



International Student Spotlight

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Bontu Kussi: The International Student Senate Representative

A Journey Rooted in Faith and Purpose



From the vibrant landscapes of Ethiopia to the bustling communities of Uganda, and now the welcoming embrace of Canada, **Bontu Kussi's story is one of resilience, calling, and divine direction**. Born in Ethiopia and raised in Uganda from the age of four, Bontu spent nearly eleven formative years there before moving to Ontario, Canada—a place she now proudly calls home as a Canadian citizen.

Her journey across continents has shaped her worldview, strengthened her faith, and prepared her for the leadership roles she now holds at Burman University.

A Life of Ministry from Childhood

Service has always been woven into the fabric of Bontu's life. From her earliest years, she was deeply involved in **Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry**, and various church activities that nurtured her spiritual gifts. Ministry was never an obligation—it was a joy, a calling, and a natural expression of her love for God.

It was through the encouragement of her **Pastor and Church Elder** that the idea of attending Burman University first took root. What began as a suggestion soon became a divine appointment. Doors opened, opportunities aligned, and God led her to a place she had not originally planned—but one that was undeniably meant for her.

A Calling Redirected by God

Before coming to Burman, Bontu had envisioned a different path. Her plan was to study **Lifestyle Medicine** in the United States. But God, in His wisdom, redirected her steps. Instead of

pursuing her original plan, she found herself drawn to Burman University, where she is now in her **third year of Religious Studies**.

This shift was not a detour—it was a divine redirection. At Burman, she discovered new opportunities to grow, serve, and lead in ways she had never imagined.

Leadership with Heart and Humility

Today, Bontu serves the campus community with dedication and grace through several key leadership roles:

- **International Students Senator**
- **Sabbath School Coordinator for Campus Ministries**
- **Elder at College Heights Church**

In each role, she brings compassion, spiritual maturity, and a genuine desire to uplift others. Her leadership is not about titles—it is about service. She sees her responsibilities as opportunities to build community, strengthen faith, and support the diverse student body she represents.

A Vision for Continued Service

Looking ahead, Bontu's goals remain beautifully simple and deeply profound: **to continue serving God and serving His people**.

She is fully committed to her education and to following God's leading wherever He opens doors after graduation. Whether on campus, in the church, or in the wider community, she envisions herself continuing to collaborate with other leaders to make a meaningful difference.

Her heart for ministry, her passion for people, and her unwavering faith make her a powerful presence on campus—and a blessing to all who know her.

A Light in the Burman Community

Bontu's story is a testament to what happens when faith meets obedience. Her journey reminds us that God's plans are often greater than our own, and that when we follow His leading, we find ourselves exactly where we are meant to be.

As the International Student Senate Representative, she continues to shine—uplifting her peers, strengthening campus life, and embodying the spirit of service that defines Burman University.