



# RIFT VALLEY UNIVERSITY QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

VOL: I  
ISSUE NO: VII, SEPTEMBER, 2025



[www.riftvalleyuniversity.edu.et](http://www.riftvalleyuniversity.edu.et)



# Table of Content

---

<b>I</b>	<b>Editorial</b>
<b>01</b>	<b>An Overview of Rift Valley University</b>
<b>02</b>	<b>Major Achievements of the Quarter</b>
<b>04</b>	<b>Research and Community Service</b>
<b>05</b>	<b>Workshops and Trainings</b>
<b>06</b>	<b>Partnership</b>
<b>09</b>	<b>Holidays</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Obituary</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>RVU Graduation Ceremonies</b>



# **RIFT VALLEY UNIVERSITY**

**HUB OF EXCELLENCE!**

# EDITORIAL

**DEAR READERS,**

Welcome to the Vol.1, Issue VII, Sept, 2025 issue of Rift Valley University (RVU) Quarterly Newsletter. The Newsletter presents RVU News and wide ranging activities that have taken place in the University in the Third Quarter starting from June 5, 2025 – Sept. 5, 2025 at the Head Office and Campus/College levels.

The Newsletter also covers news and some cross-cutting issues and News that took place within the Quarter.

The Directorate of Public Relations and Communications

# AN OVERVIEW ON RIFT VALLEY UNIVERSITY

Rift Valley University (RVU) is the pioneer and largest accredited Private Higher Learning Institution in Ethiopia. RVU was founded in Oromia Regional State in 2000 at Adama City envisioning that delivering quality education plays a crucial role in boosting the human and economic development of the country.

As a leading academic institution, the University is tasked with producing competent, ethical and skilled manpower without making any discrimination among people of different ethnic, religious, social, economic and political backgrounds. It aspires to serve the people of Ethiopia and foreigners with proper knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in various contexts.

Since its establishment in 2000, RVU has educated and trained hundreds of thousands in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), Undergraduate and Graduate levels. RVU has currently 46 campuses, 3 Colleges in Ethiopia and 1 cross border campus in Hargeisa, Somaliland. The University offers quality education in face to face (regular), Extension, Open and Distance Education in various disciplines.

The University has started geographically expanding to the neighboring countries, and working hard to open similar branches in the Horn of African countries in the near future. It has been playing crucial role in producing thousands of qualified and committed skilled work forces that are significantly contributing for the betterment of our country in the areas of technology, socio-economic and cultural development.

Moreover, the University has been participating in service sectors such as Hospitals (Adama Rift Valley University and Addis Ababa Hayat Hospital Medical College), Hotel Industry (Sodere Hotel and Resort), General Education( NAFYAD Schools), Construction (Naol Construction PLC) and Media Service (Oromia Broadcasting Service).

## VISION

RVU aspires to be one of leading private universities in teaching, research and community engagement in Africa by 2030.

RVU exists to produce graduates who are competent, committed and ethical; to engage in innovative and problem solving research; and to deliver sustainable community service.

## MISSION

## MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE QUARTER

This quarter has been marked by significant milestones and accomplishments that underscore our university's commitment to excellence in education, research, and community engagement. This period has witnessed remarkable progress across various domains, from academic achievements and innovative research to enhanced student services and a series of colorful graduation ceremonies. Highlighting these major achievements not only celebrates the dedication and hard work of our faculty, staff, and students but also reinforces our institution's role as a leader in higher education.

The following summary encapsulates the key successes that have propelled our university forward during this quarter, reflecting our ongoing pursuit of academic distinction and societal impact.

### Re-registration

Rift Valley University Managing Council worked hard to fulfill the standard requirements set by the Ethiopian Training Authority (ETA) in 2017 E.C. for registrations. To that end, RVU submitted to ETA Higher Education Information System documents of twenty-three campuses. Based on the submitted documents, ETA employees assessed four Addis Ababa campuses and, as a result, constructive feedbacks were received.

The assessment programs by ETA will continue in other campuses as per the schedule.



