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## You must step on toes, INEC charged



**EGG-HEADS:** Justice Aderemi (rtd), Justice Akanbi, Prof. Oloyede and Dr. Olatinwo at the occasion

**A** retired Justice of the Supreme Court of Nigeria, Pius O. Aderemi, has asserted that the current general elections in Nigeria cannot achieve their desired credibility unless the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) steps on the toes of many politicians who want to win at all costs.

Hon. Justice Aderemi made this submission last Tuesday (March 29, 2011) at the University of Ilorin while delivering the 4<sup>th</sup> Muhammad Mustapha Akanbi Faculty of Law Annual Public Lecture themed "Tackling Corruption and Corrupt Related Practices in Election Processes for Credible Elections in Nigeria." The jurist stressed that though the head of INEC is reputed for his integrity, a single individual cannot achieve credible elections alone without his staff being of equal credibility. *(Contd. on page 2)*

## A woman can be a leader if... by Oredola

**A**n Islamic scholar and Justice of the Court of Appeal (JCA), Calabar Division, Justice Massoud Abdulrahman Oredola, has posited that Islamic law does not stop women from occupying political posts on the condition that their homes and families do not suffer as a result of such positions, saying that the Qur'an describes all of humanity as equal and men and women earn equal rewards for their deeds and worship.



**SCHOLARS:** Sheikh Muhydeen, Justice Muhammad, Justice Akanbi and other dignitaries at the occasion

Justice Oredola, a former Justice of the Kwara State Shariah Court of Appeal, gave this insight while speaking at a Public Lecture on "Gender Equality vis-à-vis Political Leadership: The Islamic Perspective" which was organised by National Association of Muslim Law Students (NAMLAS), University of Ilorin Chapter, in honour of Justice Yekeen Banji Orilonise last Wednesday (March 30, 2011) at the University of Ilorin Auditorium.

According to the jurist, who was represented at the occasion by Justice S. O. Muhammad of Kwara State Shariah Court of Appeal, the notion of gender equality is beyond debate in Islamic law and any true Muslim must be loyal to the *Shariah* if s/he is not going to be among the "disbelievers", "evil doers" and "wrong-doers", which are the terms used to describe those who do not govern according to the Glorious Book. *(Contd. on page 4)*

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## 'Why we must return to the parliamentary system'

(Contd. from front page)

According to the eminent jurist, an important step towards ensuring that INEC staff are not swayed towards selling their souls and undermining the integrity of the electoral process is to ensure that they are well paid. He said with good salaries and remunerations from the Commission, INEC staff would be less prone to the temptation of corruption while their faith in God and allegiance to the system would be further strengthened.

Justice Aderemi noted that it is unfortunate that the current economic and social environment in Nigeria encourages able-bodied and sometimes well educated youths to be engaged as political thugs. "Unknown to many of us, the greatest employer of labour is politics. Politics often foists social tension or unrest on the society today. The acrimonious rivalry that exists among the various political parties today compels them to recruit able-bodied and perhaps well educated human beings to provide their leaders safety at all times," he said.

The Guest Lecturer further noted that given the pervasive nature of corruption in Nigeria, discussions on election in the media suggest that the achievement of free and fair elections is a feat which is seemingly elusive especially with the fact that the average Nigerian electorate appears to be someone who can readily be bought over with a pittance, a situation which he said is likely to change in the current dispensation given the low level of education among Nigerians. He then tasked INEC, the electorate, the media, the police, the politicians and the judiciary to discharge their duties with the fear of God and shun all forms of electoral corruption.

Justice Aderemi also called for a return to the parliamentary system of government which he said is less violent and noted that Nigerian politics needs rebranding. He especially charged the politicians to wait for another time rather than consider winning as a matter of life and death. His words: "Do not breed thugs to intimidate your opponents or even the electorate. It is a barbaric way. Do not resort to the use of money to buy your way through. Learn to evolve politics of ideas, instead of politics of violence."

