

# **MUNI UNIVERSITY**



**SPEECH BY THE CHANCELLOR ON THE OCCASION OF  
THE THIRD GRADUATION CEREMONY OF MUNI  
UNIVERSITY**

**SATURDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER, 2019**

**AT MUNI UNIVERSITY MAIN CAMPUS GROUNDS**

**Rt. Hon. Dr. Eng. Eric T.S. Adriko, PhD.**

## **1. PROTOCOL**

H.E. The President of the Republic of Uganda

The Rt. Hon. Prime Minister

The Rt. Hon. Deputy Prime Minister

The First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports

Hon. Ministers Present

Hon. Minister of State for Education

Hon. Ministers of State

Hon. Members of Parliament

Excellences, Ambassadors and Members of the Diplomatic Corp

Permanent Secretaries present

The Executive Director National Council for Higher Education

Executive Secretary RUFORUM

The Executive Director, Higher Education Students Financing Board

Chairman of University Council and Council Members

Members of Senate

The Vice Chancellor of Muni University

Chancellors of other Universities

Vice Chancellors of Sister Universities

The University Secretary Muni University

The Academic Registrars present

The Civic and Religious Leaders here present

District Chairpersons, Resident District Commissioners and  
all Local Leaders

HIS worship the Mayor of Arua Municipal Council

Chief Administrative Officers

District Education Officers

Heads of Schools and Institutions

All our Partners, Corporate and NGO Representatives

The Guild President and the Entire Student Body

Members of the University Community

Distinguished Invited Guests

Grandaunds

Parents and Guardians

The Media and Security Personnel

Ladies and Gentlemen

## **2. WELCOME**

### **H.E. The President of the Republic of Uganda**

On behalf of the University I extend a very warm welcome to you. I also take the opportunity to receive you as the VISITOR to the University.

Your Excellency, I shall never tire in thanking you enough for all your historic and visionary actions in i) establishing Muni University as the 6<sup>th</sup> public University ii) creating time to grace the recently concluded first ever West Nile Investment Symposium, 2019 that drew over 1000 investors, local and international participants and the academia to the University. Iii) My second mandate as a chancellor, is a sign of your confidence in me and I shall remain humbled and indebted for your monumental trust.

Your Excellency, thank you very much indeed for everyone can see the impact this University has already created in the community.

### **Distinguished Visitors**

I welcome all of you to the 3<sup>rd</sup> congregation of the university and thank you for joining us on this great occasion as we celebrate the success of our children.

### **Community of West Nile,**

Again, I want to reiterate my gratefulness to the Community of West Nile for all their efforts and especially the donation of land parcels that made establishment of this university become a dream come true, and for according unwavering support to our institution.

Thank you very much.

### **3. CONGRATULATIONS TO GRADUANDS.**

I congratulate you all for the hard work, commitment and dedication that you exhibited which enabled you to successfully complete your studies.

I want to congratulate in a special way, the pioneer graduands of Bachelor of Science with Education, who are graduating for the first time. The country still needs more Science teachers and all of you are therefore welcomed to the world of work.

I want to congratulate the University community in general and the IT team that represented us in China for the IT award they won. It's not only you who won the award but all of us as a community of Muni University.

### **4. PARENTS AND GUARDIANS**

I thank you parents and guardians for the sacrifice that you have made to see our graduates today, through their education journey.

Educating a child is total sacrifice, thank you very much. My prayer to you is that you give these Children a chance to build themselves before they start repaying the sacrifice debt they owe you.

Thank you all for gracing this occasion and witnessing the historic event when our graduands receive their awards.

### **5. UNIVERSITY COUNCIL AND SENATE**

I commend the University Council and Senate for their untiring efforts and support in steering and managing the affairs of the University despite many challenges.

I implore you to practice good governance, transparency

and accountability as this is the only way you will avoid numerous management challenges currently facing institutions of higher learning in the country.

I urge the Council to source for funding from other sources apart from government subvention.

The University Senate should also develop programmes that equip the young people with entrepreneurial skills other than producing graduates that end up on the streets without employment.

## **6. VICE CHANCELLOR**

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Vice Chancellor upon a number of achievements in this year. Her appointment to the Committee of eminent educationist that is to develop the Makerere University visitation white paper, is not only her personal achievement but also for Muni University as a whole. As the Vice Chancellor, playing part in the development of Makerere is a bonus for us.

