



# NEWS LETTER

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**END OF YEAR 2025  
"ELEVATE SPEECH"**  
**THEME: THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE  
TOWEL: A NEW HORIZON FOR  
AFRICAN LEADERSHIP**  
  
By Dr. Peter Mulinge  
President Aslead Institute

. We are witnessing the maturation of a movement. We are participating in a divine mandate that has been etched into the very soil of our continent. Today, my heart overflows with a profound sense of gratitude. As the President of Aslead Institute, I am humbled by the grace that has sustained us through a year of unprecedented growth and complex challenges.

To our graduates: you are the lifeblood and the living proof of our mission. To our partners and friends: you are the pillars that held up the roof while we labored on the foundations. Because you stood with us, Aslead has not just survived; it has thrived. Because you believed in the vision of a transformed Africa, Aslead has stood as a beacon of hope and leadership in a time when the world often looks at our continent and sees only crisis.

We see something different. We see Christ in the faces of our leaders; we see character in their decisions; and we see the capacity to lead the entire world back to the heart of service. This address is more than a report; it is a manifesto for the next stage of our journey.

**I. OPENING AND THE  
VISIONARY FOUNDATION**

Vision: We foresee a generation of servant leaders  
Mission: Empowering Leaders to Serve Others  
Distinguished global partners, our brothers and sisters across the African continent, the dedicated faculty and staff of Aslead Institute, and most importantly, the 2,200 change-makers who represent the legacy and future of this institution.  
As we stand at the sunset of 2025, we are not merely observing the close of another calendar year



# The Beacon of Hope: Aslead's Identity in Africa

Africa is frequently described by economists and politicians as a continent of untapped resources. They talk of gold, diamonds, and lithium. But at Aslead, we know that the most precious resource is not found in the earth; it is found in the heart of our people. The "Leadership Deficit" has been the single greatest barrier to African prosperity. For too long, leadership in Africa has been equated with the "Big Man" syndrome—a culture of power, prestige, and the ruthless pursuit of personal gain. Aslead was founded to disrupt

that narrative fundamentally. We have stood firm in our conviction that leadership is not about a throne; it is about a basin and a towel. Throughout 2025, Aslead has been a beacon, illuminating the possibility of a different path. From the bustling streets of Nairobi to the highlands of Lesotho and the vibrant communities of Cameroon, the name "Aslead" has become synonymous with a new kind of African excellence. We are proving

that you can be a leader who is both highly competent and deeply humble. We are proving that power, when surrendered to service, becomes the most potent force for good on the planet.



## III. The 2025 Milestones: A Year of Supernatural Expansion

When we began this year, we set goals that seemed impossible by human standards. Yet, as I address you today, I am proud to announce the milestones that have defined our "Year of Elevation."

### 1. CONTINENTAL AND GLOBAL FOOTPRINT: LESOTHO, CAMEROON, AND YEMEN

We are no longer just a Kenyan institution; we are an African institution with global reach. This year, we successfully established and operationalized campuses in Lesotho and Cameroon. Furthermore, Aslead's footprint has reached as far as Yemen. We celebrate a dedicated student from Yemen who took our classes remotely and made the historic journey to Kenya this past June to graduate. This proves that the need for servant leadership transcends geography and conflict.

### 2. MAJOR CONFERENCES AND RECORD ATTENDANCE

This year marked the launch of our first Physical Servant Leadership Conference, where we saw a record-breaking attendance of over 210 leaders coming together to sit at the feet of the towel. We also hosted a Virtual Servant Leadership Conference featuring a distinguished guest speaker from India, further globalizing our perspective.

### 3. ACADEMIC GROWTH AND GLOBAL MENTORSHIP

We have matured in our academic offerings through our Diploma class and our partnership with Africa International University (AIU). Our virtual classes were truly graced this year by the presence of world-renowned servant leadership experts Art Barter and Ann Kaffer from the USA. Their investment in our students has brought a wealth of global wisdom to our local context.

### 4. QUALITY ASSURANCE: TVET AND EAK

Integrity is the hallmark of leadership. This year, Aslead underwent a rigorous inspection by TVET (Technical and Vocational Education and Training) and successfully met the standards for registration. Additionally, we are now officially registered with the Evangelical Alliance of Kenya (EAK), strengthening our ties with the body of Christ and ensuring our values remain anchored in the Gospel.

