



SOLIDARITY MESSAGES FROM AFRICAN WOMEN JUDGES



"I know it has not been easy as I have tried to navigate the challenges of juggling my career and motherhood, and I fully admit that I did not always get the balance right. But I hope that you have seen that with hard work, determination, and love, it can be done."

Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson





J. JARPA DAWUNI, PH.D.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, IAWL

On behalf of the Board of Directors of IAWL, we share the joy of this historic confirmation of Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson!

In the spirit of **Isokan** (Yoruba word for unity), we stand in solidarity and in jubilation. A win for one, is a win for all!

Congratulations!





CHIEF JUSTICE MARTHA KOOME

KENYA

I congratulate Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson on her historic appointment as the first Black woman in the Supreme Court. I was encouraged by her firmness when answering questions, even in the midst of serious provocation, she never derailed. Your focus remained on your role as a fair and just Judge whose responsibility is to defend the rule of law and the Constitution. I, as the first woman Chief Justice of Kenya also went through a gruelling public vetting and interview, and I look forward to meeting with you soon my sister so that we can celebrate this great feat. Indeed you did it for all of us who care about an equal world that respects all. The Supreme Court of the US will be better with your wealth of experience as a distinguished jurist. I wish you all the best.





JUSTICE SOPHIA A. B. AKUFFO FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE GHANA

We are all behind you. You're where you deserve to be. The Lord will enlighten your way every day, so have no fear, have no doubt.





JUDGE ALERO E. AKEREDOLU ONDO STATE HIGH COURT NIGERIA

Hon. Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, your historic elevation to the US Supreme Court has brought great joy and gladness to all women, and judges in particular, all over the world. I personally followed the confirmation hearings and I am glad the Senate made the right decision. I sincerely congratulate you and your family. You are shinning so bright that you give light and hope to girls and women all over the world that WE CAN BE WHOEVER WE CHOOSE, no boundaries no limits; we can even go beyond the skies.





JUSTICE REINE ALAPINI-GANSOU ICC, THE HAGUE BENIN

Dear sister, I am joining everyone to congratulate you, wish you success and all the best in this great and exciting position. Let's stand together and fulfil our common goal—justice.





JUSTICE STELLA ANUKAM

AFRICAN COURT ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS

NIGERIA

A big congratulations on your historic appointment as the first Black woman Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States of America. This is well-deserved; as the whole world watched how you comported yourself and displayed such brilliance and tact during your screening for the enviable job. I salute your courage and astuteness as a woman, and a professional to the core. Wishing you the very best on the job. God's Great Grace. CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations-Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson



JUSTICE DR. NANCY BARAZA (RTD.)

KENYA

Congratulations my sister Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson for breaking the barrier to be the first Black woman to gain entry into the Supreme court of the USA. It is no mean feat! We in Kenya are extremely proud of this achievement. I look forward to your jurisprudence in that hallowed court.





JUSTICE JANAPARE BARTELS-KODWO COURT OF APPEAL

GHANA

Dear Ketanji, indeed from "Segregation to the Supreme Court." A hearty congratulations to you! May God keep you as you continue to do your work to the best of your ability. You have braved all odds to stand tall on the shoulders of your ancestors and in doing so you have made us all Black women judges everywhere in the world extremely proud of you. May you continue to shine and be the beacon for the next generation of young people all over the world. Congratulations on becoming the first ever Black woman on the SCOTUS.





JUSTICE TUJILANE CHIZUMILA

AFRICAN COURT ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS

TANZANIA

Dear Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, a big and hearty congratulations to you! Thank you for making us African women proud more so those in the legal profession. I look forward to meeting you at a forum of African American and African women judges through which we will be networking and sharing our experiences.





JUDGE NOKUTHULA SYLVIA DANISO

HIGH COURT

SOUTH AFRICA

Congratulations Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson on this historic and monumental achievement. You truly are an inspiration, mainly to women of color who have been largely under-represented in the Judiciary across the globe. You are indeed the epitome of perseverance, resilience and a true example that "anything is possible" with hard work. Best wishes and great success ahead.





BAYO DASSOUNDO

SENIOR MAGISTRATE - PRESIDENT OF FIRST INSTANCE COURT

BENIN

My warmest Congratulations Mrs Ketanji Brown Jackson on your appointment. I am delighted that you have been recognised for your accomplishments. Your brilliant path inspires not only the women judges but all the women worldwide. We are proud of you and wish you success in your new role and duties.





