

SPEECH BY CHIEF SECURITY OFFICER DURING FIRST YEARS

2013/2014 ORIENTATION ON MAY 23, 2013 AT TAIFA HALL

Deputy Vice Chancellors present, Directors, Heads of department, members of staff, students, ladies and gentlemen:

Today is a day of great joy for us in the history of the University of Nairobi as we usher you into this great institution of higher education in Kenya. I start by congratulating you for being admitted to the University of Nairobi the premier institution of higher learning in Kenya. My name is Mr. Wahome and I am the Chief Security Officer University of Nairobi and I am here to give some highlights related to security as students of the university.

The functions of the Security Department are as follows:-

- 1) Protection of life and property.
- 2) Prevention and detection of crime.
- 3) Apprehension of offenders.
- 4) Enforcement of rules and regulations.
- 5) Liaison with Government Security agents.
- 6) Prevention of wastage of resources.

In every Campus, we have an Officer In-charge of security and there are University of Nairobi security Officers/guards who work under him. To enhance security coverage within and around the campuses, the University has engaged the services of outsourced guards who work hand in hand with the internal University Security Personnel.

For us to be able to carry out the 6 functions adequately, we require your active support and cooperation by among others:

- 1) Be always inquisitive - For example ó when in class, or in your hall of residence - ensure you are sure you know the person you could be dealing with. You could be next to a thief.
- 2) Be aware of behaviour and action which may signal criminal activities.
 - a) Kindly do not entertain hawkers in your Halls.
 - b) Always handle your room key with utmost care. i.e. Do not leave it at tuck shop or top of your room door flame for anyone to come to pick.
 - c) Ensure you report any unlawful behavior and any suspicious persons to relevant authority immediately.

- d) Before you get to know Nairobi properly, please avoid walking alone. As you move around, always be observant. Note any unusual behavior of the person walking next to you.
- e) Avoid being dropped at isolated or odd places when traveling from your rural home or when you arrive at your campus late.

Today we are constrained by time and therefore I might not touch an all security concerns that may affect your stay in the University. I therefore request you to visit the Security department webpage within the University of Nairobi website www.security.uonbi.ac.ke and download the security newsletter that details all aspects of security in the University.

As I conclude, allow me to inform you the following:-

Security consciousness is not an inherent state of mind. It must be acquired. Many people are always ready to trust and also to believe what they are told and are inclined to accept things at their face value. Pleasing as these characteristics may be, they are not conducive to vigilance or security consciousness. Structural and mechanical aids to security are valueless without the active support of each one of you.

I wish you a fruitful and enjoyable stay throughout your time in the University.