# ASLEAD INSTITUTE



**5. Infrastructure: The Computer Lab** In an increasingly digital world, a leader must be tech-savvy. We have launched our state-of-the-art computer lab this year, ensuring our students are equipped with the digital tools necessary to lead in the 21st century.

**6. Market Influence: Operation Blessing** One of our greatest highlights was the opportunity to train a secular international organization, Operation Blessing. This proved that the principles of servant leadership are universal. Whether in a church, a government office, or a secular NGO, the "Aslead Way" is the most effective way to lead.

**7. The Power of Numbers: 2,200 Graduates** This year, we celebrate a monumental milestone: Aslead has now graduated a total of 2,200 servant leaders since its inception in Kenya. Imagine 2,200 "towels" being taken into the boardrooms, the parliaments, the schools, and the churches of this world. The multiplication has begun.



## IV. Elaborating the Philosophy of the Towel: Our Only Weapon

I want to dive deeper into the core of our philosophy. In a world that fights with swords, guns, and economic sanctions, the Aslead leader carries a different weapon. We call it the Philosophy of the Towel.

To understand this, we must look at the most radical moment in the history of leadership. When Jesus Christ, the King of Kings, stood in the Upper Room, He did not reach for a crown to prove His authority. He did not issue a decree or demand a salute. He reached for a towel. He wrapped it around His waist, knelt at the feet of His followers, and did the work of a slave.

As Robert Greenleaf, the father of modern servant leadership, once said: ***"The servant-leader is servant first... It begins with the natural feeling that one wants to serve, to serve first. Then conscious choice brings one to aspire to lead."***

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# What it Means to Embrace the Towel

Embracing the towel means making a conscious decision to drop to serve. In the traditional African leadership context, the higher you go, the more people serve you. In the Aslead context, the higher you go, the more people you serve.

**1. Dropping the Ego:** The towel is the ultimate ego-killer. You cannot wash feet while holding onto your pride. To pick up the towel, you must first put down your "title." You must put down the need to be right, the need to be first, and the need to be praised.

**2. The Weapon of Transformation:** The towel is a weapon because it disarms the opponent. Anger cannot survive in the presence of genuine service. Corruption cannot breathe in an environment of self-sacrifice. As Martin Luther King Jr. famously said, "Everybody can be great... because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

**3. The Power of the Basin:** To embrace the towel is to recognize that your power is a trust, not a possession. When you drop to serve, you are not losing authority; you are gaining moral authority. People will follow a leader with a title out of fear; they will follow a leader with a towel out of love and respect.



## The Leader's Descent: The Vanishing Illusion of Position

I want every leader listening to this address to understand a fundamental truth: Your greatest height will be found at your lowest point of service. In the kingdom of man, we climb ladders; in the kingdom of God, we descend toward the needs of others.

We must confront the seductive lie of positional power. Positional power is an illusion—it is a temporary lease on influence that expires the moment your title is taken away. If people only follow you because of the chair you sit in or the name on your office door, you are not leading; you are merely managing through coercion. As John Maxwell rightly noted, "Leadership is influence, nothing more, nothing less." And true influence cannot be bestowed by a board of

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directors or an electoral commission; it must be earned through the consistency of your character. When a leader chooses to "descend," they are declaring that their identity is not tied to a paycheck or a pedigree. They are declaring that they are secure enough in who they are to do what others deem "beneath" them. Consider the profound emptiness of a leader who demands respect because of their rank. That is a leader who is terrified of their own inadequacy. But a leader who drops to serve—who listens to the janitor, who mentors the intern, who carries the burden of the struggling employee—that leader builds a legacy that is fireproof.



Character is the currency of servant leadership. In the heat of crisis, your title will not save your organization, but your character will. Your character is what remains when the lights are off and the cameras are gone. Influence through character is permanent; influence through position is fleeting. When you descend to serve, you are not abdicating your power; you are rooting it in the only soil where it can truly grow: the hearts of those you lead. Imagine the impact of a politician who refuses a motorcade to walk through the mud of the slums to see the reality of their constituents. This is not "theatre"—it is the Philosophy of the Towel in action. It is the realization that the leader is not the most important person in the room; the mission and the people are.