## International and National Awards

Two well-reputed international institutions, namely EduRank and UNIRANKS® 2025, recognized and ranked Rift Valley University based on their own metrics. The two institutions disclosed their 2025 rankings of Ethiopian Public and Private universities. Accordingly, Rift Valley University is ranked 16th (from 35 universities) and 39th (from 41 universities) respectively. The two institutions used their own yardsticks and screened the universities as best performing universities of the year.

To sum up, below you may refer to the institutions ranking procedures:

- EduRank -Top 35 universities in Ethiopia ranked by EduRank based on research outputs, non-academic prominence, and alumni influence. The rankings are determined by analyzing 1.67M citations received by 97.1K academic publications made by 35 universities from Ethiopia, the popularity of 48 recognized alumni, and the largest reference database available.

- Top Universities in Ethiopia – UNIRANKS® 2025,

In the UNIRANKS® 2025 Rankings, Ethiopia stands out with 41 verified universities, of which 7 are ranked as Top by Country, 3 as Top by Region, and 0 have earned the prestigious Elite University status. Explore Ethiopia's leading institutions based on performance, global presence, and academic excellence.

Their web address can be traced :

- [https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=https://www.adscientificindex.com/universityranking.%3Fboundary\\_code%3Det&ved=2ahUKEwjMw9\\_VvNCOAxVL8LsIHf9vFRQQFnoECBkQAQ&usg=AOvVaw3GSXsGsc98Lc\\_NchBqZf70;](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=https://www.adscientificindex.com/universityranking.%3Fboundary_code%3Det&ved=2ahUKEwjMw9_VvNCOAxVL8LsIHf9vFRQQFnoECBkQAQ&usg=AOvVaw3GSXsGsc98Lc_NchBqZf70;)

- [https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=https://www.uniranks.com/ranking/ethiopia&ved=2ahUKEwjMw9\\_VvNCOAxVL8LsIHf9vFRQQFnoECDAQAQ&usg=AOvVaw0kID3QzWMQDjvcU1BLIkoc](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=https://www.uniranks.com/ranking/ethiopia&ved=2ahUKEwjMw9_VvNCOAxVL8LsIHf9vFRQQFnoECDAQAQ&usg=AOvVaw0kID3QzWMQDjvcU1BLIkoc)

Similarly, RVU was recognized and awarded a trophy & certificate by the Star Wide Award Institute. Star Wide Award identifies and selects the best performing national companies in Ethiopia and offers an Award to inspire other institutions to do the same.

The award ceremony took place on August 30, 2025, at the Skylight Hotel in the presence of high-level government officials, Private sector representatives & guests.

The trophy award was handed over to the Award winners by H.E. Dr. Mulatu Teshome, the former President of Ethiopia. H.E. Obbo Dinku Deyassa, the founder and owner of Rift Valley University, received the trophy.

The attached pictures and a video clip were taken while the handover ceremony was underway at the Skylight Hotel. Congratulations!



# Research and Community Engagement

Research and community engagements are core components of higher learning. Accordingly, RVU Head Office staff and campuses actively engaged in planting seedlings in their respective localities in this quarter.

## Community Service

In response to the national call made by the Ethiopian Federal Government, Rift Valley University leadership and students actively took part in the implementation of the 7th round National seedling plantation Campaign. To that end, RVU Head Office staff, along with leadership, campuses/colleges purchased thousands of seedlings and planted 7.5 billion seedlings. Moreover, RVU high-level leadership planted seedlings in front of the RVU Head Office located at Gotera on July 12, 2025, thereby contributing its part to the National call of and pledged to do the same at its various campuses/colleges that operate in different parts of the country. Furthermore, the leadership vowed to take care of these seedlings until they mature. By doing so, the RVU community had left behind the green legacy that would ameliorate the deteriorating climate conditions.



## Workshops and Trainings

### Trainings

As part of the capacity building effort and address the legitimate demands of staff, RVU gave scholarship for staff and leadership. According, Maruf Abdella and Debela Tezera, Harar Campus Dean and Research Officer respectively attended their studies at Haramaya University and graduated with PhD degrees. Following these milestone achievements, Rift Valley University Managing Council and the Academic Community congratulate Dr. Maruf Abdella, Harar Campus Dean, and Dr. Debela Tezera, Research Officer, on completing their PhD studies.

