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Unilorin appoints 8 professors, 14 readers



Members of Unilorin Governing Council at their meeting last Wednesday

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The Governing Council of the University of Ilorin has elevated 22 academics of the University to readership and professorial ranks, based on the recommendations of the University Appointments and Promotions Committee (A&PC).

At its meeting held at the University of Ilorin last Wednesday (March 4, 2008), Council approved the appointment/promotion of 14 Readers/ Associate Professors and eight Professors, who had been found *prima facie* qualified by the interview panel and subsequently the Appointments and Promotions Committee of the University, following the external assessors' reports on the dons' publications.

According to a statement signed same date by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Is-haq O. Oloyede, the four new professors are Y. A. Abayomi, Professor of Agronomy in the Department of Agronomy; M. B. Eyinla, Professor of History in the Department of History; N.B. Oyedeji, Professor of Educational Management in the Department of Educational Management and A. Jimoh, Professor of Economics in the Department of Economics.
(Contd. on page 2)

VC's father passes on, prayers hold today

After a long life devoted to the service of Allah and humanity, Alhaji Liadi Akanbi Oloyede, father of the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Is-haq O. Oloyede, has answered the call of His Lord. He died at the age of 90 in the wee hours of Friday March 6, 2009 and had been buried same day at his house in Sango-Otta according to the Islamic rites.

In his lecture at the burial programme, the Chief Imam of the University of Lagos and leader of the representatives of its Muslim community, Prof. M.A. Badmus, said Imam Oloyede's death symbolised two lessons that he would like all and sundry to imbibe. The first is appreciation to God for a life well spent while the second lesson is a challenge to parents to build the nation by making sure they give their children sound training.

While noting that the late Imam Oloyede was successful as a nation builder for siring a son like Prof. Oloyede who is a trail blazer in the commitment to building his society and the nation,
(Contd. on page 3)



Prof. Oloyede preparing the grave for his late father

Eight new professors and 14 readers for Unilorin

(Contd. from front page)

Others are J.O. Adeniran, Professor of Surgery in the Department of Surgery; F. E. Ologe, Professor of Otorhinolaryngology in the Department of Otorhinolaryngology; and A.O. Ogunlela, Professor of Agricultural Engineering in the Department of Agricultural & Biosystems Engineering and A.S. Abdulsalam, erstwhile Professor of Linguistics at the University of Malaysia now Professor of Linguistics (Arabic and Applied Linguistics) in the Department of Linguistics and Nigerian Languages.



L-R: The Registrar & Secretary to the Council, Mrs. Oyeyemi, the Pro-Chancellor & Chairman of Council, Alh. Mani and the VC, Prof. Oloyede at the meeting.

The readers are Dr. R.A. Olaoye, Department of History; Dr. R.A. Olawepo, Department of Geography; Dr. C. Nwabuisi, Department of Medical Microbiology and Parasitology; Dr. A.A. Akande, Department of Chemical Pathology and Immunology; Dr. S.A. Adebisi, Department of Chemical Pathology & Immunology; Dr. I.A. Katibi, Department of Medicine and Dr. A.K. Salami, Department of Medicine.

Others are Dr. S.A. Kuranga, Department of Surgery; Dr. J.F.A. Owoye, Department of Ophthalmology; Dr. M.O. Yusuf, Department of Educational Technology; Dr. C.J. Ejieji, Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering; Dr. U.B. Eke, Department of Chemistry; Dr. U.S. Ugbomoiko, Department of Zoology and Dr.(Mrs.) G.C. Nzeh of the Department of Zoology.

It would be recalled that the Federal Government recently constituted the governing councils for the federal Universities in the Nigeria. The Council were inaugurated on Tuesday February 10, 2009 during which the University of Ilorin Council held its first meeting in Abuja. A retreat was organised for the new councils on Tuesday, February 24, 2009 at the National Universities Commission, Abuja and the first meeting of the University of Ilorin held last week, where the Council approved the appointment of 22 Readers and Professors.

One death, too many: Dopamu departs in peace

“**L**ord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy regulation; for mine eyes have seen great things at the University of Ilorin which you have laboured to do here for glory to all the people.”

These are the words with which the former Dean of Arts and former Director of General Studies Division, University of Ilorin, Prof. (Sir) Adelumola Peter Dopamu, had planned to end his inaugural lecture, “In the Service of Humanity” scheduled for Thursday, March 26, 2009.