Earlier speaking at the occasion, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Is-haq O. Oloyede, in an address captioned "Nothing Lasts Forever", noted that corruption appears to be the most important factor that has prevented Nigerians from getting their deserved dividends of democracy. He also observed that the proportion of corruption in the country has reached "scandalous and insane levels" just as he wondered if those who steal public funds think they will live forever.

Speaking further, the immediate past President of the Association of African Universities (AAU) said that "it is also a travesty of democratic ideals as being witnessed in many parts of the world for a minority to impose its wish on the majority making the so-called power of the people to freely choose their leaders useless. As we prepare for another epoch in our political history, let us play the game according to the rules. Let us know that God is the Custodian of power and that all earthly power is temporary. If life itself is transient, it goes without saying that *nothing lasts forever* in this world."

In his remarks at the end of the lecture, the Chief Medical Director of the University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital, Dr. Abdulwaheed Olatinwo, enjoined Nigerians to vote according to their conscience adding that the sensitisation provided by the public lecture is for the good of mankind.

Also speaking at the end of the lecture, the Dean of Law, Dr. Wahab Egbewole, lent his voice to the clamour for a return to the parliamentary system of government which he said is cheaper to run given that politicians would practise politics on a part-time basis. To buttress his point, he cited the example of a friend of his and Ethiopian Dean of Law who told him that he (the Ethiopian) earns more as a Dean than he does as a member of parliament.

In his own comments, the honouree and retired President of the Court of Appeal, Hon. Justice Mustapha Akanbi, said he was the happiest man as a result of the yearly honour accorded him by the University through the lecture instituted in his name. He said his philosophy of life is that it is better for a man to live and die with a good name rather than acquire riches through fraud and dishonesty. He noted that as he has striven to preserve the good name of his father, he also admonishes his children often not to soil his name through greed and dishonesty while he also urged other parents to be doing so.

## Unilorin Health Services honours six staff

In acknowledgement of the services rendered to the healthcare and wellbeing of the University community over varying periods of time, the University of Ilorin Health Services has organised a send off party in honour of five retiring staff of the Unit and another staff member who is transferring her services from the University elsewhere.

The colourful ceremony, which was attended by families, friends and colleagues of the honourees, took place at the premises of the University Health Services last Wednesday March 30, 2011.

Speaking at the occasion, the Director of the University Health Services, Dr. Mary O. Ajiboye, noted that the occasion was a bitter-sweet event in the sense that it was bitter to realise that the retiring staff who had distinguished themselves through dedicated service would no longer be part of the Unit and it was sweet because the dream of everyone is to have a pleasant and happy retirement, which the occasion epitomised.

Dr. Ajiboye further said the occasion provided an opportunity to thank God for giving the retirees the mercy and privilege to work and retire in good health and status stressing that some people had fallen by the wayside. She noted that though Yoruba wisdom has it that twenty people cannot play for twenty years, it was a good experience that



**CONGRATS: Dr. Ajiboye congratulating Mrs. Araoye at the occasion**

twenty people within the University had carried on working for twenty years and beyond, yet there is always a time to part and the time was then to formally bid bye to the retired staff.

The Director prayed God to uphold the departing staff and perfect their ways. She also implored them to maintain a link with their former colleagues adding that the University Health Services will continue to need their advice and experience.

While responding to the encomiums poured on her by various speakers at the event, one of the retirees, Mrs. A. F. Araoye, said that having served humanity at the University of Ilorin for 29 years and three months, she felt full, fulfilled and thrilled to be honoured by the University, noting that the University Health Services has a warm working atmosphere where the staff members are just one family. She observed that the services rendered by the UHS has improved over the years and commended the current University administration for putting in place the ultra-modern Dental Centre at the University clinic.

While giving her motherly advice to her younger colleagues, Mrs. Araoye urged them to take their jobs with all seriousness, dedication and diligence. She also encouraged nurses and other health workers to see their work as God's work because they actually serve the sustenance of humanity.

Other honorees at the occasion took their turns to express their appreciation to the leadership of, and their colleagues at, the University Health Services for deeming it fit to honour them. Other retirees are Mrs. Iyabo Balogun, Mr. Moses Omofe, Mr. Saka Kamaja and Mr. James Oyebamiji while Mrs. Tessy Obaitor Zaku is on the transfer of services from the University of Ilorin to a different location.

