



Aliyu charts way forward to national integration

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Chief Servant of Niger State, Dr. Aliyu delivering his lecture at the University of Ilorin last Monday

The Governor of Niger State, Dr. Mu'azu Babangida Aliyu, has maintained that for Nigeria to be truly integrated, same privileges accorded to the indigenes of the states should be extended to all non-indigenous residents of each state of the country.

Speaking as the Guest Lecturer at the First Distinguished Personality Lecture of the Centre for Peace and Strategic Studies, University of Ilorin, on the topic, "National Integration as a Tool for Sustainable Development: Issues for Peace and Strategic Studies", Dr. Aliyu, who holds a Ph.D in International Relations from the University of Pittsburgh, anchored his proposition on the contributions of such residents to the economy of the state. He added that peace is a critical factor that must be on well entrenched before national integration can be achieved. *(Contd. on page 2)*

Unilorin matriculates students for 2008/09 session

The University of Ilorin has matriculated a total number of 4,565 students for the 2008/2009 academic session.

The matriculation ceremony, which came up last Thursday (December 18, 2008), was attended by the principal officers of the University, deans, directors and heads of departments as the auditorium was filled to capacity by the joyous matriculating students resplendent in their academic gowns.

In his address, "Dare to Excel: Start where you Stand!" the Chairman of the occasion and Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Is-haq O. Oloyede... *(Contd. on page 3)*



Professor Oloyede addressing the students

How to achieve national integration in Nigeria, by Aliyu

(Contd. from front page)

The Chief Servant of Niger State also called on state governments to improve education at the primary and secondary school levels just as he posited that tertiary education must be relevant to societal needs. He stressed that national integration presupposes heterogeneity of components of the nation and refusal to integrate denies nations the attainment of greatness and sustainable development, with such societies plagued by indiscipline, feuds and corruption. He described effective leadership as an imperative to national integration.

“A leadership that is purposeful, result-oriented, sincere, transparent, accountable, responsible, that is God-fearing ... strives to create mechanisms for unity, internal cohesion, and engenders national loyalty across all sections of the country. Such leadership is, in my view, the integrative leadership role, where the leader’s first instinct will be ‘service to the people’ rather than ‘personal survival’,” he submitted.

In his welcome address, the Director of the Centre for Peace and Strategic Studies, University of Ilorin, Dr. Isaac Albert, said that the establishment of the Centre in the year 2008 epitomises the positive revolution going on at the University of Ilorin, adding that the centre kicked off this session with 58 students in view of masters and Ph.D degrees.



WELL DONE: Prof. Oloyede receiving a copy of Dr. Aliyu’s lecture from him

In his address as the Chairman of the occasion, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Is-haq Oloyede, reflected on the concept of chief *servanthood*

that operates in Niger State and traced it to two *Muhammedan* sayings: “the leader of a people is their servant” and “you are all shepherds and you shall all account for the welfare of your flock.”

Prof. Oloyede used the occasion to lament the elusiveness of peace in modern times and added that the establishment of the Centre for Peace and Strategic Studies is to provide manpower in the field of peace and development studies as part of the response of the university to the collective need to achieve peace as a strategy towards development. He added that the need for the theory and practice of peace could hardly be more urgent than now and that given the fact that war is the only alternative to peace, peace issues are embedded in the answer to the national question. He reiterated his condemnation of the recent Jos crises positing that peace in the society starts with individual peace of mind which is achieved through true faith and love. According to him, tranquility of the heart is the starting point of global peace.

The Vice-Chancellor expressed his belief that the diversity in the Nigerian cultures should be construed as flowers adorning the Nigerian national garden. He went ahead to highlight the importance of unity or integration and underscored it as the global trend and the idea behind achievements and progress, evident in the coming together of the members of European Union and the phenomenal advancement of the USA.

Present at the occasion, which was covered live, by the network service of the *Nigerian Television Authority* was the Deputy Governor of Kwara State, Chief Joel Ogundeji, members of the cabinet and legislative councils of Kwara and Niger States, Principal Officers and key functionaries of the University of Ilorin as well as officers of the Nigerian Army.

Faculty of Education COBES to impact on Ilorin, VC

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Is-haq O. Oloyede, has declared that the University of Ilorin will extend free services to all secondary schools in Ilorin with a view to contributing to the educational development of the community at no cost to the schools.

