

## **University of Nairobi celebrates 58<sup>th</sup> Graduation.**

University of Nairobi marked the 58<sup>th</sup> graduation ceremony as 6,602 graduates were conferred degrees and awarded diplomas in a ceremony presided over by the Chancellor, Dr. Vijoo Rattansi.

In her address, Dr. Rattansi urged graduands to be resilient. “As a university, we have surmounted many challenges confounding us in the course of this year,” said the Chancellor. “Today’s graduation therefore holds a special place in my heart. It is a triumph against many stark odds. Scars of standing up for right will itch us for a long time, but this house infinitely united for good, shall not fall. Like the persistent wind that eventually wears away the stone leaving the earth’s splendor for the admiration of the gods, this university too shall overcome and stand the test of time.”

On his part, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peter Mbithi congratulated the graduands expressing his confidence that the graduands have been empowered with the requisite skills and mindset to deal with all the challenges that will come their way. He took the opportunity as well to thank staff members who have been able to get research grants. “The education qualifications and the quality of certificates you are about to obtain today are not only a source of pride but also indicators of your readiness to go! Ready to work and ready to serve!” he said.

In his speech, Prof. Mbithi said that the University of Nairobi shall remain faithful to the values of academic quality and integrity.

“We shall not compromise our standards! We shall relentlessly, fearlessly and consistently protect our academic quality,” he said. “The Senate shall not hesitate to ruthlessly deal with all cases of academic malpractices and intellectual dishonesty! No one shall be spared irrespective of their status in society.”

The University of Nairobi Alumni Association (UoNAA), Chairman, Mr. Isaac Awuondo, called on the graduating class of 2017 to join the association. “The Association is committed in supporting the university in various capacities. This year, it has supported needy and bright students to the tune of Kshs.2 M,” he said. “To date 15 Alumni Chapters have been launched with the most recent one being that of the School of Law. In addition, the Association is revamping its systems including the online portal. We invite today’s graduands to remain close to the University by becoming a member of the Association.”

The best student, the Valedictorian, Ms. Elizabeth Wangari Itotia, from the School of Pharmacy, College of Health Sciences urged graduands to remain true to who they are. “Let us be the good ambassadors that this university has molded us into,” she said.

Other major highlights from the 58th graduation ceremony include the award of a PhD to the first woman from the Tana-River County, Dr. Medina Twalib, from the School of Business. Several governors, high court judges and members of parliament also graduated from the School of Law.