### Fast Facts File

#### **Did you know?**

- ❖ Russia has more than 660 museums and more than 62,000 libraries.
- ❖ The world's highest restaurant, "At.mosphere", is situated 442 metres up in the sky on the 122<sup>nd</sup> floor of the 828-metre world's tallest building, *Burj Khalifa*, Dubai. To sip your afternoon tea there, you pay \$100 only.
- ❖ The largest flower in the world is grown on one of the over 13,000 islands that make up Indonesia, a country that speaks some 730 languages.

## Jurists make case for female leaders

(Contd. from front page)

According to the jurist, the *Sunnah* of Prophet Muhammad says that people are as equal as the teeth of a comb and added that some of the rights that women were granted in America in the 60's were established by Islam since the 7<sup>th</sup> century.

In advancing his arguments, Justice Oredola emphasised that scholars have maintained that Adam's spouse was not created from his ribs, rather both were created from a single soul adding that men and women have an equal number of ribs. He asserted that in Islamic theology, it is Iblis (Satan) and not the woman that tempted Adam to eat the forbidden fruit and both Adam and Hawwa are equal victims of Iblis' temptation. He therefore averred that a woman can occupy a political position as long as the office and the process do not amount "dewomanising the woman."

Justice Oredola cited female political leaders in four Muslim majority countries (Indonesia – Megawati Sukarno-Putri, elected President in 2001; Pakistan – late Benazir Bhutto, elected twice non-consecutively as Prime Minister; Bangladesh – Khaleda Zia and Sheikh Hasina, elected as Prime Ministers, with the former serving two terms of five years each; and Turkey – Tansu Ciller, elected Prime Minister between 1993 and 1995) and said that despite the principle of gender equality in the Nigerian constitution also, the place of women in the society is still less to be desired. "Leadership entails responsibility for the welfare of others and that is why public office is a public trust. So who says men are more trustworthy than women, just by the mere fact that they are men?" he queried.

"Statistically, after the general polls, from 2003-2007, the President and the 36 State Governors were all men, with only 3 elected women and Deputy-Governors. Among them, one became the Governor by default, albeit, for a brief period. During the stated period, out of the 109 Senators in the Senate at the National Assembly, four were women and out of 360 members of the House of Representatives, only 23 were women. There was a slight improvement after the 2007 general elections. The number of female Senators rose to 9 out of 109, with 25 women members in the House of Representatives out of the 360 members. In the Executive arm of government, there were 5 women among 40 ministerial appointees in the Federal Cabinet. The storyline remained more or less the same in the States and Local Government Councils. However, the Judiciary is faring well. Randomly and combinedly, about 40% of judges in the judiciary are women. Lagos, the Centre of Excellence; is a shining example. As at September, 2010 the total number of Judges in the High Court of Justice, Lagos State, has risen to 56: 41 female and 15 male. In the Court of Appeal of Nigeria, as at September, 2010 there are 21 female Justices out of a total of 65", he said.

The Chairman of the occasion, Justice Mustapha Akanbi, supported the opinion of a woman assuming leadership role in Islam and recounted how he insisted in Sokoto State, when the traditional Sokoto establishment objected the appointment of Justice Aisha Ankar as the Chief Justice of the State on the recommendation of his panel, till the woman was appointed. He also described the honoree as an incorruptible judge who can be relied on and one that NAMLAS members should take as a role model. He further advised the students to be of exemplary character because lawyers are supposed to be noble and while other youths may be careless, lawyers cannot afford to lack discipline.

In his comments at the occasion, Justice A. A. Owolabi who represented the Grand Qadi of Kwara State, Justice Idris Harun, disagreed with the Guest Lecturer on the position of Islam on women leadership, a contrary view also shared by Justice S. O. Muhammad in his personal capacity.

In his response, the honoree, retired Justice Orilonise, expressed his appreciation to NAMLAS for the honour and noted that the theme of the lecture is as timely as it is topical.

