

H.E. AMBASSADOR LI JIE, ENVOY OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA (PRC) TO THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA DELIVERS INAUGURAL KENNETH D. KAUNDA DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE LECTURE; MULUNGUSHI UNIVERSITY, 28 NOVEMBER, 2019

The Ambassador of the Peoples Republic of China (PRC) to the Republic of Zambia, His Excellency Li Jie delivered the Inaugural Kenneth D. Kaunda Distinguished Public Service Lecture on Thursday, 28 November, 2019 in the New Lecture Theater (NELT). The Ambassador was cordially welcomed to the University by the Acting Deputy Vice chancellor, Prof. Dr. Douglas Kunda and the Dean of the School of Social Sciences, Dr. Njunga M. Mulikita. In attendance at the Lecture was also, Mr. Kaweche Kaunda, Special Representative of the Founding Head of State of the Republic H.E. Dr. Kenneth D. Kaunda; Mr Rodrick Ngolo, Administrative Assistant, Office of the First President and Mrs. Joan Kasanda, Representative of the Confucius Institute (CI) at the University of Zambia.

The Kenneth Kaunda Distinguished Public Service Lecture was launched by the School of Social Sciences as a Follow-up act to the conferment upon H.E. Dr. K.D. Kaunda of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Honoris Causa) on the occasion of the University's 9th convocation Ceremony in 2017, for the Founding Head of State's immense contribution to a world order that is more just, more compassionate, fairer and less violent.

The Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Douglas Kunda, opened the event by pointing out that there could not be more eminently suitable dignitary than the Ambassador of the Peoples Republic of China to deliver the inaugural lecture , in view of the enduring all weather Friendship between the Peoples Republic of China and the Republic of Zambia .

Ambassador Li Jie, in his lecture paid unrestrained homage to Dr. Kaunda for his pivotal role alongside Tanzania's founding Head of State, the late Julius Mwalimu Kambarage Nyerere, for pioneering PRC –Africa Cooperation in the 1960s. The ambassador then outlined the full repertoire of projects that characterize PRC-Zambia Cooperation and cogently demonstrated their ' Win-Win' nature.

The Ambassador revealed the PRC Embassy's readiness to offer scholarships to students from disadvantaged backgrounds to enable them to bring their studies to fruition as well as serving as a bridge to connect Mulungushi University to counterpart institutions in the PRC for purpose of academic cooperation. The Ambassador's lecture triggered constructive exchange of views with Lecturers and students alike. Prior to delivering the lecture, Ambassador Li Jie, in a cogent demonstration of the spirit of South-South Cooperation, handed over computers and printers to the Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor and pledged to handover a projector to the School of Social Sciences to support the teaching of Chinese language in the School of Social Sciences.