



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY MR. JOHN P.N. SIMBA,
CHAIRMAN, UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI COUNCIL
DURING THE 40TH GRADUATION CEREMONY OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI HELD ON FRIDAY
19 DECEMBER 2008 AT THE CHANCELLOR'S
COURT**

Chancellor of the University of Nairobi, Dr. Joseph Wanjui

Hon. Dr. Sally Kosgei, Minister for Higher Education, Science and Technology

P.S., Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology

Representatives of Foreign Missions

Members of the University of Nairobi Council

Vice-Chancellor, University of Nairobi, Prof. George Magoha

Vice-Chancellors of other Universities

Deputy Vice-Chancellors of the University of Nairobi

Principals of colleges

**Deans and Directors of Faculties, Schools,
Institutes and Centres**

Chairmen and Heads of Departments

Granduands

Parents and Guardians

Staff

Students

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the University of Nairobi Council, I wish to warmly welcome you all to the University and in particular to the 40th Graduation Ceremony.

Mr. Chancellor Sir, today's graduation is the second one this year targeting graduands from the Colleges of Health Sciences and Humanities and Social Sciences. Two months ago, we held the 39th Graduation ceremony where we had graduands from the College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences, College of Architecture and Engineering,

**College of Biological and Physical Sciences and
College of Education and External Studies.**

**Ladies and Gentlemen, as you are aware, our
University was also affected by the post-election
skirmishes of January and February 2008, leading
to the postponement of opening after Christmas
and New Year. But after eventual re-opening,
Management and Senate were able to refocus our
academic programmes to save on lost time. I wish
to take this opportunity to thank our staff for their
dedication and our students for their co-operation,**

therefore ensuring that this year's graduations are held on schedule.

Mr. Chancellor Sir, the University Council remains committed to providing the necessary physical and human resources and to keep us focused in our quest to realize our vision which is to be a world class University committed to scholarly excellence. To date, ours remains the University of Choice and the premier institution of higher learning in the republic. Council fully supports efforts by management in transforming the university into a

leading centre of academic excellence in the region and beyond.

Ladies and Gentlemen, as you are aware, our University recently obtained ISO 9001:2000 certification, which is a big leap forward as we zero in on service delivery and customer satisfaction. It means that when it comes to standards, we are now comparable with the best. Management has assured Council that the processes and procedures put in place in the process of ISO certification are continually being monitored and audited, and

where need arises, new Quality Management Systems (QMS) procedures will be documented.

Mr. Chancellor Sir, ours is a public university and we heavily rely on the exchequer disbursements to fulfill our obligations. I wish to thank most profoundly the government of Kenya through the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology for the funding we continue to receive which goes a long way in meeting our budgetary needs. As the University continues to expand in terms of student numbers and campuses, we urge

the government to ensure there is commensurate increase in funding so that service delivery is not affected.

Finally, let me thank the University Management team led by the Vice-Chancellor Prof. George Magoha for the professional manner in which they have managed the University, and the University Senate for the way they have conducted our academic programmes, including examinations. It is on account of your good work that we are able to graduate students today. To the graduands, I wish

**you all the best in your current and future
endeavours.**

Thank you and May God bless you.