But as God, the subject of his research interests, would wish, the foremost scholar and Professor of African and Comparative Religion, would not live to say the words. He died at the age of 65 in the early hours of Saturday March 7, 2009 after serving the University of Ilorin and humanity for 32 years, 21 of which he spent as a Professor.

The Knight of St. Christopher’s death came as a rude shock to the University community as he was very active in the past week. He was the most senior academic in the Faculty of Arts and author and editor of many important books including *Esu: The Invisible Foe of Man* and *African Culture, Modern Science and Religious Thought*.

Unilorin students make waves

Students of the University of Ilorin have continued to distinguish themselves as being ‘better by far’. This distinction was brought to bear on the brilliant performance of Miss. Maltina Adoyan of the Department of Mass Communication and another student of the Faculty of Law on different episodes of “the Good Nigerian”, an NTA educative network programme aimed at testing participants’ knowledge of Nigeria and her people, recently. The programme is sponsored by UAC foods.

Prayers hold today for late Imam Oloyede in Lagos

(Contd from front page)

Prof. Badmus observed that the calibre of people in attendance is an eloquent testimony to the success of the late Imam Oloyede, whose son was being proudly associated with.

Joining the respected don in thanking God, the Governor of Kano State, Mallam Ibrahim Shekarau described Prof. Oloyede as an epitome of scholarship who impacts positively on the society. He prayed that Allah grant the departed Chief Missioner of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaa'h eternal rest in Al-jannah.

In her remarks, the Deputy Governor of Ogun State and the representative of Ogun State Government, Mrs. Salmat Badru, described the death of late Alhaji Oloyede as a great loss to Islam. She prayed for the repose of the soul of the deceased and observed that he continues to live on account of his children, especially Prof. Oloyede, who she described as an illustrious brother-in-Islam and a role model.

In attendance at were the crème-de-la-crème of the Nigerian society including the Secretary General of the Nigerian Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs, Dr. Abdullateef Adegbite; Executive Secretary of MUSWEN, Prof. D.O.S. Noibi and Group Managing Director, Oodua Group of Companies, Mr. Bayo Jimoh, former National President of Ahmmadiyyah Muslim Jamaat, Alh. G.F. Animashaun and former Vice-Chancellor, University of Ilorin and Chairman, Federal Character Commission, Prof. S.O. AbdulRaheem.

Others were the Special Adviser to the President on NEPAD, Dr. Tunji Olagunju; Special Adviser to the President on legal affairs, Dr. Wale Babalakin, SAN; legal luminary, Mallam Yusuf Olaolu Alli, SAN; Vice-Chancellor of Al-Hikma University, Prof. R. Deremi Abubakre; Vice-Chancellor of Lagos State University, Prof. Lateef A. Hussein, former Vice-Chancellor, University of Cape- Coast, Ghana, Prof. Emmanuel Adow-Obeng, Dean of Arts, University of Cape Coast, Ghana, Prof. D. D. Kuupole and the Commissioner for Information Niger State and the representative of the Niger State Government.

Also in attendance were the Federal Commissioner, National Hajj Commission, Alh. Liad Tella; Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Osun State University and representative of Prof. Peter Okebukola, Pro-Chancellor, Prof. A.B. Okeshina; Proprietor of Daarul Uluum College, Sheikh Mustapha Zuglool and the delegation of Arabic Training Centre (Markaz), Agege, led by Shaikh Sulaiman Saruuji, among other clerics.

Also at the occasion were the Council members of the University of Ilorin, including the Pro-Chancellor, Alh. Tukur Mani, Chief (Mrs) Biodun Olujimi, Alh, Saka Sa'adu, Hon. Babatunde Eesuola and Mr. Sanni Garba as well as principal officers and members of the University of Ilorin Community including the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. K. L. Ayorinde; the Registrar, Mrs. O.O. Oyeyemi; the Bursar, Mr. Ayo Sijuwola; the acting University Librarian, Mrs. A. A. Adewoye, Provost, College of Health Sciences, Prof. B.J. Bojuwoye; former Dean of Arts, Prof. Y.A. Quadri; the Chief Imam of the University, Prof. AGAS Oladosu; Chairman, Unilorin Muslim Community, Prof. B. F. Sule; Deputy Chief Imam, Dr. Y. K. Jumu'ah; the Chief Imam of Auchu and Head of Arabic Department, Prof. Z.I. Oseni and many other professors and academic and non-academic staff.

