



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
State Department for
Higher Education and Research

GARISSA UNIVERSITY

Harnessing the Power of Innovation in Teaching and Research

4TH GRADUATION CEREMONY

DATE: THURSDAY, 22ND JUNE, 2023




Message from the Vice Chancellor and Chairperson of Senate and Management Board

During this auspicious occasion, it is a great privilege for me and the rest of Garissa University Community to celebrate the remarkable achievements of our graduating students.

First and foremost, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the class of 2023. Your diligence, determination and unfettered commitment have brought you to this day of triumph and self actualization. Today, we gather here to acknowledge your accomplishments and to witness the culmination of years of sacrifice, and intellectual growth. It is a day of celebration, achievement, and reflection.

As we honor the remarkable journey of our graduands, we can neither overlook the challenges that we have faced, nor underestimate the hope that lies ahead. It is with this optimism in mind that I take this opportunity to acknowledge all those who have supported and stood with us throughout our challenges.

At the foremost, I extend my



Prof. Ahmed Osman Warfa
Vice Chancellor and
Chairman of Senate/UMB

deepest gratitude to the Government for its unwavering support. Our resolve to provide quality education would not have been possible without the continued commitment

of the Government to support higher education and resolve underlying issues. It is through such efforts that the new funding model has been introduced, which will alleviate the financial pressure on universities and enable us to refocus our energies on the core mandates of teaching, research and outreach.

I would also like to express my heartfelt appreciation to the Garissa University Council under the leadership of Dr. Margaret Gikui, Cabinet Secretary for Defense Hon. Aden Duale, Cabinet Secretary for Education Hon Ezekiel Machogu, Principal Secretary for the State Department for Higher Education and Research Dr Beatrice Inyangala and MP for Garissa Township Hon. Dekow Mohamed. Others include members of Parliament and County Assembly of Garissa County, the SDC team lead by Ambassador Zellweger, ORB Energy team Lead by Mr. Attila and many other friends of the University.

Your steadfast support and advocacy for Garissa University have been

instrumental in our growth and success. Your belief in the power of education to transform lives has been truly inspiring. We are grateful for your continued partnership and commitment to our shared vision.

Our journey towards excellence has been strengthened by many other friends of the University. The Turkish Embassy holds a special place in our hearts as they installed the solar system through ORB energy that has helped us overcome the challenges of expensive and irregular power supply. We extend our sincere gratitude for their invaluable support. We are also grateful for the constant support from the Swiss Government through SDC, whose constant contributions have played a significant role in our development.

But let us not forget the most crucial stakeholders of all—the students. Your patience and perseverance during challenging times have been truly remarkable. Your dedication to your studies, even when resources were

scarce, is a testament to your resilience. It is you, our graduates, who inspire us with your thirst for knowledge and your determination to succeed. You are the driving force behind our commitment to providing the best education possible.

As we look into the future, the path ahead is filled with promise. With the ongoing Government's funding for development projects, Garissa University is poised for expansion. New building infrastructure such as the tuition block, library, administration block, and water reticulation system, will enhance our capacity to provide efficient and effective services to our students and faculty. These projects will create an environment conducive to learning and research.

Furthermore, Garissa University is embarking on a bold endeavor to carve out a niche in dryland agriculture. Our plans to establish a school in this field are in the pipeline. With the support of the County Government of Garissa and our esteemed partners, we firmly

believe that this dream can be realized within a year. Our dedicated lecturers are ready with comprehensive training programs, and together, we are prepared to hit the ground running.

In conclusion, as we celebrate this momentous occasion and reflect on the past, let us embrace a future filled with boundless optimism. A future that is defined by resilience and determination of students, faculty, and staff combined with the unwavering support from our partners. We will prosper, not in spite of our challenges, but because of our ability to overcome them.

To our exceptional graduates, cherish the knowledge you have gained and the skills you have developed during your time at Garissa University. You have the power to shape a brighter future for yourselves, your communities, and our beloved Kenya. Embrace the opportunities that lie ahead, and may your success inspire generations to come May God bless you all and God bless Garissa University.