Earlier in his address, the President of NAMLAS, Mr. Adam Muhammad, said that the need of the Muslim youths for clarification on the issue of gender equality in Islam informed the choice of the topic by his Association just as he expressed optimism that the participants would gain from the presentation.

The event was attended by dignitaries including the Emir of Ilorin, who was represented by the Galadima of Ilorin, the Chief Imam of Offa, Sheikh S. Muhyideen, a former Grand Qadi of Kwara State, Justice M. A. Ambali and Justice T. S. Umar of the Kwara State Judiciary, among others.

## POVERTY IS PREVENTABLE

*Text of the Address Delivered by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Professor Is-haq O. Oloyede, at the Opening of the Symposium of the International Soil Tillage Research Organisation (ISTRO) Nigeria on Tuesday, February 22, 2011 at the University Auditorium.*

### Welcome Note

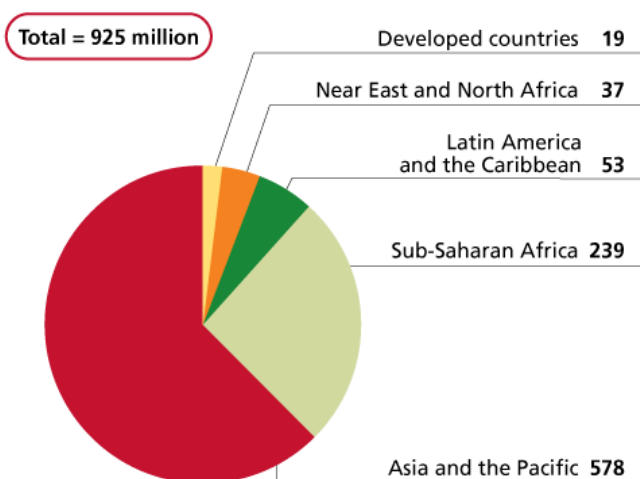
I feel happy to stand here today to address this Symposium not because it is expected of me to feel so but because I am passionate about the rationale behind it. This is due to the fact that anything about agriculture will essentially boil down to food, and as Plato tells us in his *The Republic*, “the first and greatest of necessities is food.” If food is so important that many people essentially live to eat it, instead of just eating it to live, it requires our attention.

I want to congratulate the International Soil Tillage Research Organisation (ISTRO) on this Symposium and I hope that all of us, in not a distant future, will appreciate the necessity of tilling the soil as a way of addressing the food security challenges facing the nation. In other words, if Nigeria is said to be food insecure, I challenge us all that beyond theory and polemics, let us take action that will salvage us from the hunger and starvation of a vast majority.

It is therefore is my pleasure to welcome you all, especially our distinguished guests from all over the country and beyond, to the University of Ilorin. While I consider this Symposium very important and wish you a successful outcome, let me say that I will be interested in efforts that will make the man on the street less hungry at the end of it. I believe that hunger will drastically reduce in Nigeria and poverty will abate considerably if we till the soil rather than solely depend on oil. Once again, you are welcome.

### Hunger and Poverty are Brothers

That when hunger is out of poverty, poverty becomes nil is a well known saying. As *poverty is preventable* through a sustainable programme on agriculture, the need to take food seriously becomes more imperative when it is realised that the number of the hungry in a world of plenty such as ours continues to increase. Unlike what it has witnessed within the last 50 years, the world we live in is facing an acute hunger crisis with the population of the world’s hungry already hitting a billion mark last year though the official statistics of the FAO last October puts the number at 925 million.



Source: FAO.

The major cause of hunger is poverty, of course. From whatever angle we look at it, the hungry people are poor and the poor ones are hungry. Hunger and poverty are thus blood brothers, perhaps twins. In 2005, there were as many as 1.4 billion people living in extreme poverty. The World Bank reports

indicate that the spike in global food prices in 2008 and the economic meltdown of 2009 and 2010 have dragged between 100 and 150 million into the mire of poverty. Everyday, almost 16,000 children die from hunger-related causes; that is, one child every five seconds. In 2008, nearly 9 million children died before they reached their fifth birthday. One third of these deaths are due directly or indirectly to hunger and malnutrition.

