



KARATINA UNIVERSITY

Weekly Dispatch 15, 2025

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2025

## GRADUANDS FIRST, LEGACY FOREVER: KARATINA UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES 13TH GRADUATION AND INSTALLATION OF THE 2ND CHANCELLOR

Thursday, 16th October 2025, went into the annals of Karatina University as the University marked two major milestones in one grand event the installation of the 2nd Chancellor, Prof. Isaac Muthure Macharia, and the celebration of the 13th Graduation Ceremony. The ceremony was attended by vice-chancellors from several universities, government officials, members of the clergy, alumni, parents, and students. It featured lively musical performances, innovation showcases, and recognition of outstanding graduates.

### A New Era of Leadership: Installation of the 2nd Chancellor

The event began with the installation of Prof. Isaac Muthure Macharia as the 2nd Chancellor of Karatina University, marking the beginning of a new chapter in the institution's leadership journey. The highlight of the ceremony was the symbolic handing over of the University's tools of power, signifying his assumption of the ceremonial and moral stewardship of the University.

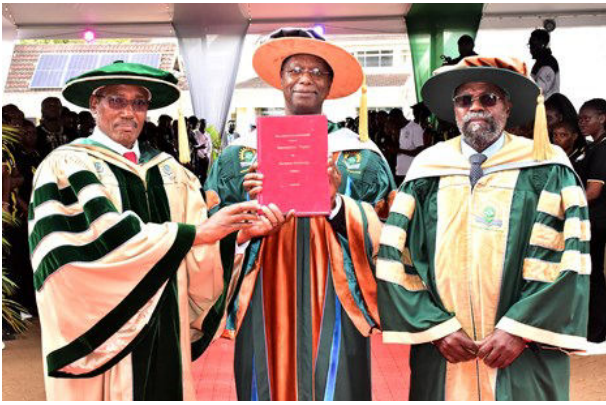


*The robing of the Chancellor*

The ceremony's introduction was conducted by the University Council Chairman, Prof. Joseph Mailutha, who read the Chancellor's glorious profile. Another distinctive highlight of the event was the robing of the Chancellor. He was escorted in style by the Vice Chancellor, the University Council Chairman, and Dr. Everlyn Anduvare, who also conducted the robing.







*The chancellor receiving the instruments of Authority*

In his inaugural address, the Chancellor, Prof. Isaac M. Macharia, pledged to steer Karatina University to greater heights by fostering collaboration between academia and industry, supporting student welfare, and enhancing the University's research and innovation agenda.



*The chancellor Prof. Isaac Macharia addressing the congregation*

## CELEBRATING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE: THE 13TH GRADUATION CEREMONY

Following the installation, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Linus M. Gitonga, declared the assembly a congregation of the 13th Graduation Ceremony, where more than 1,800 graduands were conferred with degrees across various disciplines.



*The VC Prof. Linus M. Gitonga addressing the graduands*

Addressing the congregation, the Vice Chancellor congratulated the graduates for their determination and resilience, describing the day as a celebration of excellence, perseverance, and vision, a reflection of

the University's collective achievement and shared aspiration.

"Your determination has yielded rewards. Today, you stand as a testament that diligence, excellence, and community service bear fruit," said the VC. He urged the graduands to be mindful of how they respond to life's challenges, noting that success often depends not on what one can control, but on how one chooses to respond to what cannot be controlled.

The VC also reaffirmed the University's commitment to academic excellence and innovation, highlighting recent strides such as the establishment of the School of Computing and Informatics, and ongoing efforts to expand facilities, strengthen teaching, and promote a culture of research and creativity.

On the other hand, the University Council Chairman, Prof. Joseph T. Mailutha, lauded the University's leadership for steering it toward steady growth, reaffirming the Council's commitment to ethical governance, accountability, and strategic expansion aligned with national priorities. He further urged the graduands to use their knowledge and values to serve with purpose and humility, reminding them that true leadership lies not in titles but in daily choices that uplift others and improve the world around them.