## V. The Impact of Servant Leadership on Communities

The benefit of embracing servant leadership is not just personal or spiritual; it is communal and economic. When a community is led by a servant, the very atmosphere changes.

### 1. The Restoration of Trust

Current global leadership is suffering from a "Trust Deficit." People no longer believe their leaders have their best interests at heart. Servant leadership restores this trust. When a community sees a leader sacrificing their own comfort for the public good, the people respond with loyalty and engagement. Trust is the "social glue" that allows economies to grow and societies to flourish.

## 2. The Empowerment of the Marginalized

Traditional leadership often suppresses the voices of the weak to maintain the status quo. Servant leadership, however, seeks out the marginalized. It asks, "Who is being left behind?" By focusing on the "least of these," servant leaders unlock the hidden potential of an entire community, leading to more inclusive growth and sustainable development.



## VI. A Call to Multiply: Servant Leadership Without Fear

To our 2,200 graduates and the thousands more listening: you are being sent out not just to "have" a job, but to "be" a solution. I encourage you to multiply. The number 2,200 is significant, but it is only the beginning. We need a movement of multiplication.

You must speak without fear. Do not be intimidated by the "old guard" of leadership that relies on intimidation, tribalism, and fear. Speak the truth of servant leadership in the halls of power.

When you see injustice, do not just pray about it—serve your way through it. Model a different way.

You are the hope for better leadership in Kenya. You are the hope for Uganda, for Lesotho, for Cameroon, for Ghana, and for the entirety of Africa. Indeed, the world is watching Africa. They have seen our struggles; now let them see our solution. Let them see a continent that produces leaders who cannot be bought, who cannot be bullied, and whose hearts cannot be hardened.

## 3. Ethical Resilience

Servant leadership is the only antidote to the cancer of corruption. A leader who is focused on serving others cannot, by definition, be focused on stealing from them. When the Philosophy of the Towel takes root in a community, resources that were once lost to greed are redirected toward schools, hospitals, and infrastructure.

## 4. The Benefit of "Service-First" Mindset

When you embrace a "serve-first" mind, you become a problem-solver rather than a power seeker. This mindset fosters innovation. A servant leader asks, "How can I make life better for my neighbor?" This question is the root of every great business, every social intervention, and every scientific breakthrough.





## VII. Divine Accountability: The Weight of the Calling

I must speak a word of sober warning. To whom much is given, much is required. You have been given the "Aslead Anointing." You have been taught the secrets of the Kingdom and the mechanics of the Towel.

### **If you remain quiet while leadership in your nation rots, you are accountable to God.**

If you use your training to climb a ladder of personal ambition while stepping on the heads of the poor, you are accountable to God. If you hide the message of the towel because you want to be "popular" with the powerful or accepted by the corrupt, you are accountable to God. Silence in the face of bad leadership is not "wisdom"; it is complicity. You are the watchmen and the gatekeepers of our generation. We have not trained you to be comfortable; we have trained you to be courageous. Change your mindset today. When you enter a room, don't look for the most comfortable chair. Look for the most urgent need. Don't ask, "Who is here to recognize me?" Ask, "Whom can I recognize and lift up here?"

## VIII. Gratitude to Our Supporters

I would be remiss if I did not mention our partners who have walked this journey with us.

Specifically, I want to thank Compassion International. Your unwavering support has allowed

us to train more church leaders than ever before. You recognized that to change a child's life,

you must change the leadership of the community they live in. Your investment is yielding a harvest that will last for generations.

To all our individual donors, the "Friends of Aslead" across the globe: your contributions have

built the computer labs, funded the scholarships in Lesotho, and fueled the research in Cameroon. You are the silent engines of this transformation.

## IX. Looking Ahead: The Vision for 2026

The momentum of 2025 is the fuel for an even more ambitious 2026. We are not just dreaming; we are building.

## 1. Full TVET Accreditation and Academic Expansion

We anticipate being fully accredited by TVET to offer a wider range of social and science courses at the Diploma level. This is not just

about adding courses; it is a strategic step in making the path toward our future Aslead

University clearly visible. We are building an institution that will stand the test of time



## 2. The 2nd Servant Leadership Conference

Mark your calendars for April 30 – May 1, 2026.

