



**REMARKS BY THE CABINET SECRETARY FOR SPORTS,
CULTURE AND THE ARTS, DR. HASSAN WARIO ARERO (PhD)
ON THE OCCASION OF THE ANNUAL SCHOOL DAY AT
OSHWAL ACADEMY ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 10TH, 2015**

The Chairman Oshwal Education and Relief Board Mr. Rajul Ramesh Malde,

**The Chairman of the Board of Governors Mr. Kaushik Shah,
Trustees of OERB,**

The Director of Education Mr. Peter Barton,

Board Members present,

Distinguished Guests,

Parents, Staff and Students of Senior High School,

Ladies and Gentlemen

First, I wish to begin by thanking the management of Oshwal Education and Relief Board for inviting me to this occasion.

I also want to commend the role of the Private Sector and more specifically faith based organizations for their roles in promoting education, despite many challenges facing the sector.

Ladies and Gentlemen

The importance of education in the human and societal development can not be gainsaid. We do not measure development in terms of infrastructure only, but human development in terms of literacy levels is equally a very vital index.

Some of you may recall that at independence, the clarion call from the founding father of this nation Mzee Jomo Kenyatta was war against illiteracy, disease,

poverty and hunger. Five decades down the line, the war still continues.

Education plays a great role in the life of everyone all through the life and it is for this reason that it has been embedded in our constitution as one of the fundamental rights of a Kenyan child. This is because Kenya considers the young people of this country as her most important resource.

It is no surprise therefore that the Government allocates the lion's share of its budget to fund Education.

Getting proper education develops personality of the people, provides physical and mental standard and transforms people's living status. It promotes the feeling of physical, mental and social well being by providing better life.

Good education is constructive in nature which in turn constructs our future forever.

It helps a person to improve his/her status of mind, body and spirit. It provides us lots of confidence by giving us bulk of knowledge in many fields.

One Kenyan musician, Mzee David Amunga would sing

'Someni vijana, muongeze pia bidii

Mwisho wa kusoma, mtapata kazi nzuri sana.'

Many jobless people have come out to challenge these lyrics.

To the **Students**, I want to say this “With about one million young people graduating from our Universities, colleges and high schools every year, getting employment has become a new challenge. You don't to just work hard, but you must work smart.

“Getting educated in life does not only mean earning certificates and good salary from the Government and reputed companies or institutions.

“Being educated also means to be a good and social person in the life. The education you receive should be able to safeguard you against joining criminal gangs such as *Al shabab, Jeshi la mzee, Angola Msumbiji, Mungiki, Siafu, Baghdad boys, Kebago and religious extremist.*

“Some go to school, but due to lack of guidance in life, end up engaging in social vices such as corruption, terrorism, drug and substance abuse, promiscuity and petty crime. This is an anti-climax of life.

“Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow. Remember you are always a student, not a master. You have to keep moving forward.

“Education makes us smart enough to learn how to live in life and handle bad situations. Tell an uneducated person to work in an unfamiliar setting- this will be like asking him to walk in the path of self destruction. On contrary, if you were to challenge an educated person to traverse nations and transmute barriers of language and culture,

you would be testing his spirit of taking up challenges and succeeding.

“Good and proper education plays a great role in shaping our future and professional career. It helps us to overcome superstitions and outdated practices.”

To the **teachers**, I want to say this. “All we have may one day disappear, but the knowledge you impart in the lives of these children remains indelible forever.

“Nobody can take it from them. Just like a candle loses nothing by lighting another candle, you also lose nothing by imparting education into a young mind.”

To the **parents**, I leave you with a message from the Greek philosopher, Aristotle. “The roots of education are bitter, but the fruits are sweet. Do not grow weary in providing for your child’s education, neither should you limit your child to your own learning, for he was born at a different time.

“Some have argued that education is expensive. Try ignorance and see the difference.”

Ladies and Gentlemen

Despite all praises lavished on formal education, not everyone is smart enough to be a lawyer or the doctor we want them to be. This is where talent development comes in.

As a Ministry, we have established the Kenya Academy of Sports based at Kasarani. This is where young talented skills are nurtured and turned into professionals for the sole purpose of making a living.

We are also soon launching a Film schools where young people interested in film making will be taught how to do it in a professional manner.

One of our Departments, the Permanent Presidential Music Commission does train young people in music. They come to us raw, but they leave our institutions when polished. This multi-faceted approach is what will contribute to the total human development of the Kenyan youth.

Thank you and God bless all.

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