THE UGANDA POLICE FORCE IN THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF THE
RIGHT TO FREEDOM FROM TORTURE IN KAMPALA METROPOLITAN: A CASE
STUDY OF SELECTED POLICE DIVISIONS

BY

MICHAEL AUPAL AISU
REG. NO 2010/HD03/2904U

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION:
B.A PHI (PONTIFICAL URBANIAN UNIVERSITY), DIP. EDUC (ITEK)

SUPERVISOR:
DR. MWANAHEWA SANGO A

A DISSERTATION FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN HUMAN RIGHTS
IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY, SCHOOL OF
LIBERAL AND PERFORMING ARTS, COLLEGE OF
HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES,
MAKERERE UNIVERSITY

JULY 2014
DECLARATION

I, Michael Aupal Aisu, declare that this dissertation is my original work and has, to the best of my knowledge, never been submitted for the award of a degree or any other award in any University or other institution of higher learning.

Signature: ........................................... Date: ..............................................

MICHAEL AUPAL AISU
APPROVAL

I certify that Michael Aupal Aisu has prepared the dissertation under my guidance and supervision. I confirm that this is the researcher’s own original work.

Signed…………………………………………………… … Date………………………………

Name: Dr. Mwanahewa Sango A

Supervisor

Makerere University
DEDICATION

This work is humbly dedicated to my dear mother: Manio Mary Magdalene and father: Aisu Emmanuel whose inestimable sacrifice resulted in the production of this work. You have always supported my efforts and endeavors, a reason this book is in place.
ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The production of this work has been a result of many hands. In particular, I wish to thank my supervisor Dr. Mwanahewa Sango A for his efforts to ensure that this work was completed. He read and reviewed my work and guided me with love and encouragement.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Dr. Wamala to furnish me with the knowledge of research methodology during his lectures. I would like to thank Mr. Tushabe Gerald for his caring guidance and all my lecturers in the Department of Philosophy at Makerere University who took me through the modules of human rights. They did adequately guide and equip me with both theoretical and practical skills. Am greatly indebted to them for their dedicated and inspiring work. Many thanks to the course participants, from whom I enjoyed fruitful discussions on challenging topics.

I do acknowledge in a special way the contribution of all the respondents during the study. Your participation was indeed instrumental. I would like also to extend my heart felt gratitude to Mr. Aropet Godfrey and Mr. Kamoya Joachim for their inspiration and encouragement that further motivated me to enroll for the course. I appreciate the secretarial services of Mr. Magoola Brian. Your dedication has greatly contributed to the production of this work.

Finally, I owe a lot to my beloved family members for the support, encouragement, and patience they exhibited during the course of this study and may God bless them abundantly.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION..................................................................................................................i

APPROVAL....................................................................................................................... ii

DEDICATION................................................................................................................... iii

ACKNOWLEDGMENT....................................................................................................... iv

TABLE OF CONTENTS..................................................................................................... v

LIST OF TABLES........................................................................................................... ix

LIST OF ACRONYMS..................................................................................................... x

ABSTRACT......................................................................................................................... xii

CHAPTER ONE ................................................................................................................ 1

GENERAL INTRODUCTION.............................................................................................. 1

1.0 Introduction to the Study ......................................................................................... 1

1.1 Background to the Study ....................................................................................... 1

1.2 Statement of the Problem ....................................................................................... 13

1.3 Scope of the Study ................................................................................................. 14

1.4 Definition of Terms ............................................................................................... 14

1.5 Objectives of the Study ......................................................................................... 16

1.5.1 General Objective ............................................................................................... 16

1.5.2 Specific Objectives of the Study ......................................................................... 16

1.6 Major Assumptions ................................................................................................. 17

1.7 Significance of the Study ....................................................................................... 17

CHAPTER TWO................................................................................................................ 19

LITERATURE REVIEW................................................................................................... 19
2.0 Introduction..........................................................................................................................19
2.1 The Role of the UPF in the Protection and Promotion of the Right to Freedom from
Torture........................................................................................................................................19
2.2 Challenges Encountered by the UPF in the Protection and Promotion of the Right to
Freedom from Torture...........................................................................................................26
2.3 Improving the Role of the UPF in the Protection and Promotion of the Right to
Freedom from Torture...........................................................................................................29
2.4 International, Regional and National Instruments on the Right to Freedom from
Torture........................................................................................................................................33
2.5 Theoretical Framework........................................................................................................40

CHAPTER THREE ..................................................................................................................46
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY .................................................................................................46
3.0 Introduction..........................................................................................................................46
3.1 Research Design..................................................................................................................46
3.2 Area of the Study................................................................................................................47
3.3 Population of the Study.......................................................................................................47
3.4 Sample Size........................................................................................................................47
3.5 Sampling Techniques.........................................................................................................48
3.5.1 Purposive Sampling........................................................................................................48
3.5.2 Simple Random Sampling............................................................................................49
3.6 Data Collection Methods and Instruments.........................................................................49
3.6.1 Questionnaires...............................................................................................................49
3.6.2 Interview Guide..............................................................................................................50
3.6.3 Other Instruments .................................................................51
3.6.4 Documentary Review ..........................................................51
3.6.5 Observation Method ...............................................................51
3.7 Data Analysis Technique ..........................................................52
3.8 Constraints/Limitations and Ethical Considerations .....................52
3.8.1 Ethical Considerations ...........................................................52
3.8.2 Constraints/Limitations ..........................................................53
Conclusion .....................................................................................54

CHAPTER FOUR ...........................................................................55

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS ........................................55

