

Ali Mazrui to speak; sponsored by the Undergraduate Affairs National Issues

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HOST OF PUBLIC TELEVISION SERIES "THE AFRICANS" TO SPEAK AT UCSD

Ali Mazrui, host and senior editor of the highly acclaimed public television series, "The Africans," will offer an inside view of Africa, with a lecture, "The Africans: A View from Within," at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 10, at the Mandeville Center Auditorium at the University of California, San Diego.

Mazrui has offered American audiences an unparalleled opportunity to view Africa through the eyes of an African. At the core of "The Africans" is the thesis that contemporary Africa is a product of three major influences--an indigenous heritage, Western culture, and Islamic culture. The co-existence of these three legacies helps to explain the diversity of the continent and the people who are called African.

To understand and illustrate the diversity of the African people, members of the series filming project traveled to some 20 African countries, and consulted with scholars from throughout the world.

Mazrui's lecture will look at examples of both cultural conflict and cultural synthesis, assessing the complex causes of a continent that is caught between dependency and decay.

A native Kenyan, Ali A. Mazrui is professor of political science at the University of Michigan, the Andrew D. White professor-at-large at Cornell University, and research professor at the University of Jos, in Nigeria. He earned his B.A. with distinction from Manchester University in Great Britain, earned his master's degree from Columbia University, and his doctorate from Oxford University. He taught at Makerere University in Uganda for 10 years, and is the author of 20 books--on the culture, history, economics, politics and religion of Africa--as well as hundreds of academic articles for such publications as Foreign Affairs, Harvard Education Review, and International Affairs. He is currently editing Volume Eight of UNESCO's General History of Africa.

Ali Mazrui's appearance is the first in a new series sponsored by the UCSD Undergraduate Affairs National Issues Forum (UNIF). Future speakers in the series include hostage negotiator Terry Waite (Feb. 28), and William F. Buckley, Jr. (Apr. 16).

Tickets for the Mazrui event are available from the UCSD Box Office and from TicketMaster outlets. General admission is \$10, seniors \$8, and students \$6. For information call the UCSD Box Office at 534-4559.

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