UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

REMARKS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, DURING THE PUBLIC LECTURE BY PROF. ALI MAZRUI, ON AUGUST 16, 2013 AT THE 8.4.4 LECTURE THEATRE AT 2.00 P.M
Prof. Ali Mazrui

Chief Justice, Dr. Willy Mutunga

Judges of the Supreme Court

Appeal and High Court Judges

Registrar of the Judiciary

University managers

Staff

Students

Distinguished guests
Ladies and Gentlemen, I am happy to welcome you all to the University of Nairobi and in particular Prof. Ali Mazrui to deliver his lecture titled 50 Years of Post Colonial Judiciary.

Prof. Mazrui’s acceptance to engage us, is a sign of honour and recognition of the University of Nairobi as a leading institution of higher learning worldwide. This lecture will put us on a world map once again as a choice destination for international dignitaries seeking to engage Kenyans in intellectual discourse and development issues. I also wish to recognize the effort by the judiciary through the office of the Chief
Justice, Dr. Willy Mutunga, for choosing to partner with us in hosting this lecture and we are happy to work with you again.

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is my pleasure to introduce to you our guest speaker today. Professor Ali A. Mazrui is the International Global and Cultural School Director and Albert Schweitzer Professor in the Humanities, and Professor in Political Science, African Studies and Philosophy, Interpretation and Culture, at the State University of New York at Binghampton. He is also Albert Luthuli Professor-at-
Large at the University of Jos in Nigeria and Andrew D. White Professor-at-Large Emeritus and Senior Scholar in Africana Studies at Cornell University. Prof. Mazrui has also served as Chancellor of the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology in Kenya among many other important academic positions he has held in leading universities worldwide.

Prof. Mazrui was born in Mombasa, Kenya, on February 24, 1933. He obtained his B.A. with Distinction from Manchester University in England,
his M.A. from Columbia University in New York, and his doctorate from Oxford University in England. For ten years, he was at Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda, where he served as the head of the Department of Political Science, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences as well as Dean of the Faculty of Law.

In 2005 a leading American journal, *Foreign Policy* (Washington, DC), and the British Journal, *Prospect* (London), nominated Ali Mazrui among the top 100 public intellectuals alive in the world as a whole.
Mazrui was earlier elected an Icon of the Twentieth Century by Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, USA. And in 2007, he was nominated for the Living Legends Award by the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS] and the African Communications Association.

Prof. Mazrui has published more than thirty books which include Towards a Pax Africana (1967), and The Political Sociology of the English Language (1975). He has also published a novel entitled The Trial of Christopher Okigbo (1971). His recent works
include the widely read Islam between Globalization and Counterterrorism published in 2006. His research interests are in African politics, international political culture, political Islam, and North-South relations. He has also published articles in many leading newspapers worldwide.

Prof. Mazrui has been awarded honorary doctorates by several universities in disciplines ranging from Divinity to Sciences of Human Development, Humane Letters and Political Economy. The President of Kenya also awarded him the National

Ali Mazrui is widely consulted on many issues including constitutional change and educational reform. He has been involved in a number of UN projects on matters ranging from human rights to nuclear proliferation. He is also internationally consulted on Islamic culture and Muslim history.
Professor Mazrui is married and has five sons and one adopted daughter.

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is now my pleasure to invite Prof. Ali Mazrui to deliver his lecture titled 50 Years of Post Colonial Judiciary.

Welcome Prof. Mazrui

Thank you.