

# **National University of Modern Languages NUML**

**15<sup>th</sup> Convocation, 21 December 2019**

**Convocation Address - Dr Ishrat Hussain**

Major Gen Muhammad Jaffar, HI(M) (Retd) - Rector,  
National University of Modern Languages - Worthy Parents -  
Dear Students - Ladies and Gentlemen

Assalam - o - Aliykum!

It is a matter of great pleasure for me to be the Chief Guest on this auspicious occasion, which marks the 15<sup>th</sup> convocation of National University of Modern Languages or NUML. Your University NUML enjoys a unique advantage among the Universities of Pakistan. It is imparting students skills leading to foreign languages proficiency which would give them an edge in this competitive global economy.

I am immensely grateful to Rector NUML who afforded me this opportunity to share my views with the youth of Pakistan. For students, their proud parents and their honourable faculty members, it is a unique moment. I extend heartiest congratulations to all those Students and Faculty members who have been awarded Degrees and Certificates of Distinction today. Let me also offer my sincere appreciation to the parents who have sacrificed so much to see their children see this auspicious moment in life.

Dear Students! Today, you have achieved a glorious yet a significant milestone en-route to knowledge gateways and hence, have assured a successful career in the future. But remember the degree you have obtained today is the first

step in life long learning. In this fast moving world knowledge becomes obsolescent like machines sooner than you realize. What you have learnt today at NUML would hold you in stead for some time and only those who would make continuous efforts to keep themselves updated in their professional fields are likely to rise . Those who become complacent that they have achieved what they were set to do would be left behind. The world around you is becoming competitive and degrees, certificates and grades do not matter. It is your hard work, dedication and commitment which would make all the difference . In your practical life, people will judge you more on the basis of your mental capacity ,moral strength and ability to deliver rather than your social standing, and academic qualifications .Let me also tell you that humility ,integrity and working together as a team are the attributes which would distinguish success from failure. I am sure, your teachers have prepared you well not only in academics but also by inculcating strong ethical values . Now it is your responsibility to make the better of your capabilities both, for the prosperity of your motherland as well as your own progression in life. I, as part of the Government, consider you, as a treasured asset for the whole Pakistani nation.

Dear Students!

The global landscape is fast changing where every day brings us new opportunities, inventions and prospects to join the race to a swift yet a bright future. Thus, you should keep your eyes and ears open and carefully analyse the

forthcoming challenges and adapt yourself to make the best of emerging opportunities. The feeling of self-fulfilment will only come if you positively contribute towards the prosperity of the world in general and, Pakistan in particular. Complementing your worldly accomplishments, while simultaneously fulfilling your religious obligations will provide you the true contentment and lasting peace of mind. Remember, you were born with an identity, which needs to be nurtured into your indigenous ideals, entrenched in national as well as religious moorings. While you are scaling the ladder of success to transform from a national to an international icon, you shouldn't lose sight of your origin. This will allow you to continue achieving your future pursuits, without misplacing your own identity, as a Pakistani.

Ladies and Gentlemen!

I strongly believe that our youth is the most precious asset for the future of Pakistan. I believe that because about 64% of our population is under the age of 25, which is marked by passion, courage and zeal to excel in life. Therefore, the focus of Higher Education has to be on this Youth Bulge so that they could render useful contributions towards the future development of Pakistan. The Government is already paying special attention to the education of Pakistani youth like; Under Ehsas undergraduate program 200,000 scholarships would be provided to needy and talented students from low income families and backward areas. Social mobility can take place only if we provide opportunities to every one irrespective of their

financial capacity to get higher education. As Director of IBA Karachi my proudest moment was when the students under National Talent Hunt program graduated and got high paid jobs . Not only the lives of their families were transformed but they also acted as role models for other students in their villages and kachi badis where they lived. Under Youth Entrepreneurship Scheme (YES) loans are provided by Kamyab Jawan program for starting their own businesses. There are other multifaceted platforms including the Higher Education for which Rs 100 Billion have been earmarked. Along-with education, moral grooming and character building are equally important. In addition to humility and Integrity which I have earlier emphasized I am sad to see our highly educated professionals showing lack of Tolerance . The recent incident in Lahore where one group of professionals pitted against others and caused losses of human lives has pained me immensely. I would appeal to you to inculcate feelings of empathy and tolerance , develop self-discipline and capacity to accommodate others' opinion. You have a greater responsibility as leaders of the future to curb the menace of extremism and intolerance and nurture harmony and camaraderie in the society.. A careful reading of the Holy Quran brings home the value of patience and determination again and again, which have been termed a key to the success both in this world and, hereafter. The constitution of Pakistan provides freedom of expression to all the citizens but it puts that much more responsibility on all of us. If tolerance and accommodation take roots in our society, I

assure you that a majority of our social ills will be rectified. Our national media has a huge responsibility towards this noble cause.

Dear Students!

Educational institutions are the crucial pillars of national development in any country and Pakistan is no exception. I am aware that NUML is already focusing on character building besides distinguishing itself to achieve glorious academic standards. Having been equipped with essential skills and sound ideals to exploit the countless possibilities and opportunities that come your way, you should take active part in the national progress and socio-economic prosperity of Pakistan.

Ladies and Gentlemen! As Advisor to the Prime Minister of Pakistan on Institutional Reforms and Austerity, I can proudly say that Higher Education Commission or HEC is playing an admirable role for the advancement of education in Pakistan. It has set a perfect example of being a strong Pakistani Educational Institution to not only raise the standard of Higher Education in Pakistan, within Asia but has also up-lifted Pakistan's Educational standings at the global level. Some of the Pakistani Universities have already made it to the list of top 500 Universities in Asia as well as the World yet others, like NUML, are following the suit. I am confident to observe that in NUML the quality of R&D and the faculty development have been focused in an effective and constructive manner. Along-with the latest language teaching pedagogies, NUML is fast advancing in the field of research in

other faculties like; Social Science as well as Management Sciences. It goes without saying that the rising standard of research in our academia will definitely lead to an expansion of knowledge at home and, enhance our graduates' demand, the world over. My compliments to NUML.

Lastly I once again congratulate the graduating students and their families. Let me remind you that you all are blessed by Allah Almighty to be able to study in such a great institution like, NUML. On this joyous day, your teachers also deserve heartfelt gratitude who are the real architects of success in your life. I offer my special compliments to those who have completed their PhD degrees and particularly to those who have been awarded Gold Medals and Certificates of Distinction today. Remember, this should not be the end for you but just a beginning of a bright future in the days ahead.

Thank you. May Allah guide us always, Aameen!

**NUML Zindabaad -  
Pakistan Paiyandabaad.**