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Message from DVC (Academic and Students' Affairs)

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Garissa University fourth graduation ceremony. It is with great joy that we at Garissa University celebrate the achievements of our graduating students and congratulate them on their success. I am very pleased to see that your hard work and dedication has brought you to this important milestone.

The Academic and Students' Affairs Division is home to three schools and one institute namely: School of Pure and Applied Sciences, School of Education, Arts and Social Sciences, School of Business and Economics and the Institute of Peace and Security Studies. The core mandate of the Academic Division is to promote academic excellence by maximizing use of resources to spar wholesome growth in the University and by large promote academic and research excellence.

Our institution has earned its place in hybrid learning in the Kenyan setup and this is our fourth hybrid graduation. We also brag of the upturn growth in the number of graduands from our



Prof. Justus M. Gori
DVC (ASA)

first graduation of three hundred and eighteen to the second graduation of four hundred and sixty two to the third graduation of six hundred and twenty six and to today's fourth graduation of four hundred and eighty three graduands. Our curriculum has

been benchmarked against some of the most outstanding universities in the region. It remains to be luminary in higher education as the University strives to attain world class status.

Moreover, the academic division strives to create a conducive environment for holistic development and mentorship of learners who are capable of critical thinking and are able to independently claim their position in the job market. It is for this reason that we work with all stakeholders to be part of the university's technological processes and innovative agenda for a positive transformation of the society.


Finally, graduation is not the end but a new beginning that has prepared you to enter a world that needs your values and skills. We are grateful for the wisdom and support of the entire Garissa University faculty and staff as they have all played a role in helping you to be here today as graduands.

I pray to Allah to enhance your knowledge to benefit you, and to enable you to use this knowledge for the benefit of humanity.

Message from DVC (Finance, Administration and Planning)

It is my pleasure to welcome students, families, and staff to the Garissa University 4th Graduation Ceremony. I am very pleased as we celebrate this auspicious occasion with you, our 2023 graduands. To those of you who might be visiting Garissa University for the first time, I invite you to feel at home and while here, please take time to look around and enjoy the beauty of Garissa University and its environs.

The Finance, Administration and Planning Division supports academic programmes through the provision of high-quality support systems such as prudent financial management, building capacity in human resource, significant development in infrastructure and acquisition of training and research facilities. Towards this end, Garissa University continues to recognize the need for having modern and adequate infrastructure taking into account the legal and statutory requirement for provision of quality university education.



Prof. Stephen I. Ng'ang'a
DVC (FAP)

To realise this, the Kenyan Government through the Ministry of Education has made this possible by financing construction of a modern hostel which is now complete and able to accommodate nine hundred and ninety two students from September 2023. Construction of Ultra-Modern Library and Tuition Block are already underway. In addition, the Government has approved construction of Water Storage and Reticulation System as well as a state of the art Administration Block whose works commenced during the 2022/2023 financial year.

Moreover, the University has continued to strive to achieve its performance contracting targets. Some of the targets for 2022/2023 financial year include; improving policy and corporate governance for enhancing accountability and decision making and training of process owners on ISO 9001:2015.

Other targets include strengthening

university funding through diversification of revenue streams and improving financial sustainability; attracting, developing, motivating and retaining efficient staff of high integrity and make GaU an employer of choice with adequate space facilities and services for enhanced efficiency in service delivery.

We have also continued to look for partners to assist us in the development of our learning space for which we are greatly indebted to Swiss Embassy, Turkish Embassy and FCDC who have come through strongly in support of Garissa University. The support they have given us has seen the University improve the lecture theatre, renovate offices and classes, install solar panels for supply of green energy that will help us reduce greatly our operating cost as well as support in research and outreach activities to our communities in the FCDC counties that will enhance coexistence in a peaceful environment.


Finally, to our graduands, remember graduation is not an end goal in itself; instead, it is a part of the larger journey of life. As the adage goes "it is not a miracle to finish the race, the miracle was in your getting courage to get started" (John Bingham). Wherever your future takes you, let it take you somewhere. Life is a journey, and all accomplishments we achieve during its course should be taken as starting points for further achievements.

To this end, I implore you to make each decision with your best intentions and interests in mind so that you can be the best that you can be and fill your life and lives of those close to you with happiness and joy.

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