Rwanda’s Chief of Defense Staff, Mubarakh Muganga, on Thursday urged newly trained senior officers to uphold values of bravery, integrity and dedication as they take on greater responsibilities.

Speaking at a graduation ceremony in Musanze District on April 30, 2026, Muganga addressed 74 officers from the Rwanda Defence Force, police and the Rwanda Correctional Service who completed a 22-week senior command and staff course.

The training, part of the 26th intake, was held at the Rwanda Defence Force Command and Staff College in Nyakinama. Five women were among the graduates.

Muganga said the course had equipped participants with skills to lead military operations up to brigade level and strengthened their capacity in leadership and strategic planning.

“I am confident this training has prepared you to think critically and make sound decisions,” he said. “Remain mindful of the responsibilities ahead and contribute to building the military and nation we aspire to.”

He also thanked families of the officers for their support during the training period.

The college commandant, Andrew Nyamvumba, said all participants met required standards and graduated with the ability to handle security challenges at both national and international levels.

Top graduate Maj. Alain Kirenga said the knowledge gained would help officers effectively carry out duties in command and planning roles at the brigade level.

Capt. Orice Kayiranga ranked second, followed by Maj. Angelo Birasa in third place. Maj. James Tindifa Hodali received an award for best research paper.

The ceremony was attended by local government officials representing the Northern Province, along with senior military officers and other dignitaries.