At a recent Faculty of Education Day at the University of Ilorin, Prof. Oloyede revealed that the Ilorin community will soon feel the impact of the Community Based Experience and Services (COBES) initiative. He told the students of the Faculty of Education that with their 2,000 naira paid for COBES and their presence on the field, their contributions to the future of the society will ensure that there is a tomorrow for them to lead.

(Contd. from front page)

congratulated the fresh students and moralised them on good behaviour, charging them too be good ambassadors of their families and communities.

While anchoring his address on a poem that urges readers/listeners to watch their thoughts, words, actions, habits, and character, which have implications for people's destiny, Prof. Oloyede challenged the fresh students to be well guided.

He remarked that the students are not only fortunate for being undergraduates, they are lucky to be students of the University of Ilorin, "ranked now the best of the 96 universities in the country."

"Be good; be honest; be truthful; be kind; be respectful; be obedient and be self-disciplined. To a large extent, your character or personality determines your destiny, your future", he counselled.

The Registrar, Mrs. Olufolake O. Oyeyemi, administered the matriculation oaths on the students, who all pledged to be law abiding members of the university community.

In a chat with *Unilorin Bulletin*, a matriculating student of Anatomy Department, Abdur-Rasheed Salahudeen expressed his joy to be a student of the University of Ilorin, saying that his admission was a dream fulfilled and an opportunity he, like any other no right-thinking student, would allow to slip away through acts of misconduct.

3 lecturers appointed into state committee

Three lecturers of the University of Ilorin have been appointed by Kwara State Government into a nine-man committee charged to review the Islamic Studies Curriculum for Primary Schools in the State. The lecturers are Dr. Yusuf K. Jimoh and Dr. Abubakar Imam Ali-Agan of the Department of Religions. The Secretary to the Committee is Alh. AbdulLateef Onireti of the Department of Arabic.

The Committee, inaugurated by the Kwara State Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, has three months to complete its assignment, which concerns breaking the Holy Quran to six years of study from primary one to six, developing a framework for ensuring that the learning outcome is properly integrated into the school time table and advising the government on the effective distribution and utilisation of teaching resources for Islamic Studies.

Postgraduate students organise dinner

The Postgraduate Students Association of the University of Ilorin has organised a dinner to mark the beginning of the 2008/2009 academic session. The association also used the opportunity of the dinner to present issues that concern the welfare of its members to the administration.

The President of the Association, Mr. Ajakaiye pleaded with the university administration to accord postgraduate students the same interest it has in undergraduate students. The postgraduate students also pleaded with the university authority to facilitate the processing of their results with dispatch as they complained that some of the hostel facilities meant for them are being occupied by undergraduate students.

Prof C.O. Akoshile who represented the Vice-Chancellor at the event explained that strange as it might sound, some postgraduate students do not fill their forms properly and this among other things on the part of students account for the delay in the release of results. He advised the postgraduate students against keeping away from the university as soon as they submit their dissertations and theses stressing that they should rather keep close to their departments as it is the results forwarded by departments that the Senate would process. Professor Akoshile promised to communicate the concerns of the students to the appropriate quarters.

There is need for tests to be tested - Abiri

The continual training of evaluators and measurement specialists in the Faculties of Education in Nigerian universities has been described as indispensable to the actualisation of the seven-point agenda of the Yar'adua administration. The foundation Dean of the Faculty of Education, University of Ilorin, Professor J.O.O. Abiri, who was the Guest Lecturer at the Faculty of Education Day and Award ceremonies took this stand in his paper entitled "The Role of Faculties of Education in the Implementation of the 7-point Agenda of the Federal Government of Nigeria."

Prof. Abiri posited that governments at all levels should not rest on their oars at the point of formulating policies, or at the point of releasing funds, but should understand that the importance of engaging relevant academic divisions and departments cannot be overemphasised.

He also explained that there is every tendency that tests administered in educational institutions would be invalid if the tests are not subjected to the scrutiny of trained specialists.

Speaking at the occasion, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Is-haq Oloyede, commended the Dean of the Faculty, Prof. D.O. Durosaro for coming up with such a grand programme within just four months at the helms of affairs at the Faculty. He extolled the achievements of the University and described the University as fortunate, based on its achievements. He reminisced on the days of Professor Durosaro, his fellow alumnus of the University of Ilorin, as the S.U.G. President and also recalled that the tradition of the Faculty lecture in the University of Ilorin is rooted in the open day event of the University's Institute of Education.

