

**Graduation Speech** 

Ms. Siffat Shabnam, SOM

Representative of Masters graduating students of SERD/SOM

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"Doubt, nervousness, confusion and the buzz of one question: How am I going to fit in here?" These were the words that were going through our minds on day one at AIT, an institution where students from more than 60 countries come to study. It was like a puzzle, which you can't twist much but need to give time to figure out.

Honorable chief guest, Excellencies, president, esteemed faculties, respected guests, dear families and fellow graduates, today I can confidently say that each and every one of us, has solved our puzzles, and discovered the magnitude, of the lesson, that AIT has imparted to us.

The twentieth century's great poet TS Eliot once said "It is in fact a part of the function of education, to help us escape, not from our own time, but from the intellectual, and emotional limitations of our time". I believe Asian Institute of Technology has equipped us, with the knowledge to overcome our intellectual limitations. Most importantly, it has given us the sense of being equal, the sense, that no matter which part of the world you come from, we are part of the same story – The story of AIT.

It is here, where we have met the best, and the brilliant minds of our faculties, discovered the glorious culture, the values of different nations, and made friends for a lifetime. Each of us, has achieved at least something, that we might never have dared to attempt a few years back.

Now that we have come towards the end of our time in AIT, let us remind ourselves, that our lives are just a flowing river, and we are simply flowing towards unexplored landscapes. Countless unforeseen challenges and responsibilities await us in the vast world beyond, which, I am certain, that each of us would face with integrity, humility and compassion. And someday, when we will be looking back at life, we will realize, how significantly AIT has contributed to our lives. Let us not forget, the endless support of our families and friends, and continuous efforts of our teachers behind our success and achievement.



To end, I would like to borrow a quote from Abraham Lincoln "Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith, let us, to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it".

Thank you very much!