**13986, Waseem Aalam**

Good Evening Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to be here and speak for this important occasion. I am indeed honored to represent my fellow graduates. It is so good to see our leaders, the hospital staff and all the families of our graduates here today to celebrate graduation with us. I especially wish to welcome Dr. Qahtani, the head of medical education, and Dr. May the head of our department. Our thanks also goes to Dr. Towerkiu, Dr. Deepak, Dr. Jastaneah and Dr. Eman. It’s impossible to name everyone but our thanks goes out to all the doctors and teachers who helped us and continue to encourage and mentor us and help us to reach our goals. It has truly been a wonderful experience to study with teachers and mentors who are not only knowledgeable but are ready, willing and able to mentor their students so that they become the finest doctors in their chosen field of study.

It has been an amazing experience studying at a hospital which offers world class services, the highest level of technology and a wide variety of cases, offering students tremendous surgical exposure. We are proud and satisfied that we’ve had the opportunity to study and graduate here. With the combination of teaching, training and experience we’ve received while students here, we are all ready and excited to begin the real life challenges as we begin our own career.

As thrilled as we all are to have finally completed our education and graduate, I think my fellow graduates agree that we also feel sad for leaving this awesome place. I can honestly say that it was the best two years of my life being not only a student here but a part of this big happy family.

I hope our teachers feel the same about us but I’m sure they are also glad we are graduating because I’m certain we gave them a few times when they wondered if we were ever going to learn the lessons they were trying to teach. They probably thought we were a bit slow to learn once in a while. (Said lightly to allow for a bit of fun). Thankfully they offered patience as well as wisdom to each of us and we learned many things from them. Not only did we learn the medical lessons we will need for our work but we also learned many lessons in wisdom from their actions, their guidance and their continued mentoring of each of us. For that we will always be grateful.

As we accept our diplomas tonight we complete one season of our lives and begin a new one with excitement and nervousness born from not only the start of something new but also because we understand the importance of this new season. We will be taking the lessons we’ve learned out to people who need our skills and training and will look to us with a confidence we may not always feel. At those times we can lean upon the lessons we’ve learned and do what we have been so ably trained to do.

Thank you