We will host our second major Servant Leadership Conference. The theme for this gathering will be "Leading for Legacy: Cathedral Mindset." We will explore what it means to build systems

and values that outlast our own lifetimes—leading not for today's applause, but for the benefit of generations we will never meet.



## 4. Multiplication Goals

We believe God for the training of 700 new servant leaders and a significant increase in our pool of certified Trainers across the continent.

## 3. Strategic Program Launches

- **January 2026: Launching the Servant Leadership Program for Youth.**
- **February 2026: Launching the Global Executive Servant Leadership Program for top-tier leaders.**

## X. Conclusion: The Need for Collaboration

The task of transforming Africa—and indeed the world—is too big for Aslead alone. It is too big for any one individual or institution. As I conclude this address, I want to state clearly the need for more collaboration. To the government of Kenya, to our brothers and sisters across the East African Community, and

to our international allies: let us work together. Let us standardize servant leadership in our national curricula. Let us make the "Philosophy of the Towel" the mandatory standard for every public servant and every corporate leader. Graduates, as you go back to your villages, your cities, and your nations, remember this: Africa does not need more "Big Men." Africa needs more "Big Servants." The world is tired of leaders who love power; it is waiting for leaders who have the power to love. Go forth. Multiply. Speak without fear. Drop to serve. Transform your world. God bless Aslead Institute. God bless the Great Continent of Africa. And may God bless the work of your hands as you go out to serve. Dr. Peter Mulinge  
President, Aslead Institute  
December 2025



**Author: Rev. Purity Acheru a pastor at PEFA Cathedral Gimu – Athiriver, The Training & Development Lead at ECLOF Kenya, and the CEO and Founder of Purity International Consultancy LTD**  
**Date: December 2025**  
**Subject: Alumni Testimony for ASLEAD TOT**

*"There is a specific kind of silence that follows trauma—a heavy, suffocating silence that whispers that your dreams are too dangerous to pursue".*

## From Captivity to Catalyst: My Unyielding Journey at ASLEAD and the Call to Lead

My journey with the ASLEAD Institute hasn't just been a sequence of leadership classes; it has been a battle for my soul, a testament to the power of radical solidarity, and a transformation from a broken survivor into a leader ready to ignite the world.

The Virtual Spark and the Unforeseen Shadow

In 2024, I joined the ASLEAD virtual class with high expectations. As a Minister of the Gospel, I was ready to sharpen my leadership tools. But life intervened with a brutality no one could have predicted: I was kidnapped.

That experience strips away more than just your freedom; it strips away your sense of safety and your trust in humanity. In the aftermath, I was shattered. I was ready to walk away from my calling as a Pastor and a leader in the society; the pulpit felt like a memory from a different life, the office corridors felt spooky. I dropped out of ASLEAD, feeling that the flame of my ambition had been extinguished.

uis enim. Donec pede justo, fringilla vel, aliquet nec.

### A Family's Radical Solidarity: The CBD Campus

Many institutions deliver certificates; ASLEAD delivers a family. When I went silent, Dr. Mulinge and the Administrator, Daisy, refused to let me drift away. They became my bridge back to myself. They didn't just "check in"; they encouraged me with a persistence that refused to let my trauma define my future. In 2025, I made the terrifying decision to join the Physical Class at the CBD Campus to force myself to interact with people again. But I didn't go alone. In a move of breathtaking love and solidarity, my firstborn son, Parsley, and my second born daughter, Precious, enrolled in ASLEAD alongside me. They sat in those classes as students just so I could feel safe., until we graduated together.To ensure I had no excuse to run away when the trauma felt too heavy, my husband stepped in as the Lead Tutor for the CBD Campus. When it was class time, the whole house was ready. There was no room for retreat. This "magic pill" of family support transformed my hatred for men into a deep, engraved love for humanity. I didn't just find my seat; I found my heartbeat again.

### The 10 Surgeries: Internal Reconstruction

Returning to the program was a healing process I describe as **ten powerful surgical procedures**, where each module was a step toward restoration:

- 1. Leading like Jesus:** Stripped away worldly definitions of power.
- 2. The Mark and Character of a Servant Leader:** Rebuilt my foundation while it was still under repair.
- 3. The Art of Servant Leadership:** Taught me that leadership is a craft of the heart.
- 4. Pastor: A Community Leader:** This spoke volumes to me as a Pastor who was ready to quit. It called me back to my ordination.
- 5. The Essence of Integrity in the Ministry:** Reminded me that private pain doesn't compromise a public calling.
- 6. Biblical Principles of Stewardship:** I realized I was a steward of my story—even the painful parts.