JUSTICE ELIZABETH IBANDA-NAHAMYA

UNIRMICT

UGANDA

Watching the videos of the 'grilling' you went through, I could not hesitate to say a prayer for your success. Your accomplishment is for all of us, professional legal women! Congratulations on your historic appointment, and all the very best as you join the highest court in America.





JUDGE JOAQUINE DE-MELLO HIGH COURT

TANZANIA

History has been made, Ketanji Brown Jackson has made us Black people very proud. The struggle is on. Thank you Ketanji for breaking the glass ceiling!





JUSTICE (RTD.) VERA DUARTE PINA

SUPREME COURT

CAPE VERDE

At the moment in which your appointment to the Supreme Court is so judiciously and deservedly confirmed, I want to congratulate you and wish that your performance will always be a beacon of LIGHT for all those who demand JUSTICE.

No momento em que tão judiciosa e meritoriamente vê confirmada a sua nomeação para a Suprema Corte quero dar-lhe os Parabéns e desejar que o seu desempenho seja sempre um farol de LUZ a todos que demandam a JUSTIÇA.





JUDGE OLIVIA AUBIERGE HUNGBO-KPLOCA

BENIN

Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson, through these few words, I would like to send you my warmest congratulations on your confirmation to the US Supreme Court, of which you are now the first Black magistrate. It is a new page filled with hope that opens for the empowerment of women in general and for women in law in particular. Proud of you, Courage and full success in your new functions.





JUSTICE NKEMDILEM IZUAKO

UNITED NATIONS DISPUTE TRIBUNAL (RTD.)

NIGERIA

Such heartwarming news, the making of history! The appointment of Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court of the United States brings the world several steps closer to the total shattering of the glass ceiling. Congratulations Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, congratulations to the USA and the world.





JUSTICE KUDIRAT KEKERE-EKUN SUPREME COURT NIGERIA

Congratulations Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson on your historical feat in breaking the glass ceiling for Black women on the Supreme Court Bench. Your appointment, without doubt, is very well deserved. It is a win for the Girl Child everywhere and one of the greatest examples of what can be achieved with perseverance, hard work, grace and integrity. I wish you God's guidance and a very successful tenure. I have no doubt that there are greater achievements to come.





JUSTICE (DR.) JULIANA LAURENT MASABO

HIGH COURT

TANZANIA

Another glass ceiling has been permanently shattered! Congratulations to Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson for her historic and well-deserved confirmation as the first Black woman to serve on the United States Supreme Court. Her confirmation has not only created a new path forward but has taught all of us that no matter how difficult the struggle, it is still possible. If you remain focused and determined, you can overcome the barriers, be anything and achieve anything.





JUDGE MARTHA MBHELE

ACTING JUDGE PRESIDENT, FREE STATE HIGH COURT

SOUTH AFRICA

Congratulations Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson on your appointment. Your dedication, excellence, discipline, hard work, knowledge, skill and the essence of who you are earned you this position. The whole world is giving you a standing ovation as you take your rightful place. Your appointment inspires and motivates us to press forward and be a better version of ourselves. It sends a message to every black child that dreams are valid and achievable. You are what the American Justice system had been waiting for. Thank you for leading the way. We are proud of your achievement.





JUDGE SHANAAZ CHRISTINE MIA JUDGE, GAUTENG DIVISION SOUTH AFRICA

Dear Justice Kentanji Brown Jackson, congratulations on your appointment. Since your nomination by President Biden, your journey was akin to walking through fire. Your courage and strength has been admirable. I watched in awe. The message to your daughters that you will always be their mother really struck a chord and resonated. Your daughter's admiration is a treasure as is your husband's support. You are an esteemed addition to the Supreme Court of the United States of America and your appointment is a victory as evident in Senator Booker's support. Women especially share in your triumph and your family's joy. This is a moment in history. I wish you all the best on your appointment and as you create more moments in history.





HER HONOUR ELLEN SERWAA MIREKU CIRCUIT COURT

GHANA

A hearty congratulations to you. You are an inspiration to all women. You are an epitome of "hard work pays." Thank you for your message on perseverance. We wish you all the very best.





