



PRESS RELEASE

'Ali Mazrui In Memoriam: Celebrating the Life of an African Intellectual'

A joint Memorial Event organized by the Ethiopian Academy of Sciences and Addis Ababa University

February 27, 2015

Eshetu Chole Hall, College of Business and Economics, AAU

The Ethiopian Academy of Sciences and Addis Ababa University have jointly organized the ***'Ali Mazrui In Memoriam: Celebrating the Life of an African Intellectual'*** event to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Professor Ali Al'amin Mazrui, who passed away in October 2014 in Bingham, New York.

Ali Mazrui was born in Kenya and pursued his higher studies at the United Kingdom. Makerere University in Uganda, the University of Michigan, the faculty of Binghamton University in State University of New York are some of the universities he gave service to. He was a distinguished political scientist, teacher, political thinker, prolific writer, and a critic. One of his greatest contributions and remaining legacy is perhaps disengaging African studies from colonial discourse and for looking Africa, its history and challenges from a different perspective. His humanism and criticism on imperialism, Zionism, racism, chauvinism and oppression of any type will continue to inspire a generation of Africans and others and encourage them to challenge injustice wherever they saw it and in whatever form it comes.

He had a fascination for Ethiopia and Ethiopian history. His interest in the country could be gathered from his writings, thoughts and observations, along the way creating better and deeper understanding about the country in Africa and the world over.

Among the speakers who pay tribute to Prof. Ali MAZrui are H.E Olusegun Obasanjo, former President of Nigeria from 1976-1979; H.E. Catherine Mwangi, Ambassador of the Republic of Kenya; Mohamed Salih, Professor of the Politics of Developing Countries at the Institute of Political Science at Leiden University and Zenebework Tadesse, Sociologist and international consultant.

The Ethiopian Academy of Sciences (EAS) was established on April 10, 2010 by 49 founding fellows drawn from a variety of disciplines with the objective of promoting the development of all the sciences. Its mission is to foster scientific culture and innovation, and advance the knowledge of the sciences including indigenous knowledge. It was recognized by an Act of Parliament in March 2013 (Proclamation 783/ 2013).