



Speech by Dr. William Ruto President of the Republic of Kenya

The inaugural graduation ceremony of Tangaza University, a historic and inspiring event, was graced by the presence of the President of Kenya, Dr. William Ruto.

The President delivered the keynote speech that was both celebratory and visionary. In his address, he congratulated the graduates for reaching this significant milestone in their educational journey. He urged them to carry forward the lessons learned at Tangaza University and to contribute to the progress of Kenya and the global community.

He praised Tangaza University for its contribution to the growth of higher education in Kenya, highlighting the institution's commitment to academic excellence and the nurturing of individuals who are both academically capable and morally grounded.

President Ruto spoke of the importance of education in shaping the future of the nation, acknowledging that universities play a crucial role in producing skilled professionals who can contribute to national development. He emphasized that the graduates, equipped with knowledge from Tangaza University, would be integral to Kenya's future, especially as the country strives for economic growth, social cohesion, and global competitiveness.

The Commander-in-Chief also focused on the need for universities to continue adapting to the evolving demands of the job market, urging institutions of higher learning to align their programs with the needs of the economy. He encouraged the graduates to remain adaptable and lifelong learners, as the world they were entering was rapidly changing.

His speech was a call to action for the graduates to use their skills, knowledge, and faith to address the challenges facing the nation and to contribute to the realization of Kenya's Vision 2030. The President emphasized the transformative power of education and the importance of combining academic knowledge with Christian values.



Inaugural Graduation Ceremony of Tangaza University

The Inaugural Graduation Ceremony of Tangaza University was a moment of great pride for the institution, signifying the success of years of academic and spiritual formation. The event not only celebrated the achievements of the graduates but also marked the university's emergence as a beacon of higher education in Kenya and beyond.

In his speech, the university Vice Chancellor; Prof. Patrick Mwanja warmly welcomed all the graduates, their families, friends, and the esteemed guests who had gathered to witness the historic event. He reflected on the journey of Tangaza University, from its humble beginnings to the present day, emphasizing how the institution has continually aimed to uphold academic excellence while remaining deeply rooted in the Catholic faith.

In a special way, the VC recognized Members of the University Council, and particularly Rev. Dr. Patrick Devine who is the Vice Chair. Prof. Mwanja applauded Rev. Devine's long service to the university as a member of the University Governing Council, and currently the Chair of Corporate Affairs. Fr. Devine is the one charged with the responsibility of setting up the Tangaza University Endowment Fund the Prof, noted. He thanked Fr. Devine for his continued commitment to the university.



Prof. Mwanja, emphasized the transformative nature of education, urging the graduates to use their knowledge to improve the world around them. He reminded the graduates that their education was a tool that should be used not only to achieve personal success but also to serve society and address the challenges it faces.

The Vice Chancellor spoke about the institution's commitment to producing graduates who are equipped to confront the global issues of the modern age, while remaining grounded in Catholic values of compassion, justice, and social responsibility.

The Vice-Chancellor's speech celebrated the achievements of the graduating class, acknowledging their hard work, resilience, and commitment throughout

their academic endeavors. He expressed deep pride in the graduates' ability to balance rigorous studies with the values of integrity, service, and leadership that are core to the university's mission.

Prof. Mwanja emphasized that the graduates were not just leaving the university with academic qualifications but with a solid foundation of character, ready to contribute meaningfully to society. Additionally, he spoke of the university's role in shaping leaders who would uphold the ideals of peace, justice, and development, both in Kenya and globally.



He encouraged the graduates to be mindful of their responsibilities as they ventured into the world, using their education as a tool for social transformation and the betterment of humanity.

Brief Speech by Tangaza Chancellor Rev. Edward Etengu

The Chancellor of Tangaza University Rev. Edward Etengu, delivered a brief yet impactful speech that reinforced the values of faith and community that underlie the university's identity.

He began by congratulating the graduates for their accomplishments, and acknowledged the hard work and perseverance required to reach this milestone. Rev. Etengu noted that this graduation was not just an academic achievement, but also a spiritual one, as Tangaza University has always sought to form well-rounded individuals who are committed to serving others in faith and love.



In his address, the Chancellor also extended his gratitude to the faculty and staff for their unwavering support and commitment to the university's mission. He emphasized that education at Tangaza is not just about acquiring knowledge, but also about fostering a deep connection with God and a sense of responsibility towards society. Rev. Etengu encouraged the graduates to continue to embody the Christian values they had learned during their time at the university, integrating them into their professional and personal lives as they serve others in various fields.

Rev. Etengu's speech was a reminder to the graduates that their education was not only a personal achievement but also a gift to the broader community. He urged them to remain humble and always remember the importance of compassion and service in all their endeavors.

