

## **Mr Mohamad El Mir Speech**

Good afternoon to everyone in attendance on this special day!

Associate Provost Dr Afiouni, Dean Dr Sibai, Dr El Hajj Fuleihan, Dr Tamim, esteemed executive committee Members, esteemed SHARP faculty members, dear families and friends, and of course, my fellow SHARPees.

I am incredibly honored to welcome you all to the SHARP Summer Diploma class of 2024 graduation ceremony.

Well... here we are! 7 weeks just flew by like a fleeting comet streaking across the sky. I think it's pretty safe to say that we're walking out of this program today entirely different people than the ones walking in... in terms of the knowledge gained, skills learnt, and the everlasting relationships and bonds created.

On behalf of my colleagues, I would like to express our deepest gratitude to all faculty members for dedicating your time this summer to plant the seeds of research knowledge in our avid minds... we promise to nurture these seeds and make them flourish for many years to come. We would also like to thank the rest of the SHARP team, led of course by Loubna and Razan, for bearing with us and addressing all our concerns since day one. And I can't forget to mention all those Pizza Fridays! I mean, who knew having pizza every Friday with professors and friends could be such a pleasure?!

My fellow SHARPees, I have one crucial message to convey to you today. Always remember what a blessing and privilege it is to be part of this cohort. You may not fully appreciate it now, but I am confident, well, 95% confident, you will in the years to come. Today not only marks our graduation from SHARP but also signifies the day we join a global family... a tight-knit community of SHARPEEs all over the world. Thus, it is now up to us to be the best ambassadors of this program wherever we go. It is up to us to give back to this worldwide community and contribute to its growth and unity. Let us become beacons of support for the next cohorts of SHARPees coming after us, so that they embrace the SHARP experience by eating SHARP, sleeping SHARP, and dreaming SHARP. I'm certain that each and every one of you is more than ready and capable of embracing these responsibilities, but, for now, let's just enjoy our moment.

Congratulations to you all, and I wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors!

Thank you.