

KABARAK UNIVERSITY

Education in Biblical perspective

BONAYA GODANA DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

THEME: INTERNATIONAL RULE OF LAW
AND THE GLOBAL SOUTH



PROGRAMME

FRIDAY, 24 APRIL 2026 11:00 AM

Kabarak University | Sawia Auditorium

The Bonaya Godana Distinguished Lectures

Kabarak University has established the Bonaya Godana Distinguished Lectures to honour the legacy of Dr Bonaya Adhi Godana, who was a great Kenyan statesman and international lawyer who was passionately committed to uplifting the peoples of Africa and his community. HE Judge Abdulqawi Yusuf in his inaugural 2026 Lecture, has described Dr Godana as one whose 'vision as a statesman and international lawyer transcended the African continent and embraced all the peoples of what we call today the Global South. He was a true "tiersmondiste"'.

Kabarak University, through Kabarak University School of Law and Kabarak University Press, is honoured to host the Bonaya Godana Distinguished Lectures.

HE Judge Abdulqawi Yusuf

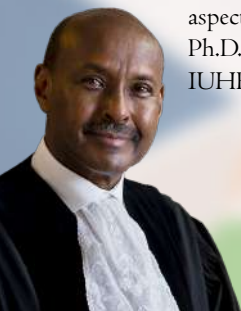
Judge Abdulqawi A Yusuf is a former Judge of the International Court of Justice, The Hague, the Netherlands. He was elected as judge to the court in November 2008 and served until September 2025. He was President of the Court from 6 February 2018 to 6 February 2021, Vice-President of the Court from 6 February 2015 to 6 February 2018. He is a member of the Institut de Droit International, and a former chief legal counsel to various intergovernmental organizations, including UNESCO and UNIDO. He is the founder of the African Institute of International Law (AIIL), Arusha, Tanzania and of the *African Yearbook of International Law*. He is the author of numerous publications on various aspects of international law. He holds a Ph.D. in international law from the IUHEI (Graduate Institute), Geneva.

Dr Bonaya Godana

Dr Godana was born on 2 September 1952 and died on 10 April 2006 in a tragic Kenya Air Force plane crash along with 13 other high ranking government officials. With a long record of public service, Dr Godana served as the Member of Parliament for North Horr Constituency (1988-2006). President Moi appointed him as an assistant minister in various ministries in the 1990s. He worked in Health, the Office of the President and later, Foreign Affairs. His astute leadership qualities and commitment to public service quickly gained recognition, propelling him to the distinguished position of Deputy Speaker, a role he skillfully held until 1997. Following his remarkable tenure as Deputy Speaker, President Moi appointed Dr Godana Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs in 1997. In January 1998, Dr Godana was appointed as Kenya's Foreign Minister and later, in 2001, Minister for Agriculture.

Before he joined politics, Dr Godana was an acclaimed scholar of international law. In 1984, he graduated from the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva with a PhD in law. His PhD research in fresh water international law was not only ahead of his time, but is still so today. In 1985, he published *Africa's shared water resources: Legal and institutional aspects of the Nile, Niger and Senegal river systems*, a book that a leading text for international policy makers, including in the World Bank.

He taught international law at the University of Nairobi in the late 1970s and throughout the 1980s and served from 1986 to 1988 as the Chairman of the Public Law Department in the Faculty of Law.





10:00 am

Guests arrive at the University

10:30 am

Guests seated in Sawia Auditorium, School of Law

11:00 am

The Kenya National Anthem, The East African Community Anthem, and The Kabarak University Anthem

11:05 am

Devotional thought and opening prayer, led by Rev. Justus Mutuku, Ag. University Provost.

11:15 am

Kabarak University Choir presents two songs.

11:25 am

Prof. John Osogo Ambani, Dean, School of Law, makes opening remarks.

11:35 am

Prof. John N. Ochola, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Research), makes welcome remarks.

11:40 am

Prof. Henry K. Kiplangat, Vice-Chancellor, makes his address.

12:00 noon

Hon. Dr. Gideon Kipsielei Towett Moi, Chancellor, delivers his address and officially opens the Lecture.

12:10 pm

Dr. Korir Sing'oei, Principal Secretary, State Department for Foreign Affairs, makes his remarks.

12:25 pm

H.E. Judge Phoebe Okowa, Member, International Court of Justice, makes her remarks.

12:40 pm

Hon. Sara Bonaya, makes her remarks.

12:45 pm

H.E. Judge Abdulqawi Yusuf, President Emeritus, International Court of Justice, delivers the Bonaya Godana Distinguished Lecture

1:15 pm

Question and answer session, led by Mr Humphrey Sipalla, Editor-in-Chief, Kabarak University Press.

1:30 pm

Prof. Henry K. Kiplangat, Vice-Chancellor, presents tokens of appreciation.

1:30 pm

Closing prayer, led by Ag. University Provost, Rev. Justus Mutuku.

1:35 pm

Photo Session

1:40 pm

Lunch

2:30 pm

Guests leave at their own pleasure.

Master of Ceremony

Dr. Harrison Mbori, Associate Dean, School of Law, Kabarak University