The final prayers for the late Imam come up today Monday, March 9, 2009 at the late Imam's residence at No. 21, Solanke Street, Akoka, Yaba, Lagos near Federal College of Education (Technical) at 10 a.m. prompt. All are cordially invited.

Fast Facts File

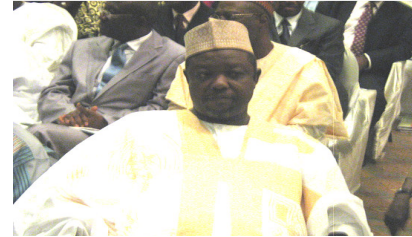
Did you know?

- ✓ Nigeria has 52 registered political parties. Only six control a state, at least.
- ✓ 42.54% of about 1.4 million students candidates obtained five credit passes and above in WASCE during the 2006, 2007 and 2008 period.
- ✓ Only about 35% of WASCE candidates had credit passes in English Language during the same three-year period.
- ✓ 77% of the WASCE candidates failed to get credit passes in Mathematics during the same period.

Meet the Pro-Chancellor

Alhaji Tukur Mani was born on April 5, 1954 in Kankara, Kankara Local Government Area of Katsina State. He began his formal education at Kankara Primary School, Kankara in 1961 and obtained his Primary School Leaving Certificate from the school in 1967. Between 1968 and 1972, he attended Government Secondary School, Funtua and before proceeding to the College of Arts and Science, Zaria, for his Higher School Certificate (HSC) between 1973 and 1974.

Alh. Mani attended Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria between 1974 and 1977 where he obtained Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology. He also attended Slough College of Higher Education, United Kingdom from 1981 to 1982 and School of International Tourism Sciences, Rome, Italy from 1991 to 1992. In 1987, Alh. Mani attended a Training Course on Statistics at the International Fertilizer Development Centre, in Alabama, United States of America.



Alhaji Mani

The Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council has had a fulfilling career as a civil servant in key sectors of the Nigerian society, from education to public relations, from agriculture to tourism, from hospitality to health, from communication to works and housing and from banking to politics.

At the completion of his National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) in 1978, the Pro-Chancellor joined Kaduna Polytechnic as an Assistant Secretary and was elevated to the position of Assistant Registrar, a year after (i.e between September 1979 and April, 1980). He also served as Public Relations Officer to Funtua Agricultural Development Project (May 1980 – September 1982 before he joined Farmers Supply Company as a Senior Commercial Officer in 1982 and rose through the ranks to become Deputy Commercial Manager in 1988.

After serving at various times as Director of Marketing of the Nigerian Tourist Board, Acting Director General/Chief Executive of Nigerian Tourism Development Cooperation (NTDC) and Director of Hospitality and Travels between 1988 and 1994, Alhaji Mani attained the peak of his career as a civil servant when he became the Director General/Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Commerce and Tourism on May 6, 1994, a position he occupied till February 1998.

Between February 1998 and his voluntary retirement from civil service in December 2001, Alhaji made his mark as the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Health, (February 1998 – June 1999), Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Communication (June 1999 – February 2000) and Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Works and Housing (February 2000 -December 2001).

As a shrewd manager of human and material resources, Alhaji Mani has contributed immensely to key sectors of the Nigerian economy as Board member, Kainji National Lake Management Board (1988-1991); Board member, Tourist Company of Nigeria (1988-1991); Chairman, Interim Management Board, Nigeria Hotels Ltd. (1994-1997); Chairman, Interim Management Board, NEXIM Bank (1994-1997); Chairman, Interim Management Board, Trade Fair Management, (1994-1997); Chairman, National Organising Committee of the 7th OAU/AEC All Africa Trade Fair (1996-1997) and Chairman, Interim Management Boards of NITEL, M-TEL, NIPOST and NCC (June 1999 to February 2000).

Alhaji Mani had served as Chairman, Funtua Fertilizer and Chemicals (2002 – 2007) and was a Member of the National Political Reforms Conference (2005). He is the National Financial Secretary of Peoples Democratic Party (since March 2008), Chairman, Governing Council of Hassan Usman Katsina Polytechnic (since May, 2007). He became the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman, Governing Council of the University of Ilorin in February 2009.

