



**THE UNITED REPUBLIC IF TANZANIA
OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT**

**SPEECH OF HON. DR. PHILIP ISDOR MPANGO, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA AT THE GRADUATION CEREMONY OF
THE ELEVENTH NDC COURSE FOR THE YEAR 2022/23**

**NATIONAL DEFENCE COLLEGE
DAR ES SALAAM
29TH JULY 2023**

Hon. Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax (MP), Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation and who is standing in as the Caretaker to Minister for Defence and National Service,

Honourable Mobale Matanyi District Commissioner Temeke Standing in for Albert Chalamila, Dar es salaam Regional Commissioner;

General Jacob John Mkunda, Chief of the Defence Forces;

Hon. Dr Abdulhamid Yahya Mzee, Chancellor, the National Defence College, Tanzania;

Maj. Gen. Ibrahim Mhona, Commandant of the National Defence College;

Amb. Dr. Moses Kusiluka, Chief Secretary/NDC Board Chairman;

Hon. Eng. Zena Ahmed Said, Secretary of the Revolutionary Council and Chief Secretary – Zanzibar;

Honourable Ministers here present;

Dr. Faraji Mnyepe, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defence and National Service;

Permanent Secretaries present;

Lt Gen Salum Haji Othuman, Chief of Staff – TPDF;

Your Excellences High Commissioners and Ambassadors accredited to the United Republic of Tanzania;

Heads of Security Organs present,

Retired Chiefs of Staff of the Tanzania Peoples' Defence Forces;

Heads of Government Institutions;

Religious and Traditional leaders here present;

Course Graduates;

Invited Guests;

Members of the media fraternity;

Ladies and Gentlemen

Hon. Minister, All Dignitaries present, Graduates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I wish to begin by sincerely thanking Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania and Commander in Chief, who was initially invited to preside over this eleventh graduation ceremony, but could not be here with us due to other national exigencies and instead availed me with this privilege to represent her. I also thank the Commandant and Staff of the National Defence College (NDC) for the warm and cordial reception accorded to me and my entourage. It is a great honour and privilege to be among you today.

Hon. Minister, Dignitaries, NDC community and Invited Guests:

I am delighted to note that in eleven years of its existence, the college has registered tremendous achievements in pursuit of its mandate. I have been informed that until today, a total of 347 senior officers have benefitted from the security and strategic studies program. The College has equally conducted fourteen condensed capstone courses, designed for top-level staff of security organs, Chief Executive Officers and government executives who, by virtue of their responsibilities, cannot afford to attend a 47 weeks-long course on security and strategic studies.

Hon. Minister, Dignitaries, NDC community and Invited Guests:

I have scanned through the NDC prospectus (May 2023 edition) and noted its very rich content and scope. I must say that the graduates are leaving NDC equipped with knowledge and leadership skills to tackle a whole array of security issues including: national defence; fighting terrorism and crimes; climate change and environmental challenges; money laundering; illicit capital flows and trade in narcotics as well as economic, energy, food, cyber and water security. I therefore, highly commend NDC Commandants, all Professors, Lectures and administrative staff of the College for an excellent coverage of these subjects and provision of a conducive environment for learning to the course participants. In a very special way, I also congratulate all graduates for this lifetime achievement. **Congratulations/Hongerani sana.**

Hon. Minister, Dignitaries, NDC community and Invited Guests:

Let me also express my appreciation to the College for enhancing bilateral, regional and international cooperation. I am aware that since the National Defence College commenced its operations, it has opened up its doors to senior officers from the

Defence Forces of the EAC and SADC member states, as well as from Bangladesh, India, Nigeria, Egypt and the Peoples' Republic of China. By so doing, the College has indeed functioned as an effective institution, for not only fostering personal friendship among course participants but also cemented bilateral and regional cooperation. However, this open-door policy, in turn requires the National Defence College to maintain high standards to meet the national, regional and international expectations to produce high calibre staff of defence and security organs as well as the public service, equipped with sharper skills to be able to address the 21st century defence and security challenges. For the National Defense College to continue living-up to its mandate, I wish to propose that it needs to subsequently put more weight on, among others, problem-solving and result oriented research, in order to be able to address contemporary global threats especially those related to radicalization, youth unemployment, cyber-crimes, economic warfare, terrorist activities, drug and human trafficking, illicit financial flows and climate change.

