



**Speech of the
Chancellor of Muni University
Rt. Hon. Eric Tiyo Sekebuga Adriko**

1.0. PROTOCOL

- 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 Higher Education
- Hon. Members of Parliament
- Excellences, Ambassadors, and Members of the Diplomatic Corp

- Permanent Secretaries Present
- The Executive Director National Council for Higher Education
- The Executive Director, Higher Education Students Financing Board
- Chairman of Council and Council Members
- Chancellors of other Universities
- Members of Senate
- The Vice chancellor of Muni University
- The Vice Chancellors of other Universities
- The Deputy Vice Chancellor – Academic Affairs of Muni University
- The University Secretary Muni University
- The Academic Registrars present
- The Civic and Religious Leaders here present
- Resident District Commissioners
- District Chairpersons, and all Local Council Leaders
- His Worship the Mayor of Arua Municipal Council
- Chief Administrative Officers
- District Education Officers
- Head of Schools and Institutions
- Internal Partners, Corporate and NGO representatives
- The Guild President and the Students Body
- Members of the University Community
- Distinguished invited Guests
- Staff of Muni University
- Graduands

- Parents and Guardians
- The Media and Security Personnel
- Ladies and Gentlemen.

2.0. WELCOME

Hon. Obiga Mario Kania

Minister of State for Internal Affairs

Our Chief Guest representing the

**Hon. Minister of Education and Sports, First Lady,
Mama Janet Kataaha Museveni**

I warmly welcome you to this 2nd Graduation Ceremony of Muni University. We highly appreciate your acceptance to come and grace this auspicious occasion amidst your heavy schedules. Thank you very much Hon. Minister.

3.0. SPECIAL APPRECIATION TO H.E. THE PRESIDENT FOR MY RE-APPOINTMENT AS CHANCELLOR OF MUNI UNIVERSITY FOR SECOND TERM

Hon. Minister, permit me to convey to His Excellency, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni my profound appreciation for appointing me CHANCELLOR of this great University for a 2nd four (4) year term. I am humbled and sincerely grateful for the trust the VISITOR has placed in me.

I am also most grateful to the University community who recommended me to the President. It is on the recommendation of the University Community that the President appoints the Chancellor. I promise to discharge the duties expected of me under the law honestly and to the best of my ability.

As I have always said, the gift of Muni University to the people of West Nile shall remain in our hearts. I want to once again thank the Government of Uganda, in particular, the National Resistance Movement (NRM) government and His Excellency, for His Visionary leadership in this regard.

Academic pursuit subsists in a peaceful environment. We therefore condemn and dissociate ourselves from those behind the recent dastardly act of throwing stones at the Visitor's Motorcade.

Distinguished Visited

We are most pleased to host all of you, our leaders of West Nile, in your different capacities. We recognize the importance of working together with all leaders in order to achieve our goals. You are most welcome.

The West Nile Community

I thank the people of West Nile for embracing education as a single tool for hope and socio-economic transformation

Hon. Minister, we can already see the attractive developments in and around Muni University Campus.

I urge the people of West Nile to continue with the seriousness of making education a top priority in their lives and the lives of their progeny.

4.0. CONGRATULATIONS TO THE INCOMING COUNCIL

I wish to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Chairman Gustavo Bwoch for his election to the high office of Chairman of the University Council by his colleagues in Council.

In the same breath

I also congratulate Council Vice Chairman Habib Tibirichu and members of the 2nd Council on their appointment.

On behalf of the University, I ask every one of us to extend their full co-operation and loyalty to you so that the work of the Council can become easier.

FIRST COUNCIL

The first Council of the University was inaugurated in 2014 and served its full term. We will remain ever grateful to the outgone University Council and the Task Force preceding it for obtaining the Instrument appointing Muni as a University on July 18, 2014.

5.0. CURRENT STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY

Today the University is 5 years old and has continued to grow and achieve good Peer Ranking.

Council

I thank the University Council, Senate, and staff as well as the students for maintaining academic sincerity and calmness. It is a sign of maturity and culture of tolerance of academic diversity and ideas. Keep up this spirit.

I am also happy that, our students are leading exemplary lives as demonstrated in their global and

national achievements. Thank you very much and keep it up.

Objectives for the establishment of Muni University were among others to:-

- i. Broaden access to higher education
- ii. Offer opportunities for the education of health professionals, scientists, Engineers, educationists and
- iii. Develop skills in leadership and governance.

To achieve the above mentioned establishment goals, I am happy to note that the University Council developed an ambitious 5-years Strategic Plan (2015-2020) with strategies of contributing towards Uganda's Vision 2020; the NRM Manifesto; and the sustainable development Goals through knowledge economy.

There is no doubt that we are on a steady progress with academic programmes; with over 145 staff on post; research and innovations and outreach activities ongoing.

Hon. Minister, our students are at the cutting edge of ICT innovations and mathematics contests, thereby drawing international attention as a result of their demonstrable high quality skills and innovativeness at their jobs

As a result, Huawei, World Food Programme (WFP), and UNHCR plus other institutions have preference for our students because of their excellent skills and professionally good attitude presented.

Today, I am releasing 92 (25% females and 75% males) Graduands with flying colours in the world of life. I am convinced these students will remain principled, connected, linked, and professional, and grounded in value systems they have acquired.

I know Senate and Council will generate more competence based professional graduate programmes and you will come back to further your knowledge.

Ministry of Education

For the progress made

We extend appreciation for the constant support of our Parent Ministry.

In the last year we achieved budget outturn of 75% overall. This figure was weighed down by 25% outturn for Capex.

APPEAL

- Hon. Minister, I therefore add my voice to the prayer for increased financial resources for developing the University

- We request for financial support to kick-start Faculty of Agriculture whose initial budget and capital outlay is heavy.
- The second half of the Multipurpose Health Science Laboratory block remains outstanding. We request for the Government support for constructing the second half of the block. This will enable us to broaden the programmatic areas in line with the NRM manifesto and National Development Plan II.

6.0. Partners and Collaborators

I would like to appreciate all our distinguished invited partners, well-wishers and esteemed Stakeholders for accepting our Invitation to come and celebrate with us this important milestone in the history of this University.

We thank you for your confidence in Muni University.

We value your support and dependable cooperation. It's our wish that you continue supporting us so that together, we may build this institution.

7.0. Graduands

As the second set of Muni University, you are very unique, globally competitive with many who have been absorbed in local and international organizations like Huawei and World Food Programme. Congratulations to you all for completing your studies successfully and for becoming models in your own right.

Make it a duty to guard the reputation of the University and be honest and reliable people.

To parents, thank you; help them as they go into life.

8.0. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In conclusion I thank the Vice-Chancellor for the excellent arrangements made for this day.

I thank all members of the University for their Cooperation which resulted into the achievements we are celebrating now. Above all, I thank the Government of the Republic of Uganda and our mother Ministry of Education and Sports.

I wish you all joyful celebrations and great memories of this day.

It is now a great honour for me to perform the duty of bestowing Diplomas and Certificates and Conferring Degrees upon you the Graduands.

Congratulations to everybody and thank you very much for coming.

“Transforming Lives” and “For God and my Country

END