The two leaders pursued their studies while handling their respective roles at RVU, Harar Campus.

Besides, they have been playing pivotal roles in their social and family affairs, which RVU Leadership believes are demanding and need firm courage to handle side by side. Despite all these responsibilities, these courageous and determined leaders were able to advance their professional careers and assert themselves in securing their Doctoral degrees.



# Partnership

Rift Valley University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with local and international partners in this quarter that corresponds with mission and Vision.

## Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Jimma University

On June 5, 2025, Rift Valley University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Jima University to collaborate on a wide range of academic issues and research projects.

The purpose of the MoU is to establish a collaborative framework grounded in a partnership between private university and public university aiming at fostering cooperation in the following areas:

- Academic research and joint project development;
- Joint supervision and evaluation of MSc students' research projects and Theses;
- Co-publication of research findings in recognized Journals;
- Student internship placement and mentorship programs;
- Co-organization of academic events such as workshops, seminars, and Conferences;
- Joint curriculum developments, program review, and academic advisement;
- Capacity building and staff development initiatives,
- Sharing and joint utilization of laboratories, library, and ICT facilities, and
- Any other collaborative activities of mutual interest and benefit.

The representatives of the two sisterly universities deliberated on the implementation process and agreed to design a joint strategy that would allow the community to benefit from the research outcomes. The two parties, finally, vowed to widen the scope of engagement involving the surrounding communities.

Professor Derbssa Dufera, RVU President, signed the MoU on behalf of Rift Valley University, and the official of Jima University signed the MoU on behalf of his university.

The attached pictures were taken at the RVU Head Office during the signing ceremony and exchange of Notes.



### Partnership with the Ministry of Revenue in Customs Commission

the Ministry of Revenue and Customs Commission offered training opportunities for RVU students from Addis Ababa campuses under the thematic areas of Tax, Customs rules, and practices for 10 weeks. To that end, those who participated in the training, and achieved the best results were awarded Mobile phones and Laptops in the presence of RVU leadership.

ከሪፍት ቫሊ ዩኒቨርሲቲ አዲስ አበባ ካምፕሰች የተውጣጡ የቢዝነስና ኢኮኖሚክስ ዕጩ ተመራቂዎች የገቢዎች ሚኒስትር እና የጉምሩክ ኮሚሽን በጋራ ተመራቂ ተማሪዎችን ለማሰልጠን በገቡት ቃል መሠረት ለ10 ሳምንታት ሰለታክስ ፣ ጉምሩክ ህግና አሠራር ስልጠና ያጠናቀቁ ዕጩ ተመራቂዎች ሰኔ 14 ቀን 2017 ዓ/ም ከፍተኛ የመንግሥት ባለሥልጣናት እና ተጋባዥ እንግዶች በተገኙበት በካፒታል ሆቴል የእውቅና ሠርተፍኬት ተሰጥቷል ።

በስልጠና ላይ ዕድል አግኝተው የተሰጠውን ስልጠና በአግባቡ ተከታትለው የተሰጠውን ፈተና በከፍተኛ ውጤት ያለፉ ሰልጣኞች ከአለቱ የክብር እንግዳ የተዘጋውን ሽልማት ተቀብለዋል ። በዚህም መሠረት ከ1ኛ አስከ ሦስተኛ ለውጡ ተማሪዎች ላኝቶኝ ኮሚፒዩተርች (Laptop Computers )የተሸለሙ ሲሆን ከአራተኛ እስከ 6ኛ ለውጡ ተማሪዎች ስማርት ሞባይሎችን ( Smart Mobiles )ተሸልመዋል ።