Hon. Minister, Dignitaries, NDC community and Invited Guests:

I also wish to join those who spoke before me in thanking various Government organs and individuals for the support extended to the National Defence College. Specifically, I recognise and commend the support of Hon. Innocent Bashungwa (MP), the Minister of Defence and National Service; Amb. Dr. Moses Kusiluka, the Chief Secretary/NDC Board Chairman and General Jacob Mkunda, the Chief of Defence Forces in steering the National Defence College in the right direction. **Thank you so much!**

Nevertheless, for purposes of continuity and further progress of the National Defence College, there is, in my view, need to harness its alumni. International experience shows that the alumni is a great asset that adds tremendous value to the Colleges from which they graduate, by providing powerful testimonials on behalf of the College and thereby creating attention and visibility. I therefore, call upon our graduates today and those before you, to faithfully take up that role wherever you'll be for betterment of the National Defence College. In the same vein, I would like to request the National Defence College to undertake a tracer study to follow up on the graduates' progress wherever they are deployed, specifically to take note of their outputs in relation to the knowledge that they have acquired from this college.

Hon. Minister, Dignitaries, NDC community and Invited Guests:

I also implore the Commandant of the National Defence College and his team to devise a strategy to attract a greater number of course participants from other countries to study at this College. This will broaden the scope of interaction, experience sharing and learning. Enrollment of a greater number of course participants with great

leadership potential from other countries will contribute to nurturing Tanzania–friendly leaders of foreign countries. It is also worth noting that the graduates of NDC have the potential to serve as defacto Ambassadors of Tanzania’s unique attributes in tourism, culture, Kiswahili language and our country’s record of maintaining peace and socio-political stability since independence in 1961. Furthermore, the National Defence College should also aspire to become the education hub of security and strategic studies in the region. In this regard, on behalf of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, I wish to thank all countries that are already partnering with the Tanzania National Defence College.

I noted that out of the 47 graduants today only 2 are women. I want to take this opportunity to task the Chief Secretary to entice more women through the parmanent Secratrires to apply to join future courses offered here at the National Defence College of Tanzania. I also request the Chief Secretary to work with Ministry of Finance to Centralize the budget for training at this very important college.

Hon. Minister, Dignitaries, NDC community and Invited Guests:

Before I wind up my speech, I would want to leave you with the following insights by reknown World leaders relating to pragmatic leadership and the critical importance of national security.

- (i) *"Most of us, particularly some of us leaders, think that we know everything and that we do not need to learn anymore, learning begins by realizing that we do not know."*(Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere);
In Kiswahili: *"Wengi wetu hasa baadhi ya viongozi, hufikiri kuwa tunajua kila kitu na hatuna haja ya kujifunza jambo lolote zaidi, mwanzo wa elimu ni kutambua kuwa hatujui."*(Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere);
- (ii) *"If we fail to improve our knowledge in a wide variety of areas, if we do not take the initiative to learn about science and culture, if we are unwilling to conscientiously update our knowledge and improve our knowledge structure, develop the broadest possible perspective and broaden our horizons, we will not improve our professional competence"*(Xi Jinping);
- (iii) *"Every single achievement you make, every single life you change and every single skill you acquire brings you one step closer to becoming a better leader"* (Mohamed Bin Rashid Al-Makhtoum);
- (iv) *"Security ensures prosperity. Freedom is not free. War is costly. Achieving freedom requires sacrifice and contribution. I hope our people will have a*

stronger sense of national security because that's the path towards the development of our nation" (Gen. Pike San-yup); and

- (v) *"Those killed in war subdue the enemy's army without fighting. They capture the enemy's cities without assaulting them and overthrow his state without protracted operations. Their aim must be to take all under heaven intact through strategic superiority. Thus, their troops are not worn out and their triumph will be complete. This is the art of attacking by stratagem". (Gen. Sun Tzu).*

Now that our graduates are leaving the National Defence College, I hope they are going to tackle the security and defence challenges by Stratagem.

I thank you for your kind attention.