

5. Chancellor's opening remarks:

**CONGREGATION FOR SCHOOL OF  
LAW**

**Opening address by  
Mrs. Mary Chinery-Hesse,  
Chancellor, University of Ghana**

**6<sup>th</sup> June, 2019**

Chairman and Members of the University  
Council,  
Vice-Chancellor,  
Guest Speaker,  
Members of the Advisory Board of the  
College of Humanities,  
Members of Convocation,  
Staff and Students,  
Alumni,  
Graduands,  
Invited Guests,  
Members of the Press Corps  
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to this morning's ceremony, graduating 120 students from the University of Ghana School of Law. As many of you might be aware, the main July Congregations are scheduled for 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of July. Today's Congregation ceremony has been brought forward in response to the need for the Class of 2019 Law Students to be afforded the opportunity to register to take the entrance examination of the Ghana School of Law within the deadline established for the purpose, that is 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2019.

A condition for such application is to have graduated from Law School. I extend the good wishes of the University of Ghana to all who intend to present themselves for the examination which takes place on 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2019.

I am personally confident that today's graduating UG students will excel in the entrance examination because, for the first time in the history of this University, we will be graduating as many as five (5) first class

scholars from the School of Law. Congratulations in advance to these brilliant scholars.

Congregation ceremonies are very important to the University of Ghana because of the opportunity they afford us to reflect on how well we are doing in terms of providing the needed academic services and corporate support to ensure that students graduate and on time. Management of the University remains committed to improving upon graduation rates and student satisfaction, and will continue to do all in its power to provide students with a memorable student experience.

You graduands have played your part by putting in enormous amount of hard work, spending sleepless nights burning the midnight oil. Your presence here this morning is proof that your efforts have not been in vain.

I take the opportunity to wish you the graduands, who are being presented today, the

very best on this very important occasion. We share in your joy on the successful completion of your programme of study and we are very proud of you.

As you go out into the World, we exhort you to bear in mind the values of your profession which must have been beaten into you by your Tutors. We count on you to give us reason to glory in your successes and not to let the University of Ghana down. You are joining a noble profession and we expect you to live up to its aims of integrity, good judgment, dedication and honesty. Ghana is waiting for you.

The degree being awarded to you today is a precious and powerful gift. Please do not squander it. We count on you to aim to make a difference in the World. Always bear in mind that to whom much is given, much is required.

I must confess that after graduation in our time, we had an easier world to walk into. We cannot always say the situation now is easy,

and we recognize that there are not enough jobs waiting to absorb graduates, even from the Premier University of Ghana. In spite of this, I feel a sense of hope that the efforts which have been put in place by the Government will yield results and minimize the risk of your being without employment after all your hard work. My hope is that the World of Work will treat you kindly.

Once again, Hearty congratulations.

It is important to recall that you have not done it alone. You have enjoyed the support of your parents, guardians, your entire families and loved ones. They are naturally proud of your accomplishments, which is why they have turned up here in their numbers to celebrate with you. As we welcome them, we join you in expressing your gratitude to them. I invite you graduands to now stand and show appreciation and pay tribute to these good people who have assisted you, including with their prayers to achieve such honor today.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
I am delighted to declare this morning's  
Assembly, duly constituted for the Award of  
Degrees and Diplomas of the University of  
Ghana to successful graduands.

It is customary for the Vice-Chancellor to give  
a Report, at Congregation, on developments in  
the University over the last Academic Year. I  
invite the Vice-Chancellor, Professor  
Ebenezer Oduro Owusu, to now present his  
Report to Congregation.