



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

Prof. Patrick V. Verkooijen

**Statement by Prof. Dr. Patrick Verkooijen on the Passing of Dr. Vijoo Rattansi,
Former Chancellor of the University of Nairobi and Chairperson of the UoN
Foundation.**

It is with a profound sense of sadness and a heavy heart that I have learned of the passing of my esteemed predecessor, Dr. Vijoo Rattansi (Mrs.), OGW, the former Chancellor of the University of Nairobi and Chairperson of the University of Nairobi Foundation.

On behalf of the entire University of Nairobi fraternity, I offer my deepest and most heartfelt condolences to the Rattansi family, friends, and loved ones during this time of immense grief. As her successor, I am deeply saddened by this monumental loss. Dr. Rattansi was a trailblazer who made history as our institution's first female Chancellor. Over her exemplary 10-year tenure from 2013 to 2023, she led this university with unmatched dedication, wisdom, and grace. Her firm and transformative leadership laid a robust foundation for academic excellence and global engagement that we continue to build upon today.

Beyond her stellar institutional stewardship, Dr. Rattansi's true legacy rests in her boundless humanity. Through her leadership at the Rattansi Educational Trust, the Daisy Eye Cancer Fund, and various charitable organizations, she stood as a towering titan of philanthropy in Kenya. Her unwavering commitment to expanding access to higher education opened doors for thousands of bright but financially disadvantaged students, fundamentally changing the trajectory of their lives through scholarships and mentorship. The thousands of individuals whose lives she touched, whose dreams she financed, and whose futures she secured bear living testimony to a life beautifully lived in service to humanity. Kenya and indeed the University of Nairobi has lost a distinguished education advocate, an exceptional leader, and a compassionate mother to the less fortunate.

We pray that the Almighty grants the Rattansi family the fortitude, peace, and comfort to bear this invaluable loss. May her remarkable soul find eternal peace, and may her legacy of generosity continue to illuminate our paths

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Patrick V. Verkooijen
CHANCELLOR