It is against this background that I think that a symposium addressing “Tillage for Agriculture Productivity and Environmental Sustainability” is a right step forward because of all the regions of the world, the sub-saharan Africa is one of the most hungry as shown in the figure above.

### **Facing the Facts**

The facts of the matter are that we need to do something to address the situation. Let us think about the following facts sourced from [www.library.thinkquest.org](http://www.library.thinkquest.org) last week:

- In the Asian, African and Latin American countries, well over 500 million people are living in what the World Bank has called "absolute poverty".
- Every year 15 million children die of hunger.
- The World Health Organization estimates that one-third of the world is well-fed, one-third is under-fed one-third is starving- Since you've entered this site at least 200 people have died of starvation. Over 4 million will die this year.
- One in twelve people worldwide is malnourished, including 160 million children under the age of 5, (United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation).
- The Indian subcontinent has nearly half the world's hungry people. Africa and the rest of Asia together have approximately 40%, and the remaining hungry people are found in Latin America and other parts of the world. (Hunger in Global Economy)
- Nearly one in four people, 1.3 billion - a majority of humanity - live on less than \$1 per day, while the world's 358 billionaires have assets exceeding the combined annual incomes of countries with 45 percent of the world's people. (UNICEF)
- 3 billion people in the world today struggle to survive on US\$2/day.
- Half of all children under five years of age in South Asia and one third of those in sub-Saharan Africa are malnourished.
- Malnutrition is implicated in more than half of all child deaths worldwide - a proportion unmatched by any infectious disease since the Black Death.
- About 183 million children weigh less than they should for their age.
- To satisfy the world's sanitation and food requirements would cost only US\$13 billion- what the people of the United States and the European Union spend on perfume each year.
- The assets of the world's three richest men are more than the combined GNP of all the least developed countries on the planet.
- Every 3.6 seconds someone dies of hunger.
- It is estimated that some 800 million people in the world suffer from hunger and malnutrition, about 100 times as many as those who actually die from it each year.

### **The Open Truth**

It is an open truth that much work has not been done in ensuring agricultural development which accounts for the food situation of the country where more than 70% practise agriculture but yet the country is still hungry. The implication of this reality is that our farmers still use the methods, equipment, seeds and manure used centuries ago and little attention is paid to them by those who should do so in terms of providing knowledge and support.

In a report on “Little Keeps Nigeria from a Crisis of Hunger”, *The Washington Post* of August 2, 2009 aptly summarises the problem facing Nigeria:

*The nation blessed with Africa's largest oil reserves and some of its most fertile lands has a problem. It cannot feed its 140 million people, and relatively minor reductions in rainfall could set off a regional food catastrophe, experts say.*

*Nigeria was a major agricultural exporter before oil was discovered off its coast in the 1970s. But as it developed into the world's eighth-largest oil producing country, its big farms and plantations were neglected. Today, about 90 percent of Nigeria's agricultural output comes from inefficient small farms, according to the World Bank, and most farmers have little or no access to fertilizers, irrigation or other modern inputs. Most do not even grow enough food to feed their own families.*

*Nigeria has become one of the world's biggest importers of food staples, particularly rice and wheat, both of which the country could potentially grow in large enough quantities to be self-sufficient. Even with the imports, about 38 percent of Nigerians younger than 5 suffer from moderate or severe malnutrition, according to UNICEF, while 65 percent of the population -- roughly 91 million people -- are what humanitarian organizations call "food insecure." They are at risk of waking up one morning to find that they have nothing to eat.*

Also in a lecture on “Nigerian Agriculture, Youth and the Future” presented at the University of Ibadan on April 16, 2010, our Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Kolade Luke Ayorinde, stressed the problem that should continue to bother us all. According to him, it is “sad that a country with almost 80% agrarian population would be importing food... The country relies on other countries for a larger part of her food needs such as wheat, rice, milk and milk products, sugar, cookies and biscuits, tomato paste, jam, fruit juice and even tooth pick!” This situation of things is unacceptable and all hands must be on deck to reverse it.

