

Speech by Mr. Shabdan Abdyraim uulu,
Deputy Governor of Naryn Oblast
at the Convocation of the University of Central Asia's School of Arts and Sciences

Naryn, 21 June 2025

Dear teachers, parents and distinguished guests!

Dear Mr Shamsh Kassim-Lakha,

Dear Mr Barkat Fazal,

Dear Mr Christopher Gerry,

Dear graduates!

Today is a historic day for you. The knowledge, values and friendships you have formed within these walls are not merely the conclusion of a chapter — they mark the beginning of a great journey. Therefore, I wholeheartedly congratulate each of you on this remarkable achievement!

I would like to emphasise that the President of the Kyrgyz Republic, Sadyr Nurgozhoevich Japarov, is a patron of UCA. And this university is not just an educational institution for Naryn Oblast — it is our strategic partner in the fields of education, science and innovation.

In our region, education is a vital sector of the economy. It is not merely a social service but a true economic driver. In the past two years alone, Naryn Oblast has attracted nearly 170 million dollars in direct foreign investment — three times more than in the previous 30 years combined. What do we need to maintain this momentum? Most importantly, we need highly qualified professionals — not just diploma holders, but people with real skills and expertise.

That is why we are placing special emphasis on science and education. In this context, the infrastructure of UCA is extremely important. Therefore, I appeal to the University leadership, trustees, and other decision-makers — please accelerate the next stages of construction at the Naryn Campus. This is not only a priority of the government but also the voice of the local community. We believe that you also recognise the urgency of this matter.

Today, we are implementing an important project called “Naryn Renovation” — a regional urban development initiative. UCA experts have contributed to the early stages of this project. This is a clear sign of genuine collaboration and partnership.

Dear graduates,

In today's world, knowledge alone is not enough. You need real abilities, high adaptability, both soft and hard skills, and above all — values. Wherever life takes you, and whatever you become — never forget your people's culture, language and traditions. Never forget that you are Kyrgyz. For a person disconnected from their spiritual roots is bound to lose their way — both in the global world and at home.

We, the youth — and I include myself here — must be people who honour the past, live fully in the present, and work tirelessly for the future. You are the generation that will shape that future.

In closing, I wish you all success! Life will present you with many turning points. In every choice you make, in every decision, may your heart always carry the noble mission of serving your people, your land, and the Kyrgyz nation.

May the Almighty always protect our Kyrgyzstan — and grant special favour to Naryn among all its corners!