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Varsity is on the right path

The proposed privately-financed parallel degree programme at the University of Nairobi should be supported by all who care about this country's welfare.

Since independence, Kenyans have been flocking to the West in search of education. The trend changed recently with Kenyans going to the Orient — India, Japan and China — in search of an education. In the East, education is cheaper than in the West and in Kenya itself.

Asian countries realised that the way forward is to make education available and affordable to most people.

It is illogical for university students to go on the rampage to oppose a move that is bound to have positive effects on society. The programme stands to benefit students who wish to pursue medicine after completing their Bsc de-

grees and who cannot be placed in the diminishing public sector on graduation.

How can medical professionals oppose such a programme when they know this is the trend worldwide? Their criticism is laced with malice.

It is instructive to note that most of medical personnel in these institutions were trained abroad. Maybe some have dubious academic backgrounds and yet they have the guts to denounce such a good idea.

Whatever shortcomings there may be should be corrected instead of calling for the scrapping of the whole programme.

Vice-Chancellor Francis Gichaga and his colleagues should go ahead with this plan. The country needs it.

**Ahmed Saltai,
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