



CONVOCATION ADDRESS OF HIGH COMMISSIONER OF NAMIBIA TO NIGERIA, HIS EXCELLENCY HUMPHEY GEISEB

Protocol

His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR, President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria

Honourable Minister of Education,

The Executive Governor of Kwara State, His Excellency, Mallam Abdulrahman Abdulrasaq,
CON

The Executive Governor of Oyo State, His Excellency, Engr. Oluwaseyi Abiodun Makinde,
FNSE

Royal Fathers here present

The Acting Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission, Mr Chris J. Maiyaki
Kwara State Commissioner of Tertiary Education, Dr. Mary Arinde

Members of the Board of Trustees

The Pro-Chancellor, Professor Victor Olarewaju

Members of the Governing Council

Principal Officers of Thomas Adewumi University

Invited Vice-Chancellors

Members of Thomas Adewumi University Senate

Distinguished guests, gentlemen of the press, proud parents, and most importantly, the graduating class of Thomas Adewumi University,

It is both an honour and a privilege to stand before you today as the Ambassador of Namibia to Nigeria. This maiden convocation ceremony marks not just a significant milestone for this esteemed institution but also a momentous occasion in the lives of each graduate here today.

Celebrating Achievement and Unleashing Potential

Today, we come together to honor your remarkable achievements, a testament to your hard work, dedication, and unwavering resilience. Each of you has faced numerous challenges, adapted to uncertainties, and emerged triumphantly. You are not merely graduates; you are the future leaders, innovators, and change-makers who will shape the direction of our societies and the world at large.

Your educational journey has equipped you with far more than knowledge. Education is a powerful tool that transcends borders and breaks down barriers. It is a bridge that unites nations, cultures, and people from diverse backgrounds, fostering understanding and collaboration. As you step into this new chapter of your life, always remember that your knowledge, skills, and unique perspectives have the potential to make a meaningful contribution to the global community.

You are now part of a larger world, where your ideas can inspire progress, your efforts can drive change, and your passions can leave a lasting impact. Embrace this opportunity to be

agents of positive transformation in society, both locally and globally. The future holds immense possibilities, and your journey is only just beginning.

The Role of Education in Nation-Building

In Namibia, we hold a deep belief in the transformative power of education. It serves as a vital tool for personal development, enabling individuals to grow intellectually, emotionally, and socially. More than that, education is critical for the advancement of our society—it is a cornerstone for nation-building. By fostering an informed, skilled, and empowered citizenry, education contributes directly to the economic, social, and cultural progress of a nation.

Our countries share a profound commitment to fostering educational partnerships that not only enhance mutual understanding but also promote cross-border collaboration. These ties strengthen the bonds between nations, enabling us to address global challenges together and develop solutions that benefit all.

As you embark on the next chapter of your journeys, I encourage you to reflect on how you can leverage your education to tackle some of the most pressing issues of our time. Whether it's advancing technology, improving health care systems, championing environmental sustainability, or promoting social justice, your education equips you with the tools to make a difference. The world is facing complex challenges, and it needs your innovative ideas, your passionate voices, and your bold actions.

Your role in shaping the future is critical, and the knowledge and skills you have acquired are essential for driving positive change. This is your opportunity to contribute to the betterment of society, both locally and globally.

Strengthening Ties Between Namibia and Nigeria

The relationship between Namibia and Nigeria is built on a strong foundation of friendship, mutual respect, and cooperation. Both nations are united by shared values and a common vision for peace, prosperity, and sustainable development across Africa. Over the years, Namibia and Nigeria have fostered close diplomatic, economic, and cultural ties, creating a solid framework for collaboration in various sectors, including education, healthcare, trade, and technology.

As part of this partnership, we are committed to further strengthening our cooperation in education. Both Namibia and Nigeria recognize the transformative power of education in shaping the future of our societies and addressing the challenges of the 21st century. To this end, we encourage educational institutions in both countries to explore opportunities for meaningful collaboration, such as exchange programs, internships, and joint research projects.

Exchange programmes will provide students from Namibia and Nigeria with invaluable exposure to diverse academic environments, cultures, and ideas. These programs can help foster a global perspective among our students, preparing them to be active contributors to their communities and the world. Similarly, internship opportunities in various industries can give students practical experience, enhancing their skills and making them more competitive in the global job market.

Collaborative research projects between institutions in Namibia and Nigeria will not only advance knowledge and innovation but also address critical issues facing both countries, such as climate change, public health, and sustainable development. Such research partnerships can

create a positive impact, benefiting both nations and contributing to broader regional development.

I encourage students, educators, and institutions in both Namibia and Nigeria to actively pursue these opportunities for collaboration. By doing so, we will not only enrich academic experiences but also deepen the bonds of friendship between our nations, paving the way for a brighter and more interconnected future for all.

Conclusion: A Call to Action

As I bring my address to a close, I want to leave you with a crucial reminder: today marks not the end of your journey, but the beginning of a new and exciting chapter in your life. Graduation is a milestone, but it is also a launching pad into a world filled with challenges, opportunities, and responsibilities. The education and experiences you have gained here are just the foundation upon which you will build your future.

As you step out into this next phase, embrace the challenges that will come your way with courage, resilience, and determination. The road ahead may not always be easy, but it is through these challenges that you will discover your true potential and make your greatest contributions. Remember that success is not measured solely by personal achievement but by the positive impact you make on the world around you.

The world is watching, and now more than ever, it needs leaders, innovators, and compassionate individuals who are committed to making a difference. Whether you pursue careers in business, healthcare, education, technology, or any other field, know that you have the power to shape a better future. Your actions, decisions, and values will leave a lasting legacy, and it is your responsibility to use your talents and knowledge to contribute to the greater good.

As you go forth from here, do so with confidence and conviction. Believe in your ability to create change, to uplift others, and to pursue your dreams with passion. You are equipped with the tools to navigate the complexities of the world, and it is now your turn to lead, inspire, and transform society for the better.

Congratulations to each one of you! May your journey be filled with success, fulfillment, and purpose. Go forward knowing that you have the power to change the world—one step, one action, and one moment at a time.

Thank you.

His Excellency Humphey Geiseb
The High Commissioner of Namibia to Nigeria