### **Policy versus Implementation**

As a result of the significance of agriculture to the attainment of self-reliance, food security and national development, the Nigerian government since Independence has launched one policy or the other in order to address the agricultural challenges of the country. The Nigerian agricultural policy launched in 2001, for instance, like the previous, ones is meant to address the challenges of development facing the nation. Its objectives include:

- The achievement of self-sufficiency in basic food supply and the attainment of food security;
- Increased production of agricultural raw materials for industries;
- Increased production and processing of export crops, using improved production and processing technologies;
- Generating gainful employment;
- Rational utilization of agricultural resources, improved protection of agricultural land resources from drought, desert encroachment, soil erosion and flood, and the general preservation of the environment for the sustainability of agricultural production;
- Promotion of the increased application of modern technology to agricultural production; and
- Improvement in the quality of life of rural dwellers.

The key features of the policy, for the purpose of emphasis, are as follows:

- Evolution of strategies that will ensure self-sufficiency and improvement in the level of technical and economic efficiency in food production. This is to be achieved through (i) the introduction and adoption of improved seeds and seed stock; (ii) adoption of improved husbandry and appropriate machinery and equipment; (iii) efficient utilization of resources; (iv) encouragement of ecological specialization; and (v) recognition of the roles and potentials of small-scale farmers as the major producers of food in the country.
- Reduction of risks and uncertainties in agriculture, to be achieved through the introduction of a more comprehensive agricultural insurance scheme to reduce the natural hazard factor militating against agricultural production and security of investment.
- A nationwide, unified and all-inclusive extension delivery system under the Agricultural Development Programs (ADPs).
- Active promotion of agro-allied industry to strengthen the linkage effect of agriculture on the economy.
- Provision of such facilities and incentives as rural infrastructure, rural banking, primary health care, cottage industries, etc. to encourage agricultural and rural development and attract youths (including school leavers) to go back to the land.

However, the problem of Nigeria has not always been lack of policy. There are tonnes of fine policies such as the one referred to, which can redeem the country and rescue it from its problems, in our various ministries, parastatals and agencies. The missing link has always been implementation. It is time that we all go back to the practice of agriculture in one way or the other and appreciate, as the old school song goes, that *Ise agbe ni'se ile wa, eni ko sise yoo ma jale* ("agriculture is our traditional occupation; he who does not work will steal")...and ultimately that "education without agriculture is incomplete".

### My Appeal

Before I conclude, let me appeal to the Government to pay more attention to agriculture by implementing its own policies. The budgetary allocation of about 2% of national budget to agriculture is grossly inadequate to guarantee food security for the nation. Countries like Botswana, Zimbabwe and Zambia allocate some 10% of their budgets to agriculture and we can do better than them.

As agriculture has the capacity to provide employment for the teeming population of the unemployed Nigerians, encouragement in this regard will be good for the nation and the rate of poverty will reduce. Indeed, poverty can be prevented through this approach. Nigeria can generate from agriculture more than what she generates from oil if she invests well in her vast arable land. Let the Government allocate 20% of the national budget to agriculture and I am sure that Nigeria, apart from being food secure, will be exporting food to many countries of the world by the year 2020. In essence, I believe that *poverty is preventable* if we accord agriculture its right attention.

It is important to note that no sustainability can be achieved without food security. A situation in which what is meant for the construction of a road between the Nnamdi Azikwe Airport, Abuja and the Abuja city (N20 billion) is allocated to agriculture in the whole of the country, there are bound to be serious food insecurity problems the type of which we are witnessing. We need to accord agriculture its deserved priority and this includes adequate funding and proper management. We need to devise means through which many people will be rescued from the grip of hunger and poverty through returning to the days of yore when Nigeria was food-sufficient. The challenge is before you, distinguished ladies and gentlemen.

Thank you very much for your attention and I wish you fruitful deliberations.

## Winners emerge at hostel cooking competition

**W**inners have emerged at the end of the keenly contested Postgraduate Hall cooking competition organised by the Committee of Hall Mistresses and Hall Executives in collaboration with students/ residents of Trunil Hostel on Saturday, March 26, 2011 at the hostel premises.