## A Challenge to My Fellow Alumni

*"The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today." - Franklin D. Roosevelt*

To the current cohorts and my fellow alumni: many of you have finished the program but are hesitant to join TOT. You might think you've done enough.

I am living proof that your scars are your credentials. If I could move from the darkness of captivity and the silence of "venomous words" to the freedom of the TOT sessions—backed by a family that refused to let me fail—what is stopping you?

**The world is waiting for what you carry.** Don't just be a graduate. Become a catalyst. Join the TOT, and let your journey become the map that leads someone else to their freedom.

*"Courage is not having the strength to go on; it is going on when you don't have the strength." - Theodore Roosevelt*

## Of Trainings, and Sound Doctrine

In the wee hours of one Wednesday morning, a few people shuffled from their beds in a retreat in Karen. They gathered in a hall and began earnest devotion prayers before their classes began. Lessons and activities merged into an intense experience that would change their thought process and given them the power to train. It would be unfair to boil the Training of Trainer's course to those few words, though but you get the gist of it. Born from ASLEAD's servant leadership core principles and courses, the TOT program was made to create teachers who could mold the next crop of servant leadership learners.

The class itself was a typical mix of professionals from various fields, but each individual had undeniable competency and focus. It was like being in a postgraduate class, but with the most humble students. Not everyone had a Master's degree in divinity, but everyone wanted to be there. Each was drawn, not by their desire to advance their career but to get the tools to serve their community better. The higher tempo of thought, as the teachers bounced ideas around the classroom also made you want to elevate your game.

Trainers blended technical subjects with dynamic real life scenarios that anyone could relate with. That was the beauty of TOT. You did not have to be a teacher to get the material. It made sense for the experienced trainer and the novice. The facilitators made sure everyone was on the same page before moving from one topic to another. Lessons were peppered with brain-teasers, group discussions and feedback sessions. At the time, it may have felt intimidatingly intense but afterwards it made complete sense. The goal was to make sure everyone who made it past the gauntlet of project presentation had the ASLEAD training core principles in their very bones. After all, we would be guiding the next crop of students as they became acquainted with servant leadership.

The last day of presentations was a bitter-sweet occasion. On the one hand, we were so happy to complete the course, and go back to our families. On the other hand, we would be saying goodbye to newfound friends. Genuine connections who felt the same about leadership and had bonded over a week of intense learning. As we head out into the world, the prayer is that we make our teachers and support systems proud.



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**SPEECH BY REV. DR. JOHN NJENGA KAMAU ON 9<sup>TH</sup> ASLEAD  
GRADUATION CEREMONY ON 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025  
(PRESIDENT KABIRIA CAMPUS)**



**Rev. Dr. John Njenga Kamau  
President Kabiria Campus**

Calvary greeting in Jesus name.

Mr. President Rev. Dr. Mulinge, the patron, the board, staff and the entire assembly. It gives me great pleasure to address this assembly of servant leaders during this auspicious graduation ceremony on behalf of Kabiria campus who are here present.

Allow me Mr. President to express our gratitude for giving us the opportunity to learn servant leadership through Aslead and without doubt no other institution has ever given us what we got from Aslead.

The experience was one of a kind. Our class was for pastors and many of us has been in ministry for long but going through module one to ten was a very humbling experience.

We were able to rediscover ourselves. and why we are called servants of God and this has helped us to come down from our high pedestal and our big tittles, to get to level of our master Jesus Christ.

I believe all of us who are seated here and all those who have gone through Aslead teachings we shall become better leaders and impact the society with this understanding

We wish to promise you that we shall also be good ambassadors of Aslead both by word and actions and through us our churches will be transformed to servant leadership and service. Our sincere gratitude to our tutors, Aslead staff and to you Mr. President. More so Kabiria Campus class for their obedience and co-operation. I know at times I was not your best friend especially my message on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month 5.00am to wake you up “muende shule” but I believe my push and hard stand has enabled you to shine today and be a witness of this glory. Finally allow me to congratulates all the graduands here seated and wish them God’s favour, blessings and breakthrough as you go to lead like Jesus. Always remember being late is being rude and arrogant.

