

TRINITY COLLEGE EAST GRADUATION SPEECH 2011



**WRITTEN AND PRESENTED BY:
WRICLAN TIMOTHY**

Honorable Bishop Calvin Bess, Members of the Trincol Board, Director Mrs. Paula Daniel and all other senior managers, Master of Ceremony, specially invited guest, awardees and fellow grandaunts, ladies and gentlemen, Good Morning.

Today I have been given a task that I accept with great honor. For to be up here speaking to you is an enormous privilege. But being this class's valedictorian isn't as simple as I first thought. Why?? Because it means that I have to write learn and deliver a speech that will inspire you all to excellence, while still keeping you awake. I am also asked to inject some humor into its delivery. But that poses the greater problem seeing that no one ever, ever, ever laughs at my jokes. But nevertheless, I'll do my best to combine these to factors and deliver a fantastic speech.

⇒ First let me take you back, way back!!!

Just over five years ago, about 180 young men walked through those white gates for the first time. Everyone eager and enthused over coming to this new school, Trinity College East. Those were the days when everyone's tie was a long way below the belt. This was a time when everyone's shirts and pants were like parachutes. But there were those who weren't concerned with the size of their pants or the length of their ties but whose main attraction to school was the opposite sex. I distinctly remember gentlemen who as soon as school was dismissed, somehow teleported unto the girl's side. If only we focused so much of our attentions on our school work.

These weren't just the days of schoolwork and girls but a time when everyone had the idea that they could've played a sport. These were the 'sportsmen'. They were the guys who watched all the matches on

television, understood all the concept and techniques, could argue why this player or team is better than the other, but were never, ever, ever able to reproduce it on the field. [Handel]

These were the formative years of our lives. We learnt a lot academically but we also were taught another valuable lesson, whether through casual conversation or embarrassment. One of these were to never stick one's hand in their pants, fix one's clothes or scratch oneself in the presence of a female teacher.

As the years went by, a lot of name changes occurred. Nicknames like Cyat and Gouti were frequently shouted out along the corridors. Other names like Sméagol, Zoobat and Zuggy became very common place as well. And, honestly for a lot of my life at Trinity I didn't know COX had a first name....

This year group was a very talented one. Groups like College Boyz and Lyrical Error graced our stage with awe-inspiring performances at school concerts and other functions.

Its really thrilling to imagine that someday, while looking at a match or viewing a concert, I'll be able to say, "I went to school with he" It would truly be an excellent feeling...But that hasn't come yet. So....

Here we are today as men, well sort of as men. Some of us with full grown beards, others with tiny patches now sneaking in. Some of us towering over our mothers while others yet to experience a growth spurt.

But regardless of how we look, we're here today on Thursday 4th October 2011, to celebrate our accomplishments. We have labored hard in the garden of T.C.E., sowing seeds of hard work, discipline, persistence and engaging in selfless service toward our community and

here we are five years on, reaping the fruits of what we have sown..... happiness, contentment and sweet success. Today symbolically marks the end of a very significant chapter of our lives.

But we wouldn't have reached here without the help of such a dedicated and hardworking staff. I would like to take this time to thank all the teachers who taught me some time or another,(it is an extensive list). Mrs. Dookhi, Mrs. James, Ms.Sankarsighn, Mrs.Harewood, Ms.Holder, Ms. Bostic, Mrs.Muganambuga, Mrs. Sharpe-Theodore, Ms.Waldron, Ms.Perryman-Chen, Ms.Barker, Mr.Ogagir, Mr.Sturge, Mr. Maynard, Mr. Pudan, Mr.Julien, Mr.Smart, Mr.Hosein, Mr. Laban, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Pollard and now Vice-Principal, Mr. Wickham. I SAY A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU.

And to those teachers who didn't have the privilege of teaching me, I thank you for helping to create an environment that was conducive to learning.

[Clap for that]

Now where do we go from here? If we look around in our society, the male image has be maligned and berated and usually associated with crime and violence. Women are continually complaining that men are neglecting their roles as brothers, husbands and fathers.

But I have good news for them all. I know of a school in the east that today are sending out young men into the world who are hard working, disciplined, caring, respectful and tolerant. These are young men who would step up to the plate to be good companions, providers, lovers, mentors and friends.

In case you were wondering, the school in the east I was referring to is our very own Trinity College and those young men are us. We have

completed our tenure at this institution and have done so in style. But we must remember that, “the greatest want of the world today is the want of men—men who will not be bought or sold, men who in their inmost souls are true and honest, men who do not fear to call sin by its right name and men whose conscience are true to duty as the needle to the pole.”

So I charge you my fellow grandaunts, to take heed of the words uttered by the Indian freedom fighter, Mahatma Gandhi, [in Indian accent] “Be the change you want to see in the world” Thank you, Curtain!!

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