JUSTICE BARATANG C. MOCUMIE SUPREME COURT OF APPEAL SOUTH AFRICA

Congratulations Justice Brown Jackson. We are proud of you for re-writing "herstory," leaving huge footprints for us to follow you in. With your appointment a new dawn of justice, equity and humanity to all has dawned. Continue to do us proud as a people! We look forward to meet you in person and hear from you how we can continue to hold our heads up high and be an inspiration to others.

Amandla...Malibongwe igama la makhosikhasi=Power to the women...May the Women's Name be Hailed!





JUSTICE YVONNE MOKGORO CONSTITUTIONAL COURT SOUTH AFRICA

After you as the first, dear sister, the distant dreams of so many young girls will henceforth be a real possibility. As you join the Supreme Court, continue to fulfill your responsibility to humanity, serving the cause of justice with the confidence you exude so strongly. Not only is your loving daughter and family so proud of you. We all are. Congratulations, Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson. And enjoy the Court.





JUSTICE MONICA K. MUGENYI COURT OF APPEAL UGANDA

We are extremely proud of you, Justice Brown Jackson. This is a hard-earned, long overdue, historic win for all Black women; a priceless inspiration for all minorities and matchless recognition of the contribution of female judges. May you leave an indelible mark on the US Supreme Court, that will challenge and motivate those that come after you to emulate and traverse. Congratulations!





JUSTICE FLORENCE MUMBA ECCC CAMBODIA ZAMBIA

Dear Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson, congratulations for this historic achievement! You are equal to the task.





JUSTICE PHILOMENA MBETE MWILU DEPUTY CHIEF JUSTICE

KENYA

Dear Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, my heartfelt congratulations on your historic appointment to the United States Supreme Court. Your appointment sent reverberations across the world, Kenya included. I watched your confirmation hearings with knowing pride and exasperated trepidation. Pride because I have no doubt in our immense potential as Black women judges. Trepidation because we remain acutely aware of the intentional and structural barriers that persist to stand in our way. Thank you for being a beacon, especially for our young girls, of justice, hope, possibility, hard work and achievement. I wish you the very best in your appointment.





JUSTICE VUYOKAZI NONCEMBU HIGH COURT

SOUTH AFRICA

Greetings from South Africa! It is as honour and privilege for me to congratulate Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson on her confirmation to the apex court. Her appointment signifies a marked turning point in the fight for the transformation of the judiciary, not only for the US, but for the entire globe, and is a significant step towards the realisation of SDG 5-gender equality. It also gives hope that many other jurisdictions, especially those on the African Continent, where the pace of gender transformation seems to be lacking far behind, will follow suit.





JUSTICE AMINATTA LOIS RUNENI NGUM

MICT

THE GAMBIA

Congratulations, Makorokoto, Hongera, Ndoka leko and Amamthlope for breaking the ceiling. Wishing you all the best in your future endeavors In Shaa Allah.



Congratulations-Justice Ketanji brown Jackson



JUDGE ANNET NYUKURI LAND & ENVIRONMENT COURT

KENYA

Congratulations Hon. Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson! Your confirmation is an important milestone for all African women Judges. It is a testament that they have what it takes to deliver justice at the highest possible level.





JUDGE OLAMIDE FOLAHANMI OLOYEDE OSUN STATE HIGH COURT

NIGERIA

What a joy to witness the elevation of your Honour, Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court of the United States, literally the most influential Court on planet earth. This event gives assurance that: with diligence, perseverance and grace, our tall dreams are achievable. Wishing you Honour an outstanding time marked by many uplifting decisions!





JUSTICE NTYAM ONDO SUPREME COURT

CAMEROON

I am so proud of your confirmation. You now represent a piece of crown jewelry for women's success in general, and Black women in the world in particular. With great responsibilities come great challenges. I am confident that the best is yet to be seen from you. Congratulations Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson!





JUSTICE (RTD) EFFIE OWUOR COURT OF APPEAL KENYA

Our Sister Ketanji, your appointment as the first Black woman to serve on the U.S Supreme Court is of tremendous importance to the millions of Black women all over the world. I watched you with a lot of respect in the manner in which you confidently answered the questions put to you and owned your story by controlling the narrative and intellectually proving your capability. Congratulations Justice!