**AFRICA SERVANT LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT  
INSTITUTE GRADUATION DAY SPEECH**

Good morning distinguished leaders, our president Dr Peter Mulinge, our patron who is my Bishop, Bishop KEPHA OMAE I honour you, honored guests, our mentors, our lecturers, families, and my fellow servant leaders in the becoming. Today, we stand on a holy ground not because of a building or a ceremony, but because of what God has done in us. This moment is a testimony that the God who calls is the same God who equips, transforms, and sends. When I began this journey, I expected lessons, but God gave me transformation. I expected knowledge, but He gave me revelation. I expected skills, but He gave me a new heart for service. Truly, “He who began a good work in you will be faithful to complete it.” I am deeply humbled. Leadership in this journey has not been about standing above it has been about kneeling below. Serving. Listening. Carrying one another. Because Jesus said, “The greatest among you shall be your servant.” That is our strength Kingdom strength. Today is not just a graduation. It is a commissioning. A spiritual activation. A divine assignment. We rise as Kingdom ambassadors,

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leaders shaped not by the world but by the Word. And today, I stand here with gratitude not just for what we have learned, but also for what we have lived out. As Module 4 teaches us, leadership is incomplete without community outreach. And I am proud to say that as the virtual class, we did exactly that. Last week on 28th November, we went to Lang'ata Women's Prison to deliver items meant for Friday's Family Fun Day the foodstuffs, essentials, and gifts purchased through generous donations from Aslead Institute and our Virtual Class.

The women were truly joyful and deeply appreciative. They sent their love and gratitude to Aslead Institute for being part of their celebration.

This outreach was not an activity; it was ministry. It was compassion in action. It was servant leadership lived out loud.

I thank the Lord for each one of you for your generosity, your unity, and your giving hearts. A special thank you goes to our president, Because of you all, we were able to meet needs and bring joy to the women.

And speaking of leadership, allow me to honor a man whose vision built the very foundation we stand on today our Main President and founder of ASLEAD, Dr. Peter Mulinge.

Dr. Mulinge, your obedience to God's call, your heart for raising leaders, and your tireless dedication have transformed countless lives. Because you said "yes" to God, we stand here today equipped, empowered, and transformed. Your legacy is being written through every life touched by this program. May God continue to enlarge your territory.

To our Lecturers, thank you for pouring yourselves into us. Heaven records your labor.

To my fellow servant leaders in the becoming, I am so proud of you. We walked, prayed, struggled, laughed, and triumphed together. And today, heaven celebrates with us.

As we go forth, I declare Joshua 1:9: "Be strong and courageous... for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Go with power.

Go with grace.

Go with boldness.

Go and lead like Christ faithfully, humbly, and courageously.

Congratulations, servant leaders in the becoming.

The world has been waiting for you.

And by God's strength, you will not just lead you will transform.

Thank you, and may God bless you richly.

By

**Esther Mwendu**

**Servant Leader**



# Servant Leadership Talk during our graduation on 5/12/2025

Shalom Brothers and sisters/God is good, all the time, and all the time, God is good.

"Taking the servant leadership course has been a grace-filled experience that has touched both my vocation as a consecrated person and my mission as a school administrator. As people of God, we are called to follow Christ, who came not to be served but to serve. This course reminded me that leadership is not about authority or control, but about humility, compassion, and empowering others to flourish.

In community life, it has helped me listen more attentively to my sisters, to be present to their needs, and to encourage their gifts. In the school, it has reshaped how I relate to teachers, students, and parents. Instead of asking, 'How can they meet my expectations?' I now ask, 'How can I serve them so they can grow?' That shift has brought peace, stronger relationships, and a deeper sense of purpose.

As a missionary, servant leadership strengthens my witness to Christ's love. As an administrator, it makes me a more effective and compassionate leader. I see now that true leadership is not measured by success or recognition, but by how many lives we uplift.

I encourage more Christians to take this course. It is not just professional training—it is spiritual formation. It teaches us to lead as Christ leads: with gentleness, sacrifice, and a heart for service. In a world that often values power, servant leadership reminds us that the greatest power is love.