At the end of the fun-filled and colourful competition, Miss Bilkiss Ibrahim, who was proclaimed the Cook of the Year, won the first prize while Miss Oluwafunmilayo Oshodi and Miss Adedoyin Oyewole came second and third respectively. They all went home with fantastic cash rewards and gift items.

Other contestants were also counted among the lucky students as they also got assorted gift items.

The occasion was attended by the Chairman of Hall Masters and Mistresses, Prof. Y. A. Quadri; the Dean of Student Affairs, Prof. S. H. Umoh, and the Sub-Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. S. Yakubu, among others.



*Prof. Quadri addressing the participants as Dr. (Mrs.) V. A. Alabi, Dr. (Mrs.) K. A. Yahaya and others watch with interest*

### LAUGH LINES

A rather lazy undergraduate was at the University bookshop the other day. Questioned about a book on one of his courses by the student, the clerk responded, "This book will do half the job for you if you obtain it." "Good," the student replied, "I'll take two copies of the book then."

## UNILORIN NASU elects new leaders

The Non-Academic Staff Union of Educational and Associated Institutions (NASU), University of Ilorin Chapter, has elected a new set of officers to man the affairs of the Union. The election was held on Friday, March 25, 2011.

The new Chairman of the Union is Mr. J. J. Bello while Mr. Jerome Idowu and Mrs. Adeola Oyedepo are the Branch Secretary and Branch Treasurer respectively. Also elected into the Executive Council are Mr. Sunday Dada, Mr. Femi Andrew, Mr. Olabode Rufus, Mr. Yusuf Kareem and Mrs. Titilayo Olayemi.

In his acceptance speech after the election, the Branch Chairman, Mr. Bello, thanked the members of the Union for their overwhelming support that made him emerge as their leader just as he charged them to see the Union affairs as a collective responsibility.

The Chairman appreciated the support the University Administration while saying that his Union would always be ready to work together with the University in advancing the University goals and objectives.

## Employment opportunities with UNESCO

The University of Ilorin, through the National Universities Commission, has received a notice advertising the post of "IOC Coordinator in Africa UNESCO Office, Nairobi, Inter-governmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO Nairobi, Kenya, AF/RP/KEN/SC.0012."

A statement signed by Mr. C. J. Maiyaki on behalf of the NUC Executive Secretary indicates that "interested candidates can apply on-line at <http://www.unesco.org/employment>. Candidates without easy access to the internet may send their applications in hard copies by completing the official UNESCO Curriculum Vitae Form (available at UNESCO headquarters, Field Office, National Commissions in Member States or any office of a United Nations Resident Representative) to the Chief Recruitment and Staffing section, Bureau of Human Resources Management, UNESCO, 7 Place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France, before 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2011."

Similarly, UNESCO has also advertised the post of Programme Specialist (Audio-Visual) Audio-Visual Section, Division of Public Information, Sector for External Relations and Public Information ERC-180).

"Interested candidates can apply on-line at <http://www.unesco.org/employment>. Candidates without easy access to the internet may send their applications in hard copies by completing the official UNESCO Curriculum Vitae Form (available at UNESCO Headquarters, Field Office, National Commissions in Member States or any office of a United Nations Resident Representative) to the Chief Recruitment and Staffing section, Bureau of Human Resources Management, UNESCO, 7 Place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France, before 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2011."

## Happy Birthday To You!

S/N.	Name	Department/Office	Date of Birth
1.	Alabi, Afusat T.	Education Management	4th April
2.	Usman, Abdulsalam, M.	Arabic	4th April
3.	Adesiyun, Omotayo O.	Paediatrics and Child Health	5th April
4.	Adisa, Suleiman B.	Provost's Office	6th April
5.	Malomo, Sylvia O.	Dean of Science	7th April
6.	Adesoye, Abimbola A.	Human Kinetic and Health Education	9th April

## Unilorin in the News

(Contd. from back page)

- The Department of Plant Biology has won the maiden edition of the Inter-Departmental Quiz Competition of the Faculty of Science, University of Ilorin.  
(‘Plant Biology wins quiz’, *The Nation*, Thursday, March 31, 2011, p.34)
- The maiden edition of the Eminent Personality Public Lecture series of the Ilorin Emirates Students Union, University of Ilorin, has been successfully held at the University in honour of the Emir of Ilorin.  
(‘Union holds public lecture’, *The Nation*, same as above.)

