

**SPEECH OF PROF. JAGDISH MUKHI, HON'BLE GOVERNOR  
& NAGALAND UNIVERSITY, LUMAMI AT THE 5<sup>TH</sup>  
CONVOCATION CEREMONY ON 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2022 AT  
LUMAMI.**

- Minister for Higher Education and Tribal Affairs, Government of Nagaland, Shri. Temjen Imna Along.
- Prof. Saket Kushwaha, Vice Chancellor of Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh.
- Chancellor, Nagaland University, Prof. D.N Buragohain.
- Vice-Chancellor of Nagaland University, Prof. Pardeshi Lal
- Registrar, Nagaland University, Dr. Abemo
- Dignitaries,
- invited guests,
- Pro- vice Chancellor,
- Deans of Schools,
- Heads of Departments,
- Faculty members,
- Officials of the University,
- My dear students,

**Ladies and gentlemen, sisters and brothers present here today,**

It is a profound privilege as well as a great honour for me to address the 5<sup>th</sup> Convocation of Nagaland University which was created in 1994 to fulfill the aspirations of the people of Nagaland in general and its youth in particular in realm of higher education, both teaching and research.

It is humbling for me to learn that some great minds of our great country like Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the then Prime Minister of India, Dr A P J Abdul Kalam and Shri Pranab Mukherjee, our former Presidents have addressed the university convocations in the past.

I feel privileged and honoured to do so, today.

Their contributions in enriching our polity, society, science and technology and public sphere inspire us to do more to make our nation capable of bettering the lives of our own citizens and that of the entire global community in consonance with the spirit of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*, that is, the entire world is our family.

University convocation is an occasion as well as an opportunity for the graduates and the research scholars to receive their degrees and certificates that they have earned by putting in hard work with unflinching determination, toils and tears.

It is also an occasion for you to introspect and ponder over the utility of such degrees and certificates for meeting the challenges of the outside world and for grabbing the existing opportunities for bettering your own lives and of those living around you.

Is the knowledge that your talented teachers have imparted and the values that they have imbibed in you going to empower and make you capable of becoming enlightened citizens to deal with the challenges of poverty, hunger, disease, inequality and the sufferings caused by the forces inimical to us?

Are these academic degrees and certificates going to add to the existing pool of the unemployed people?

Are you capable enough to become problem solvers? Have you acquired out of box thinking ability to successfully deal with the contemporary challenges being faced by the humanity today?

These are some searching questions that come to my mind on the occasion when you are about to venture out of the realm of higher education.

If knowledge that you have acquired over the period of time has made you inclusive and democratic in thinking, then you have got right education and you are on right path. You are going to become the agent of change to transform the polity and society livable and enjoyable for one and all irrespective of affiliations of caste, creed, community, language, region and religion.

Dear students, I must tell you that choosing a right and a just path and having courage to tread on it in this narrow and self-centered world is both daunting and challenging.

Your character and conscience will be tested while dealing with this multi-dimensional world with multi-dimensional challenges. You can deal these challenges only when your educational institutions and socio-political milieu have imbibed in you an inclusive and all-embracing temperament.

My advice to you is, never ever go after those who are NOT on right and just path even if they are in large number. Learn to walk alone, if you think and feel it will take you to right destination, a destination and goal good for you and good for humanity.

When you venture out from the four walls of the picturesque ambience of your University, don't be the part of the crowd. Rather be the face of the crowd. Let people recognize as a graduate from Nagaland University who has made difference in the life of the people in a positive, constructive and in a meaningful way.

Ladies and gentlemen and my dear students, there was a time when India was the knowledge guru as well as the spiritual guru of the world. People from every part of the world used to come to India to learn astronomy, astrology, metaphysics, mathematics, ayurveda, yoga and spirituality. Today, our youth are going outside in search of knowledge.

It is time for us to introspect as to why we don't have the seats of learning like Nalanda, Vikramshila and Takshila today as we had during the ancient days?

No doubt, West has made remarkable strides in the fields of science and technology that has made human lives comfortable. But, at what cost?

Rapid industrialization facilitated by industrial revolution caused immense damage to our planet earth. Global warming and climate change have contributed to unbearable and inexplicable human miseries in form of frequent and untimely rains, flood and cyclones, landslides and earthquakes, melting of glaciers and rise in sea level and so on and so forth.

