



The Address of the Chancellor, Lagos State University,

His Excellency, Hon. Justice Adesola OGUNTADE (Rtd.) CFR, FNIALS, JSC

- Your Excellency, Mr. Akinwunmi AMBODE, the Executive Governor of Lagos State AND Visitor to Lagos State University;
- Let me adopt the protocols already established.

It is my pleasure and privilege to welcome all of you here present to this historic ceremony.

My gratitude goes to God Almighty for today marks the third convocation ceremonies of this great citadel of learning that I am presiding over as the Chancellor of the University.

On behalf of the entire University Community, I most heartily welcome the Visitor to the University; the Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Akinwunmi AMBODE and all those in his entourage. I also extend our warm welcome to all the dignitaries invited to rejoice with us at this historic ceremony. The University welcomes you all for coming to share the joys of this momentous occasion with us.

Graduation ceremony is one of the most memorable events in anybody's life. This comes at the end of a long journey of academic and social preparations. This ceremony tells you that you are now prepared to propel your life to achieve your purpose.

My dear graduands, as Chancellor I would like to share the following words with you. As you proceed to the next chapter of your lives, I offer the following ingredients for success - things I have observed in people I have known and worked with over the years.

First is integrity: If you carry out your responsibilities consistently, to the best of your ability, people will trust you as a colleague, and turn to you for leadership.

Next is courage: In the face of adversity, and even tragedy, try to remember the reasons for optimism - and never be afraid to ask for help. Look after yourself - especially your health, both physical and mental.

Follow your instincts and curiosity wherever they lead, and broaden your knowledge by reading as much as you can. Embrace opportunities to collaborate. It is the key to our success as a society, and it helps us grow as individuals.

Be bold and take risks, and do not let the fear of failure stop you. Failure is a part of life. It is another way to learn. Change is a part of life, too. At times it is frightening, but we should see it as a chance to explore, and to test our limits.

Above all, enjoy what you do. Take pleasure and satisfaction in what you achieve. Along with the personal characteristics I have mentioned above, this is the key to a happy life.

Whatever your next steps are, I advise you to see your studies here as part of a lifetime of learning. And I encourage you to use that learning to leave every situation better than it was when you arrive.

Presently, our world has many problems; unemployment, poverty, unnecessary deaths, communal clashes etc. You can change it all. That is what this graduation ceremony is all about. It tells you that you are ready to get into action. Go ahead, and be part of the solution to creating a world that is different, and much more human. Go ahead to create a world that you will be proud to leave for future generations.

This University will be proud of you because you have learnt how to use your knowledge to positively change the world. Use this University, your alma mater, as the hub of all your creative initiatives.

Your Excellency, let me at this juncture specially thank you for the “Ready Set Work” Initiative. The programme keeps getting bigger every year and the impact of the programme on our teeming youths is already being felt. Ready Set Work has turned to be a game changer in the life of our students. It is rapidly changing the thinking of our youths from being job seekers after school to job creators even while still in school. This is the way to go in developing

youths who will be compliant with the Smart Lagos Initiative and I thank you for your ingenuity.

Finally, I congratulate ALL the Graduands that are being awarded First Degrees, Higher Degrees, (Postgraduate Diplomas, Academic AND Professional Masters, AND Doctor of Philosophy {Ph.D} Degrees). I wish you ALL, a promising AND successful future.

I thank you for your attention AND God bless you ALL.

His Excellency, Hon. Justice Adesola OGUNTADE (RTD.)

JSC, FNIALS, CFR

**Nigerian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom &
Chancellor, Lagos State University**

24th May, 2018