A widely traveled man, Alhaji Mani has undertaken several trips to attend international meetings seminars, conferences, trade and tourism fairs and exhibitions in various African, European and Asian countries.

Making the deal real: Unilorin rolls out redress mechanism

“If a student has a genuine reason to doubt the accuracy of his/her result given, such a student is free to task for his/her script for a re-assessment. A pertinent point here is that this is a two-dimensional scenario. While we are favourably disposed to students having their rights, including their right of appeal for re-marking, we won't allow you to cast aspersion on the integrity of your lecturers. In other words, while we won't condone unethical victimization or cheating of students, we won't tolerate any attempt to blackmail your lecturers”.

With the above words in his inaugural address, “Restoration of Students' Integrity: a New Deal for Undergraduates” to the students of the University, (see full address on pages 7-9) on January 4, 2008, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Is-haq O. Oloyede, drew the template of what many who know have observed to be the standard practice in all world-class universities abroad: the right of calling for re-marking.

Perhaps as a beneficiary of the same right as an undergraduate of the University of Ilorin more than three decades ago, Prof. Oloyede minced no words in articulating the new deal his administration offers the students. Pointing out that the right is a double-edged sword that should be wielded with care, the Vice-Chancellor maintained that for no reason will a student be allowed to go scot-free for raising “a storm in a teacup”.

It was as part of adding verve to the deal that a 12-point procedure for seeking redress in the University examination administration was been rolled out by the University senate at its last meeting on February 18, 2009. In other words, a student who believes that his/her score under-represents what he/she merits has to take the following steps to seek redress:

- (a) Fill a “Result Verification Form” (in triplicate), obtainable from the office of the Deputy Registrar (Academic).
- (b) The Deputy Registrar (Academic) shall give an instant acknowledgement by signing, stamping and giving a copy to the student, indicating the time and date.
- (c) A copy of the “Result Verification From” shall be sent to the HOD concerned by the Deputy Registrar (Academic).
- (d) The HOD, within one week, shall issue to the student, the verified result either confirming the old score or reflecting the new one. A copy shall also be forwarded to the Deputy Registrar (Academic).
- (e) Where a review occurs, the HOD is under obligation to give reasons and forward a copy of the Verification Report to the: Dean, Director of Academic Planning and Deputy Registrar (Academic).
- (f) In case the student is still not satisfied with the result, he/she shall obtain a “Script Re-mark Request Form” from the Deputy Registrar (Academic). The Form shall be field and submitted to the same office.
- (g) The Deputy Registrar (Academic) shall request for the Marking Scheme of the Course from the HOD concerned and forward it, together with all the scripts for that Course and the Student's Script Re-mark Request Form” to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, (Academic).
- (h) The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) shall pick at random scripts including that of the complainant and oversee the process of re-marking.
 - (i) The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) shall submit a report to the Vice-chancellor not later than four weeks from the submission of the “Script Re-mark Request Form”. The Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Dean of the concerned Faculty, Director of Academic Planning, Chairman, Committee of Deans, Deans, Student Affairs and the Head of Department concerned shall meet to consider the final report on the re-mark and forward same to Senate
- (j) Where an Examiner is found to have wilfully and deliberately victimized a student, the matter shall be referred to the Staff Disciplinary and Appeals Committee.
- (k) Where a student's claim is found to be frivolous, a fine of ₦50,000.00 shall be imposed as payment for the cost of the process.

Marriage is a problem-solver – Oladokun

This institution of marriage has been described as a problem-solver just as it has been disclosed that it takes two persons to make a marriage work, though many people gather to celebrate it.

This was part of the sermon delivered by the Chairman, Agbo-Oba Zone, Ilorin of Christ Apostolic Church, Pastor G.O. Oladokun, at the marriage of Olukayode Olabode Olayemi, and former Oluwadamilola Esther Orishabiyi (Oshabi) last weekend (March 7, 2009) at Christ Apostolic Church, Grace Tabernacle, Iyana-Ipaja Road, Lagos.

According to Pastor Oladokun, who was the presiding officiating minister at the occasion, the essence of marriage is to unite families and join hands in solving common problems in love. He enjoined the couple to talk together, reason together and keep together in accord and love as God Himself has decided to join them together.



