



SPEECH BY THE CHANCELLOR
UNIVERSITY OF ELDORET DURING THE 2ND
UNIVERSITY OF ELDORET GRADUATION
CEREMONY AT THE UNIVERSITY PAVILLION ON
FRIDAY
28TH NOVEMBER, 2014
Amb. Prof. Judith M. Bahemuka

The Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education,
Science & Technology

Governor, Uasin Gishu County

Other County Governors present

Senator, Uasin Gishu County

Members of Parliament

Members of County Assembly

Chairman of Council, University of Eldoret

University of Eldoret Council and Management

Vice-Chancellors present

Parents, Guardians and Sponsors

Graduands

The Clergy

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and gentlemen

This is a great day and I thank God for it.

It is my great honor and pleasure to preside over the University of Eldoret 2nd graduation ceremony.

I take this opportunity to thank each one of you for travelling far and wide to come and celebrate with us.

This ceremony is a clear evidence of the hard work, commitment and the unwavering support

from our students, parents, our partners and friends and the entire University fraternity. These together have culminated in this second graduation ceremony.

The role of University education is to develop a cadre of highly qualified manpower equipped with requisite knowledge, skills and attitudes in readiness for life's challenges.

I am certain that today, the University of Eldoret has released the best skills, attitudes and a manpower ready to disseminate and impart knowledge to the society.

University education is crucial in Africa as it will define the pace and development of the continent. It is within Universities where consultations on African Renaissance, transformative leadership, governance, and mechanisms for placing the

continent at the cutting edge are taking place. Let the University of Eldoret never be accused of not producing the caliber of brains that will put Kenya and Africa on the map of the world.

And now to the class of 2014

Diplomas

You are the holders of the ladder of development.

Nobody can climb this ladder without you.

Work with the zeal that you have shown.

Help build a strong foundation. Do your job with commitment, perfection and excellence. We shall count on you to provide the missing link in Higher Education.

To the first degree holders:-

No more stone throwing. You parents have struggled hard to provide you with University education. Now the reality is dawning on you that

you are a responsible citizen. You will need to earn a living.

Be brave; never quit even when the going gets tough.

For Masters

You are the ones between the undergraduates and the Ph.D holders, Aim high, do not stop where you are, think of coming back to UoE for your Ph.Ds.

For Ph.D holders:-

You have become the citizens of the world. Your Doctor of Philosophy requires you to be reflective, be philosophical but at the same time search vigorously for new knowledge.

Excel in research and innovations. Come up with new technologies to build a new Kenya with knowledge from the **"Flame of Knowledge and**

Innovation." That way we will look up to you and announce you as Doctor of Philosophy holders. We will know that YES, you have moved one step forward.

The instrument we are presenting you today therefore is evidence that you have earned the honor that you are receiving, that you will be the thinkers, implementers and the yeast to enliven development.

The University acknowledges the hard-work that you put in this effort. Use this instrument wisely.

The University is giving you various certificates today. You are the key to the development of Kenya.

Today you have entered into a new frontier, stretch out your wings and fly with your fancy.

Discoveries are a work of imagination. Stop at nothing.

I salute you. Bravo!!!!!!

To The University Community:-

I wish to commend the University Council, Management, Senate and Staff for working together in ensuring that these students receive a whole-some educational experience that balances

theory and practice, moral, mental and physical development.

Society looks up to Universities to chart the way forward in creating and disseminating knowledge.

I also wish to appreciate the academic staff for engaging in productive and relevant research activities that focus on tackling scientific, technological and social problems in society which

affirms our participation in changing the face of Kenya and helps us in wealth creation and sustainable development.

As we graduate, let us reflect on what the Government of Kenya has done to enable us achieve the success of today.

I thank the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology for guiding and supporting the

University of Eldoret. Let us also give a thought to negative ethnicity, poverty, under development and the challenges presented by devolution.

Let this University be known as The Institution that looks for solutions to the problems that face this Nation.

Scholars should be first to debate openly, candidly and creatively on the reasons and causes of

insecurity in Kenya. The Political angle should not be the guiding light.

The academic world is free and talented. Indeed, we can find solutions to what is making Kenya **NOT TO BECOME THE PEARL AND APPLE OF GOD'S EYE.**

I thank:-

- The National government through the Ministry of Education, Science and

Technology

- The representative of the Cabinet secretary, Ministry of Education, Science & Technology
- I thank our mentoring University (Moi University) for the great support they have given us.

The Community

The County Governor, the Government and people of Uasin Gishu, thank you for your

housing this young institution. Its growth will be your pride and joy. Help us through creative criticism and open discussions, create a better renowned University comparable only to Harvard, Oxford and Cambridge. You owe it to yourselves, to Kenya and to the world. On our part, we shall always reach out to you for support. “Kongoi Missing Kongoi”

Parents, Guardians and sponsors

You have given to graduands the best heritage. With knowledge, these young people can transform your lives. Thank you for giving the University of Eldoret opportunity to train your sons and daughters.

Asanteni Sana

As you leave the gates of University of Eldoret, go out with God's blessings and protection.

I also wish you a Merry Christmas and a new year full of God's favor.

Thank you and God bless you all.

Amb. Judith M. Bahemuka