



AIT

129th Graduation Ms. Thitiya Panichvejsunti

Mr. President, Honorable chief guest, Excellencies, Faculty members, families, friends and fellow graduates:

A very good afternoon to all!

I am honored and humbled to be invited to deliver a speech on behalf of all PhD graduates.

First of all, I would like to congratulate all my fellow doctoral graduates on their successful completion of the doctoral program at AIT. Being a PhD student in AIT was a journey with different emotions. We started with fun and friendship in the first year of coursework. In the second year, we spent thoughtful time of doing research proposal. Then, the time of data collection came with excitement, fun and tiredness at the same time. In the years after, we were in truly serious time. We were happy and hopeful when we submitted a paper. We were waiting for many months before the journal responded, some with rejections. Our smiles came again when our papers were published. The switching of being sad and happy was the feeling only we can understand. However, where there's a will, there's a way. Today is the day showing our successful endeavor.

Before this success, we may have at least once thought of giving up. Me too. When I was frustrated and wanted to give up, I looked at my two children and asked myself, "If I give up today, how can I tell them to try to overcome their problems when they grow up? How can I be their good role model? I need to fight!" Fortunately, PhD is not a battle with others, but with ourselves. Once we decided to fight, we just keep on going. To win in a PhD battle, intelligence is not enough, we need systematic thinking, diligence, moral support from others and self-motivation.

On behalf of all of you, I would like to express our gratitude to our advisors and the committee members, for their guidance and encouragement. For me personally, gratitude goes to the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand for the financial support. Most importantly, I would like to give special thanks to my family, especially my mother, for being my inspiration and for their belief in me which has made this graduation possible.

I feel too bashful to give you any viewpoints. The only thing I can say is "Never give up". If you have to face tough problems in the future, remember this day that you won in your battles. Then work hard and keeping fighting, and never give up. Success will be yours. As Vince Lombardi said "Winners never quit, and quitters never win" and "The only place where success comes before work, is in the dictionary".

Today, we have completed our roles as students, but other important roles still remain. With valuable knowledge, skills, and experiences we received from AIT, we can use them to create our own businesses, develop our organizations, communities, countries, and the world at



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large. Even though we have graduated, we are still AITians. We are AIT family, not only here in Thailand, but everywhere in the world.

Congratulations to all of us, the graduates of 2018!

Thank you very much!