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Don't sell your votes, NIREC tells Nigerians



PEACE, L-R: NIREC Executive Secretary/Unilorin VC and Co-Chairmen, Sultan of Sokoto and CAN President at the world press conference in Lagos last Tuesday

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Happy New Year and Season's Greetings to all readers of *Unilorin Bulletin* within and outside the University of Ilorin! Wishing you a blessed and peaceful 2011.

The Nigeria Inter-Religious Council (NIREC), the apex inter-faith body in the country, has appealed to all qualified Nigerians to ensure that they register for the forthcoming elections this year and resist the temptation of selling their votes.

NIREC made this submission at a world press conference addressed by the Co-Chairmen of the body, the Sultan of Sokoto /President-General of the Nigerian Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs (NSCIA), Alhaji Muhammad Sa'ad Abubakar, and President of the Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria/ President of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), Pastor Ayodele Joseph Oritsejafor, last Tuesday (December 28, 2010) in Lagos.

(Contd. on page 2)

Unilorin VC quit as AAU President on 1.1.11 ...as son also said farewell to bachelorhood

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Is-haq Oloyede, has stepped down, with effect from last Saturday (January 1, 2011), as the President of the Association of African Universities (AAU), the umbrella university body in Africa with 235 universities in 46 countries.

Prof. Oloyede was unanimously elected President at the 12th General Conference of the Association on May 8, 2009 at the Abuja International Conference Centre for a period of four years.

In what observers have continued to marvel at since it became public knowledge, Prof. Oloyede's resignation was anchored on his conviction that Nigeria would benefit more if another Nigerian occupies the office of the Secretary General of the Association than he being the President. Apart from being the officer responsible for the day-to-day running of the body, he said, the Secretary General is appointed for a renewable term of five years (while the President is elected for four years only) and Nigeria has a chance of being in charge of the body for 10 years.

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The groom, Engr. Oloyede, with the Governor of Kano State, Mal. Shekarau

NIREC chides politicians on the state of the nation

(Contd. from front page)

In an address captioned “A New Beginning” delivered on behalf of the Co-Chairmen by the Executive Secretary and National Coordinator of NIREC, Prof. Is-haq Olanrewaju Oloyede, NIREC said that “Everyone owes it a duty to resist the temptation of mortgaging his future and the future of his unborn children and grand children. We urge Nigerians to avoid all sorts of inducement and bribery. We often blame our political leaders for their misbehaviour and non-performance but many of us Nigerians also encourage them through selling our birth rights. This must stop henceforth please!”

Speaking further on behalf of the body, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin condemned violence “because it results in needless suffering, misery and death for our people”. The Council also charged the security agencies to be conscious of their duties and be alert to their responsibilities, while tasking them to be pro-active and impartial.



HARMONY: *The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Oloyede addressing the conference*

“Our political leaders have every reason to be thoughtful. Nigeria is not where she should be in the comity of nations as a result of their parochial interests over the years. We appeal to them to be sensitive to national security and the importance of Nigeria not only in Africa but also in the world... Nothing lasts forever and all power ultimately belongs to God to whom we shall all return willy nilly. Let our politics be devoid of violence, acrimony and mudsling. Let us make a new beginning and let the new beginning be now”, NIREC said.

Speaking further, the body condemned the recent Jos killings saying that “it is ungodly, barbaric and inhuman to take the life of a fellow human being unjustifiably.” The Council also urged the authorities “to fish out the perpetrators of this dastardly act and bring them to book without further delay to serve as deterrent to others”.

While fielding questions from journalists after the briefing, the NIREC Co-Chairman and Sultan of Sokoto posited that violence persists because the perpetrators go unpunished. He therefore urged the Government to act on the reports of the previous panels on Jos crisis. “If the Government can be punishing people who do this thing, there will be a change. We must say the truth if we must get to the root of our problems in this country,” he said.

The NIREC Co-Chairman and CAN President submitted that what happened in Jos was mainly political but “it has a strong dose of religious colouration. I believe that politicians know the weaknesses of our people. They know how to manipulate their beliefs”. He also tasked Nigerians to deploy the RSVP strategy to the elections this year. The strategy is that they should “Register, Select, Vote and Protect their votes”. He said Nigerians can protect their votes by not leaving the polling stations until the counting is done thereby being vigilant to curb rigging.

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Unilorin ... Scaling the heights!

