

TEXT OF SPEECH BY MR. B. M. GECAGA
CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI
AT THE CEREMONY OF THE INSTALLATION OF THE CHANCELLOR,
THE CONFERMENT OF DEGREES AND AWARD OF DIPLOMAS
ON FRIDAY, 24TH NOVEMBER, 1978

Rais wa Jamhuri ya Kenya
Mtukufu Daniel arap Moi
Sote Wakenya mwaka huu mwenzi wa Agosti
Msiba mkubwa katuangukia
Tukapotelewa na Baba wa Taifa
Hayati mpendwa Mzee Jomo Kenyatta
Ambaye pia alikuwa Chancellor wetu
wa hiki chuo Kikuu cha Nairobi
Kwa muda wa miaka karibu minane
Tangu tupate cheo cha kuwa University kamili
Alituongoza kwa busara kuu na makini
Tele manufaa katuachia
Nyingi zetu shukrani kwake hayati

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Your Excellency Mr. Daniel arap Moi, President of the Republic of Kenya, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen: First of all I should like to extend a very warm welcome to you Mr. President, as well as to all our guests, particularly those who have come long distances to represent other Universities, to this important ceremony of the University of Nairobi. It gives us great pleasure that you have so generously spared the time to come and share this occasion with us.

As the saying goes: 'for everything there is a season'; and so it is that this University's annual occasion of the conferment of degrees and award of diplomas has again come round.

In one sense it is for us a sad occasion being the first such ceremony to be held without our late illustrious Chancellor Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, who yearly officiated at these ceremonies without fail since we attained University status some eight years ago when he had assumed the high office of Chancellor of the University of Nairobi.

Hasa kwamba wewe binafsi Mtukufu Rais
Zake nyayo hayati ukazifuata
Ndiposa sisi sote wa Chuo hiki Kikuu
Wanachama wa Konseli na Seneti
Waalimu kwa wanafunzi
Na kadhalika wote wafanyi kazi
Twakukaribisha kwa shangwe siku ya leo
Katika sherehe hii ya kufana
Ambapo furaha itakuwa yetu
Kukutawaza mamlaka
Pamoja na kukutunukia cheo kikuu
ukiwa Chancellor wetu mpya
Twakutakia heri na ufanisi daima.

During the mourning of the late President in August this year, this University, along with countless citizens and friends of Kenya, expressed our deep sorrow at the grievous loss of our late Chancellor and President of the Republic of Kenya and, as a University, through our representatives, paid our last respects during the lying in state in Nairobi of the body of the late President. The late Chancellor had guided this institution with great wisdom from which the University in particular, and the growth and development of higher education in Kenya generally, derived enormous benefits. Our debt to him, therefore, is irreparable.

However, in our moment of bereavement we drew comfort from the knowledge that the Father of our Nation's successor was a man who for many years has been a good friend and supporter of this University, and who himself has been an active participant in the formulation of our modern educational system in this country.

It is, therefore, a matter of immense pleasure to us that this occasion affords the Council and Senate the opportunity of not only installing the President of the Republic of Kenya as Chancellor

of the University of Nairobi, but also awarding the degree of Doctor of Laws of this University to His Excellency The Hon. Daniel T. arap Moi.

Accordingly, I now call upon the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Nairobi, Dr. Karanja, to address the congregation and read the citation for the award of the degree of Doctor of Laws (honoris causa) upon His Excellency The Hon. Daniel Toroitich arap Moi, President of the Republic of Kenya.
