

# Former President Kibaki interacts with UoN community



Retired President Mwai Kibaki gives a lecture at the University of Nairobi.

Retired President Mwai Kibaki has described the five decades of Kenya's independence as those of hard work and lasting achievement.

Kibaki said this during a public lecture at the University of Nairobi's Taifa Hall, titled 'Of Hindsight, Insight and Foresight', where he urged Kenyans to take count of the road travelled, celebrate and consolidate the country's achievements, take time to reflect and ponder on what lies ahead in the unforeseen future in order to transform Kenya in realizing broad change.

During the lecture, Kibaki described the journey towards independence and the early years of the nation, when Kenyans wanted a new order and demanded political freedom. Back then, the country faced different hardships, racial discrimination, bitterness, ignorance, disease and poverty. Kibaki reflected on the hopes, dreams and aspirations of Kenya's founding fathers whose selfless sacrifice paid for the price of freedom and self-rule. He noted that whatever our generational experience, we must have an idea of where we have come from, why and where we are heading. He said that celebrating 50 years of independence should be a clarion call to all Kenyans to build this nation.

While welcoming the retired president to the University of Nairobi, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. George Magoha noted that Kenya had taken gigantic steps in development and that this has been achieved through the courageous, committed, dedicated, visionary and inspiring leadership of some of the nation's leaders including Hon Mwai Kibaki. He said that such leaders had been truly committed to scholarship, democratic ideals and ensuring opportunity and fair treatment for all, including, the vulnerable members of the society.

The public lecture is part of the Kenya@50 celebrations at the University of Nairobi. The lecture was graced by Cabinet Secretary for Sports, Culture and Art, Hassan Wario, Former Chancellor, Dr. Joseph Wanjui, Chairman of UoN Council, Dr. Idle Farah, Chancellors from sister universities, students, staff and members of the public.