



**Welcome Address by Cllr Alliam Dlamini,
On the Occasion of the Nazareth Tertiary Student
Association Event**

**15 September 2016
University of KwaZulu-Natal Westville Campus**

- Programme Director,
- His Holiness iNkosi Unyazilwezulu,
- University of KwaZulu-Natal leadership,
- Members of the Nazareth Tertiary Student Association,
- Religious and traditional leaders,
- Students,
- Distinguished guests,
- Ladies and gentlemen,
- All protocol observed,

Sanibonani!

I wish to take this opportunity to welcome His Holiness Inkosi Unyazi Lwezulu.

Siyabonga baba ukuvakashelwa uwena uzosipha umkhuleko ogqugquzela ukuthula kulesiskhungo semfundo ephakeme!

His Holiness, your visit could not have come at a better time as parts of this campus and vehicles were set alight earlier this month, allegedly by students. The campus was also gripped by student protests.

We are gathered here today to condemn this kind of behavior because it leads to the vandalism of infrastructure and interrupts the process of learning.

On behalf of the Mayor of eThekweni, Cllr Zandile Gumede, we are here to promote peace and tolerance through prayer.

Programme director, it is important that we do so because facilities like these must be protected. They are our education assets and they are instrumental in producing the future leaders of this country.

Education facilities are going to be used for generations to come. We used them during our times. Therefore, we must ensure that we protect and preserve our infrastructure.

We condemn this unbecoming culture of destroying and burning down infrastructure when there are unresolved issues. Vandalising is not the answer. Explore all avenues to solve issues.

Through prayer, we hope that we will instill a culture of working together in all parties involved. We want to join hands with our students and the leadership of this campus to solve all issues that have been brought forward.

Ladies and gentlemen, as we celebrate Heritage Month, we must understand that religion and culture are equally important because the two aspects are drivers of peace and our identity which must be preserved as part of our heritage.

I am also proud of the Nazareth Tertiary Students Association because it believes in peace while promoting the importance of education, religion and culture in a developing country with the aim of restoring the spirit of *Ubuntu* in our people.

With those few words, I urge everyone to play an active role in affirming, promoting and preserving our heritage for future generations.

Thank you!

