

# MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADUATION CEREMONY

## ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVE SPEECH

### Salutation

- Guest Speaker, Professor Olive Mugenda
- Madam Chancellor, Professor Victoria Wulsin,
- MKU Founder and Chairman, Board of Directors, Professor Simon N. Gicharu,
- Members of the Board of Directors,
- Chairman and Members of the University Council,
- Members of the University Senate,
- Mount Kenya University staff,
- Distinguished Invited Guests,
- Graduands and students,
- Ladies and gentlemen,

I salute you all.

Allow me to first of all introduce myself as Peter Saroni, a School of Hospitality and Tourism Management Alumni.

Madam Chancellor, I am humbled to be part of this auspicious occasion of Mount Kenya University's 12<sup>th</sup> Graduation Ceremony as the Alumni representative. This Ceremony marks a long journey on Mount Kenya University calendar; we join the celebrations for the success after a challenging but fruitful journey for graduands, parents, Guardians, sponsors, university staff,

management, council and Board of Directors. Indeed, today's ceremony signifies the victory that we have all worked for. I therefore do congratulate everyone for the successful role each of us played.

Madam Chancellor, allow me to convey a message of appreciation to the Board of Directors led by Prof. Simon N. Gicharu; to the University Council and the entire management of Mount Kenya University for the tremendous achievements that we all continue to witness at Mount Kenya University. These include, among many others, the expansion of facilities, provision of equipment, development and mounting of relevant, market-driven curriculum, community outreach, a wide range of co-curriculum activities and many others. More specifically, we are proud about the **Alumni Plaza** which stands out prominently as a demonstration to the world of our Alma Mater's confidence in us, her alumni.

Secondly, the MKU Alumni appreciate the approval of Mount Kenya University Alumni Association's Constitution. This opens a wider scope towards the alumni's contribution to the University through delivery of various components of the objects stated in the constitution towards the advancement of scholarly realm. At this juncture Madam Chancellor, I extend my special salutation to the interim officials of Mount Kenya University Alumni Association lead by **Mr. Gakera Kahara** as the chairman, who tirelessly burnt midnight oil to deliver a befitting constitution.

Madam Chancellor, the entire MKU Alumni greatly appreciate the Alumni Relations Office which supports us on a 24/7 basis. I am proud to note that, through the Alumni office, since last year, a new wave has been generated through school's alumni chapters, linking the students in the respective departments with the alumni for support in soft skills development.

Madam Chancellor, the MKU enterprise culture goes the whole way to Graduate Enterprise Academy that now has benefited several alumni and the list of the beneficiaries is growing every day. While doing all it takes to fit in the job market, the University remains an important partner and thus I urge all alumni to connect with the office of Graduands and Alumni Relations to grow to the next level.

Last but not least, we are just one month away from the national elections. I call upon all the MKU family as well as all of us and all Kenyans in general to conduct their campaigns and elections peacefully. Kenya is one and God chose it for all us. May I congratulate all the MKU alumni vying for various positions for winning their party primaries and wish them success on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2018. Let them use the positions to bring the Kenya we want.

Thank you very much and may God Bless Mount Kenya University, and bless our beloved country Kenya.

Presented by Peter Saroni  
Alumni, School of Hospitality