Highlights of the occasion included the conferment of special awards on fifteen distinguished alumni or former staff of the Faculty, who have all carved a niche for themselves in various walks of life. Among the awardees are two traditional rulers, the Ohi Adavi, in Adavi, Kogi State, Dr. Asuki Ibrahim and the Orangun of Ila, Oba Wahab Oyetodun, who was accompanied to the occasion by five traditional rulers from Osun State.

Other awardees include the CEO of SERVICOM in Nigeria, Dr. Mrs. C.O. Famuro, the Deputy Governor of Ekiti State, Dr. T. Lawal, the Registrar of the Federal College of Education, Oyo, Mr. Jimi Olukoya, Prof S.H Umoh of the Department of Counselor Education, University of Ilorin, and also Professors J.O Abiri, I.O. Oloyede and D.O. Durosaro.

Unilorin tops Nigeria in African universities ranking

In a recent 2008 University Rankings top 100 Africa Universities by *4Internaitonal Colleges and Universities*, University of Ilorin has emerged on top of other Nigerian Universities. According to the website of the group, www.4icu.org, seven Nigerian universities are among the best 100 in Africa. The University of Ilorin is ranked No. 52, followed by Obafemi Awolowo University (No. 62), University of Ibadan (No. 70), University of Port-Harcourt (No. 74), University of Nigeria (No. 81), Olabisi Onabanjo University (No. 92) and Ahmadu Bello University (No. 95).

While the University of Ilorin is committed to excelling in all rankings and it is not satisfied with being the best in Nigeria but being the best in Africa, it is significant to note that in a similar webometric ranking last year, the University of Ilorin was not listed in the top 100 Universities in Africa.

What pundits are saying is that if the former Executive Secretary of the National Universities of Commission were a prophet or a seer, he would make a brilliant career. They say it was he who said that people should mark his words into their books of recording forecasts: "...By the time Professor Oloyede is through with University of Ilorin as Vice-Chancellor, you will not only be 'BETTER BY FAR', if you permit the usage, you will be FAR, FAR, BETTER BY FAR'."

With the University emerging best in Nigeria just a year after this administration, there is no doubt that if the University continues to move at the pace it has set for itself, it will in no time be ranked best in Africa, and will later assume a leading position in the global ranking. It is possible.

THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER

Text of a Keynote Address delivered by the Vice-Chancellor, University of Ilorin, Professor I-shaq O. Oloyede on the occasion of the Formal Opening ceremony of the 2008 Conference/ Annual General Meeting of the Association of Nigerian Universities Professional Administrators (ANUPA) at the Auditorium, University of Ilorin, on Wednesday, November 26, 2008.

You Are Welcome

Distinguished administrators of the Nigerian University system, it is my boundless joy to welcome you heartily to the University of Ilorin for your 2008 Annual Conference / General Meeting. It is my fervent hope that you will find the short time you will be spending with us memorable such that very soon, you will still want to come to our University for your future programmes of this nature. On behalf of the entire management, staff and students of the University, I welcome you once again to our campus.

As a conference is a meeting of minds for discussing matters of common concern, a forum for an interchange of views, a platform for finding solutions to problems, I believe that your well-chosen theme, “The Professional Administrators in the Contemporary University System” will generate serious issues that will eventually improve the quality of administrative acumen and enhance the pattern of service delivery among the esteemed members of your association so that our university system will be better off, ultimately.

The University

The University is an epitome of scholarship, the pinnacle of research and the cornerstone of development. It is a place where civilizations are shaped, where youths are prepared and the future of a country is determined. Universities make cities and nations and that is why when we say Oxford, Cambridge, etc., our minds go first to the Universities, not mainly the cities. Universities make cities universally recognized and most people in the world only know Ilorin, Ibadan, Ife, etc. because of the universities there.

The university is the faculty, the staff and students united by the common zeal to pursue knowledge, develop education and enhance skills for the betterment of our world and the advancement of humanity. The University is the confluence of ideas that shape the destiny of mankind. The progress of the world is actually the progress of the University system that has nurtured minds and trained brains that, through rigorous research and community service, to achieve the contemporary civilization.