L-R: Mrs. Olayemi, Prof. Oloyede, the couple, Mrs. Oloyede and Prof. Olayemi at the wedding

In his remarks, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and father of the groom, Prof. A. B. Olayemi, thanked God for making the day a reality. He advised the couple to understand each other and be prayerful saying that faith is the foundation of every successful marriage. He also thanked the guests, who had come from all parts of the family to share the joy with his family.

The holy matrimony was attended by the Vice-Chancellor and his wife, Prof. and Dr. I. O. Oloyede; the Registrar,

Mrs. O. O. Oyeyemi; the Bursar, Mr. A. Sijuwola; the Provost, College of Health Sciences, Prof. B. J. Bojuwoye; the Dean of Agriculture, Prof. O. A. Omotesho and the Dean of Science and his wife, Prof. and Mrs. J. A. Obaleye.

Also at the occasion were the former Dean of Arts and Council member, Prof. Y.A. Quadri, Prof. G.A. Olatunji of the Department of Chemistry; Dr. S.A. Raji, acting Head of Civil Engineering Department, Mr. E.D. Obafemi, Deputy Registrar (Establishment) and Mr. S.S. Shinkaye, former Deputy Registrar (Student Affairs) among others.

Unilorin introduces PDDE

A new programme, Post-Doctoral Diploma in Education (PDDE), will soon take off at the University of Ilorin.

The programme, aimed at equipping Ph.D holders with qualification in Education, will be mounted online, providing a window of opportunities for e-learning and distance education.

Illegal farming activities on University land

This is to remind the University Community and the general public that illegal farming activities within one (1) kilometer radius of University developed land areas is prohibited forthwith.

This is in furtherance of an earlier ultimatum given to the illegal farmers which expired on 31st December, 2008. Consequently, all those still involved in such illegal farming activities are given up to one week from the date of this announcement to harvest their crops as the University is set to recover its property by destroying the crops after this notice. No compensation will be paid for the loss of such crops.

Nevertheless, those wishing to farm outside one (1) kilometer of the built-up areas are advised to register with the Physical Planning Unit of the University at no cost.

Please note that the University will take appropriate steps to recover its property after this notice.

REGISTRAR, University of Ilorin

RESTORATION OF STUDENTS' INTEGRITY: A NEW DEAL FOR UNDERGRADUATES

Text of the address of the Vice-Chancellor, University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Professor Is-haq O.Oloyede, to the Undergraduates of the University on the occasion of the inauguration of Transitional and Electoral Commission for the Students Union of the University on Friday, 4th of January, 2008.

My dear students, it is a new day and an ample moment for a new beginning. The reality of University education in our country today is obvious to all discerning eyes. The rot that characterizes most of what goes for university education and undergraduates today is due to a myriad of systemic factors. These problems, these factors, these obstacles that militate against functional education and quality graduates in learning and character are not insurmountable, provided all of us as stakeholders decide to play our part. A tree does not make a forest and you cannot clap with one hand. For the university system to work, everyone of us must work. And we must work hard. Our mission is a passionate commitment to your success. Our vision is the restoration of all what made students in the past to be proud as students. The thrust of our administration is what I call "a student-centred administration with a focus on the restoration of the integrity and status of the undergraduate students" aimed at benefiting all.

All we need from you is cooperation. All we need from you is discipline. All we need from you is devotion to your studies and determination to excel. All we need from you is to comport yourself in such a way as to make the best use of the opportunities available to you now. When I say this is a student-centred administration, do not take it as a mere sophistry. It is an abiding philosophy, an operational blueprint. This is because I was a student like you, right here in this University three decades ago. If there were some things on ground that made me succeed as a student here in the late seventies, why should the same conditions not be made available, as much as the prevalent circumstances allow, now in the new millennium?

Towards the achievement of our objectives regarding the restoration of integrity, many things are being put in place. We can quickly gloss through some of them. Toilet facilities are being provided now so that as civilized people, you will continue to be decent with human waste disposal, the previous pattern of which constituted a disgrace. We are providing facilities that will make you register with ease. Rather than go out of the campus to the banks, we have drawn many banks right to your door-step so that they may serve you better. We have reached an understanding with them that the era of exorbitant charges is over and under no condition should the commission charged by banks on bank draft for payment of charges be more than N100 instead of the prevailing rate of between N350.00 and N350.00. Indeed, there are many banks from which you can choose from to pay your fees with ease. No staff will collect money from you henceforth; the banks will do.