UNILORIN STARCOMMS TELEPHONE LINES DIRECTORY

The University of Ilorin has procured and distributed the following lines, which are expected to be open always, to its Principal Officers, Provost, Deans, Directors and other officers:

NO.	NAME	LINES
1	Vice-Chancellor's Office	031821301
2	Deputy Vice- Chancellor (Academic)	031821302
3	Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Management Services)	031821303
4	Registrar	031821304
5	Bursar	031821305
6	University Librarian	031821306
7	Provost (College of Health Sciences)	031821307
8	Dean, Faculty of Agriculture	031821308
9	Dean, Faculty of Arts	031821309
10	Dean, Faculty of Business & Social Sciences	031821310
11	Dean, Faculty of Basic Medical Science	031821311
12	Dean, Faculty Clinical Science	031821312
13	Dean, Faculty of Comm. & Inform. Science	031821313
14	Dean, Faculty of Education	031821314
15	Dean, Faculty of Engineering	031821315
16	Dean, Faculty of Law	031821316
17	Dean, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Science	031821317
18	Dean, Faculty of Science	031821318
19	Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	031821319
20	Dean, Student Affairs Unit	031821320
21	Dean, Post Graduate School	031821321
22	Director, Academic Planning	031821322
23	Director, Centre for Peace Studies	031821323
24	Director, Centre for International Education	031821324
25	Director, Consultancy Services	031821325
26	Director, COMSIT	031821326
27	Director, Health Sciences	031821327
28	Director, General Studies	031821328
29	Director, Institute of Education	031821329
30	Director, Internal Audit Unit	031821330
31	Director, Information Unit	031821331
32	Director, Legal Unit	031821332
33	Director, Physical Planning Unit	031821333
34	Director, Remedial Studies	031821334
35	Director, Sugar Research Institute	031821335
36	Director, SIWES	031821336
37	Director, URMB	031821337
38	Director, Works	031821338
39	Help Desk Officer	031821339
40	Mr. Ogunbiyi	031821340
41	Director, Centre for Supportive Services for the Deaf	031821341
42	Director, Guidance & Counseling Centre	031821342
43	Director, Institute of Affiliated Institutions	031821343
44	Mayor's Office, Staff Quarters	031821344
45	Senate P.A.B.X. Operator (Unilorin main line)	031811178
46	Senate P.A.B.X. Operator (Unilorin main line)	031810635

47	Police Post (Main Gate)	028736245
48	Security Office (Main Campus)	028736246
49	Main Campus Gate	028736247
50	Main Power House	028736248
51	Police Station Sentu	028736249

Couple advised on successful marriage

(Contd. from front page)

Therefore, as soon as the office of the Executive Secretary of the Association became vacant, the Vice-Chancellor mobilised qualified Nigerians to apply for the position.

As Chairman of the Board of AAU, Prof. Oloyede ensured that merit was not sacrificed at the later of zoning and a Nigerian ultimately clinched the job. He thereafter offered to resign as President to pave way for the assumption of office of new Secretary General, who is the former Vice-Chancellor of National Open University (NOUN), Prof. Olugbemiro Jegede, in order to be fair to other African countries.

While acknowledging how Prof. Oloyede managed to make a difference in the body at the International Conference on Fifty Years of University Education in Nigeria on September 27, 2010, a close monitor and keen observer of higher education in Africa who is also a former Executive Secretary of National Universities Commission (NUC), Prof. Peter Okebukola, emphasised “the enormous contributions of Prof. Oloyede to the development of higher education in Africa within less than two years in office as AAU President.”



MARRITAL BLISS: *The couple at the reception*



CONGRATS: *The groom's mother, Dr. Mrs. Oloyede (left) and guests at the occasion*

Meanwhile, as Prof. Oloyede steps down from AAU presidency, his son, Engr. Abdulkareem Ayopo Oloyode, has also decided to bid bachelorhood bye.

At a well attended Nikah ceremony which drew dignitaries across Nigeria and overseas last weekend also, Engr. Oloyede was united in marriage with his wife, former Miss Sadiyah Musa Gwadabe at No 407/408, 17th Street, Shagari Quarters, Kano.

Speaking at the end of the marriage solemnization, the Chairman of the wedding reception, Hon. Justice Abdusalami of the Court of Appeal advised the couple not allow a third party into their lives but to solve issues between them amicably in order to have a successful marriage. He also enjoined the couple to make the fear of God, faith, love, care and trust the foundation of their new life.

