



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR

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The University of Nairobi Commemorates the Life and Legacy of Dr. Vijoo Rattansi, The 5th Chancellor, University of Nairobi (2013–2023)

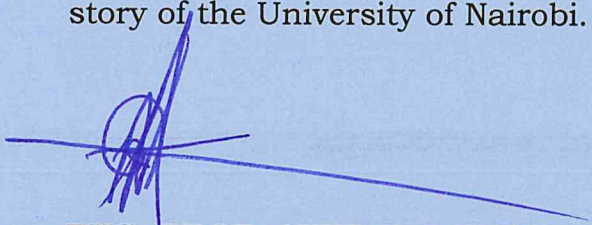
On behalf of the University of Nairobi, I join our staff, students, alumni, and friends in paying tribute to Dr. Vijoo Rattansi, our beloved former Chancellor, whose decade of service was marked by humility, generosity, and an unwavering commitment to education. As the first and only woman to serve as Chancellor, she led with quiet strength, grace, and compassion, earning the admiration of generations of students, staff, and alumni. Her warm smile, gentle spirit, and genuine care for people made her a cherished member of our University family. In recognition of her outstanding contribution to education and philanthropy, the University conferred upon her the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters in 2014.

As Chancellor, Dr. Rattansi presided over some of the University's defining moments. She officiated numerous graduation ceremonies, conferring degrees upon tens of thousands of graduates whose lives and careers have gone on to shape Kenya, Africa, and the world. Fittingly, her final graduation ceremony marked both the University's first physical graduation ceremony after the COVID-19 pandemic and the inaugural graduation for pioneer students at the Koitalel Arap Samoei Campus- a full-circle moment that reflected the remarkable transformation she witnessed and helped guide during her tenure. She also provided steadfast leadership during the University's Golden Jubilee celebrations in 2020. During the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, she stood firmly with the University as it successfully transitioned to virtual learning, ensuring that academic excellence continued despite extraordinary global

challenges. Among her many other contributions were hosting the inaugural Chancellor's Career Fair in 2018 and donating books to the University Library through "Educate Yourself Limited" in 2023.

As we mourn her passing, I extend my deepest condolences to Dr. Rattansi's family and loved ones, and to all whose lives she touched, on behalf of the University Council, Senate, Management, staff, students, alumni, and the entire University community. Through the Rattansi Educational Trust, she transformed the lives of many financially disadvantaged University of Nairobi students by scholarship support enabling talented young people to access higher education regardless of their economic circumstances.

Her legacy of service, generosity, and hope will forever remain woven into the story of the University of Nairobi. May her soul rest in eternal peace.



ENG. PROF. AYUB N. GITAU
VICE CHANCELLOR
AND
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