

Valedictory Speech

The Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, DVCs, Principals of Colleges, UoN fraternity, invited guests, ladies and gentlemen and of course the graduating class of 2016, good morning!

I am deeply honored to deliver the valedictorian speech for this much awaited graduation ceremony.

Today, we become University of Nairobi graduates! Sitting amongst us are tomorrow's doctors and lawyers, teachers and psychologists, engineers and accountants, entrepreneurs and actuaries, the list just goes on.

No matter what our reasons were for choosing UoN a few years ago, what is important now is that we are all here today to celebrate our triumphs, our achievements and our victories both individually and as a university.

Each of us has had our own unique experiences at the University; a combination of good times and hard times, times of laughter and of joy and of course no one can forget those late nights.

We all worked very hard to get to this day, and today we are here to collect the fruits of our labor.

However, graduating is not an end in itself; it is instead a part of a larger journey of life and all accomplishments should be taken as starting points for further achievements.

Our graduation should serve as one such launching point, projecting us to wherever our futures are meant to take us.

We can't stop now! This graduation has already shown us how capable we all are of accomplishing our goals when we commit ourselves. As Walt Disney once said "All our dreams can come true- if we have the courage to pursue them."

The road that lies ahead won't be easy. There will be obstacles and missed exits, potholes and roadblocks. There will be times when each of us will feel like we cannot possibly go on.

But we are not alone—we are all in this journey together. We've made it this far—we will not back out now. Remember nothing worthwhile in life is easy.

At this point, I would like to thank several important members of my life that encouraged and supported me through this incredible journey. Mom, Dad, Aunty and Uncle thank you for all your hard work, support, and love throughout these difficult yet exciting years.

You encouraged me in all my endeavors, provided me with emotional support, and spoke highly of me to anyone who would listen. I wouldn't be here were it not for you.

To my friends, who I spent countless hours with, studying for tests and making memories that will last a lifetime, thank you.

I would also like to thank everyone from School of Mathematics especially the Director, Professor Weke for pushing me to the best that I could be ever since I joined the University.

Finally on behalf of all graduates, I would like to thank the lecturers and everyone who was involved in making us University of Nairobi graduates.

You gave us the opportunity to develop our education through a safe learning environment, dedicated staff, and an encouraging atmosphere. We are proud to have been part of, by far, the best University in this great nation of Kenya.

Graduates, it is about that time where some of us say farewell to UoN and hello to our prospective futures, but recall that a farewell is only painful if you never wish to say hello again.

We are the Class of 2016! It is time that we shape ourselves to be the best that we possibly can and become role models for future generations.

Once again congratulations to this great class! Go forth into this world and do great things!

Thank you!

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