The occasion was attended by the cream of the Nigerian political, judicial and academic communities including the Governor of Kano State, Mallam Ibrahim Shekarau; the Vice-Chancellor of Nassarawa State University and immediate past Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Shamsudeen O. Amali; the Vice-Chancellor of Al-Hikmah University, Prof. Sulaiman Abdulkareem; the Vice-Chancellor of Kwara State University, Prof. AbdulRasheed Na'Allah, numerous friends and associates of the Oloyedes, Council members, principal officers, staff and students of the University of Ilorin.

THE JOURNEY SO FAR

Text of the Vice-Chancellor's Press Briefing for the 26th Convocation Ceremonies of the University of Ilorin, Ilorin, delivered by the Vice-Chancellor, University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Professor Is-haq O. Oloyede, at the University Auditorium on Monday, October 18, 2010

As customary, I welcome you all to this special occasion. I particularly welcome the distinguished gentlemen of the press for whom this curtain-raising programme is primarily meant. On behalf of the University of Ilorin community, I want to thank you all for the support you have accorded the University over the years and since the beginning of this journey. Whatever the University of Ilorin is today to an average Nigerian is proportional to what is said or reported about our humble efforts. I appreciate you all and it is my hope that you will continue to support the University in the task of moulding the present and salvaging the future of our beloved country and our common humanity.

It is said that the journey of a thousand miles begins with a step. The first step of my stewardship began in this month three years ago (precisely on October 16, 2007). Since we took that first step, we have been marching forward, addressing emergent issues, providing leadership, developing minds and environment, creating programmes, promoting scholarship, advancing professionalism and training, and doing the best that we can to clean our little corner at the University. We won't look back and it is not over until it is over. By the special grace of Allah, one can say without equivocation that the results are commensurate with the efforts and in *the journey so far*, one knows that the University can only go farther if we double our efforts and work harder. The only truth, if it will not be immodest to say it, is that based on the foundation laid by my predecessors and due to the single-minded purpose of the Council, the Administration, our teeming staff and students, the University is *better by far* than it was at the beginning of this journey. It will continue to be inshaAllah.

Looking back, one feels satisfied that the efforts of the founding fathers are being made to bloom. Up till some three years ago, the University of Ilorin was not in the league of the best 10,000 universities in the world according to the international ranking bodies. By 2008, the University was rated first by "4 international colleges and universities (www.4icu.org)" after a year of work and commitment to improving the standing of the University. In 2009, the University became the second best University in Nigeria and number 77 in Africa according to the webometrics ranking. It took a lot of sacrifice from all staff of the University to achieve it because everyone had to adjust and change the way of doing things in line with the global best practices. In early 2010, the University of Ilorin became number one Nigerian university, according to the highly celebrated webometrics, becoming number 55 in Africa but a distant number 5,846 in the world. Now, the University has moved to number 5,484 and it is our hope that if we continue, and we do not relent, the University will continue to soar and progress.

Generally, since the past three years, the Department of the Performing Arts Theatre had been built, the Department of Geology Complex donated by PTDF had been constructed and blocks of Offices for the Department of Mass Communication (now occupied by the Department of Statistics) and Electronic Testing Centres have been erected. Other building projects since the journey started for this Administration include the block of offices for the Department of Computer Science (used by the Department of Chemical Engineering now), offices and laboratories for the Department of Home Economics and Food Science (now being occupied by the Centre for Supportive Services for the Deaf), a block of classrooms for the Faculty of Law, workshops and a block of offices for the Works Department, a block of Offices for the Physical Planning Unit, a Network Operation Centre complex and a Police Station among others.

Roads have also been rehabilitated, Lodges and Hostels have been massively renovated, many banks have been attracted on campus with the University further developed, two 500KVA and one 350KVA sound proof generators have been procured and installed, entrance gates at Sentu and Bolorunduro borders of the University have been erected and the vast University land has been partly fenced. Within this period too, several plantations including Teak, citrus, mango, date palm, Jatropha, among others, have been put in place. The University is undergoing a determined green revolution through landscaping and environmentally sustaining agro-allied projects.

