KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY PROFESSOR PHILIP KALOKI, EBS. EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN OF KENYA MEDICAL TRAINING COLLEGE DURING THE $4^{\rm TH}$ ANNUAL LUKENYA UNIVERSITY CULTURAL WEEK CELEBRATION HELD AT LUKENYA UNIVERSITY GROUDS, ON SATURDAY, $20^{\rm TH}$ MARCH, 2021.

The Board of Trustees, University Governing Council, Prof. Constantine Nyamboga, PhD, Vice Chancellor, Lukenya University, Distinguished Guests, Staff and Students,

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is with deep gratitude that I join you to grace this auspicious occasion of the 4th Annual Lukenya University Cultural Week Celebration whose theme is "*Showcasing talent and promoting our cultural heritage*".

Let me first take this opportunity to thank the organizers of this event for the good work done. It is anticipated that during the cultural week festivals, participants would celebrate not only their own cultural background, but also those of their friends, neighbours and colleagues in line with the event theme.

This celebration provides us with opportunity to experience our unique and rich Kenyan cultural fabric that has been passed from one generation to another. I wish to note that in such celebrations, we should be able to be proud of our cultural, ethnic and religious diversity so as to live in peace and unity with one another.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Our country National Goal of Education is to promote the development of values and skills so as to operate effectively in our families, community, nation and also as global citizens. Education is thus regarded as a key pillar in building a united and a stable nation. Educational systems in this university must therefore make a significant contribution towards the development of habits, values, attitudes and character, which will enable our students bear the responsibilities of democratic citizenship. It is in this regard that we should endevour to tap our students' talent in different activities for their holistic development. I submit that all of us have talents that are God given hence I call upon all of you to use their talents for the growth and development of our beloved motherland, Kenya.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are yearning for a cohesive and integrated society founded on the rule of law and respect for human rights of every individual irrespective of their ethnic or racial backgrounds. It is therefore imperative that we facilitate and promote equality of opportunity, harmony, good relations and peaceful co-existence in our beloved country, Kenya. These celebrations help us build the cohesive country we are talking about in order to exorcise the ghost of negative ethnicity, tribalism and intolerance to divergent views.

Thanks very much and God Bless you all.