

THE VOTE OF THANKS OF THE OUTGOING ALOYSIANS 1998-99

Reverend Fr. Principal, respected members of the Staff and my dear fellow students. First of all I would like to thank everybody for giving me this privilege today to thank all of you on behalf of my colleagues for even greater privileges we have been enjoying since the last many-many years. This is indeed a very special moment for all of us today. A strange blend of happiness, sadness and a lot of nostalgia. Happy, because we are getting out of School, no more shall we be called school going kids. Sad for almost the same reason. Sadness, that we are ending the most precious, the most wonderful time of our lives.

It is such a strange feeling to stand and speak before such a remarkable audience. An audience, which consists of our teachers and Principal, the ones whose hard work stands in front of us today, saying thank you, and almost ready to say goodbye. The people whose eyes look towards us in great anticipation, and we pledge to provide them with a rich harvest. The ones who selflessly gave their blood and sweat in order to shape our future and are now humble spectators of our performance. The people from whom we should learn the modesty to give away all their deserved credit to their students hard work rather than their enthusiastic efforts. It is so strange that I just can't put my thoughts together. All I can say is 'THANKYOU', from the bottom of my heart. You acquire the most cherished position in our hearts, one of love and inexpressible gratitude. We thank you for your kindness, your love, your sacrifices, and most of all for your commitment to give the country and the world, better citizens, the future of tomorrow.

Also among the audience are my colourfully dressed colleagues. The ones who have been friends and well-wishers since a very long time. Friends with whom we shared our tiffins, our stationary and our opinions. It is so sad that just in a few days we would get scattered around the world, and then actually realise the nostalgia of togetherness. Among the audience are also my juniors, who deserve our gratitude for this wonderful farewell party. We would also like to thank them for all the respect we get as their seniors and promise to do our best to be worthy of it. For you, I have a message - "See your dreams in bright sunlight. Set your goals, do your best to get to them. But make sure you are not day-dreaming".

Last but not the least I would like to thank a very silent member of this audience. One who has no hands to clap, no throat to yell and no lips to whistle. But it is one with a very big heart. It is one whose greatness is illustrated by its humble and often, unnoticed presence. The one who we meet almost daily, and also the one whom we are going to miss the most. It is none other than these calm, serene walls, these lush green ashoka trees, and our own basketball court. The well furnished class-rooms, the old canteen and the list goes on and on. Our school, to be precise is the temple of knowledge. For me, the most divine of all holy shrines, as knowledge is the only way to salvation. The school, as I had learned in my primary classes is the second most important social institution that shapes the characters of a human being, second only to family. The place which deserves a large slice of our gratitude and respect, but prefers to stay in the background.

To conclude, I would like to thank God for being with us all these years and giving us wonderful opportunities to grow and pray for His blessings, so that all of us here may prosper and do our very best in conformation to His will.

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