

January 2016

# Ali A. Mazrui Memorial Library

## 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Presentation for the Official Launch  
Of The MEWA Library - Mombasa  
By the US Ambassador to Kenya.

Library named in Honor of  
Prof Ali A. Mazrui (1933-2014)

By

Ghalib Yusuf Tamim

Mazrui's Family Representative

الحمد لله وحده ، والصلاة والسلام على من لا نبي بعده

The US Ambassador to Kenya – H. E. Robert Godec

The Governor of Mombasa County – H. E. Hassan Joho

The Chairman of Muslim Education Welfare Association – Mr. Salim Ghalgan

All protocols observed.

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

On behalf of Prof Ali Al'Amin Mazrui's Family, both in Kenya and the USA, I wish to sincerely thank MEWA and the US Embassy in Kenya for bestowing this honor of naming the library **"Ali A. Mazrui Memorial Library."**

This is the third library in the world honoring Mazrui:

1. The IIIT Library in the US. Prof Mazrui was a Life Member of the International Institute of Islamic Thought – a US based institute that has brought together Muslim social Scientists. Prof Mazrui donated his works – books and papers to IIIT Library as reference materials for Researchers.
2. The Library of Congress, again in the US. They have a Mazrui Corner for books and papers on Prof Mazrui.
3. And today we are launching the MEWA "Ali A. Mazrui Memorial Library in Mombasa, Kenya.

Prof Mazrui today at this function is being honored by both Kenya and USA.

Prof Mazrui lived for more than 30 years in the USA as a Permanent Resident while maintain his Kenyan citizenship. It is only in the last 3 years of his life that he became a Dual-Citizen of Kenya and USA. In fact, Prof Mazrui considered himself a Global Citizen and that is why he initiated the "Institute of Global Cultural Studies – IGCS" at Binghamton University, State University of New York.

When I read the banner, "Passing of an Era", I remembered the tribute of Mohamed bin Yusuf to Prof Mazrui - Mazrui's nephew in Toronto, Canada:

"The Ancestors of all three persuasions are claiming victory! A loud voice uttered. The voice was reverberating in every corner of 'After-Africa'. Victory?! Victory?! Victory for what?! Christopher Okigbo asked astonishingly. The Ancestors responded, 'Victory for having

convinced our son, Prof Ali Al'Amin Mazrui, who is known as The Walking Triple Heritage in the 'Here-before' to finally re-unite with us".

In death, Mazrui's Legacy lives on with the honor that is being bestowed on him today.

I would like to share with you Ms. Ravenna-Norizzano Bronson's tributes to Mazrui. Ravenna was Prof Mazrui's Administrative Assistant at Binghamton University, SUNY:

I sat and clenched my fists,  
Fought back tears – my eyes burned red,  
Until I heard a voice within,  
And this is what she said,  
She said,  
"Ali Al'Amin Mazrui is a peaceful warrior,  
Not by fist or sword,  
But Mwalimu Mazrui is a peaceful warrior,  
And this cannot be ignored."

My boss – Dr. Ali Al'Amin Mazrui was  
A peaceful warrior,  
Not by fist or sword (or gun, or bomb, or drone, Or lethal injection),  
Prof Mwalimu Mazrui was a  
Peaceful warrior like Gandhi,  
And this cannot be ignored.

Long live Ali A. Mazrui Memorial Library!  
Long live Prof Mazrui's Legacy!

Thank you!



**Prof. Awadh Bin hazim (DVC Technical University -2nd left). Ghalib Tamim (Family Rep), Sh. Hammad Kassim (Ex-Chief Kadhi of Kenya), US Ambassador to Kenya Robert Godec (centre – Guest of Honor) and Mombasa County Governor Ali Hassan Joho (2nd right)**