ሪፍት ቫሊ ዩኒቨርሲቲ በስልጠናው ወቅት አጋር (ፖርቲኒር)በመሆን ለስልጠናው ሰኬት ላደረገው አስተዋጽኦ እና ድጋፍ የላኝቶኝ ኮሚፒዩተር እና የምሰክር ወረቀት ተበርክቶለታል ። በዚህ ወቅት ሪፍት ቫሊን በመወከል ንግግር ያደረጉት የምርምር ፣ ማህበረሰብ አገልግሎት ፣ ኮሚዩኒኬሽን እና ፖርቲኒርሽ ምክትል ኘሬዝዴንት ዶ/ር አበበ ገመቼ የገቢዎች ሚኒስትር እና ጉምሩክ ኮሚሽን በጋራ በመሆን ላላዩት ተነሳሽነት እና በስልጠናው ሂደት ላደረጉት ያላሰለሰ ጥረት እና ዕገዛ አመሰግነው ይህ በእኩልነት ፣ በመተሳሰብና በመተጋገዝ ላይ -----የተመሠረተ አርአያነት ያለው ፖርቲኒርሽን ተጠናክሮ እንድቀጥል ጠይቀዋል ። በኘሮግራሙ ማጠቃለያ ላይ ተመሳሳይ ስልጠና በሌሎች ክልሎች ተጠናክሮ እንደሚቀጥል የተገለፀ ስሆን ስልጠናውን የወሰዱ ተማሪዎች ለወደፊት በሁለቱም ተቋማት የሚያወጡበትን ማስታወቂያ ተከታትለው እንድወዳደሩ ጥሪ ----- ።

ከታች የሚታዩት ፎቶግራፎች በምረቃው ወቅትና በኋላ የተወሰዱ ናቸው !

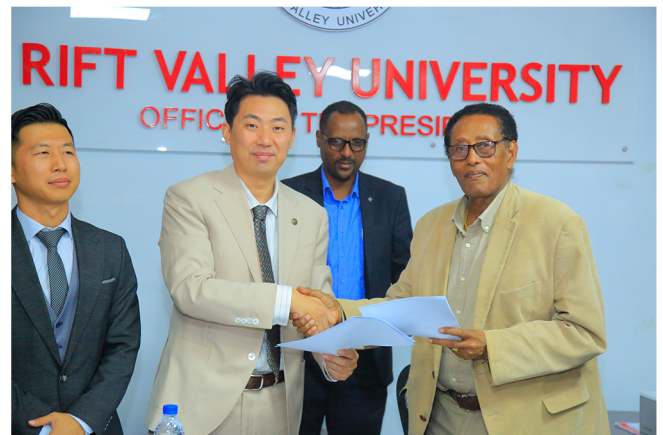
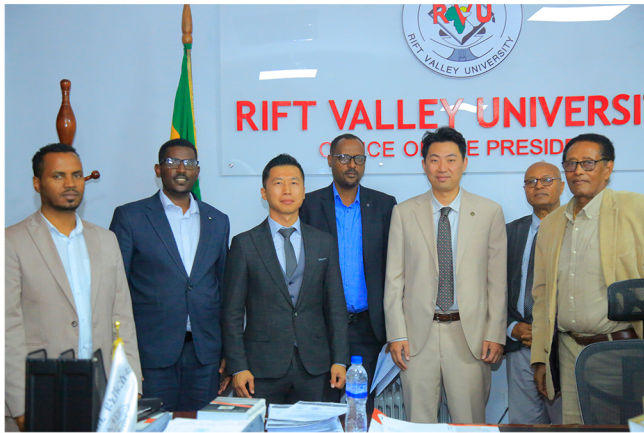


## Partnership with Chinese based Company

As per the MoU signed between RVU and a Chinese-based Company, the Chinese delegation from Schana Province Cyberspace Administration visited RVU Head Office on August 20, 2025. The delegation Team discussed with leadership wide-ranging issues and agreed to establish a joint venture and collaborate on enhancing cultural diplomacy and technological transfer. Rift Valley University (RVU), President Professor Derbssa Dufera and Dr. Abebe Gemechu, Vice President for Research, Community Service and Partnership, attended the morning session and, on the sidelines, agreed to work with the Chinese delegations.

Based on the earlier discussions and agreed upon issues, the Chinese delegations arrived at the RVU Head Office on the same day in the afternoon to explore the possible areas of cooperation with RVU Managing Council members. The two parties conducted candid discussions and were able to sort out the area of collaboration. Accordingly, they agreed to work together on areas of teaching the languages and cultures of the two sisterly countries and technology transfer. Moreover, they also agreed to explore possible areas of cooperation among the academic institutions of the two countries based on mutual interest. In general, the two parties agreed to enhance cultural attachments of the people of the two countries based on people-to-people diplomacy.