Our University System

The Nigerian university system is bedeviled by many problems. *The truth of the matter* is that we are not performing very well. The Federal Ministry of Education stated a few months back that “the University of education is in a state of decay”. Just last week, Professor Munzali Jibril, former Executive Secretary of National Universities Commission, declared right here that our education, the university system inclusive, is a failure. Not only he has echoed that note of bitter truth, several commentators and observers have described the reality of our university education in unsalutary terms. This had informed why Professor Wole Soyinka urged the stakeholders in our university system to “pull back and go back to the drawing board.”

The President, Alhaji Umaru Musa YarÁdua, in his Convocation Address at our University here last month succinctly expressed the reason behind the establishment of universities. According to him, “Our universities have been established, so that they will accelerate the nation’s technological development and improve our society for the better.” If self-assessment is very important because every notable recovery begins with self-discovery, it is not out of place to examine how far we have fared in fulfilling the objective behind our establishment. *The truth of the matter*, if we won’t delude ourselves, is that we are far behind.

How Far So Far?

It is mind-bugling and sense-numbing that 60 years after the establishment of our Premier University, the University of Ibadan, we are in no position to celebrate many achievements but we are admitting our 'failure', 'the rot' and 'the decadence' underpinning our university system. While I personally do not believe much in the politics of ranking, I am still of the opinion that if only to gear us up and motivate us to act purposively, the various rankings cannot fully be discountenanced. For example, today, not one African university is on the list of the world's top 50, which comprises 22 American, five British, five Swiss, three Canadian, two Japanese, two Australian and one Singaporean universities.

As if this is not embarrassing enough, our 'Giant of Africa' is not represented in the list of top 50 African universities, where South Africa that should be trudging behind us, as she finds her feet after many years of crippling apartheid, parades the top eight in succession. According to the 2008 Webometric ranking of African universities, the best 50 African universities consist of 13 South African, nine Egyptian, eight Moroccan, three Kenyan, two Ghanaian, two Algerian and two Namibian universities. In addition, Senegal, Mauritius, Zimbabwe Tanzania, Rwanda, Botswana, Somalia, Sudan, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia and Mozambique all have a university each in the top 50.

It is a serious matter and a slap on our university system that, through whatever ranking method employed anyday, that the war-ravaged Somalia and the war-weary Sudan compete better than Nigeria. This is simply calamitous but it will not continue. With all modesty, the University of Ilorin is positioned to correct the situation very soon. In the 2008 web popularity ranking of Nigerian Universities by www.4icu.org, "an international higher education search engine and directory reviewing world-wide accredited universities and colleges", the University of Ilorin comes on top of 75 Nigerian universities listed. Following the University of Ilorin in the top 10 are Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife; University of Ibadan; University of Port-Harcourt; University of Nigeria, Nsuka; Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago-Iwoye; Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria; Abti-American University, Yola; and Lagos Business School/ Pan-African University, Victoria Island.

Let's Face It

It is a home truth that our universities suffer from diverse problems that continue to retard our growth and stunt our development. Some of these problems are identified by observers and stakeholders as insufficient budgetary allocation (which is not an excuse for failure, anyway), inadequate infrastructural supply and maintenance, poor remuneration (like Oliver Twist, we always ask for more), poor condition of service, the oft-touted paucity of funds and its associated variegated problems, the perennial strike actions by professional associations and the accompanying effects on the mission of the University, apathy to work, negative and ambivalent attitude to learning and poor administration.

My belief is that no system is perfect and there is nowhere that sufficient funds are available, definitely not in some African universities that are ranked higher than ours. More often than not, it is easy and convenient to complain always of paucity of funds where actually the real problem is the poverty of ideas. I tell my fellow academics that the usual complaint of 'no research funding' is not applicable because there is a whole lot of money available to fund good research proposals. But such proposals are not always forthcoming.

In other words, regardless of the problems with which we excuse our failure, the onus of the responsibility lies in you as professional administrators to find a way out to stabilize the university and galvanize its members to higher potentials. There is no business, there is no organization, there is no establishment that can perform better than the thinking minds that are charged with administering it. So, the progress of the university system is the progress of its management. Therefore, in a sense, saying that the Nigerian university is rotten is to say that our successive administrators have not lived up to their expectation. That is *the truth of the matter*.

End Result

The consequence of the problems identified, in which government, parents, administrators, students, the society itself, play their parts, a critical area of concern about which we should all be bothered is the degeneration of the university system into a breeding ground for social misfits. The combination of factors responsible for this decadence is yet to be fully explored but blind imitation appears to be a most prominent factor. Newspapers and periodicals regale us with the stories of how male undergraduates now engage in armed robbery across the nation while female students have become so depraved as to become professional prostitutes.

