

CONCLUDING SPEECH IN SWAHILI VERSE BY MR. B.M. GECAGA,  
CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, NAIROBI  
AT A CONGREGATION FOR THE AWARD OF CERTIFICATES AND  
CONFERMENT OF DEGREES ON THE EVE OF KENYATTA DAY, 1966.

---

Mtukufu Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, Rais wa Jamhuri ya Kenya  
Bwana Mfadhili wa Chuo Kikuu hiki cha Kenya;  
Shukrani zetu twazitoa, twakusihi uzipokee  
Kwa heshima na staha uliyotufanyia sisi sote  
Kuhudhuria hizi sherehe leo pamoja na Mama Ngina  
Ambaye naye tumefurahiwa kumkaribisha hapa.  
Ukawatuza vyeti wanafunzi waliohitimu  
Mitihani mbali mbali ya Chuo hiki Kikuu  
Mbele ya ushuhudu wa Walimu wao  
Pamoja na hawa wote wageni wetu ambao  
Vile vile kwao twatoa nyingi shukrani:  
Kuwapo kwenu hapa University College, Nairobi  
Kumeitia mioyo yetu nguvu na mchangamsho,  
Jitihada zetu tuziongeze hata zaidi siku zijazo.  
Maneno yako ya busara, ewe Baba Taifa,  
Tumeyasikiza kwa hadhari, mwito wako tutauitikia  
Tukiwa wasimamizi wa Chuo hiki, pamoja na Walimu  
Kadhalika na wanafunzi walio na kazi muhimu  
Mwisho wa mafunzo yao hapa, kutawanyika kote nchini Kenya

Kuchukua kurunzi, huku wakieneza kwa wote ule mwangaza  
Wa elimu yao walioipata kwa msaada wa Serikali  
Ambayo ni ya Wananchi; ndipo kufuata yetu desturi  
Mkono wa mbuzi wawarudishie wale waliowaandalia karamu  
Ndipo ule mmea wa uhuru ulioupanda, ewe Rais wetu,  
Ufanikiwe baraka ya ile mvua kutoka kwa Mola  
Wenyewe ule mti wa uhuru ukue kwa kupanuka  
Vijana wengi tuwapate, wake kwa waume,  
Walinzi mashujaa wajifunge silaha zote,  
Siku hii inayotangulia kesho, sikukuu ya Kenyatta  
Kwa nchi yote ukumbusho wa siku zilizopita,  
Ahadi yao waitoe kwa wale Wazee wao  
Kwamba urithi huu watawakabidhi vizazi vya kesho.

Allow me, Mr.Visitor, Sir, to assure you that we will take heed  
of the words of wisdom which it has been our privilege to hear  
from you this afternoon, and may I, once again, express our  
deep gratitude to you, Sir, for your continual and generous  
support of our endeavours in this field of our country's national  
life, namely, University education. As the Principal indicated  
earlier in his speech, we seek to render to the country such

service and make such contribution as may be useful and relevant to the manifold problems with which our country is confronted and in the solution of which our desire at University College, Nairobi is but to play our full and appropriate part.

In these our endeavours, we constantly derive encouragement from your great and inspiring leadership, Mr.Visitor, for which, in company with our fellow countrymen, we owe you a debt which we can never repay.

On this eve of Kenyatta Day, may I, on behalf of this entire congregation, wish you, Mr.Visitor, Sir, a long life and the Almighty's blessings in the fulfilment of the vision for Kenya which you saw nearly half a century ago.

Before I declare the Congregation dissolved, allow me Mr.Visitor, Sir, briefly to interpose here and, on behalf of the Council, pay a very warm tribute to the staff of this College, both East African and expatriate, for their loyalty and devotion to duty, and in particular to the Principal Dr.Arthur Porter, the quality of whose perceptive and dynamic leadership over these past two years has already begun to

transform University College, Nairobi into a lively,  
purposeful institution consonant with the tempo of a  
free Kenya

I NOW DECLARE THIS CONGREGATION DISSOLVED.