At another plane, the University continues to expand such that it offers an *a la carte* academic diet to boost all areas of national life without compromising quality. The Faculty of Communication and Information Science stated during this period and both the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences are starting this 2010/2011 session. Arrangements have also been made to start the Faculty of Environmental Studies in 2014/2015 session. New programmes such as B.Sc. Forest Resources Management; B.Sc. Geography and Environmental Management; B.A. History and International Studies; B.Sc. Nursing and B.Sc. Medical Laboratory Sciences are starting this academic year. Besides, the Department of Biomedical Engineering and Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering are also starting this academic session. A B.Sc. programme in Physiotherapy is to take off in 2012/2013 academic session while another B.Sc. programme in Radiography is to begin in 2014/2015 session.

This expansion is happening to enhance capacity without sacrificing quality. It is important that I let you know that the University of Ilorin programmes enjoy 100% NUC FULL Accreditation. As I do not belong to those who can tell lies, you may wish to verify by checking *The Guardian* of Friday October 8, 2010 (pages 46 and 47) which contains a list of universities with denied accreditation status. You won't find the University of Ilorin there. So, should you wonder why the University is expanding, it is to multiply quality.

The quality of the University is reflected in its research endeavours, research being a core component of the University mandate. The research output of the academic staff increased to 1,014 publications during the 2009/2010 session against 849 recorded for the 2008/2009 session last year. Not only this, the University created research niches during the 2009/2010. These niches comprise the biofuel research group, which successfully produced needed products like biodiesel, Jatropha toilet soap, Laundry Soap, Ceiling board, Floor tiles, ink, animal feed and oil from the Jatropha plant; the biomedical engineering research group, which produced Surgeon's hand board, Surgeon's stool, external bone fixator, neurosurgical head clamp, head clamp adaptor, Stryker frame for turning quadriplegic or paralysed patients, standard instrument trolley and many others as well as the science policy development and management group, which is vigorously pursuing our "Greater Scientist" project.

In the light of the foregoing research endeavours, the University has during the session patented some of the research works of its faculty and disbursed millions of naira to fund research. Some of the patented inventions of the University during the year under review include: "Green Corrosion Inhibitor for Corrugated Iron Roofing Sheets", "Soil Compactor," "*Cocos Nucifera Husk Fibre*: A Potential Source of Cheap and Effective Anti-malaria Drug", "Catalytic Conversion of High Density Polyethylene Produce (Yoghurt bottles) to Solid, Liquid and Gaseous Hydrocarbon Fuel", "Protective Effect of Aqueous Extract of *Celvsia Angentea* Var -evistate Leaves against Candmium-induced Oxidative Stress in Rats", "A Computerized System for Identification of Some Savannah Tree Species" and "Talk 2 Chat: A Desktop Software Application for Multimedia Communication on an Internet" the credits of which are rightly given in the Vice-Chancellor's Annual Report that you will soon have.

Our appreciation is due to individuals and bodies that have supported the University in actualising its research aspirations. LUBCON has been wonderful, Yolas has been very supportive, the University hosting community has been helpful and the Kwara State Government has always assisted the University in one way or the other. To all, including UNESCO that provided the capacity building support to one of our research niches, we express our deep appreciation.

The total student population of the University, as the end of the just concluded 2009/2010 academic session is 27,656 with 59.2% male and 40.8% female distribution. This is not a bad result, you will agree, for a University committed to gender equity. Our staff gender mix is not as that balanced for the simple reason that more educational access to the females today, unlike the situation yesterday, will only boost gender mix tomorrow.

Within the last convocation and now, several developments have happened in the University of Ilorin in furtherance of its triple mandate of teaching, research and community service. In the session just ended,

the University recruited 30 academic staff (with 21 registry and technical staff) to boost the teaching capacity of the University. This brought the total staff number of the University to 2,849 comprising 801 academic and 2,048 registry and technical staff. In aid of their teaching, the University procured hundreds of waist band amplifiers so that lecturers would not have to strain their voices to make themselves heard. The University has further internationalised itself far beyond its physical geographical borders and about 250 Memoranda of Understanding have been signed between the University and other world universities, bodies and agencies. Students from ten countries, a least, are studying various programmes at the University at present and the teaching staff comprise scholars drawn from at least six foreign countries.