## Unilorin in the News

➤ While speaking at the formal opening ceremony of the 1432 Jihad Week of the Muslim Students Society of Nigeria (MSSN), University of Ilorin Branch, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Is-haq Oloyede, who was represented by Prof. Musbau A. Akanji, has said that the University of Ilorin like other Nigerian universities will not close because of the elections.

(‘Unilorin won’t close for election, says Oloyede’, *National Pilot*, Monday 28 – Wednesday 30, 2011, p. 2)

➤ The Head of the Department of Mass Communication, University of Ilorin, Dr. Azeez Adesina Lukman, has underscored the role of Mass Communication in the society while speaking at a programme organised by the Mass Communication students of Kwara State University.

(‘Don charges students communicators’, *National Pilot*, same as above, p.5)

- The Chief Imam of the University of Ilorin, Prof. AGAS Oladosu, has warned youths not to die because of any politician saying that killing is a grievous sin and that Islam guarantees every individual life, property, brain, honour and religion while delivering a Friday sermon recently.  
(‘April poll: Oladosu, Unilorin Chief Imam, advises against violence’, *National Pilot*, same date, p.13)
- While speaking on the theme of “Jihad and Terrorism: Myth and Reality” as part of the opening ceremony of the 1432 Jihad Week programme of the Muslim Students Society of Nigeria, (MSSN), University of Ilorin Branch, a scholar, Uztaz Sulaiman Hamza, has said that Islam is misconstrued and ignorant people ascribe terrorism to it. (‘Islam, most misunderstood religion - Scholar’, same as above.)
- A lecturer in the Department of Political Science, University of Ilorin, Dr. Emmanuel O. Ojo, has examined issues that border on electoral fraud in Nigeria.  
(‘Electoral Fraud in Nigeria: Issues and Dimensions’, *National Pilot*, same date, pp.14 and 19)
- While speaking at a programme organised by the University of Ilorin Chapter of Offa Students Union, Prof. Hassan A. Saliu has said that there would be no meaningful development in Nigeria until people freely choose their political leaders.  
(‘Allow people to choose leaders of their choice’, *The Herald*, Monday, March 28, 2011, p.3)
- A moment during the symposium organised by Offa Students Union of the University of Ilorin has been frozen for posterity. (‘Photonews’, *The Herald*, same date, p.5)
- The Unilorin Secondary School would hold its 10<sup>th</sup> inter-House sports which would be chaired by Prof. Albert Olayemi, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Management Services.)  
(‘Unilorin Secondary School holds 10<sup>th</sup> Inter-House Sports’, *The Herald*, March 28, 2010, p.18)
- While delivering a sermon at the University of Ilorin, the Chief Imam of the institution, Prof. AGAS Oladosu, has urged Nigerian youths to eschew all forms of political thuggery. (‘Shun political thuggery, youths told’, “At the University of Ilorin”, *Nigerian Tribune*, Thursday, March 31, 2011, p.32)
- The authorities of the University of Ilorin have congratulated Prof. S.O. Akande on the two awards he recently won. (‘UNILORIN congratulates Akande over awards’, *Nigerian Tribune*, same as above.)
- The Inter-religious Council of the University of Ilorin chaired by Prof. G.A. Olatunji has held its inaugural meeting where it sought the support of all stakeholders in achieving more harmony on campus. (‘Inter-religious Council holds inaugural meeting’, *Nigerian Tribune*, same as above.)

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### Quotes of the Week

To be conscious that you are ignorant of the facts is a great step to knowledge.

– Benjamin Disraeli

One’s dignity may be assaulted, vandalized and cruelly mocked but it cannot be taken away unless it is surrendered.

– Michael J. Fox

The world will always give you the opportunity to quit, but only the world would call quitting an opportunity.

– Clint Brown