We are consulting with hostel managers to improve on our existing hostel facilities. We are collaborating with partners in our drive to provide more hostel accommodation. Efforts are at top gear to refurbish your various common-rooms, give them a face-lift and make it much easier for you to live with dignity. When you are dignified, it becomes easier for us too to train you in the best practices that will make you succeed not only in the University of Ilorin but also in the larger University of Life.

As far as your academics is concerned, it is apposite to say that is your primary assignment here, the core of your being students. Every other thing is peripheral. Part of the deal is that we would like to see you motivated and encouraged so that our vision of your excellence will be realized right before our eyes. In this respect, the prestigious University Undergraduate Scholarship has been restored. University scholars have emerged among you from various faculties based on merit. Every parent will be proud for his/her child to be proclaimed a University scholar and so you will. We believe that we should create a drive or internal force that will propel some of you to self-discovery and greater success. I told an audience recently that my parents only paid for my first year fees in this University. The University paid the rest as I enjoyed the scheme from my second year till I graduated. What was good for Oloyede is good for anyone of you too who is ready to square up to the challenge. The requirement is simple: stand out from the rest by being outstanding and you will be duly recognized and rewarded.

As firm believers in openness and transparency, we are creating channels for the verification of results. You would observe that in the last remedial exercise, all students had access to their scores in the various subjects they offered. It is no longer business as usual by which only the pass list would be released. All results will be accessible and verifiable. If a student has a genuine reason to doubt the accuracy of his/her result as given, such a student is free to ask for his/her script for a re-assessment. A pertinent point here is that this is a two-dimensional scenario. While we are favourably disposed to students having their rights, including the right of appeal for re-marking, we won't allow you to cast aspersion on the integrity of your lecturers. In other words, while we won't condone unethical victimization or cheating of the students, we won't tolerate any attempt to blackmail your lecturers. To cry wolf or raise a storm in a tea-cup by a student will be penalized if eventually the judgement of the lecturer indicted is upheld as a fair and correct assessment. All scripts, after moderation, are now in the custody of the Central Administration.

In furtherance of our resolve to be current and vibrant, we will try our best to improve on power supply. One fact you all have to appreciate is that the issue of power generation and distribution is a macro phenomenon. The power situation in Nigeria is shamefully erratic and irregular. We are operating within such a system and our dream, our vision, is constrained by the reality of the circumstances beyond our control. Nevertheless, it is our commitment that the academic area be provided with light between 10 and 4, at all cost. The hostels will be providing alternative electricity too between 7p.m. and 10p.m. As for the library, we have decided on an all-round, twenty-four hours power supply so that you may be able to sit down and discharge your main duty in the University.

At this juncture, let me quickly direct your attention to Mahatma Ghandi, the father of modern India referred to by his admirers as "the master mind." It was Ghandi who identified the seven blunders of the modern world, as developed as it is assumed to be, as wealth without work, pleasure without conscience, knowledge without character, commerce without morality, science without humanity, worship without sacrifice and politics without principle. The extent to which he is right is known to you all but the important lesson therein is that you shouldn't join the blundering band-wagon. Another Ghandi, actually his grandson, Harun, added the eight, which he identified as rights without responsibilities, the point I would like to harmer on.

Every right that you have has its corresponding responsibilities, the chief among which is that you should be law-abiding. The only way through which you can appreciate our efforts is by being law-abiding, vigilant and honest. The University has its rules and regulations just like every responsible organization. Do not allow disgruntled elements anywhere anyhow to use you in a way that is detrimental to your own interest. Nothing can be achieved in an atmosphere of crises and pandemonium. Nothing can be achieved in a climate of lawlessness and arbitrariness. Play the game according to the rules and you will all be better for it. **The Ilorin-12 is a lesson for all.**

The notion of playing the game according to the rule is also relevant now that we are lifting the ban on student unionism. It is your responsibility to do your internal scrutiny well so that you will have responsible leaders. The era of brawl and brawn is over, this is the age of brain. Those who rule and dominate the world are not giants by their physical sizes but they are giants by their mental faculties. Just look at the world, it will be compellingly true to you that mere brawn and empty bravura do not solve problems, they rather exacerbate them. This is a new age and the slogan of "aluta", which conjures destruction and violence in impressionistic minds, is outdated and archaic. Let's sing a new song, a song of dialogue, a song on sound intellectual engagement. Make constructive suggestions and critical analyses and you will be surprised by our forthrightness and sensitivity.

