10,000 15,000 20,000 35,000 50,000 68,000

KITU KIDOGO

Corruption has never been this well calculated.

A FEATURE FILM · A WARM SATIRICAL COMEDY · BWOGI, UGANDA, 2026

BWOGI · DEPARTMENT OF INTEGRITY VERIFICATION · VERIFIED · 19 OCT 2026

When an unpaid teacher inflates a school photo fee to cover her rent, she sets off a chain of petty corruption that leaves a boy unregistered for his final exams. Now she must expose the whole town's dishonesty, starting with her own.

In Bwogi, an hour from Kampala, a school prepares for Integrity Day. Its Headmaster, JUSTUS BAGONZA, owes the photographer for fourteen years of class photographs. The photographer charges five thousand; by the time the Headmaster has said standards twice to an empty office, the circular says ten.

PROSSY NAKITTO, twenty-nine, is the best teacher in the building and four months unpaid. She has a plan for everything, in numbered steps on the back of the class register. When the Headmaster will not pay her, STEP 1 becomes the photographs: she writes fifteen on the board, calls the extra airtime, and makes her class work out the sum by long division. It is her rent, almost to the shilling. Every plan she makes from here is reasonable, numbered and confident, and every one sets off the next disaster.

From her classroom the figure travels, and she chases it. She corrects a District official's receipt and is charged for the correction. She corrects a traffic sergeant's arithmetic and every correction becomes an offence, until the ride home costs fifty. Kitu kidogo.

JOEL, eleven, the best drawer in the school, has had his examination registration paid by his grandmother a tin of charcoal at a time into the Headmaster's drawer. Her two tins for the photograph go to the teacher's door, the name on the circular, and the teacher cooks beans on them. On upload day forty-three children go to the board. Joel does not: his grandmother's money is in the Headmaster's jacket, kept for the District's own figure. Nakitto makes a new plan: a phone call to a Headmaster who says it can stay there for now, a boda with no fuel, a list of his passwords for a laptop behind his padlock, and the padlock, where every key she owns fits something else. The deadline passes, and she ticks Joel PAID to answer his grandmother. In the morning the board posts the late fee. Sixty-eight thousand.

Then the Headmaster offers her two months of her back pay for a harmless song and her silence. She turns it down. On Integrity Day, before the Minister of Ethics, the patron of the integrity club teaches the whole town an arithmetic lesson. Each child holds up the word their house uses for a little something: administration, welfare, facilitation. The town laughs until it finds its own figures. Then the teacher holds up the last word, which is hers.

It is enough. The sergeant gives back his fifty, the teacher what she kept, and a six-year-old who has priced every secret in his house his three thousand. The Headmaster works out whether the Minister or the District is nearer and returns the grandmother's money. On Monday Joel is registered, and the class photograph has forty-four faces in it and their teacher at the end of the row, who now owes forty-three families five thousand each, and has started paying.

FORMAT	Feature · 100 to 110 pages · 22 June to 20 July 2026
GENRE	Satirical comedy, warm, led by a teacher; an ensemble around her
TERRITORY	Uganda: Bwogi, a trading-centre town an hour from Kampala
LANGUAGE	English · Luganda as address · one phrase of Swahili, twice
COMPARABLES	The Holdovers · Parasite · Living

WHY NOW

Every Ugandan family knows the extra few thousand on a school circular, and every family has a polite word for it. In June 2026 the examinations board closed registration at midnight on the thirtieth and doubled the fee for anyone late, and that is the clock this film runs on. KITU KIDOGO laughs at the little somethings everyone takes, then counts them.

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