May we all embrace this way of leading, so that in our families, schools, churches, parishes, and communities, Christ may be more clearly seen through the way we serve one another."



**SR. Mercy  
Kang'ethe**

## THE JOURNEY OF TRANSFORMATION — A SERVANT LEADER IN THE BECOMING

**Delivered by Hon. Stephen Nzai Mkala – MCA Marungu Ward & Student, Mombasa Road Class of 2025 (ASLEAD Institute)**

Ladies and gentlemen,  
Distinguished faculty, mentors, invited guests and fellow graduates,  
Good evening.

My name is Hon. Stephen Nzai Mkala — MCA Marungu Ward, and today I stand here with honour and gratitude, speaking not only as a public leader, but proudly as a student and representative of Mombasa Road Class of 2025 – ASLEAD Institute. We are gathered here as witnesses of transformation — not just academic, but spiritual, emotional and character-shaping. We salute the vision and legacy of Dr. Peter Mulinge, Founder and President of Africa Servant Leadership Development, whose obedience to God birthed ASLEAD Institute — a home where leaders are formed through service, humility and Christ-like leadership.



On behalf of our class, we express sincere gratitude to our mentors Mr. Mulinge and Pastor Patricia for shaping us with wisdom, correction, fatherhood and motherhood in leadership. You challenged our comfort, raised our standards and believed in what God was forming in us. Because of you, we stand tall but kneel deeper before God. We also honour our Class President Emmanuel Mwakoi, who led us with commitment, coordination and servant-hearted discipline. His leadership did not rely on authority, but service – and for that, we say thank you. As a class, we have learned that leadership is not defined by titles like mine, or positions we hold – it is defined by service, sacrifice and character. We discovered that the true leader is one who listens first, loves deeply, forgives freely, and lifts others consistently. Among all modules, Leading Like Jesus became the mirror that reshaped us. It taught us that the greatest King wore a towel instead of a crown, chose the cross instead of applause, and washed feet instead of demanding loyalty. That image is alive in us. We leave ASLEAD with core values – integrity, empathy, accountability, teamwork, excellence, and a heart for people. Yet we also acknowledge areas still calling for growth.

We will continue refining our listening, strengthening our patience, and sowing love even where it is not easy. As Hon. Stephen Nzai Mkala – both a public leader and now a Servant Leader in the becoming – I declare that the lessons learned here will guide how I serve my people, my community, my church, and future generations. This certificate is not an achievement – it is an assignment. To future students, we confidently affirm:

ASLEAD will transform your leadership from positional to intentional – from power to purpose, from title to towel.

And to my beloved family – the Mombasa Road Class of 2025 – congratulations.

Let this not be a course we completed, but a calling we live out daily.

May we be known not by what we say, but by how we serve.

Ladies and gentlemen, as I stand here – not only as MCA Marungu Ward, but also as a proud graduate – I declare:

We lead to serve.

We serve to transform.

And we transform because Christ first transformed us.

Thank you.

## **SERVANT LEADERSHIP GRADUATION SPEECH**

**Prepared and Delivered by Rev. Paul Njagi (Fellow Graduand)**

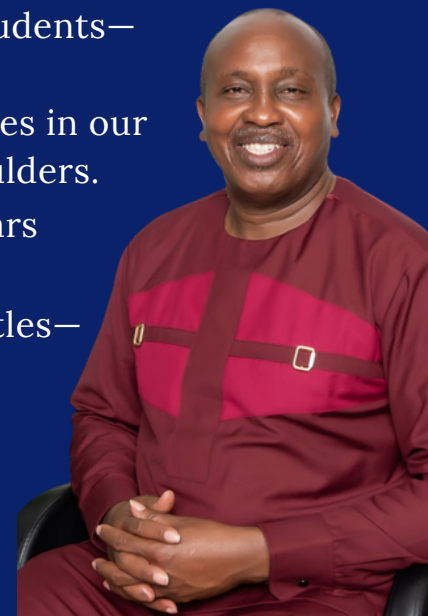
Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, our lecturers, mentors, families, fellow graduands, and future students—karibuni sana.

Today, we stand on sacred ground—not because of the certificates in our hands, but because of the responsibility now resting on our shoulders.

We are not just graduating; we are being commissioned. As scholars often remind us: “Interpret your culture through Scripture, and Scripture through your culture. That means today is not about titles—it is about transformation.