So sensitive to your interest we are that we are labouring day and night now to see that the final year students among you graduate in time so that the unnecessary delay of waiting for NYSC will be avoided. We have condensed the academic session so that they will graduate by July and get ready for the next level. This is at a great cost to the University, which has agreed to pay excess money of five hours per week to lecturers so that they may do their job conscientiously. Our own reasoning is that though it is said that slow and steady wins the race, but that is reasonable only in the absence of speed and accuracy. Your interest is our top priority and your cooperation in helping us to advance that interest is a core

requirement. Talk to yourselves and enjoin yourselves to be partners in progress with us. When we work together, things will work for us all, a collective interest.

On a final note, this is the “Information Age”, as you must be aware. Computeracy is fast replacing literacy. You need to be ICT- (Information and Communication Technology) compliant. Anyone that is deprived of ICT is systematically burying himself or herself in an uncovered grave. We want you to be actively involved in our ICT strategic plan. We are creating the requisite infrastructural backbone for a University environment powered by ICT. Very soon, all things being equal and God on our side, the whole University will be a place where you can surf the net and browse, taking advantage of the wireless internet connection. Be studious. Be disciplined. Be organized. When you do these, even the sky cannot be your limit.

Thank you very much.

Mark your calendar as Unilorin hosts conferences

A part from regular lectures to which seasoned academic and resource persons are invited to cross-fertilise ideas with the members of the University community, the University of Ilorin in its commitment to academic excellence will be hosting many learned conferences this year, some of which include:

1. Conferences of Association of Deans of Postgraduate Schools in Nigerian Universities -
March 10 – 13
 2. Association of African Universities (AAU) to be co-hosted by the University of Ilorin
and Abuja – May 4 – 9
 3. Association of Vice-chancellors of Nigerian Universities – June 1 – 4
 4. 28th Annual Conference of the Nigeria Mathematical Society – June 22 - 27
 5. Unilorin UCC International Conference – Late June/early July
 6. International Conference on Higher Education and globalization – July 13 – 15
 7. First Biennial Conference of the Centre for Peace and Strategic Studies – August 3 – 5
 8. Annual Civil Engineering Conference – August 26 – 28
 9. International Conference on Islamic Banking and Finance – October 6 – 8
 10. Genetic Society of Nigeria – October 19 – 22
- African Network in Global and Universal History to be hosted by the Department of History –
December 9 – 12.

Come and rejoice with my family - Aiyelabegan

The family of Alhaji & Alhaja Taiye Issa Aiyelabegan have invited colleagues, friends and well wishers in the University community to join them in conjugal celebrations as their daughter, Sidiqat Oluwatosin, unites with her heartthrob, Yusuf Agboola Zubair. The *walimatul Qur'an* (Bride) comes up this Saturday (March 14, 2009) at 14, Otan Lane, Agbaji Pakata Road, Ilorin by 9a.m while the wedding reception holds at Niger River Basin open field, Ilorin by 12:00noon same day.

Unilorin in the News

(Contd. from page 10)

- ✓ The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin has remarked that the University's new F.M. station will not only be of service to the University, the host community of the University will also benefit. ('Here comes F.M. Radio'), "UNILORIN File" *The Nation*, Thursday March 5, 2009 p.22 and for other reports on Unilorin like "Training with Microsoft", "Unilorin at NUGA finals", "Parents praise VC" see the same page)
- ✓ A Professor of Educational Psychology, Shehu Jimoh, has frowned at the emphasis placed on emphasis on sciences at the expense of arts saying that 'if you kill arts, you destroy the heart'. ('Don decries much emphasis on science' *National Mirror*, Thursday, March 5, 2009, p. 30)
- ✓ The Faculty of Arts, University of Ilorin, has organised a send-off programme to honour its retiring/retired four academic staff: Prof. Sam A. Adewoye, Prof. Rasheed A. Raji, Prof. Yekeen A. Ajayi and Dr. Gabriel A. Ajadi. (UNILORIN Arts Faculty honours retirees', *National Mirror*, same as above, p. 33)
- ✓ The University of Ilorin has organised its 89th inaugural lecture, the title of which is "If Gold Rusts...?" delivered by Prof. Shehu Jimoh. ('UNILORIN holds 89th inaugural lecture', *National Mirror*, same as above, p.34)

