

Graduation Speech by: Mr. Muhammad Shakeel, GTE/SET- Representative of Master graduating students, Afternoon Session, 123<sup>rd</sup> AIT Graduation Ceremony, 22 May 2015

Honorable chief guest, AIT President, faculty members, families and fellow graduates: Good afternoon to all!

I would like to thank you for providing me this opportunity to say a few words on behalf of all Masters graduates in various disciplines of engineering on this auspicious day in AIT. Today, we are gathered together in this graduation ceremony to share with you our joy and pride.

I remember those moments when I joined AIT in 2013. Now it is time to say goodbye. Two years ago, we entered in AIT with the thirst for knowledge. It seems that those two years passed like the blink of an eye. We have to explore new horizons after graduation and the feeling of leaving AIT for me is the same as leaving my family. AIT is not just an institute but it is a FAMILY whose members are composed of diverse cultures and backgrounds. The multi-faceted culture of AIT binds all of us in a chain of harmony and every one of us is an integral part of it. During our studies, we have reaped rich experiences & honed our skills to climb the ladder of success.

Today is indeed a very proud moment for all of us. My dream of being a graduate of AIT has come true. This would not have been possible without the continuous support of our teachers, our families and the conducive environment here in AIT. I would like to thank all of you, on behalf of all graduates, who played their roles for our success.

Every one of us has dreams in life that require efforts and determination, to make them come true. Our struggle is not over today, but it is just a transition from one phase of life to another. In the coming phase of life, we will face many challenges and tough times. We have to prepare ourselves to cope with them, and never give up our ambitions. Our education and training here

in AIT would certainly enable us to analyze ourselves, and eliminate our shortcomings to achieve our goals.

As Nelson Mandela said, ""Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world." We thus have to keep our morale high and be confident in ourselves. Through our education, we can achieve our objectives, and make this world a better place for the new generation.

I would like to conclude my speech by quoting Wilma Rudolph, the Olympic track and field champion, in saying:

"Winning is great, sure, but if you are really going to do something in life, the secret is learning how to lose. Nobody goes undefeated all the time. If you can pick up after a crushing defeat, and go on to win again, you are going to be a champion someday."

To end, I congratulate all the graduates in this huge achievement and wish you good luck for your future endeavors. May ALLAH enable us to spend our lives for the betterment of humanity.

Thank you very much!