



Second Graduation Speech
By
Dr. Taki Al Abduwani – Dean
Muscat – Monday 22nd February 2010

- Your Excellency Dr. Hamad bin Said Al'ufi, the Guest of Honour
- Excellencies
- Our Distinguished Guests
- Dr. Issa Al Bulushi - College President
- Dr. Teeranlall **Ramgopal - Pro Vice Chancellor**, Staffordshire University
- **Prof. Susan Foreman, Dean of Business School**, Staffordshire University
- My colleagues, members of academic, administrative and support departments

Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatu Allah wa barakatahu

I'm pleased to see all of you here this morning taking part in our unique gathering. On behalf of the Board of Directors of Gulf College, the College Board of Trustees and the Students' Council, I welcome you on this distinctive day of our 2nd graduation of a new group of our students.

We celebrate the graduation of our students who spent few years with us during which they obtained academic knowledge, new practical skills and personal growth. These qualities will contribute to their real life to face the challenges they may encounter. They will contribute in developing their country under the wise leadership of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said.

Graduates...

This is the day you have worked and waited for which has come true supported by your strong determination to reach this high goal. We are proud of you and your accomplishment and glad to award you the bachelor's

degree. You are part of our perseverance to achieve success and distinction. I'm sure you will continue your academic connection with your College even after graduation through Alumni.

Congratulations to you, your families and your lecturers for this bright success to serve our beloved country.

Gulf College Graduates

Your success in your work after graduation with the international changes around you depends on your ability to grasp the opportunities that are available to you. This requires continuous efforts to obtain more knowledge and develop the skills you acquired during your studies.

Our honoured audience,

We, in our annual celebration, stand proud to see our sons and daughters, the graduates of our college, in whom we developed the love for their country and the strong will to work for the progress of their society.

During the last five years, Gulf College has achieved a lot in the academic field. Today, Gulf College sees the result of that hard work when it introduces its graduates to the society. This is also an obvious result of the effective roles played by their highly valued lecturers who exert great efforts to provide students with the best of knowledge they possess, and this is a great evidence of the strong partnership between Gulf College and Staffordshire University.

Our honoured audience,

On this blessed day, I would like to stress that Gulf College has shouldered the responsibility of contributing to the continuous development of higher education and the quality assurance through supporting its students, choosing the programmes, improving standards, implementing the latest scientific research, participating in the applied research which assist development and industry, and the best use of information technology.

I would also like to emphasise that our priority is to honour the distinguished Entrepreneur students of Gulf College. Last year, we honoured two students

by granting them an opportunity to pursue their higher education for Masters at the expense of Gulf College and Staffordshire University. Today, I would like to announce that this practice will continue for this year as Gulf College and Staffordshire University will provide two grants to the distinguished students to pursue their Postgraduate studies at Staffordshire University in Great Britain.

Furthermore, statistics indicate that there are 207 students now studying at Gulf College within the project of supporting the university students proposed by Gulf College two years ago. This project aims at people who come from the Social and Limited income group.

Sisters and Brothers

Our College today looks more stable on the higher education map at the global level. The number of students is increasing according to the plan set for admission and the capacity of the college. The number of staff members is also increasing to cover the academic requirements. The administrative structure is about to be completed. The new campus of the College will stand high in Southern Ma'bel, Muscat in few years.

The features of the College are clear through its fixed steps on the path of developing education and knowledge and also, through its honesty towards the ambitions of our students, and its approval of the requirements of sustained development and job market.

In this context, we would like to stress that the achievements which the College has accomplished is the result of the real partnership between the private higher education establishments in Sultanate of Oman and the governmental parties which supervise this partnership such as Higher Education Council, Ministry of Higher Education, Accreditation Council and the Scientific Research Council as well as the other parties from the public and private sector.

On this occasion, I would like to extend my thanks to all these establishments for their continuous support. I would particularly thank HE Dr. Rawya bint Saud Al Busaidiah, Minister of Higher Education, and Dr. Abdullah bin Mohammad Al Sarmi, Under Secretary, Ministry of Higher Education.

Our honoured audience,

Before I conclude my speech, I would like to thank HE, the guest of honour, Your Excellencies and our distinguished guest for participating in today's event. I would also like to thank all those who participated in preparing this event. We congratulate the families of the graduates on this happy occasion. Allah bless you and support your good deeds under the leadership of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said, Allah bless him.

Wa ssalamu alaikum.