To be convoking during the ceremonies that this occasion heralds are 6,004 first degree/diploma and 1,315 postgraduate degree holders. The University during the 2009/2010 academic session produced 328 MB;BS, 19 First Class, 859 Second Class Upper Division, 2,973 Second Class Lower Division, 1,386 Third Class and 205 Pass graduands apart from additional 234 Diploma graduands. For the postgraduate category, the University produced some 83 PhDs, and 1,232 other categories of graduands. The total graduation output of the University is therefore 7,319 for the year (6,004 undergraduate and 1,315 postgraduate degree/ certificate holders).

The following Tables provide the summary of the categories Faculty by Faculty:

Faculty/Institute	MBBS	1st Class	2nd Class Upper Division	2nd Class Lower Division	3rd Class	Pass	Diploma	Total
Agriculture		3	22	82	39	4	0	150
Arts		0	50	219	88	4	0	361
Basic Medical Sciences		0	45	131	18	6	0	200
Business and Social Sciences		1	121	582	458	80	214	1456
Clinical Sciences	328	0	0	0	0	0	0	328
Communication and Information Sciences		1	47	84	41	9	0	182
Education		2	128	487	209	21	20	867
Engineering and Technology		0	66	143	51	5	0	265
Law		0	36	113	8	1	0	158
Science		12	191	507	350	69	0	1129
Institute of Education		0	153	625	124	6	0	908
Total	328	19	859	2,973	1,386	205	234	6,004

Fast Facts File

Did you know?

- “Almost” is the longest word in the English language with all the letters in alphabetical order.
- Electricity doesn't move through the wire but through a field around the wire.
- The names of the continents all end with the same letter with which they start.
- The word “listen” contains the same letters as the word “silent”.
- All the planets in our solar system rotate anticlockwise, except Venus. It is the only planet that rotates clockwise.
- The only two animals that can see behind them without turning their heads are the rabbit and the parrot.

Higher Degree/ Postgraduate Diplomas - 2009/2010

Faculty	PhD	Master's	MPH	MBA	MPA	MIGS	MILR	DIPLOMA	CERTIFICATE	TOTAL
Agriculture	6	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33
Arts	12	91	0	0						103
Basic Medical Sciences	2	25	0	0						27
Business and Social Sciences	15	71	0	332	158	17	29	78		700
Clinical Sciences	0	0	47	0						47
Communication and Information Sciences	1	34	0	0				18		53
Education	18	176	0	0				28	1	223
Engineering and Technology	2	23	0	0						25
Law	5	35	0	0						40
Science	22	36	0	0				6		64
Total	83	518	47	332	158	17	29	130	1	1,315

In furtherance of the commitment of the University to research, which remains the centrepiece of our mandate, some 91 staff were sponsored by the University to international learned conferences during the year while 50 staff were privately sponsored. A total of 233 staff also attended local conferences.

For the students, the University Scholars Scheme that we re-introduced in 2008 is receiving a further boost. In the 2009/2010 session, the University expended thirteen million, eight hundred and fifty-seven thousand Naira only (N13,857,00.00) on 149 University scholars. These are students that have a minimum of Grade Point Average of 4.00 for new scholars and Cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.5 and above for returning scholars. We spent this much because it is our belief that the more encouragement we give to excellence, the more serious students will become to attain it. It is our conviction that if students are rewarded for scholarship and seriousness, many of them will be attracted to edifying things rather than seek vain fame and cheap rewards in senseless shows and useless adventures promoted by those who should know better.

LAUGH LINES

One day, a man was sitting in his office when his boss came in to ask, "John, do you believe in life after death?"

"Yes, sir," he replied.

"Well, then, that makes everything just fine. After you left early yesterday to attend your grandmother's funeral, she stopped in to see you."

The young man was confused, turning the information around within him and after some time remembered that he did not attend any funeral the previous day and his grandmother was alive.

He was in this reflective mood when a man barged into his office, shouting, "John, your daughter, Anna, just died in an accident right opposite this building".

The gentleman was in panic. Not knowing what to do, he jumped out through his office window. While coming down, when he reached the 14th floor, he remembered that he did not have a daughter named Anna. When he was near the 7th floor, he remembered he was not married yet. And when he was about to hit the ground, he remembered he was not even John!

