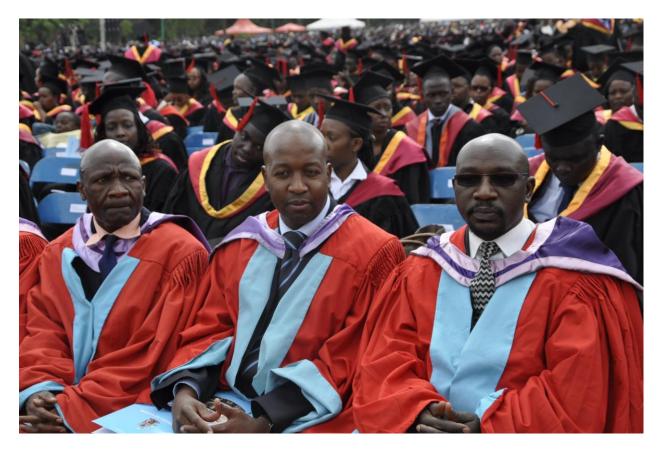
Varsity Celebrates 52nd Graduation

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8,803 graduated at University of Nairobiøs **52nd graduation ceremony** held on Friday, December 5, 2014 ,in which the Chancellor Dr. Vijoo Rattansi and eminent business personality <u>Samuel Macharia</u>, were conferred with honorary doctorate degrees.

This is 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 PhDs, Masters, Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates from the <u>College of Health Sciences</u> and <u>Humanities and Social Sciences</u>.

While Presiding over the graduation ceremony, Dr. Vijoo Rattansi (Chancellor UoN) appealed to graduands in her salient conversational tone, to be the **hero that the country needs** and to dare to dream. She implored the graduands to become masters of their art and to be the first to discover solutions to societal issues such as health and harmony. She also lauded Prof. Magohaøs 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 <u>Samuel Macharia</u>, **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. 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.

College of Biological and Physical Sciences (CBPS) churned 162 graduands, 8 of which were PhD holders. This sums up the number of graduands from the College to **just above 940**, in the year **2014**.

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.