*The Chairman of the University Council Prof. Joseph Mailutha addressing the audience*

In his graduation remarks, the Chancellor, Prof. Isaac Muthure Macharia, emphasized his vision of steering Karatina University to become a giant in Kenya's academic landscape and beyond. He lauded the government's new funding model for public universities, noting that it has significantly enhanced access and sustainability. He also highlighted the importance of industry-university linkages, calling for strategic collaborations to generate solutions and resources that can scale research and innovation between industry and academia.

To the graduands, he offered words of wisdom: "Graduation marks not an end, but a beginning — a new phase filled with opportunities and challenges. How you handle both will define the person you become. Embrace lifelong learning, pursue excellence with humility, and be proud ambassadors of Karatina University."

Representing the Cabinet Secretary for Education, Dr. Carol Hunja, Secretary of the State Department for Higher Education, congratulated the graduates and commended Karatina University for its continued growth and contribution to Kenya's education and innovation ecosystem. She further stated that the Ministry will continue to sup-



*Dr. Carol Hunja the Secretary of the State Department for Higher Education addressing the graduands on behalf of the Cabinet Secretary.*

The dual celebration — the installation of the 2nd Chancellor and the 13th Graduation — marked a defining moment for Karatina University. It signified continuity, renewal, and a shared vision for the future: to nurture excellence, integrity, and leadership that transforms communities and the nation.



*Graduands during the 13<sup>th</sup> Graduation Ceremony*

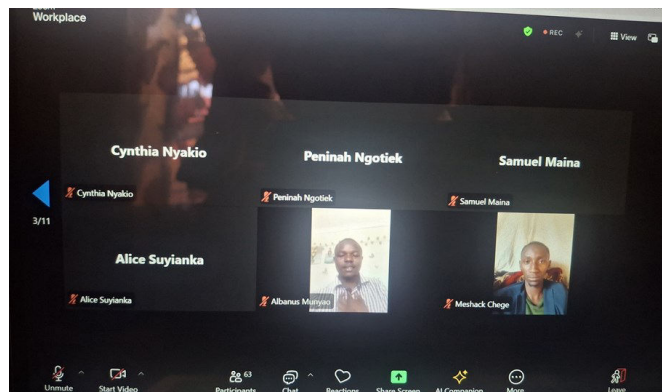




*Congratulations to the Class of 2025!*

that bring global opportunities to Karatina University.

Representing the Cabinet Secretary for Education, Dr. Carol Hunja, Secretary of the State Department for Higher Education, congratulated the graduates and commended Karatina University for its continued growth and contribution to Kenya’s education and innovation ecosystem. She further stated that the Ministry will continue to support institutions that align education with societal needs. She also encouraged the graduates to use their education to serve humanity and the nation.



*A section of the participants during the launch of the programme.*

The event marks a significant milestone in Karatina University’s vision of producing graduates who embody integrity, responsibility, and social consciousness.

The Africa Leadership and Mental Wellness Programme reflects the institutions commitment to going Above and Beyond in nurturing well-rounded graduates. Through collaboration with regional and international partners, the University continues to provide platforms that empower students to lead with integrity, purpose, and compassion.

## KARATINA UNIVERSITY LAUNCHES THE AFRICA LEADERSHIP AND MENTAL WELLNESS PROGRAMME

On Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> of October 2025, Karatina University, in collaboration with the Africa Leadership Transformation (ALT) Foundation of South Africa and with support from the KCB Foundation, officially launched the Africa Leadership and Mental Wellness Programme a one year programme under the Africa Youth Leadership Transformation (AYLT) initiative. The programme is designed to nurture ethical, resilient, and transformational young leaders across Africa.

The launch was held virtually and coordinated by the Directorate of Resource Mobilization and International Programmes, brought together university officials, facilitators, and partners committed to empowering students through leadership and mental wellness training.

Speaking during the launch of the programme the Vice Chancellor Prof. Linus M. Gitonga, lauded the collaboration with ALT South Africa and KCB Foundation, describing the program as a “transformative journey” that prepares students for leadership beyond the university gates. He expressed appreciation to the Directorate of Resource Mobilization and International Programmes, led by Prof. Kellen Kiambati, for their continued efforts in creating partnerships