



KAIMOSI FRIENDS UNIVERSITY

SPEECH BY THE KAFU CHANCELLOR, DURING THE 1ST GRADUATION CEREMONY AT KAIMOSI FRIENDS UNIVERSITY, 21ST DECEMBER, 2022.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary, H.E. Dr. Wycliffe Musalia Mudavadi,

Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education, Hon. Ezekiel Machogu,

**Principal Secretary, State Department for Higher Education and
Research, Dr. Beatrice Inyangala,**

The Presiding Chairperson of Council, Dr. Josephine D. Waudu,

KAFU Ag. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Ogodo, M. J. Nandi,

Members of the University Council,

The Governor Vihiga County, H.E. Dr. Wilber K. Ottichilo,

Vice Chancellors from other Universities Present,

Deputy Vice Chancellors,

Members of the University Management Board and Senate,

Researchers and Scholars,

Graduands,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of Kaimosi Friends University (KAFU) fraternity, it is with great satisfaction and gratitude that I welcome you all to this University's 1st

graduation ceremony. On this significant occasion, we are celebrating our first graduands. I thank the Council, University Management Board, Senate, staff, students and all stakeholders who made this day a success.

Your Excellency the Chief Guest,

The Prime Cabinet Secretary of the Republic Kenya, Dr. Wycliffe Musalia Mudavadi, allow me to thank you for finding time to come and grace this occasion which is important in the history of this institution and that of the University education in our country. Indeed, this is an event that will be remembered for a long time in this University because there will never be any other first graduation after this.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I thank H.E. the President of the Republic of Kenya, Dr. Willam Samoei Ruto, ECG for appointing our Chief Guest to the position of the Prime Cabinet Secretary of the Republic of Kenya which is the third highest ranking position in the Government of Kenya. As a University in your County, we celebrate this appointment because we are the direct beneficiaries. We are already feeling the warmth of our son in our own University. Kindly, convert our challenges into your opportunities for your own well known celebrated solutions.

In a special way, I extend my gratitude to the Council, University Management Board, Senate and Staff for giving me an opportunity to preside over this great function. It is such an honour.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Our University has made great strides over a short period of time, challenges notwithstanding. I thank the Commission for University Education, which, while acting as a thorough regulator, has mentored our growth to a fully-fledged University.

I assure you that as a University, we shall remain committed to the Commission for University Education's standards and guidelines as we

grow towards becoming a World Class University based on academic excellence and research.

I thank the Council, the University Management Board, Senate and Staff for successfully steering Kaimosi Friends University College (KAFUCO) to the chartered University that it is today. This institution provides quality education and training, research and innovation that meets the needs of a dynamic society. We pride ourselves for having the capacity for solving societal problems, creating new products, and generating knowledge that can be adapted for positive economic, political and social transformation. I call on the Government of Kenya, the Ministry of Education, the County Government of Vihiga, the local community, Council, staff and students to support the leadership of KAFU so that we may all reap the benefits of a more responsive, resourceful, progressive and effective University system.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The fast growth of the University has posed financial challenges. It is my humble plea that KAFU be considered for increased budgetary allocation from the Government. I call upon our partners, well-wishers and other stakeholders to come on board and support this institution to complete its projects such as the Proposed construction of the Ultra-Modern Library, the Perimeter Wall which are ongoing. We also look forward to constructing a Ultra-Modern Medical Complex to accommodate our niche in Health Sciences and undertake other key infrastructural developments that will host the growing student and staff population.

Your Excellency the Chief Guest,

Our University was awarded a Charter, a document with all the powers that accompany it as per the Universities Act, 2012. However, this did not come with a budget to enhance the capacity of fulfilling the core activity of teaching and research. It is our humble request that the Supplementary Budget forwarded by our University be considered to enable us to attain the financial position of a fully-fledged University.

We thank all stakeholders for supporting the University especially the Church for donating the land. We urge other stakeholders to identify ways and means of supporting this University because its future depends on prudent management, the quality of programmes and enrolment of students beyond Vihiga County. Therefore, the reputation of KAFU, is critical both locally and globally.

Graduands,

I congratulate all you for making us proud. This graduation ceremony is a culmination of the excellent results brought about by your persistence, resilience and determination. As we celebrate this historic achievement, let us remember that education is the avenue to a greater future.

As you join the outside world, continue striving towards excelling in all facets of your lives. I encourage you to be virtuous ambassadors of Kaimosi Friends University. Be proud of your individual and collective achievements on reaching this significant moment.

Congratulations to our first graduands. I wish you well in all your endeavours.

CHANCELLOR
Kaimosi Friends University