There is no smoke without fire. A university system is built on culture and each university should reflect the culture of the community it serves, while it is still relevant to the international community. An ideal university is *glocal* in orientation, meaning that it is local by allowing itself to be firmly rooted in its traditions and global in terms of its dynamism, reach and openness. This means that we have to internalize our core tradition and values and we have to internationalize. Internationalization without internalization is meaningless. It appears that our Universities of today are not administered in such a way as to produce young men and women who will be proud of their cultural identities as world citizens. This is a challenge to professional administrators.

Simply Grim

I recently came across some grim statistics about the moral situation in the United States over a year ago and I fear that we may not be far from there, if care is not taken, at the rate at which our children are negatively *internationalizing*: nearly 30% of all American teens have sex by age 15. The number more than doubles by age 18. About four in 10 women become pregnant at least once before age 20, or about a million a year. Only 20% will actually have the child. Eight in 10 of the pregnancies are unintended and 79% involve unmarried teens.

In the US, which our students, with our direct and indirect connivance, look up to for direction through movies and media, more than 20 significantly prevalent sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) affect 12 million newly infected persons each year. Young American students between the ages of 13 and 24 contract HIV at the rate of 2 per hour and about three million teenagers get an STD on a yearly basis. The moral situation is worsening by the day. Are we parents leading by example to these youngsters?

The Way Out

It is natural that clouds must always pervade the horizon but the sun must always find its way through. We cannot afford to be making excuses on our lacks but we should be creative in addressing our problems, especially those that deal with the human factor. The only thing we need do is change, because it is *change we need*, as the American President-elect, Barack Obama would say. We can only change our system and change our world when we change our attitudes. Bringing about this change requires administrators especially to embrace discipline, dedication and diligence. I do not know how many of us stakeholders in the university system that can assert that we are disciplined, dedicated and diligent in carrying out our duties responsibilities.

Discipline requires us to be self-disciplined and to administer without fear or favour. Discipline requires operating beyond primordial sentiments and allowing justice to reign. Discipline encompasses its moral, financial, academic and managerial aspects. The first law in heaven is order and to sanitize the system, the principle of discipline is a cardinal requirement. We cannot enforce discipline if we ourselves as administrators lack it. An Arabic aphorism says that he who lacks something cannot give it.

Dedication also appears to be a missing factor in our administrative set-up. We have to move away from the jaundiced saying that we don't have to sweat on government's job. Lack of dedication has led us to where we are. A situation in which a memo is allowed to gather dust for several weeks is unwholesome. I am aware that some administrators will refuse to append just their signature on a very clear and unambiguous issue. For some administrators, waiting for just five minutes after the official work hours is

like climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. *The truth of the matter* is that we are not as dedicated to duty as we are supposed to be and the consequence is that we lag behind others.

Then, diligence appertains to efficiency and what is worth doing at all is worth doing well. Discipline and dedication without diligence will eventually be meaningless. It is my strong conviction that if we do our own bits right, we would make the system better. It is my unshakeable belief that with discipline, dedication and diligence, at the level of management, we will impact more meaningfully on the system and we shall be better by far than we are now.

Topical Issues

The four papers that are scheduled for presentation by leading administrative and legal gurus are promising in addressing various aspects of the points I have raised. The first paper, “The Registry and the Dynamics of University Administration and Management”, is significant to the centrality of the registry, the engine room of the University system, in driving the university to higher levels of efficiency. The second paper on “Statutory and Legal Responsibilities of University Administrators in Service Delivery”, I am sure, will have serious implications for dedication and diligence that I briefly highlighted. The third paper, “Professionalism, Culture & Ethics in University Administration” is crucial and relevant to the need for sticking to our best traditions and being disciplined in internalizing traditions and internationalizing knowledge and values. “Mentoring and Professional Development for the University Administrators” will certainly be of importance to improving the system and assuring qualitative administration.

The speakers, including a Senior Advocate of Nigeria, are all experienced administrators and I am sure that the presentations will be beneficial. So beneficial will the papers be such that emphasis will be placed on actual work or service and the claims and counter-claims of professionalism and centrality will thaw in the face of performance. In essence, what ultimately matters is to get the job done and all stakeholders have crucial roles to play, particularly the members of this association, so that the centre will hold and our university system will be more relevant in discharging its functions to humanity.

