

Date: 21/06/2019

Good evening everybody and welcome to our graduation.

Today is a very special day for the European School and the Greek Community and I would like to thank the students and the teachers for organizing this evening, the parents for trusting us with the education of their children and last, but not least, the city of Benghazi, which has welcomed us and offered us hospitality for all these years. Benghazi is so special to us because it has always welcomed, not only Libyans from all parts of the country, but also foreigners from all over the world.

The Greek Community is one of the oldest in the Benghazi and has been present since long ago through Two World Wars, the Revolution of 1969, the Revolution of 2011 and the civil war of 2014-2017. It is remarkable that this school, from 1999 till today, did not miss a single external exam, even in the days that we were teaching your children in your own houses.

In 1999 it was obvious to us that the society needed a school that offered an international education in order to create world citizens. Our graduates today hold key positions in organizations and institutions all over the world, from the Far East to the West and North to South. Members of all the communities joined our effort to create this educational institution. Those members offered and are offering their services till this day, free of charge in order to keep our nonprofit making organization running. Though they are not all here today, in recognition of their service, I would like to call their names and give them a memory gift to mark 20 years of uninterrupted education. Those founded the school were

1. Ambassador Alfredo Durante Consul General of Italy
2. Mr. Anders Nilsson Honorary Consul of Sweden
3. Mr. Kanakis Mandalios Chairman of the Greek Community
4. Prf. Jamal Benamer
5. Prf. Ahmed Hawat
6. Mrs. Josette Hudanah School Director
7. Mrs. Gina Saul Benamer Registrar
8. And my wife Mrs. Lena Nilsson offering her services till today assisting in finances.

To mark the 20th anniversary of the founding of the school, the Board of Governors has decided to launch the Alumni Association of the Benghazi European School. Graduates have travelled to Benghazi to witness this event. Please welcome Miss Lujane Benamer, Legal Advisor for the International Human Rights Organization who drafted the constitution and is here today with us to officially announce the establishment of the Alumni Association.

Thank you

George Sayannos
Chairman of the Board