



Justice Eliezer Rivlin

Former Israeli Supreme Court judge gives public lecture at UoN

IN KEEPING WITH ITS TRADITION OF HOSTING TOP INTERNATIONAL PERSONALITIES, THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI COMMUNITY, recently interacted with Justice Eliezer Rivlin, former Deputy President of the Israeli Supreme

Court on the interesting topic “Facing Special Challenges: The Supreme Court of Israel” In a lecture held at the University of Nairobi’s 8-4-4 auditorium. During the lecture, Justice Rivlin tracked the history of the Israeli constitution and pointed out some

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of the constitutional changes and challenges that the country has gone through.

Justice Rivlin, took a thought-provoking approach where he compared and contrasted Israel’s and Kenya’s legal systems and commended Kenya for doing away with the independence constitution after introducing a new constitution; something that the state of Israel has been unable to realize.

He observed that it has not been easy for the state of Israel to develop a comprehensive constitution. He said that Israel was keen on protecting human dignity and liberty and the Israeli court has over the years played a leading role in ensuring that the rights of its citizens are upheld. The court has been viewed as an activist court and has been criticized for this.

He described Kenya’s constitution as modern and liberal, and focused on ensuring that the judicial system plays a key role in implementing human rights and freedoms in Kenya. The Chief Justice/President, Supreme Court of Kenya, the Hon. Dr. Willy Mutunga and Prof. J. Otieno-Odek, former Dean, School of Law were among the panelists.

Among those present during the lecture included, Prof. Jacob Kaimenyi, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs, University staff and students, members of the judiciary, and the general public.