The attached pictures were taken at the RVU Head Office while the discussions were underway.



# Holidays

Yuunivarsiitiin Riifti Vaalii hordofoota Amantaa Isilaamaa hundaan бага Аyyaana Iid Al Adiha(Arafaa) nagaan geessan jechaa ayyaanichi kan nagaan fi kan jaalalaa akka isiniif ta'u hawwa.

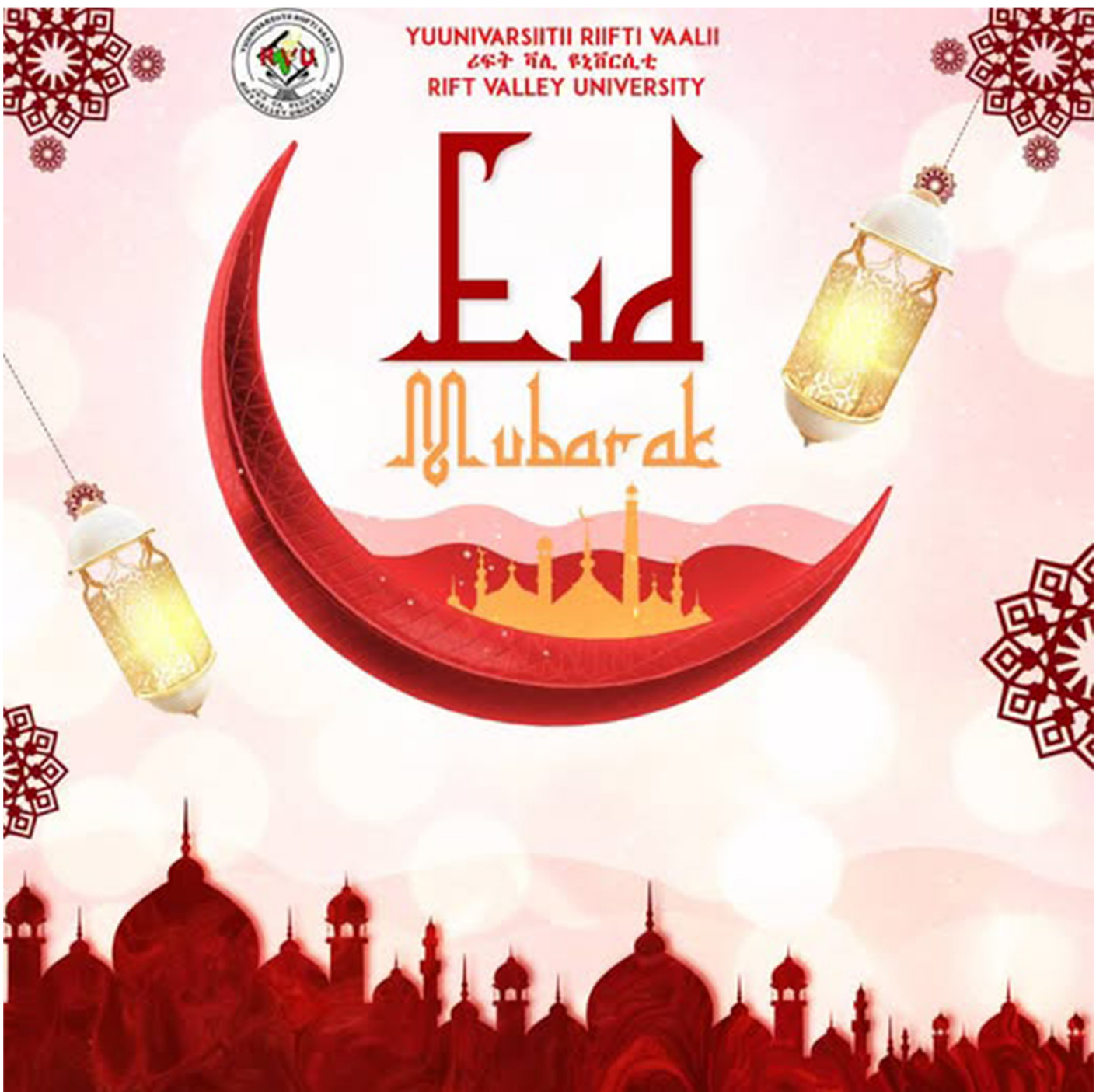
Iid Mubaarak!