. 1. WALK OUT LIKE MOSES—WITH HUMILITY, NOT DRAMA

As we leave this place, may we walk out like Moses—full of humility, and hopefully without turning two minutes of instructions into forty years of wandering.



True leadership does not begin with noise, big titles, bodyguards, red carpets, or endless selfies. It begins with a heart that hears God clearly.

Moses led best when he listened most (Numbers 12:3).

When leaders stop listening from Jesus, people start suffering.

2. **AUTHORITY WITHOUT CAPACITY IS DANGEROUS** Sacrifice may show seriousness, but conduct reveals substance. As the African proverb says: “The drum is beaten loudly only after the skin has dried.” If you rise before you are formed, life will expose what training would have corrected that joining ASLEAD is inevitable. A wise leader is known when: His words heal, not inflame His anger is restrained His home is orderly His decisions are fair His power is limited by conscience And let us not forget: environment shapes outcomes more than talent. A seed does not fail because it is weak—but because the soil is wrong. 3. **INFLUENCE LIKE DANIEL—INTEGRITY EVEN AMONG LIONS** May we influence like Daniel—the only man who survived lions without running like a Nairobi hawker chased by Kanjo. Leadership is not just surviving lions; it is surviving politics, gossip, pressure, and people who test your faith like a slow M-Pesa line. Daniel’s strength was not strategy—it was character (Daniel 6:4). As scholars remind us: discipleship is influence shaped by character, not charisma.

4. **BUILD LIKE NEHEMIAH—COMPASSION FIRST, BLUEPRINT LATER** May we build like Nehemiah—a man who rebuilt walls faster than some “Christian contractors” build a 100-million-shilling toilet. Nehemiah did not just build; he wept, prayed, planned, and worked. That is servant leadership: prayer with action faith with planning, compassion with competence.

5. **SERVE LIKE JESUS—WITH A TOWEL, NOT A TITLE** Above all, may we serve like Jesus, who said: “The greatest among you shall be your servant.” (Matthew 23:11) Leadership is not tinted Prados, VIP seats, loud speakers, or titles like “Papa,” “Mama,” “General Overseer,” or “Mheshimiwa.” Leadership is recognizing that every human being is an image bearer of God—even the ones whose feet you would rather not wash because their hygiene is a spiritual test on its own. Servant leadership is incarnational—entering people’s pain in order to lift them up. 6. **A WORD TO THIS GENERATION—PLEASE, BE DIFFERENT** Kenya has had enough of leaders who love titles and promises but run away from responsibility like Jonah from Nineveh. So please—be different. Do not inherit: corruption pride disappearing money in the church and the country disappearing leaders disappearing promises Choose the higher road: lead with justice walk with excellence think with wisdom love with courage serve with consistency Paul told Timothy: “Set an example in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity.” (1 Timothy 4:12) In today’s context: don’t be loud and shallow—be deep and useful.

7. **BE HEALTHY ROOTS**

An African proverb warns is applicable to servant leaders being commissioned today :



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“When the roots of a tree decay, the branches die.” When leaders are rotten, ordinary people are pushed to the margins becoming subaltern of subaltern. So be healthy roots roots that nourish families, campuses, churches, communities, and this beautiful Kenya. Because if you become rotten roots, expect termites. And remember: God is the Chief Termite Inspector. Even bishops—and politicians—cannot bribe Him to postpone inspection.

8. GRATITUDE To our lecturers—thank you. Your patience, humility deserves medals, sabbaticals, and maybe a small holiday in Samaria or Jerusalem. To our mentors—thank you for stretching our minds more than exams, and delayed bank loans ever could.

9. TO MY FELLOW GRADUANDS Congratulations—we made it. But we are not leaving to take selfies with certificates alone. We are leaving to make a difference. Go with courage. Go with wisdom. Go with humour. And above all—go with the Holy Spirit. Because without Him, leadership will stress you like Nairobi traffic at 5:00 p.m.

FINAL BLESSING May God bless you. May God guide you. May God steady you. May God enlarge your vision. May God strengthen your hands. And may the Lord watch over you especially when maturity tries to finish you.

Congratulations, my fellow servant leaders. Now go and become the leaders Kenya, family, church desperately needs.



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