



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

**REMARKS BY HIS EXCELLENCY, HON. DR.  
WILLIAM SAMOEI RUTO, C.G.H. PRESIDENT OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA AND COMMANDER-IN-  
CHIEF OF THE DEFENCE FORCES ON ACCEPTANCE  
OF THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF  
HUMANE LETTERS IN LEADERSHIP BY THE  
UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA, BARATON**

**AUGUST 18, 2024**

**BARATON, NANDI COUNTY**

**The Chancellor,  
Distinguished members of the University Council,  
Esteemed faculty and staff,  
The graduating class of 2024,  
Family and friends,  
Distinguished guests  
Ladies and gentlemen,**

- 1.** I am humbled and deeply honored to accept the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters in Leadership from the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton. It is a great privilege to be recognised by this esteemed institution for the impact of my achievements, which have been made possible through the collaboration of many people of goodwill. Together, we have contributed to the well-being of our fellow citizens and the advancement of our nation. I therefore take this opportunity to acknowledge the support of countless individuals, communities, and organizations across the country who have partnered with me throughout my public career, dedicating their time, effort, skill, and energy to the betterment of society
- 2.** I feel challenged at this very moment to reflect deeply on the impact of my efforts and contributions, particularly how they align with the fundamental values and principles that this university holds dear. The purpose of leadership is to inspire and empower individuals and teams to pursue opportunities for growth, advancement, and self-actualisation. Without values, leadership is not only undefined and ineffective, but it also fails from the outset. Inherent in leadership therefore is the responsibility to consistently demonstrate, through visible actions in the service of others and our nation, the highest standards of integrity, focus, compassion, and an unwavering commitment to excellence in pursuit of the common good.



As I mentioned earlier, these principles of leadership and service have defined this university since its inception, and I am proud to be associated with its work, values, and example.

3. With immense gratitude and humility, I accept this recognition and the honor of the Doctor of Humane Letters in Leadership from the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton. It is a privilege to join the university's distinguished convocation alongside the graduating class of 2024. This degree will serve as a constant reminder of my responsibility to contribute fully to the advancement of knowledge, to drive positive change, and to help create a future for Kenya where leadership is synonymous with integrity and excellence in service. I believe these are the indispensable qualities of servant leadership, which is exactly what our nation needs at this moment in our journey of transformation.

**Thank you.**