He recognized the rich history of the Tangaza University, and the unique role that education plays in shaping well-rounded individuals at the university. As the graduates prepared to step into the world, his message served as both an encouragement and a challenge, not only for their academic excellence but also for their commitment to faith, service, and leadership, values that are central to the university's ethos.



Rev. Etengu, also shared words of encouragement for the graduates, urging them to remain true to the faith-based principles that had guided their academic journey. He reminded them that, in addition to their academic achievements, their education at Tangaza had equipped them with the moral compass to lead lives of integrity and service to others.

He spoke of the university as a place where students are nurtured in both intellect and spirituality, empowering them to become leaders who contribute positively to society. He underscored the importance of community, faith, and continuous learning as the graduates prepared to take on new challenges in the world.

The Nuncio's Message to the Graduates

The Tangaza University Inaugural Graduation Mass, that was celebrated by His Excellency Hubertus Van Megen, the Apostolic Nuncio to Kenya, was a deeply spiritual event with both a moment of thanksgiving and a time of reflection on the graduates' future paths.

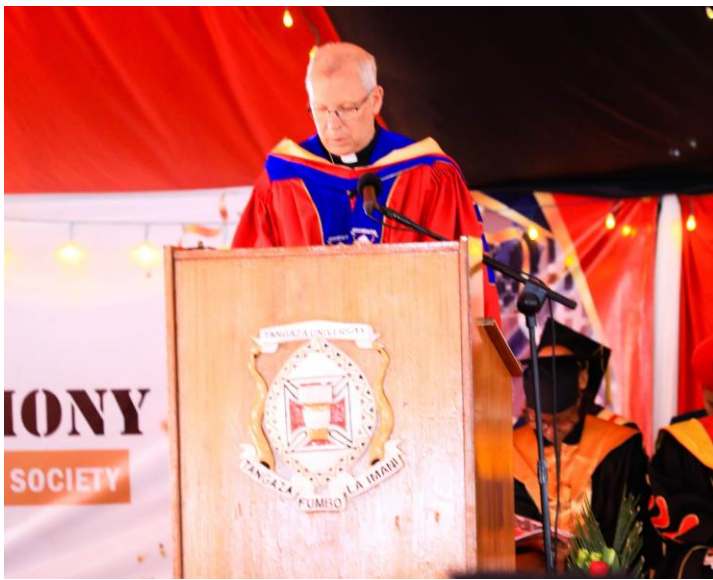


The Archbishop delivered a powerful homily that reflected on key themes of faith, hope, and resilience. He likened this to the graduates' journey and the broader significance of education and communion with God. It was a reminder of the university's unique mission to blend academic excellence with spiritual formation, and encouraged graduates to stay connected with God and the Holy Spirit as they move forward in their lives.

The Holy Mass not only marked the academic achievements of the graduates but also served as a time for reflection on their future and the importance of being in communion with the Holy Spirit as they embark on the next stage of their lives.

The Apostolic Nuncio emphasized the need for the graduates to recognize their achievements as part of a broader divine purpose, reminding them that education is not only about acquiring knowledge but also about cultivating virtues that will guide them throughout their lives.

The Mass also served as an opportunity for graduates to give thanks to God for their intellectual growth, their experiences at Tangaza University, and the community of faculty, staff, and peers who supported them on their academic journey. It was also a time to recognize the role of God's grace in enabling them to complete their studies, underscoring the theme that all knowledge ultimately comes from God.



The Prelate encouraged the graduates to reflect on their time at Tangaza as a period not only of academic but also spiritual formation, stressing the importance of carrying forward the values of the university into the world, a world that is often faced with uncertainty and challenges.

The key theme in the Archbishop's homily was the importance of staying connected to God and being in communion with the Holy Spirit, especially as the graduates move into the next chapter of their lives. He reminded them that the Holy Spirit is a source of strength, wisdom, and guidance, which would help them navigate the complexities of life after graduation. He encouraged them to continue nurturing their relationship with God, through prayer, reflection, and participation in the sacraments, as they continue their journey.

Their communion with God was also extended to the graduates' relationships with one another. The Prelate spoke of the importance of community, not just in the context of the university but in the wider world. He encouraged the graduates to build supportive relationships, grounded in love, respect, and mutual understanding, as they seek to make a positive impact in the world.



Fr. Patrick Devine carries the University Mace during Academic Procession

This communion is an essential component of their future success and happiness, as they embrace their roles as leaders, professionals, and agents of change, he added.

One of the most poignant moments of the Mass came when the Nuncio referenced the tragic fire that ravaged the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris in 2019. He spoke of how the cathedral, a symbol of faith and cultural heritage, had been damaged but not destroyed. The ongoing efforts to rebuild the cathedral served as a powerful metaphor for the graduates' own lives.