Professional Note

In his paper, “professions and professionalism”, that appeared in the *Journal of Philosophy of Education* (1990) D.S. Downie notes that professionals are distinguished by six features. These are: possession of skills or expertise based on a broad knowledge platform; delivery of service based on unique relationship with those being served; ability to speak out on issues of policy, rules and regulations; discharge of duties without fear or favour; being educated rather than being trained, meaning that a professional should have a wide cognitive perspective; and having legitimized authority, credibility, a sense of independence and discipline based on professional ethics.

I believe that if professional administrators are adequately equipped with those features, the development of the educational system in the country would have taken a giant step ahead. I wish you happy conference proceedings, pleasant stay in Ilorin, fruitful general meeting and hitch-free election.

I thank you immensely for coming to the University of Ilorin and for being attentive.

Thank you very much.

College committee organises workshop today

The College of Health Sciences Research and Ethics Committee is organising a one-day workshop Research Grantsmanship today.

The workshop, being anchored under the auspices of the University Administration, is aimed at equipping participants with such skills that will enable them write winning proposals for competitive research grants. The workshop holds at the University Auditorium at 9.0’ clock in the morning today Monday, December 22, 2008.

All academic staff, especially those on the cadres of Senior Lecturers and above, across the University are expected to attend the workshop.

Unilorin expels 14 students

The University of Ilorin has expelled 14 students for offences bordering on examination malpractices. Out of the 15 students that appeared before the Students' Disciplinary Committee on October 14, 2008, only one was able to convince the Committee of her innocence, and was therefore exonerated.

The expelled students are Mr. Daibu Suleiman (01/55EG084) Statistics Department; Mr. Raji Abisola Alade (01/55EJ114) Microbiology Department; Miss Dada Oluwakemi (04/30GC061) Maths Department; Miss Williams Omowumi (03/55EJ121) Microbiology Department; Mrs. Olubiyi Yomi (03/55EJ119) Microbiology Dept.; Mrs. Oke Olufoyebi (04/55EC117) Computer Science Dept.; Mr. Alonge Sagie (05/55ER017) Maths Department; Mr. Salami Adebayo Olawale (04/30GD121) Maths Department; Mr. Ajayi Bidemi (05/30GA008) Maths Department; Mr. Sanni Samuel Tunji (04/30GD080) Maths Department; Mr. Okaka Emife (03/30GB056) Maths Department; Owolabi Kehinde (06/55EG093) Statistics Department; Aibanogbae Itua (02/47KC052) Maths/Microbiology Department and Memayin Dokun Paul (03/10AC126) of Animal Production Department.

Unilorite wins gold medal for Nigeria

While the University of Ilorin is ranked the top-most University in Nigeria and continues to excel in teaching, research and community service, the University continues to blaze the trail in other areas, including sports.

A 100 level students of the University, Mr. Odelabi Adeyemi of the Department of Computer Sciences has just brought glory to his country and university. He emerged a gold medalist in the All Africa U-15 Badminton Championship that was held between November 23 and 30, 2008 in Cairo, Egypt.

Some 12 countries participated in the Championship, including Nigeria, Ghana, Algeria, Morocco, South Africa, Gambia, Egypt, etc. Nigeria emerged the overall winner of the championship with four gold, three silver and one bronze medals.



Mr. Adeyemi kissing his gold medal

Department organises Christmas Carol *a la francaise*

The Department of French under the headship of Prof. Tunde Ajiboye has organised an epoch-making Christmas Carol on the 16th of December 2008 in the former Senate Chamber, Faculty of Arts. The carol, which was essentially conducted in French, had the beauty of bringing into the show such activities as would interest all and sundry.

In his opening remarks, the Dean of the Faculty, Prof. R.A. Akanmidu, expressed his happiness and excitement over the whole event and congratulated the Department on the very historic outing, wishing it could be an annual event with which the Department would be identified.

