

Thus Spake The Dignitaries

That economic prosperity has been accompanied by the development of freedoms, which encourage innovation and boldness in business.

Address by Lord Falconer

The world changes at a huge rate. Although we read of the economic crisis which grips the world, we should not lose sight of the fact that the world's industry and trade and technology is growing at a huge rate – an economist has estimated that the growth the world is currently experiencing is happening 30 times faster than it did during the industrial revolution. Whilst the world's financial system creaks under the strain, and we may well, in the world, be facing a period of slowing growth, we should not lose sight of the overall trend in the economic world which is of growing commerce and activity. So we must be careful not to become too gloomy. And we must remain focused on the need to ensure that the fruits of the greater growth are shared by



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as many people as possible. With growth must come fairness. We have learnt over centuries that an unfair distribution of prosperity slows growth. We see it in the way which Europe has developed. The European Union has enjoyed 30 years of prosperity. That economic prosperity has been accompanied by the development of freedoms, which encourage innovation and boldness in business. The countries from the east which have joined the European Union enjoy the prosperity, but do so only on terms they accept the EU's basic principles of human rights and democracy. So fairness and prosperity I believe go together. Two things deliver that. First education and second the rule of law which ensures that all people are treated equally by the state and by each other. The history of this University demonstrates the importance of education. Achyuta Smanata, the founder of this university was borne in the village of Kalarabank. He is one of seven siblings, and comes from a family which lost their father when he was four. For him, educational achievement liberated him to achieve things which would have been unthinkable looking only at his background. The Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences expressly addresses the challenge which poverty throws out, in a period when the nation and the world grow stronger economically. KISS offers tribal children the opportunity of education. Through education, and education alone can they be equipped to enjoy the prosperity which so much of the world now takes for granted. A



fast-growing technology university, side-by-side by a school which seeks to give to a community education from which it has never benefited in the past is the best and most effective response to the challenges and the opportunities of today. What has been achieved at KISS, and KIIT represents the best way to address the current global culture. I salute KISS and KIIT. I express my admiration for its founder, its teachers and its students. And I wish each one of the students the very best of good fortune in the months and years to come.