## **7. STAFF**

I would like to thank the academic staff for ensuring that students are taught well and supervised well, despite other challenges that you and the University might be facing. Your hard work and effort is noted and duly appreciated in the Global eminence in the academic front already.

The university has made an effort to recruit especially the academic and other support staff in some key areas that the Vice chancellor reported in her speech.

This effort should go a long way towards improving the Human resources capacity and enable the university to launch new

academic programmes.

We thank the Government of Uganda for providing the funds for staff recruitment

## **8. CONTINUING STUDENTS**

I would like to congratulate the students' guild for always working in harmony with the management of the university whenever handling matters related to students' affairs.

I strongly encourage the entire students' community to maintain and uphold this high level of leadership, discipline, commitment and hard work that you have exhibited.

I call upon you to remain focused, exemplary, innovative and transformative leaders. You should always align your thinking towards the achievement of the mission and vision of this young university and your own self development goals.

## **9. PARTNERS**

I want to appreciate all our partners local and international for the support they continue to render towards the promotion and growth of this university.

I am grateful to Operation Wealth Creation, Uganda Investment Authority, Local and International Investors and other partners for recently convening and ably participating in the West Nile Investment Symposium (2019) that was successfully hosted by Muni University. This event has triggered many development initiatives as I am informed. I therefore thank the Chairpersons and members of the organizing Committees for a job very well done.

Special thanks go to the Rt. Hon. First Deputy Prime Minister General Moses Ali; the Convener, General (Rtd) Caleb Akandwanaho Salim Saleh- Chief OWC; Ambassador Robert Mwesigwa Rukaari; Mr. Disan Okumu; Professor Dr. James Kajete; Mr. George Piwang Jalobo, Assoc. Prof. Simon Katrini Anguma and Mr. Tibricu Habib Amin for successfully coordinating the activities of the West Nile Investment Symposium.

I would like to convey a special compliment to His Excellency the President of Uganda for gracing the occasion.

#### **10. WELL WISHES TO THE GRADUANDS**

Our Graduands, I congratulate you once again for this wonderful milestone achievement. It might have been a long journey but finally you have made it. Go out and serve our country Uganda and wherever the call of duty takes you with the highest level of professionalism, integrity and distinction in the frontier of knowledge of your disciplines. Take and spread the Muni University culture of being excellent role **Model** in all that you do in society.

I implore you to remain relevant in the professional career that you have chosen.

Please do not despise jobs, there is no bad job as long as it is a legitimate job and it is paying. It is easier to graduate from one job position to another when you are there than finding the right position you want when you are out. Avoid quick success, such success' shelf life is as long as it took to come. Whatever success you want make sure it has a trail behind it.

To those returning to your jobs after a study sabbatical, you are returning to your work places improved people than when

you were before you came here. Do not just aspire for an improved pay because you are academically better than you were before.

Please do so with patience, and humility, knowing that your improved academic credentials has opened the horizon for you. But how you take on the opened horizon will make or break you.

The job market right now is very competitive with many challenges. Uganda now produces more than 100,000 graduates every year. The employment market is now more a competitive advantage than just academic excellence.

It's at this point that I call upon the University Council and Staff to make graduates from Muni University go out not with just academic papers but with a competitive advantage in the job market. The post-harvest Centre that was opened by His Excellency should give us that advantage. When other institutions get theirs, they will be playing a catch up game.

If well utilized, Muni University will be the public university of choice to students in secondary schools across the country and those wishing to upgrade their academics. This will not only benefit our students and their employers but also the financial books of the university will be impressive.

I urge you to remain focused and be prepared to face and overcome any other academic and professional challenges that may come your way. Do not forget your Alma-Mata, Muni University.

When you are out there, please remember to look back and participate in the governance and promotion of the institution, as alumni and members of the convocation of the institution

that natured you.

I sincerely thank you and your parents for making us proud.

## **11. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

In conclusion, I thank the Vice Chancellor and her team for the excellent arrangements made for this day.

I thank everybody for their efforts and contribution for making this day successful

Most of all I thank the Government of the Republic of Uganda through the Ministry of Education and Sports for its continued support to the growth of Muni University

I wish all of you a happy and joyous celebration

Congratulations to you all and I thank you for coming.

**“Transforming Lives”**

**and**

**“For God and my Country”**

**Rt.Hon.Dr.Eng.Eric T.S.Adriko (PHD)**

**CHANCELLOR**

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S  
TEAM