Unilorin in the News

- ✓ Professor Shehu Jimoh has proffered, during the 89th inaugural lecture of the University of Ilorin, that Nigeria should evolve its philosophy which would endure regardless of who is in power.
(‘Ineffective leadership bane of Nigeria says Sheu Jimoh’, *The Herald*, Monday March 2, 2009, p.5)
- ✓ The University of Ilorin Senate has approved the award of 323 postgraduate degrees.
(‘323 Unilorin postgraduate students confirmed for graduation’, same as above, p.13)
- ✓ The University of Ilorin will on Wednesday the 4th of March receive the operating license of its F.M Station from the Nigerian Broadcasting Commission, NBC.
(‘More campus radio for higher institutions’, *The Guardian*, Monday March 2, 2009 p.8)
- ✓ Prof. Sheu Jimoh has called for the evolution of a national culture in Nigeria while delivering his inaugural lecture at the University of Ilorin recently.
(‘Don calls for evolution of national culture’, *Daily Independent*, Monday, March 2, 2009, p.A6)
- ✓ The Nigerian Broadcasting Commission, NBC. is issuing the University of Ilorin and 17 other Nigerian Universities F.M Station operating license on Wednesday the 4th of March.
(‘Fed. Govt. okays 18 Campus radio broadcasting Licenses’, *The Nation*, Mon. March 2, 2009, p.21).
- ✓ A lecturer in the Department of English, University of Ilorin and Secretary of the Unilorin Muslim Community, Mr. Mahfouz Adedimeji has traced Islamophobia to its historical roots just as he has and suggested a five-pronged approach to tackling it at a lecture delivered to the Muslim students of the Federal Polytechnic, Offa.
(‘How to confront Islamophobia, University don’, *National Pilot*, Mon. 2nd –Wed.4th March, ‘09, p.11).
- ✓ At a lecture organised by the Department of Civil Engineering, University of Ilorin, Mr. Ebenezer Olawuyi, Kwara State Coordinator of Raw Materials Research and Development Council, has identified low level of technology as the main constraint to the industrial development of Nigeria.
(‘Low level technology, bane of industrial growth’, *National Pilot*, same as above.)
- ✓ The Kogi State Government has promised to support the University of Ilorin in improving student accommodation and transportation.
(‘Kogi Govt. promises support for Unilorin’, same as above, p.12)
- ✓ The University of Ilorin will receive its F.M. Radio Station license from the NBC on Wednesday the 4th of March.
(‘Fed. Govt. Okays 18 campus radio broadcasting Licenses’, *The Nation*, Monday Marc 2, 2009, p.12)
- ✓ The 89th inaugural lecturer of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Shehu Jimoh has called on Nigerians to redefine their scale of values for the nation to move forward.
(‘Redefine your priorities, Nigerians told,’ *Nigerian Tribune*, Tuesday March 3, 2009, p.18)
- ✓ The Parents and Guardian Forum of the University of Ilorin has commended the University for its giant strides and advancement in webometric ranking
(‘Parents commend Unilorin VC,’ *The Herald*, Wednesday March 4, 2009, p.4)
- ✓ A Professor of Educational Psychology, Professor Shehu Jimoh, has opined during his inaugural lecture that instead of the ‘begin again’ mentality, Nigerian leaders should adopt continuity for a stable development in the country.
(‘Nigeria lacks continuity- Shehu Jimoh’, *National Pilot*, Thursday 5th Sun 8th March, 2009, p.16).
- ✓ An observer has analysed the tide of positive changes in the University of Ilorin which has benefited the University students.
(‘Tide changes at Unilorin’, *Nigerian Tribune*, Thursday March 5, 2009, p.32) *(Contd. on page 9)*

Quotes of the Week

Youth is a malady of which one becomes cured a little every day. - Benito Mussolini

A man can't be too careful in the choice of his enemies. – Oscar Wilde

My advice to you is to get married. If you find a good wife, you'll be happy; if not, you'll become a philosopher. – Socrates.

As soon as man is born, he is old enough to die. –Martin Heidegger