Faculty/level	New Scholars				Returning Scholars				Total				Total
	200	300	400	500	200	300	400	500	200	300	400	500	
Agriculture	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	5
Arts	7	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	3	7	Nil	7	4	7	Nil	18
Basic Medical Sciences	3	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	2	Nil	3	3	2	Nil	8
Business and Social Sciences	6	5	5	Nil	Nil	3	4	Nil	6	8	9	Nil	23
Communication and Information Sciences	2	1	1	Nil	Nil	1	2	Nil	2	2	3	Nil	7
Education	7	2	5	Nil	Nil	3	6	Nil	7	5	11	Nil	23
Engineering and Technology	4	2	1	Nil	Nil	4	5	6	4	6	6	6	22
Law	2	2	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	3	2	2	2	3	3	10
Science	7	4	1	Nil	Nil	8	13	Nil	7	12	14	Nil	33
Total	39	18	13	1	Nil	25	44	9	39	43	57	10	149

Not only the Nigerian students are encouraged, the University in the session under reference also approved the Foreign African Scholarship Scheme for African students who successfully completed their Language Immersion Scheme and are admitted to pursue their first and postgraduate degrees in the University. This we are doing because education remains the bedrock of development and without education, civilisation is in peril. Besides, if scholarship opportunities are there in foreign universities to attract our students, there should be nothing stopping us from opening that window of opportunities to attract the best minds out there for training in our own university system too. We are guided in this direction because of our conviction that Africans are just one people and the more of Africans we train, the more of development we bring to our continent.

Let me use this opportunity to invite you to the subsequent activities of the convocation ceremonies which effectively begins with this briefing. On Wednesday, October 20, 2010, there will be a Convocation Play, "Ogun Lakaaye – The god of Iron", a dance play by Tunbosun Oladapo, by 7:00 p.m. at the Performing Arts Theatre of the University. The Convocation Lecture by Prof. Komlavi Francisco Seddoh comes up on Thursday (October 21, 2010) at the University Auditorium beginning from 10:00 a.m. This will be followed by a Chancellor's Cocktail in honour of the Convocation Lecturer at the Chancellor's Lodge at 6:00 p.m.

On Friday October 22, 2010, there will be a Convocation ceremony for the award of prizes, first degrees and diplomas for the graduands of the Faculties of Arts, Basic Medical Sciences, Business and Social Sciences, Communication and Information Science, Education and Science in this Auditorium at 9:00 a.m. In the evening, precisely at 5:00 p.m., there will be a commissioning of various projects by the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Nigerian Armed Forces, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan.

On Saturday October 23, 2010, which is the Founder's Day of the University, there will be another Convocation ceremony for the award of prizes and first degrees for the Faculties of Agriculture, Clinical Sciences, Engineering and Technology, as well as Law. There will also be awards of postgraduate degrees and diplomas to postgraduate graduands at the occasion, which also begins at 9:00 a.m. at this venue as well. The ceremonies will be concluded with a Convocation Luncheon and Merit Award at the Vice-Chancellor's Lodge starting from 1 p.m. same Saturday. You are all welcome to the programmes.

Let me at this juncture, on behalf of the University of Ilorin and the African academic community, commiserate with us all Nigerians on the recent death of that distinguished academic and scholar, Prof. Babs Fafunwa. His death is a great loss to the nation and we pray that God multiply his kind. To me, the most significant contribution of Fafunwa is his sincere account of the *History of Education in Nigeria* which remains an indispensable source for anyone interested in the nature and history of education in various segments of the Nigerian society right from the pre-colonial era. That the work is a key reference material any day attests to the depth and scholarship of the late foremost educationist. It is a coincidence that the first chapter of the book published by our University and the National Universities Commission to commemorate the 50th independence anniversary, presented just three weeks ago, was written by this great Nigerian. We never knew when we were planning the book that the chapter we put first would be Fafunwa's last contribution to scholarship in that form. May his gentle soul rest in peace.

For your information, you may wish to join us to explore our biological garden subsequently. The University recently upgraded the facility and we now have lions, hyenas, cranes, reptiles and other animals and birds you will love to see. I can assure you that our carnivores are perfectly caged and secured. The garden is open for excursions, education and research. Please feel free to visit the garden.

Before I conclude, let me, as a keen observer of unfolding events, appeal to you gentlemen of the press to refrain from sensational journalism and embrace the journalism of nation building. Nigeria belongs to us all and we owe it a duty to make the country work. The trend of hyping comments, either stated or concocted, that tend to over-heat the polity should be jettisoned. I think our media men should not play into the hands of politicians who will just say anything to attract attention as the decisive date of 2011 draws near. Journalism is a double-edged sword that should be wielded with care lest it achieves unintended consequences. The political scene of Nigeria is ominous and our respected media men should not beat the drum of hatred and division for the macabre dance of our largely clueless elite.