By drawing inspiration from the rebuilding of Notre Dame, the graduates were reminded of the power of resilience and faith in facing the future with hope and determination. This Mass served as a powerful send-off, equipping the graduates not only with the knowledge gained at Tangaza but also with the spiritual strength to carry that knowledge into the world.



He drew parallels between the rebuilding of Notre Dame and the challenges that the graduates would face in the future. Just as the cathedral is being restored to its former glory, so too can the graduates rebuild and strengthen their lives, drawing from their faith and the lessons learned during their time at Tangaza University. The process of rebuilding, both for Notre Dame and for the graduates, involves resilience, hope, and the willingness to face adversity with courage.

His Excellency's message was clear: while life may present setbacks and challenges, with faith and perseverance, there is always the potential for renewal and transformation. The graduates, like the cathedral, are called to rise from any difficulties they may encounter and continue to grow, always guided by the light of faith.

Speech by the University Council Chair Dr. George Muhoho

Dr. George Muhoho, the Chair of the University Council, delivered a speech that both celebrated the achievements of the graduates and looked ahead to the future. He began by extending his heartfelt congratulations to the graduates, noting that their success was a testament to their hard work and dedication.

He in his introductions began by presenting the members of the University Council, led by Rev. Dr. Patrick Devine, who is the current Vice Chairman. Dr. Muhoho also recognized the graduates, who are the first cohort to graduate from Tangaza University, which made this event even more special.

The University Council Chair highlighted the importance of academic excellence in creating a strong and prosperous society. He spoke about the challenges facing education in Kenya and emphasized the need for institutions to provide quality education that equips students with the necessary skills to thrive in a rapidly changing world.



He noted that Tangaza University's unique approach to integrating academic learning with Christian values positions its graduates to make a positive impact in the country.

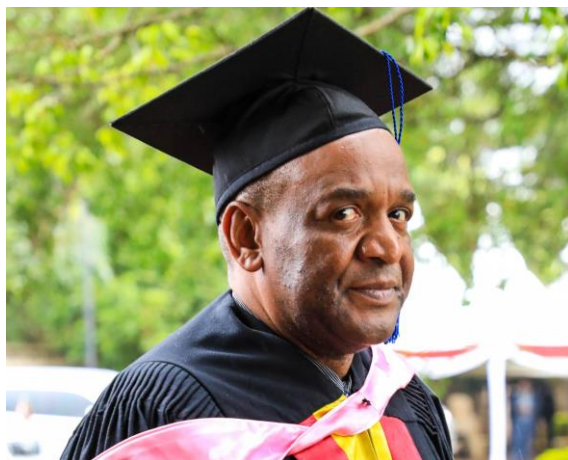
Dr. Muhoho also took the opportunity to reflect on the institution's journey and its aspirations for the future. He expressed confidence that Tangaza University would continue to grow in influence and impact, producing graduates who are not only equipped with knowledge but also committed to making a difference in their communities.

He encouraged the graduates to use their education for the greater good, to remain true to the values of service, leadership, and faith, and to approach the future with confidence and hope.

Tangaza University Inaugural Graduation Mass

A graduation is a momentous event in the life of a student, symbolizing the culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and intellectual growth. However, for Tangaza University, the celebration of the Inaugural Graduation Mass was much more than a secular acknowledgment of academic success. It was a spiritual event that highlighted the integral connection between faith and learning.

growth. As a Catholic university, it seeks to form individuals who are not only intellectually capable but also morally grounded and spiritually aware. This dual focus of education on both the mind and the spirit was reflected in the Kenya's Apostolic Nuncio's homily, where he highlighted the university's role in nurturing both the academic and personal development of its students.



His Excellency Herbetus Van Megen also spoke about Tangaza University's ethos, which integrates faith with learning. It is a place where students are encouraged to pursue truth, not just in academic terms, but also through the lens of the Catholic faith. The values of service, compassion, and community are deeply embedded in the university's approach to education. Graduates are urged to be agents of positive change in society, bringing their knowledge to bear on the real-world challenges that they will face, guided by the love and teachings of Christ.

For the graduates, the Mass was also a moment to look forward to the future. The Nuncio reminded them that while this graduation marks the end of their formal academic journey, it is merely the beginning of their vocation in life. He encouraged the graduates to approach the world with open hearts and minds, ready to engage with the challenges and opportunities that await them. The Nuncio emphasized that the path ahead would not always be easy, but that the graduates could draw strength from their faith and the Holy Spirit, who would guide them in their personal and professional lives.



The Prelate's message was clear to the graduates; to be hopeful, resilient, and forward-thinking. They should recognize the power they hold as educated individuals, capable of making a difference in society, and be prepared to use their knowledge and talents in service to others.