA**

### **1. Thanksgiving for Uganda's Entrepreneurial Spirit**

*Psalm 90:17 — "May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us."*

*Psalm 104:14 — "He makes grass grow for the cattle, and plants for people to cultivate—bringing forth food from the earth."*

Lord, we thank You for the creativity and resilience of Ugandans who start businesses, trade across borders, and create value despite challenges. Thank You, Lord, for blessing Uganda with fertile soils and coffee that sustains millions of households.

### **2. Repentance for Corruption, Exploitation and Lost Opportunities**

*Amos 8:5 — "Making the ephah small and the shekel great, and falsifying the balances by deceit."*

*Jeremiah 2:13 — "My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns..."*

Forgive us, Lord, for dishonest practices in trade — corruption, bribery, exploitation of small traders, and unjust taxation that stifles entrepreneurship. Forgive us for governance failures and policies that have squandered opportunities for value addition.

### **3. Prayer for Entrepreneurs**

*Deuteronomy 28:12 — "The Lord will bless all the work of your hands."*

Bless Uganda's entrepreneurs with access to capital, mentorship, and markets. May they create businesses that provide jobs and serve communities.

### **4. Prayer for Trade Policies and Infrastructure**

*Isaiah 45:2 — "I will go before you and will level the mountains; I will break down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron."*

Lord, inspire leaders to create policies that open doors for trade, improve cross-border cooperation, and develop infrastructure that connects farmers, traders, and global markets.

### **5. Prayer for Value Addition and Innovation**



*Exodus 31:3–4 — “I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills.”*

*Isaiah 65:21–22 — “They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.”*

Father, may Uganda move from exporting raw materials to producing high-quality finished goods. Raise innovators and entrepreneurs who create value for generations. Lord, enable Uganda to roast, package, and export finished coffee products, so that farmers and entrepreneurs benefit from their work.

## **6. Prayer for Farmers**

*James 5:7 — “See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains.”*

Bless coffee farmers with fair prices, protection from exploitation, and resilience against climate change.

## **7. Prayer for Just Governance in Commerce**

*Micah 6:11 — “Shall I acquit someone with dishonest scales, with a bag of false weights?”*

*Micah 6:8 — “What does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”*

Lord, establish justice and fairness in Uganda’s markets, borders, and licensing systems. Remove corruption and harassment from trade. Raise leaders who will create transparent, just, and empowering trade policies that benefit Ugandans first.

## **7. Prayer for Regional and Global Competitiveness**

*Matthew 5:14 — “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.”*

May Uganda shine as a hub for entrepreneurship and trade in East Africa. Bless our participation in regional and global markets.

## **Closing Prayer**

Father, we lift Uganda’s entrepreneurs, traders, and business leaders before You. Thank You for their creativity and hard work. Forgive our failures in governance that hinder their success. Raise visionary leaders who will create policies that unlock opportunity, ensure fairness, and build infrastructure that supports trade. May Uganda’s commerce reflect justice, prosperity, and righteousness, to the glory of Your name.

Father, we thank You for Uganda’s gift of coffee, a crop that sustains millions and gives our nation a place in global trade. We repent for wasted opportunities and unjust governance that has left farmers in poverty. We ask You to bless our farmers, inspire entrepreneurs, and guide our leaders to pursue value addition and fairness. May Uganda’s coffee industry become a testimony of righteousness, prosperity, and justice. In Jesus’ name, Amen.