All these have led to unprecedented increase in poverty, hunger, disease and displacement leading to violence and conflicts within the nation and between the nations.

Look at globalization. Today we are connected with each other through World Wide Web, Internet, Mobile and Cable TV and thus we live in a global village. There are easy movements of goods and services, finance and technology, news and ideas. Despite being interconnected and interdependent why are we not at peace? Why the world has become so violent and chaotic? Why so much of hatred, mistrust and hostility? Both nation states and human beings are at war with each other, why?

The answer lies in our Indian philosophy and our way of life. Technological development sans spiritual growth is one dimensional, lop sided and self-destructive. Spirituality blends technology with emotions.

The tragedy of our education system has been our focus on Western ideas and philosophy, forgetting our ancient wisdom and knowledge. If we are to emerge as a global leader, a global responsible power, a Jagat Guru, then we must discover our roots, blend them in our curricula and syllabi and synergize them with the requirements of the modern time.

We need to be Aatmanirbhar in economic, financial and technological fields. But it would not be complete and sustainable unless and until we are Aatmanirbhar in ideas, thoughts and knowledge. Discover our traditional and ancient knowledge system to emerge as a

resurgent Bharat and a self confident nation to lead the world on the just and virtuous path.

Dear friends, power lies within. We need somebody like your teachers to ignite and imbibe it in you.

If knowledge imparted by your teachers enable you to become the part and parcel of policy and decision making processes that can help in wiping out the tears from the eyes of old, infirm, deprived and marginalized then only your education would be complete and meaningful.

I must congratulate the people of Nagaland for protecting and preserving their traditional knowledge and value system in forms of their tribal languages, folk dance, food and food habits, art and artifacts etc. At the same time they are modern in their outlook, dress and temperament.

It is the responsibility of Nagaland University to create enabling ecology through relevant centers of knowledge to promote and preserve the ancient wisdom of the Naga people.

The success of the Nagaland University and the relevance of its teaching community in particular will be judged by the future generation based on its ability to solve the contemporary socio-political and economic and developmental challenges. The people of Nagaland are having great expectation from the intellectual class of the University for solving the ongoing imbroglio for achieving and establishing sustainable peace and durable socio-political order for peaceful, prosperous and stable Nagaland.

Dear students, it is very unfortunate that our students even after post-graduation from universities are prepared to join as grade III and grade IV employees in government sector on contractual basis. Instead they should look for ways to be innovative and start working avenues for them. I would suggest that many of you can take up agriculture on your own lands as a profession after education which will bring not only economic growth but also bring self-reliance. There are lot of scope in agriculture. With the utilisation of scientific data and technology you can improve crop yields and catapult the state's development in robust growth trajectory. Moreover you should also look to become job creators rather than job seekers and improve the entrepreneurial landscape of our state.

The role and relevance of the University are judged not on the basis of how many departments and centres of studies it has and how many graduates and research scholars it produces every year but more importantly by the fact that how much knowledge and how many knowledgeable minds it has produced for the benefit of the society.

I must congratulate Nagaland University, its teachers, officials and students for meeting the requirements of the academic calendar as per the UGC requirement despite the challenges of COVID-19 pandemic and other structural impediments. I am also delighted to learn that the University is fully prepared and whole heartedly geared up for implementing the New Education Policy 2020 from the forthcoming academic session, 2022-2023.

I am sure, the New Education Policy, if implemented successfully, would bridge the gap between job seekers and job givers and would be

able create a pool of young minds empowered with the elements of innovation, creativity and desired skills to meet the national as well as the global standards.

Next time when I visit this beautiful campus I would like to see more smiles and satisfaction on the faces of our new batch of students bubbling with enthusiasm and self confidence to take the University to a greater academic height, Naga society to its peaceful and prosperous destination and our great Nation on the path of peace, prosperity and stability.

Remember dear friends, we believe in harmony and convergence between and among cultures and civilizations. We are the nation where all the cultures and civilizations of the world have converged and flourished for centuries together, based on the principle of Sarva Dharma Samabhav which means “All religions are the same and all paths lead to the same destination.

I wish you all the best for a healthy, happy, peaceful and successful life and career ahead.

Still “Miles to go before you sleep”. Thank you Nagaland University for love, time and opportunity. Keep Encouraging the bright minds and create pool of human resources to lend to the growth of the nation.

Thank you.

**Jai Hind!**

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