Thank you for your attention.

Happy Birthday To You !

S/No	Name	Department/ Unit	Date of Birth
1	Bolarin, Olufemi	Agricultural Extension & Rural Development	3rd January
2	Jimoh, Abdulgafar A.	Obstetrics & Gynaecology	3rd January
3	Oloyede, Isaac A.	Electrical Engineering	3rd January
4	Omojasola, Patricia F.	Microbiology	3rd January
5	Takim, Felix O.	Agronomy	3rd January
6	Yussuf, Abdullah D.	Behaviour Sciences	3rd January
7	Giwa, Julius	Security	4th January
8	Akanji, Musbau A.	Biochemistry	4th January
9	Adekola, Olabisi F.	Agronomy	5th January
10	Apata, Zulu B.	Health Services	5th January
11	Oladele, Tinuke O.	Computer Science	6th January
12	Olaniyi, Johnson O.	Political Science	6th January
13	Alimi, Adebayo E.	Computer Centre	7th January
14	Opadiji, Jayeola F.	Electrical Engineering	7th January
15	Sule, Bolaji F.	Civil Engineering	7th January
16	Adeloye, Abiodun A.	Animal Production	8th January
17	Ige, Jide E.	History	8th January
18	Nwosu, Friday O.	Chemistry	8th January
19	Abdullahi, Hawau O.	Academic Office	9th January
20	Aderibigbe, Sunday A.	Epidemiology & Community Health	9th January
21	Adesiyun, Abidemi O.	Radiology	9th January
22	Atilola, Isaac O.	Vice-Chancellor's Office	9th January
23	Okunuga, Akintunde B.	Electrical Engineering	9th January

First semester examinations begin tomorrow

The Harmattan Semester Examinations for the 2010/2011 academic session begin tomorrow at the University of Ilorin.

Students and their invigilators are reminded that they are as usual expected to arrive the venues of their examinations at least 30 minutes before the commencement of each examination.

In a statement signed by the Deputy Registrar (Academic), Mrs. F. M. Olowoleni, students are also expected to re-familiarise themselves with the rules and regulations of the University guiding the conduct of examinations.

Unilorin in the News

(Contd. from back page)

- A doctoral student of the University of Ilorin, Mrs. Funke Susan Apata, has proffered solutions to Physics education challenges in her PhD thesis recently presented openly for the first time at the University of Ilorin. ('Doctoral student proffers solution for Physics education', *Nigerian Compass*, same as above, p.17).
- The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Is-haq Oloyede, has described corruption as an acid rain that wrecks havoc indiscriminately while urging Nigerians to fight it during the inauguration of the Anti-Corruption and Transparency Unit of the University. ('Why we need to fight corruption, by UNILORIN VC', *Nigerian Compass*, same as above, p.18).
- A lecturer in the Department of English, University of Ilorin, Dr. Mahfouz Adedimeji, has urged Muslims in the world to be united while addressing members of the Muslims Students Society (MSS) of the University saying that the wars in some Muslim countries and the recent *Wikileaks* releases require a sober reflection and a sincere return to the Quran and Sunnah. ('Live in accordance with Islamic teachings', *Nigerian Compass*, same as above)
- The moment in which the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin and Executive Secretary/National Coordinator of the Nigeria Inter-Religious Council (NIREC) and the Co-Chairmen of the body, the Sultan of Sokoto, Alhaji Muhammad Sa'ad Abubakar and the President of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), Pastor Ayodele Joseph Oritsejafor, addressed a world press conference has been frozen on the front page of a newspaper. (Cover photo, *Nigerian Tribune*, Wednesday, December 29, 2010, p.1).
- It was fun and excitement at the Students Union Building of the University of Ilorin recently when the leadership of the student body organised a talent hunt show on the campus. ('SUG organizes talent hunt show', *The Nation*, Thursday, December 30, 2010, p. 28).
- The Nigerian Association of Science Students (NASS), University of Ilorin chapter, has organised an orientation programme for its new members. ('Science faculty holds orientation', *The Nation*, same as above, p.37)
- A 400 level student of the University of Ilorin, Sodiq Alabi, has documented his opinion on the spending pattern of the Nigerian President. ('Jonathan: this 'messiah' is spending too much', *The Nation*, same above, p.39)
- The National Centre for Hydropower Research and Development (NACHRED), an agency of the Energy Commission of Nigeria domiciled in the University of Ilorin, has flagged off a campaign against the use of incandescent lamps across the country. ('NACHRED destroys ₦1m worth of bulbs', *National Pilot*, Thursday, December, 30, 2010 – Sunday, January 2, 2011 p. 19).
- Three physicians have indicated their commitment to partner the University of Ilorin in order to deepen the relationship between them and the University in order to advance the training of medical students in the field of Otolaryngology. ('Foreign physicians partner Unilorin for better productivity', *Nigerian Tribune*, Friday, December 31, 2010 p. 39).