4.0 Introduction ................................................................................55
4.1 The Role of the UPF in the Protection and Promotion of the Right to Freedom from Torture in Kampala Metropolitan .................................................................55
4.2 Challenges Encountered by the UPF in the Protection and Promotion of the Right to Freedom from Torture in Kampala Metropolitan ..................................................63
4.3 Ways of Improving the Role of the UPF in the Protection and Promotion of the Right to Freedom from Torture ..............................................................................69

CHAPTER FIVE ...........................................................................73

DATA INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION ..............................73

5.0 Introduction ................................................................................73
5.1 The Role of the UPF in the Protection and Promotion of the Right to Freedom from Torture in Kampala Metropolitan .............................................................................73
5.2 Challenges Encountered by the UPF in the Protection and Promotion of the Right to Freedom from torture in Kampala Metropolitan ................................................................. 82

5.3 Ways of Improving the Role of the UPF in the Protection and Promotion of the Right to Freedom from torture .................................................................................. 96

CHAPTER SIX ............................................................................................................. 105

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ........................................ 105

6.0 Introduction .......................................................................................................... 105

6.1 Conclusions .......................................................................................................... 105

6.2 Recommendations .............................................................................................. 107

6.3 Suggestion for Further Research ......................................................................... 112

REFERENCES ........................................................................................................... 114

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Work Plan ............................................................................................. i

Appendix 2: Budget Estimate ................................................................................... ii

Appendix 3: Krejcie and Morgan Sample Size Table ................................................. iii

Appendix 4: Questionnaire ....................................................................................... iv

Appendix 5: Interview Guide ................................................................................... vii

Appendix 6: Self Help Structures in Ntinda Police Barracks ................................... ix

Appendix 7: Housing Unit for Police Officers in Naguru Police Barracks ............... x

Appendix 8: How Police Officers Stay in Former PTS Kibuli Dormitory ............... xi

Appendix 9: Brutal Arrest of Dr. Kiiza Besigye During the Walk to Work Campaign ................................................................. xii

Appendix 10: Brutality of the Police and Army During Riots ................................... xiii
LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: The Status of Complaints Received from January to December, 2011 .................. 23
Table 2: Total Number of Complaints Received from Kampala Metropolitan Police Divisions from January to December, 2011 ................................................................. 24
Table 3: Category of Cases of Human Rights Violation Reported to PSU from January to December, 2011 ........................................................................................................ 25
Table 4: Findings about UPF’s Role in the Protection and Promotion of the Right to Freedom from Torture ............................................................................................................. 56
Table 5: Challenges UPF Encountered in the Protection and Promotion of the Right to Freedom from Torture ................................................................. 64
Table 6: Ways of Improving the UPF's Role in the Protection and Promotion of the Right to Freedom from Torture ................................................................. 70
Table 7: Weighted Scores Used in Indiana State Police ....................................................... 92
Table 8: Weighted Scores Used in the Uganda Police Force ............................................... 93
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACHPR</td>
<td>African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACRC</td>
<td>African Charter on the Rights of the Child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACP</td>
<td>Assistant Commissioner of Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIP</td>
<td>Assistant Inspector of Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASP</td>
<td>Assistant Superintendent of Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU</td>
<td>African Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAT</td>
<td>Convention against Torture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHOGM</td>
<td>Common Wealth Head of Governments Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPS</td>
<td>Central Police Station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPT</td>
<td>Committee for the Prevention of Torture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRPC</td>
<td>Deputy Regional Police Commander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSO</td>
<td>Civil Society Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FFU</td>
<td>Field Force Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRT</td>
<td>Human Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRA</td>
<td>Human Rights Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRC</td>
<td>Human Rights Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRO</td>
<td>Human Rights Organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRM</td>
<td>Human Resource Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICCPR</td>
<td>International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICESCR</td>
<td>International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IGP</td>
<td>Inspector General of Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IP</td>
<td>Inspector of Police</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
KMPA : Kampala Metropolitan Policing Area
LAP : Local Administration Police
NCO : Non Commissioned Officer
OPS : Office of Professional Standards
PC : Police Constable
PSU : Professional Standards Unit
PTS : Police Training School
SADC : Southern African Development Cooperation
SP : Superintendent of Police
SPC : Special Police Constable
SSP : Senior Superintendent of Police
UDHR : Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UHRC : Uganda Human Rights Commission
UN : United Nations
UPF : Uganda Police Force
US : United States
VIPPU : Vital Installation Police Protection Unit
ABSTRACT

The study was about the Uganda Police Force in the protection and promotion of the right to freedom from torture. The general objective of the study was to establish the performance and challenges in the protection and promotion of the right to freedom from torture by the Uganda Police Force. The specific objectives were to assess the extent to which police has played its role in the protection and promotion of the right to freedom from torture in Kampala Metropolitan, to examine the challenges police encountered in the protection and promotion of the right to freedom from torture in Kampala Metropolitan and to find ways the police force could improve its role in the protection and promotion of the right to freedom from torture in Kampala Metropolitan. The research design adopted in this study was a case study research design. The sample size consisted of 103 respondents. Purposive sampling was used to select senior police officers, victims of torture and members of CSO while simple random sampling was used to select low ranked police officers. The analysis mainly consisted of descriptive statistics (frequencies and percentages) including content analysis. This study found out that the police force tried to observe the right to freedom from torture in particular and human rights in general while on duty, but encountered challenges which were working conditions related challenges (funding and logistics related challenges), citizen/public related challenges, political interference related challenges, professional related challenges, legal related challenges and army/military interference related challenges. These challenges played a role in breeding misconduct and lowering morale among the police officers, hence abuse of human rights.