Please, come for your cheques

The following individuals and bodies are urged to collect their cheques from the Bursary Department of the University before the end of the week:

Dr. Baa Mensah, Mr. Fatai Bayo, Mr. Saadu Ajadi, Mrs. Fatimo Gbongi, Dr. O.O.M. Sanni, Prof. E.T. Jolayemi, Dr. S.A. Raji, Aremu S.A., Dr. S.A. Raji, Mr. T.O. Atilola, Mr. Lasisi Adewuyi, Engr A. ócA. Adesiyun, Engr. J.S. Bankole, J. Ikubanni, Dr. (Mrs.) A.N. Okorie, Mr. Lasisi Adewuyi, Dr. M.F. Tunde-Aiyinmode, Mr. I. O. Balogun, Olaoluwa Arts International, Prof. Y. A. Quadri, Mrs. B.O. Ibrahim, Mr. Kehinde Lamidi, Mr. Shitta Rasaq O. , Dr. J. O. Adebayo (Associate Lecturer), Dr. S.A. Biliaminu (Associate Lecturer), Dr. O. F. Olaosebikan (Associate Lecturer), Dr. (Mrs) F. A. Olawoye (Associate Lecturer), Alla S.E., David O.J., Yusuf K.M., and Haematology Department.

Unilorin in the News

- The import of national integration has been brought to the fore at the first Unilorin Centre for Peace and Strategic Studies distinguished personality lecture.
(Live broadcast of the Center for Peace and Strategic Studies Distinguished Personality Lecture on *NTA*, Monday, December 15, 2008, 4:30-7:00 pm.)
- The Niger State Governor, Dr. Mu'azu Babangida Aliyu, has pronounced that national integration can only be achieved if Nigerians put a stop to all forms of ethnic discrimination.
(‘Aliyu links growth to national integration’, *The Guardian*, Wednesday December 17, 2008, p. 5)
- The University of Ilorin is to collaborate with the Kwara State Government in rebuilding the standard of Education in the State.
(‘KWSG’, Unilorin partner on education’, *The Herald*, Wednesday, December 17, 2008, p.6)
- The Adekunle Ajasin chapter of the Association of Nigerian Universities Professional Administrators have risen from the Conference held at the University of Ilorin with a resolve to uplift the association.
(‘ANUPA Conference Ends’, *Nigerian Compass*, Wednesday, December 17, 2008, p. 36)
- Prof. Is-haq Oloyede, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, has explained at the Nigerian Senate Committee on Education Summit that the products of the University of Ilorin are among the best in the world.
(‘Our graduates are among the world’s best – Unilorin VC’, *Nigerian Tribune*, Thursday, December 18, 2008. p.31)
- The University of Ilorin senate is to review its scoring formula for jointly-authored academic journal papers.
(‘Senate to review scoring of academic papers’, for this and other reports such as ‘Students win medals at Maths competition’ and ‘Workshop on research grants’, see ‘UNILORIN File’, *The Nation*, Thursday, December 18 2008, p.18)
- The University of Ilorin has constituted a 14 member board for stem cell research which promises cure for sickle cell disease and cancer.
(‘Unilorin constitutes board of stem cell research,’ *National Pilot*, Mon. 15- Wed. 17 Dec., 2008, p11)
- The Chief Servant of Niger State, Dr. Mu'azu Babangida Aliyu, has called on the federal government to take over the investigation of the Jos riots at the first Centre for Peace and Strategic Studies Distinguished Personality Lecture held at the University of Ilorin.
(‘...Take over probe, Aliyu tells FGI, *New Nigerian*,’ Thursday, December 18 2008, pp.1&2).
- The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Is-haq Oloyede, has revealed that his University is working with Kwara State Government to enhance the quality of education in the state.
(‘Unilorin, KWSG restore educational standard’, *New Nigerian*. Friday, December 19, 2008. p.17)
- The University of Ilorin has constituted a board to oversee its stem cell research project. The board is chaired by Prof. Luke Edungbola, a former Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University.
(‘Unilorin constitutes board for stem cell research’, *New Nigerian*, same as above, p. 20.)
- A commentator has expressed his agreement with Prof. Is-haq Oloyede, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, on the latter’s submission on the teaching profession that the “Nigerian society has pushed the never-do-wells intellectually to the classrooms.”
(‘Who wants to be a teacher?’, Reality Bites Column, *The Nation*, Friday, December 19, 2008. p.15)

Quotes of the Week

The boundaries which divide African states are so nonsensical that without our sense of unity they would be a cause for friction.

- ‘Mwalimu’ Julius Nyejere

All issues are political issues, and politics itself is a mass of lies, evasions, folly, hatred and schizophrenia. When the general atmosphere is bad, language must suffer.

- George Orwell