DeKUT 4TH GRADUATION CEREMONY VALEDICTORY SPEECH

Our Chief Guest, The Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Education, Science and Technology Dr. Fred Matiang'i, represented by Dr. Tabby Mungai
The Chancellor, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, Professor Shellemiah Keya
Chairman of the University Council, Professor Dulacha Barako
Our Vice Chancellor, Professor Ngirangu Kioni
Deputy Vice Chancellors
Registrars
Senators
Esteemed faculty members
Members of Staff Present
Invited guests
Parents
My fellow Graduands
Students
Ladies and Gentlemen
Good Morning.

We, the graduating class of 2016, are finally at the peak of our journey of attaining our most awaited academic credentials. Here we are, shining like never before! We are proud to be graduates of this prestigious Institution of excellence. This is our day, my fellow comrades, a day that

is a testimony of the hard work and the efforts that we exerted in our various fields to attain a reputable academic achievement, which is a noetic milestone on the road to excellence.

I am proud to be in the class of 2016, a class that found itself in the blissful circumstances of progressive opportunities. We followed this river's course; a river of opportunities, so to speak: The fruits of double intake, the University being Chartered, the accreditation of core technological courses and the equipping of our various faculties. We are indeed lucky. Happily, here we are today; having completed our courses in a complete piece that has been fabricated in fine molten fashion.

"What is next?" This is the big question that now lies in our minds. It is logical to point out that the effort which everyone put in was not of equal magnitude, but still a case of one's zeal to achieve their dreams. Job opportunities are limited my friends; and this is a fundamental fact. So focus on providing solutions and these solutions should be more business oriented and entrepreneurial in nature at all times. The boom has begun and social entrepreneurship is taking its roots in many regions

in our contemporary society. Just as the Dean of Students, Mr. Murithi Kaimoe, has always challenged us to focus on the society as a whole, we have a role to play. The society has to benefit, and we have to grow, but the solutions lie within our capabilities. Comrades, I see a multitude of very resourceful men and women, people who are going to drive this economy. I see prominent business men and women; I see cabinet secretaries; I see policy makers; I see academic gurus; I see powerful leaders. Ask yourself, "If not me, who will?" Every bit of niche in life has to be addressed, and Kenya needs you to be there to ensure that every sector flourishes and that the people get to be uplifted.

Now we are out of DeKUT but we are still a family - alumni to be precise. We have a role to play friends. The University needs to grow to greater heights, let us hold one another's hand as we flourish and make our University great. Very many initiatives have been started to foster the excellence of our great institution. The Climb to Educate initiative is one of them which is mainly focused to giving our financially disadvantaged comrades an opportunity and the support to achieve their

academic dreams. So far, we have seen the fruits of the initiative through the cohesion that exists between the staff and the students besides the many talents that have emerged. We, the class of 2016, have chosen to be associated with DeKUT wherever we go. And to the Vice Chancellor: be assured that whenever you call, we shall surely answer to the call.

To my fellow comrades who are to take the mantle from us, you too have the ability to conquer this milestone. Time is short, and the time you have is a gift. Use it wisely! I assure you the fruits will be sweet. Be smart, be courageous, be wise, be sharp, be aggressive and be humble and all things shall come to pass. Humility is the beginning of wisdom. As such, we who are ahead shall create a smooth path for you as your elder brothers and sisters.

We thank the Almighty for the far He has brought us. To our parents and guardians, thank you for the continuous help that you have granted us. To the University management, your toil towards delivering quality and excellence has not been in vain.

Comrades, I don't intend to speak much but let me leave you with this; Let the success we are celebrating today not make us proud but instead, humble us. This is the true meaning of greatness. In order to fulfill yourself, you have to forget yourself. In order to find yourself, you have to lose yourself.

Thank you. God bless you all.