JUSTICE LÚCIA DA LUZ RIBEIRO PRESIDENT, CONSTITUTIONAL COUNCIL

MOZAMBIQUE

Congratulations on your appointment to the prestigious position of Justice of the US Supreme Court. Without a doubt, this appointment sparks hope in the young black people, in general, of the possibility of one day being able to access the Supreme Court. I wish you the best, and know that with your knowledge and intelligence you will contribute to reduction of inequalities in the American judiciary. Each achievement of a woman – of a Black woman, represents an achievement for all of us.





JUSTICE JULIA SEBUTINDE ICJ, THE HAGUE UGANDA

From the first African woman judge on the World Court to the first African American woman judge on SCOTUS. Congratulations Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson upon your well-deserved election. May God who has called you continue to grant you wisdom, courage, integrity and grace as you embark on this exciting journey.





JUDGE DORINDA SMITH-ARTHUR CIRCUIT COURT

GHANA

Congratulations on your Supreme Court appointment. We are so proud of you and wish you well. Continue to shine.





JUSTICE MARY MAMYASSIN SEY SUPREME COURT THE GAMBIA

Congratulations My Lady Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson for a well deserved appointment. I am extremely proud of your achievements and I am confident you will excel in your role. You have my full support all the way from The Gambia, West Africa.





JUSTICE ELSIE NWANWURI THOMPSON

HIGH COURT

NIGERIA

We give Jehovah all the praise that in our lifetime this has come to pass. Biggest congratulations our dearest sister. The good Lord who has made this possible will strengthen you. Amen.





JUSTICE (DR.) LILLIAN TIBATEMWA-EKIRIKUBINZA

SUPREME COURT

UGANDA

Congratulations Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson! There is Power in the Judicial Pen. But we know only too well that privilege blinds. We cannot therefore depend solely on allies from privileged sections of society to push for the rights of the marginalised. Yes – there is Power in the Judicial Pen. And we need that pen in the hands of individuals who are keenly aware of and have experienced first hand, the barriers that the marginalised face in their everyday pursuit of rights and in their search for justice. We therefore celebrate your appointment to the highest court of the United States of America.





JUSTICE GERTRUDE TORKORNOO SUPREME COURT GHANA

We have followed the journey and have been simply proud of you! Congratulations!





JUSTICE MARGARET WELBOURNE COURT OF APPEAL GHANA

Congratulations! You have made us proud. We believe that you will bring your immense experience to the Supreme court and enrich its rulings. God bless you.





JUDGE MARGARET VICTOR HIGH COURT SOUTH AFRICA

Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, we are so proud of your appointment to the Supreme Court of the United States of America and congratulate you. Your appointment symbolizes the hopes and dreams of every women in the legal profession not only in your country but to us women lawyers here in South Africa and throughout our continent. We looked in awe and pride as you withstood the rigors of your confirmation hearings. May your journey on the Court be blessed with wisdom and may your strength and faith continue to be a shining beacon to women lawyers throughout the world.



A big congratulation to you Madame Justice Brown Jackson! Thank you for availing yourself to prove that nothing is impossible. Hoping your appointment will pave the way for other eligible African American women!

ELIZABETH DENGE MAGISTRATE SOUTH AFRICA

Your Excellency Ketanji Brown Jackson, Judge of the US Supreme Court, I'm overwhelmed with happiness as I received the news of your selection as the first ebony woman in the US Supreme Court. This is the culmination of the diligence of the ebony woman in the sanctuary of justice. Congratulations!

JUDGE AHMED ALI SUPREME COURT SUDAN



Hearty congratulations to Justice Jackson Your achievement and raise to the Supreme Court of USA is not only a win for her and her family but a win for all of us black women especially us young black women not only in the USA but the entire African Continent. Her story is an inspirational story, a journey of hard work, persistence, believing in oneself and one that gives us hope. It's a re-affirmation of the abilities of black women, it erodes away all the bad history about black women. And a reminder to our selves that yes, we have to keep doing right. All our eyes are on Justice Jackson and I wish her the very best in this new position.

ELIZABETH DENGE MAGISTRATE UGANDA

Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, you are a shining light. God bless you.

BIANCA OSEI-SARFO MAGISTRATE GHANA

