



The University of Nairobi on its 52nd graduation ceremony held on Friday December 5, 2014, graduated 8,803 graduands. The Chancellor Dr. Vijoo Rattansi and eminent business personality Samuel Macharia, were conferred with honorary doctorate degrees.

This was the last graduation ceremony addressed by the current Vice-Chancellor, Prof. George Magoha, following the appointment of Prof. Peter Mbithi, as the new Vice Chancellor, effective January 6, 2015.

Among those who graduated were holders with PhDs, Masters, Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates from the College of Health Sciences and Humanities and Social Sciences.

The Chancellor, Dr. Vijoo Rattansi appealed to graduands, to be heroes in the country and to dare to dream big. She also lauded Prof. Magoha's contribution to the University citing an increase in number of students and alumni, construction of UoN towers, as well as improved performance in webometric ranking, as key achievements during his term of leadership. Dr. Rattansi was conferred with a Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters (Honoris Causal) for her philanthropy and charitable work especially in education, while Samuel Macharia, Royal Media Group chairman, was conferred with a Degree of Doctor of Letters (Honoris Causal) for his business expertise and support to the University.

In his speech, Prof. G.A. Magoha acknowledged that the government had contributed to the successful running of the University, by permitting autonomy. He also called upon the government to implement unit cost, where universities are funded based on the requirements of the courses

they offer. In addition, Prof. Magoha highlighted the contributions of the University taking part in free legal clinics, environmental conservation, as well as the recent Ksh. 5 Million donation to *Beyond Zero Campaign*, an initiative headed by first lady, Mrs. Margaret Kenyatta, to improve maternal and child health.

Prof. Collete Suda, who represented Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Prof. Kaimenyi, noted that UoN had been at the forefront in providing quality and development training. In his speech, Prof. Kaimenyi appealed to UoN, as well other established university, to assist upcoming universities in capacity building so as to provide accessible, equitable, relevant and quality education which the country needs.

Others who spoke during the ceremony were Dr. Idle Farah (Chair UoN Council) and Dr. Betty Gikonyo (outgoing Vice-Chair UoN council). Former Vice President, Kalonzo Musyoka was among the distinguished who attended the graduation.

On her part, Dr. Betty Gikonyo (outgoing and longest serving member of UoN council) urged graduands to be part of the alumni, where 11 chapters of the association have already been launched.