

CONVOCATION IS AN OFFICIAL EVENT HOSTED BY A TEMPLE OF LEARNING TO AWARD DEGREES TO GRADUATING STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT

A convocation ceremony is an official academic event where a school or college gives degrees, diplomas, and honors to students. It features caps, gowns, walking on stage, and speeches from leaders. Academic Dress: Students and teachers wear special robes, hoods, and caps. The Procession: Leaders, teachers, and students walk into the hall in a formal group. Conferring Degrees: The head of the school officially awards the titles and hands out scrolls or diplomas. Speeches: Special guests or school leaders give advice and congratulations to the new graduates.

KEYWORDS: academic event, university, degree, medals, robes, caps, gowns.

INTRODUCTION: A convocation is the formal, in-person graduation ceremony where a school officially confers degrees, diplomas, and academic hoods to students. The Procession: Teachers and students walk into the hall wearing. special caps, gowns, and colorful robes.

- **Walking the Stage:** Each student's name is called, and they walk across the stage to receive their recognition.
- **Speeches:** School leaders and special guests give short talks to congratulate the new graduates.

- **Graduation:** The official administrative approval showing you finished all your classes and passed.
- **Convocation:** The specific, often more personal ceremony where your specific college or department reads your name on stage.
- **Commencement:** A massive, school-wide celebration for every student in the entire university. Graduation is the academic completion of your degree requirements, while convocation is the formal, in-person ceremony where your degree is officially conferred.



Figure-1: Convocation.

Graduation

- **Definition:** The official administrative process of finishing your classes, passing tests, and having the school audit and approve your credentials.
- **Action:** You must apply for graduation with your school's registrar to get your diploma, whether you attend a ceremony or not.
- **Result:** You are legally and academically a graduate once your requirements are met and recorded, even before any party happens.

CONVOCATION

Definition: The celebratory event or assembly where faculty, family, and students gather to mark the achievement.

Action: You walk across the stage, wear academic robes, and hear your name called as degrees are handed out.

Result: It is the public celebration of the graduation status you have already earned.

A convocation is a large, formal gathering of people, such as a graduation ceremony, a school opening event, or a church meeting. The word comes from a Latin term meaning "to call together".

Main Types of Convocations

Graduation Ceremonies: A formal event at a college or university where students receive their degrees.

School Openings: A gathering at the start of a school term to welcome new students.

Religious Meetings: A formal assembly of church leaders and members to discuss faith matters.

Key Actions and Uses

Calling Together: The actual act of summoning or gathering a group.

Official Decisions: A meeting where members of a university or group come together to vote or make rules. A convocation outfit should be formal, comfortable, and easy to layer under an academic robe, consisting of light professional dresses, formal trousers with shirts, or traditional ethnic wear like a subtle saree or kurta.

Outfit Ideas for Women

Saree or Salwar Kurta: Light cotton-silk or chiffon sarees/kurtas in pastel or solid tones work best for a clean, traditional look under a gown.

Midi Dress or Slip Dress: Knee-length or midi-length A-line dresses that do not bunch up heavily beneath a robe.

Trousers and Blouse: Tailored trousers paired with a neat, collarless blouse or light shirt.

Outfit Ideas for Men

Formal Shirt and Trousers: A crisp light-blue, white, or pastel button-down shirt paired with dark formal trousers.

Full Suit: A lightweight two-piece navy blue or black suit (skip the heavy jacket if the venue is warm).

Kurta Pyjama: A simple, elegant solid-colored ethnic kurta set.

Shoes and Accessories

Comfortable Footwear: Low heels, flat formal shoes, or loafers since you will be standing and walking on stage.

Minimal Jewelry: Keep necklaces simple so they do not tangle with the graduation hood or collar.

University convocation is a formal ceremony in which degrees are conferred upon graduating students. It may also be called "degree day" or "commencement", depending on the institution and local tradition. The event celebrates all graduates, not just those who have completed their undergraduate degrees.

Convocation caps are thrown to symbolize the joyful completion of studies and freedom from school rules. This custom began in 1912 at the U.S. Naval Academy when graduates received new officer hats and tossed their old student hats into the air. The square academic cap, graduate cap, cap, mortarboard (because of its similarity in appearance to the mortarboard used by brickmasons to hold mortar), or Oxford cap is an item of academic dress consisting of a horizontal square board fixed upon a skull-cap, with a tassel attached to the center. It is officially called a graduation cap, though people also commonly call it a graduation hat or a mortarboard because its flat, square top looks like the tool bricklayers use. Great convocation themes focus on growth, future impact, and new beginnings, with popular ideas including "New Horizons," "Rooted and Rising," and "Ignite the Future."

Names and Terms

- **Cap:** The standard everyday term used by schools and stores.
- **Mortarboard:** The exact scientific and traditional name for the flat, square hat.
- **Trencher:** Another old name used in some places for the same square design.
- **Skull-cap:** The tight, fitted part that sits on your head.
- **Square board:** The flat top piece shaped like a square.
- **Tassel:** The bundle of threads that hangs from a button in the middle and moves from the right side to the left side when you finish.

First event: Started by the class of 1912 at the naval academy because they no longer needed their midshipman caps.

New phase: Represents a symbol of achievement and the start of a fresh journey in life.

Global spread: Adopted by schools worldwide as a fun way to shout "we did it".

Graduates throw their caps in the air as a symbol of joyous celebration, a release of years of academic stress, and an official farewell to their student life. This act signifies moving forward to the next exciting chapter. The tradition originated in 1912 at the United States

Naval Academy. Graduates had served two years as midshipmen and wore specific hats during that time. Upon receiving their new officer commissions, they were given new officer caps and enthusiastically threw their obsolete midshipman hats into the air. The visual impact of this mass toss was so powerful that it was quickly adopted by other institutions, evolving into a global symbol of graduation success. The moment when graduating students celebrate their achievement in the most iconic way: tossing their caps! The cap, once worn proudly through countless hours of learning, becomes a symbol of accomplishment. A square academic cap, also known as a mortarboard, is a traditional headwear worn during graduation ceremonies to symbolize academic achievement and success. The cap-throwing ceremony, often known as the "cap toss," is a cherished tradition during graduation ceremonies, where graduates jubilantly throw their caps into the air to celebrate their accomplishments.

CONCLUSION

A convocation ceremony is a formal academic event where a school or university officially confers degrees, diplomas, and honors to graduating students. Key elements include the academic procession, wearing of regalia (caps and gowns), and crossing the stage. Ceremony Highlights: Academic Procession: Faculty members, leaders, and chief guests enter in traditional robes. Conferral of Degrees: The head of the institution formally awards credentials to the students. Speeches: Inspiring talks are delivered by school leaders and invited chief guests. Student Checklist: Clear Dues: Submit a "No Dues" certificate from the library, accounts, and departments. Register: Fill out the convocation form and pay required gown or registration fees. Dress Code: Wear formal clothing underneath your academic robe and cap. Culmination of Hard Work: The cap toss symbolizes the completion of an educational journey, marked by hard work, growth, and perseverance. Transition from Student to Graduate: Throwing the cap signifies a shift from the role of student to graduate, ready to embrace new challenges and opportunities.

REFERENCE

1. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convocation>