Unilorin in the News

- The National Centre for Hydropower Research and Development (NACHRED), University of Ilorin, has flagged off a campaign against the use incandescent lamps in Ilorin.
(‘NACHRED preaches against incandescent lamps’, *The Herald* on Sunday, December 26, 2010, p.4).
- A world press conference has been convened by the Nigeria Inter-Religious Council where Prof. Is-haq O. Oloyede of the University of Ilorin briefed the press on the state of the nation on behalf of the two Co-Chairmen, the Sultan of Sokoto and CAN President.
(*NTA Network* news at 9 p.m. Tuesday December 28, 2010 also *FRNC Network* news on Wednesday December 29, 2010 at 7:00 a.m.)
- In a statement read by the National Coordinator/Executive Secretary of NIREC, who is also the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Is-haq O. Oloyede, on behalf of the Sultan of Sokoto and CAN President, NIREC has condemned the recent Jos killings while tasking the Government to punish the perpetrators.
- (‘Jos, Maiduguri violence political, says Sultan, CAN’, *The Guardian*, Wednesday December 29, 2010, p. headline pg. D-2 also back page; Also see on same date: ‘Arson gives way to protest in Jos - Sultan calls for action on reports’, *The Nation*, pp. 1-2; ‘Jos: Sultan, Oritsejafor call for white paper’, *Nigerian Compass*, p. 4; ‘Jos bombings: Islamic clerics disown group, Sultan, Oritsejafor blame politicians’, *This Day*, headline pp. 1 & 4; ‘NIREC seeks stiff penalty for perpetrators of Jos crisis’, *Nigerian Tribune*, p. 6; ‘Jos crisis political, say CAN, Sultan’, *Daily Independent*, pp. 1& 2; ‘Jos: fish out the killers, Sultan, Orisejafor tell FG’, *Daily Sun*, p.8; ‘Sultan, CAN, others dismiss terror claims’, pp.1 &3, etc).
- In an address tagged “Back To The Basics” delivered while inaugurating the Anti-Corruption and Transparency Unit of the University of Ilorin, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Is-haq Oloyede, has urged Nigerians to go back to the basics of discipline, decency, honesty and integrity to salvage the country.
(‘VC solicits support to curb vices’, *This Day*, Wednesday, December 29, 2010, p. 44).
- The 2010/2011 first semester examinations of the University of Ilorin begin January 3 (now January 4, 2011).
(‘Unilorin first semester exams for Jan. 2011’, *Nigerian Compass*, Wednesday, December 29, 2010 p. 15).
- The authorities of the University of Ilorin have expressed concern over the presence of expelled students on the University campus.
(‘Varsity worries over expelled students’, *Nigerian Compass*, same as above, p.16).
- Two law students of the University of Ilorin, Zakariya Olufemi Abdul Razaq and Mohammed Abdullah Tosin, have topped a national essay competition in Abuja.
(‘Law students top competition’, *Nigerian Compass* same as above).
- Two Ph.D students of the University of Ilorin, Mr. Kayode Niyi Afolayan and Mrs. Zainab Bolajoko Balogun of English and Educational Management Departments respectively, have also openly defended their theses in furtherance of the tradition recently established in the University.
(‘Two Ph.D. students defend theses’, *Nigerian Compass*, same as above).

Quotes of the Week

Never forget the three powerful resources you always have available to you: love, prayer and forgiveness.

– H. Jackson Brown Jr.

The most imaginative people are the most credulous, for them everything is possible. - Alexander Chase

To dare is to lose one’s footing momentarily. To not dare is to lose oneself.

– Soren Kierkegaard

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