

Kenya: First Lady Urges Students to Develop Country

By Rebecca
Okwany

First Lady Margaret Kenyatta on Saturday urged university students to use their knowledge to solve problems affecting the country and the world.

She also advised them to be responsible citizens and give to the less fortunate.

Mrs Kenyatta was speaking during the award of diplomas to 68 International Baccalaureate students at the Aga Khan Academy in Mombasa.

"I believe the Aga Khan Academy has taught you that the plight of others is important and that the problems around us ultimately affect all of us and that because you have been given so much, you must give that much back to the world," she said.

The First Lady said many of the graduates might pursue courses at international universities but appealed to them to return home and serve the country.

"My personal request is that you come back and shine here. There are issues that need addressing, people that need loving, communities that need serving, problems that need solving," she said.

Mrs Kenyatta told the graduates to make wise choices concerning their life by contributing their talents and minds to making discoveries that change lives.

A total of 47 of the graduates won scholarships to study at international universities such as Yale, John Hopkins, Emory, New York, Abu Dhabi, California Berkeley, British Columbia, McGill and Toronto, among others.

Two of them, Sumera Yego and Magdalena Chizi, became the first Kenyans to achieve the gold level President's Award-Kenya (PA-K, 2015), through an online documentation platform introduced last year.

Aga Khan University Counsellor Khatdija Maghjani said collectively, 68 members of the graduating class received over 280 acceptances to 101 institutions.

Aga Khan Academy's director Salim Bhatia said the graduates are proof of achievements through the collaboration of stakeholders.