



Dr. Arch. Reuben Mutiso, Chancellor, The Management University of Africa
PhD (Texas, Austin), M. Arch & B. Arch (UoN), FKIM, FAAK, FICM

The Chief Guest, H.E. the Deputy President of Kenya, Dr. William Samoei Ruto
The Governor of Kajiado County, H.E. Joseph Ole-Lelenku, Chairman Board of
Trustee, Dr. Thomas Musili, Members of the Board of Trustees present, Fellow
Chancellors present, Chairman of the University Governing Council, Dr. Edward
Odundo, Members of the University Governing Council present, Vice - Chancellor, Dr.
Washington Okeyo, Vice - Chancellors of other universities present, KIM Executive
Director/CEO, Mr. Muriithi Ndegwa, Distinguished Guests, Alumni, Parents and
Guardians, Graduating Class of 2019, Ladies and Gentlemen, All protocols observed

Good Morning!

I am delighted this morning to preside over the 6th graduation ceremony of the Management University of Africa. I remember last year 2018, we conducted a successful 5th graduation ceremony at South C campus. Today I am delighted that this year we have held the graduation ceremony at Kisaju Main Campus – a huge milestone for our University. Allow me to thank all those who made this feat possible.

Firstly, I wish to join the Ag. Vice-Chancellor and the Chairman of University Governing Council in thanking the Chief Guest for accepting to honor and grace this ceremony. Secondly, to the graduands, receive my greetings and good tidings. I appreciate that graduation ceremony serves as the culmination of years of hard work and dedication. More importantly, it is an opportunity for the entire University fraternity, family and friends to celebrate your success. We gather here today to honor



DURING THE 6TH GRADUATION CEREMONY HELD ON
11TH DECEMBER 2019 AT KISAJU MAIN CAMPUS.

your hard work and celebrate your achievement in earning a degree qualification from the Management University of Africa. Thirdly, I know this journey would not have been possible without the support of your parents, guardians, sponsors and above all, your professors and lecturers. I applaud them all for a job well done.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Any country that wishes to improve the quality of life of its citizens needs to invest in the development of human capital. As a University, therefore, we are proud of the parents and other key stakeholders for their investment and contribution to the nation's human capital development as demonstrated by this ceremony. Kenya's Vision 2030 and the Universities Act No. 42 of 2012 (Amended in 2016), places this heavy responsibility on Universities in Kenya. I am aware that the Management University of Africa has continued to develop new academic programmes and to review existing ones to meet national, regional and global needs. I wish to encourage the University Management and Staff to embrace innovative approach in the development of market responsive programmes that meet the expansive industry and market demands.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Chief Guest, graduates like the ones graduating today symbolize the future of this country and the world. As a University, we are delighted to be graduating innovative leaders who have been equipped with relevant skills. Kenya needs innovative and informed minds as represented by those who are graduating. Our Chief Guest, as witnessed from different diplomas and degrees being conferred today, I am happy to note that the Management University of Africa is fulfilling its mission 'to provide quality education and training through knowledge generation, research, innovation, creativity and community service.' Institutions of higher learning must of necessity keep on realigning themselves with the needs of the society and adjusting their academic programmes as need arises from time to time.

To the Graduating Class of 2019, it is by virtue of your training, your qualifications and your entrepreneurial skills that you are graduating today. You have been fully equipped to cope with the demands of the economic challenges facing the country today and to even offer solutions to the world. Gone are the days when a degree automatically secured you a job in an organization. Beyond graduation, you need to put to practice your knowledge and skills to create employment not only for yourself but also for others.



Some of you are already success stories. Others among you will be trying to find your bearing, seeking to start something. It will be tough but not impossible. Do not give up. There are lessons to be learnt from past greats.

Ford's determination and ability not to give up in the face of failure and adversity is what made him so successful. Henry Ford's name is synonymous with the automotive industry. One of Ford's greatest quotes is "Failure is simply the opportunity to begin again".

Our Chief Guest, as we celebrate this 6th graduation ceremony, I would like to single out the University's transformation in the last one year under the leadership of the Ag. Vice-Chancellor Dr. Washington Okeyo. The University's infrastructural development at Kisaju is on course. I know the University Management and the Governing Council are working around the clock to achieve this goal. As I speak, the first cohort of 30 government sponsored students were admitted into this campus in September 2019. They are learning and residing here. This is a major achievement and must be applauded. The University is open for business and is receptive to brilliant ideas to make Kisaju even better.

In conclusion, I wish to note that today's graduation ceremony is taking place against a backdrop of global economic challenges which have led to diminished job opportunities and investments. For some time now, our country is experiencing social economic challenges. The country is witnessing closure of many businesses some of which were supported through austerity measures by the Government through the exchequer. With this background, there are signals that formal employment opportunities are becoming more and more scarce. I therefore challenge our graduands to remain steadfast and be innovative in creating employment for yourselves and others.

To all of you the graduating class, students and the faculty, I leave you with the words of the motto of one of the greatest universities in the world, the Sun Yat-Sen Univeristy in China;

- ✓ Study Extensively
- ✓ Enquire Accurately
- ✓ Reflect Carefully
- ✓ Practice Earnestly

To conclude, allow me ladies and gentlemen to wish you well wherever you will go and be good ambassadors of your alma mater. Go well to lead and transform the world. Finally, I wish you Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year 2020.

Thank you