Ayyaana Gaarii

YRV- Wiirtuu Ga'umsaa!

ሪፍት ቫሊ ዩኒቨርሲቲ ለመላው የእስልምና እምነት ተከታዮች እንኳን ለ1446ኛው የኢ.ድ. አል አደሀ (አረፋ) በፀል በሰላም አደረገችሁ እያለ በዓሉ የሰላምና የደስታ እንዲሆንላችሁ ምኞቱን ይገልጻል!

መልካም ኢ.ድ. አል አደሀ!



# OBITUARY

## MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE

Rift Valley University Gada Campus staff member Mr. Bayisa Etefa, who served as a lecturer in the Business Management department for years, passed away on July 9, 2025, due to a chronic illness.

RVU, Gada Campus Managing Council, and the community express their condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues.

May His Soul Rest in Peace!



## Graduations

Graduation is a momentous occasion in the academic journey of students, marking the culmination of years of hard work, study, and perseverance. Graduation is not merely a decorative component; it carries a significant symbolic meaning and offers practical benefits to graduates and their families.

Graduation, therefore, is a powerful symbol of accomplishment and hope for the future.

Cognizant of this, Rift Valley University has meticulously planned its 2017 E.C. graduation ceremonies and executed them in colorfully manner. Accordingly, Rift Valley University Managing Council members and guests from various regional states attended and made motivational speeches that inspired many.

The presence of Rift Valley University high-level leadership, along with regional state representatives, added new dimensions to the stature of the ceremony. Motivational & inspiring speeches were delivered by RVU high-level leadership & government organs. Medals & trophies were handed over to the highest-scoring students at the end of the events.

The first graduation ceremony took place on July 19, 2025 at Nekemte, Bishoftu and Hosanna. High-level RVU leadership along with local government Officials attended at these graduation ceremonies and made inspirational speeches.



The second Rift Valley University Graduation Ceremony took place in Addis Ababa Accordingly Addis Ababa & Shaggar Campuses July 26, 2025 conducted 23rd round graduation ceremony in Millennium Hall in the spectacular manner. High-level government officials, from Federal government, Addis Ababa City Administration and Oromia Regional state H.E Obbo Kindu Deysa , the owner RVU and Senate were in



On July 27, 2025, Six Rift Valley University Campuses, namely Adama, Ambo, Waliso, Tulu Bolo, Mojo, and Batu, on J colorfully graduated students in their respective campuses.



On August 2, 2025 Nine Rift Valley University (RVU) Campuses, namely Shashamane, Jimma, Asella, Dambi Dollo, Shambu, Kamise, Negalle Borana, Bule Hora and Salale have conducted colorful graduation ceremonies in their respective localities.





On August 3, 2025, Three Rift Valley University (RVU) Campuses, namely Hawasa, Bale Robe and Matu conducted colorful graduation ceremonies in their respective localities.



On August 9, 2025, Three Rift Valley University (RVU) Campuses , namely Ginci, Walaita Sodo and Mata Haara conducted colorful graduation ceremonies in their respective localities .



7th on August 16, 2025, Dire Dawa, Jigjiga & Chiro campuses conducted colorful graduation ceremonies in the presence of RVU high-level leadership along with respective regional state Representatives



Last but not Least the final RVU Graduation Ceremony took place in Harar Campus on August 17, 2025.

The attendance of Rift Valley University high-level leadership along with regional state representatives added new dimensions to the stature of the ceremony. Motivational & inspiring speeches were delivered by RVU high-level leadership & government organs. Similar graduation ceremonies will continue in the coming next week in the different parts of the country.

A series of graduation ceremonies of Rift Valley University (RVU) campuses that commenced on July 19, 2025 culminated in spectacular manner in the Harar City, on August 17, 2025.

The attached pictures were taken while the graduation ceremonies were underway.  
Congratulations!

