



UNILORIN BULLETIN

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A Weekly Publication of the Office of the Vice Chancellor

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2026 VOL. 12 NO 69

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Egbewole reaffirms UNILORIN's commitment to U6+ Consortium

By Tajudeen Babamale

The Vice Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, has reaffirmed the commitment of the University to the ideals, values and objectives of the U6+ Consortium, pledging continued support for the growth and development of the international academic collaboration.

Prof. Egbewole stated this in a goodwill message delivered at the 10th International Conference of the Consortium held at the University of Eldoret, Kenya, between September 8 and September 11, 2026.

(Contd. on page 3)



■ Prof. Egbewole

BREAKING NEWS: UNILORIN WINS ANUDC CONTEST



■ Prof. Egbewole

UNILORIN researchers identify heavy metal contamination in ground food study warns of health risks from milling

By Mustafa Abubakar

Ten researchers from the University of Ilorin have identified potentially hazardous levels of metallic contaminants in ground food, warning that particles released from cast-iron grinding discs during milling could enter commonly consumed food and pose long-term health risks.

The researchers, in a study made available to *UNILORIN Bulletin* last Wednesday (September 9, 2026), said the research, funded by the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) under the National Research Fund, documented contamination levels, sources and health risks associated with metallic wear from cast-iron grinding discs commonly used across Nigeria and other developing nations.

(Contd. on page 4)

Raji canvasses greater investment in disease surveillance

By Abubakar Imam

A former Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Ilorin, Mashood Abiola Raji, has urged the Federal Government and other stakeholders to ensure greater investment in modern diagnostic laboratories and integrated disease

surveillance systems.

Prof. Raji made this call last Thursday (September 10, 2026) while delivering the 307th Inaugural Lecture of the University, titled "Microbes: Invisible Enemies of Humans and Livestock", at the University Auditorium.

(Contd. on page 5)



■ Prof. Raji

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Oloyede's JAMB performance has projected UNILORIN's values globally— Akanni

By Abubakar Abdulquadri

A Professor of Journalism and Development Communication at Lagos State University (LASU), Ojo, Prof. Akintunde Musbau Akanni, has affirmed that the contributions of the former Vice Chancellor of the University of Ilorin and immediate past Registrar of the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB), Prof. Emeritus Is-haq Oloyede, have projected the institutional values of the University of Ilorin to the world.

Prof. Akanni made this assertion penultimate Saturday (September 5, 2026) during the maiden Alumni Lecture Series of the University of Ilorin Alumni Association held virtually.

The Lecture, which focused on the theme, “Stimulating the Alumni to the Culture of Endowment,” provided an opportunity to highlight the importance of alumni contributions to the sustainable development of universities.

According to him, Prof. Oloyede's remarkable achievements and reforms at JAMB had not only transformed the admission process in Nigeria it had also demonstrated the quality of leadership and institutional values associated with the University of Ilorin.

Prof. Akanni noted that Prof. Emeritus Oloyede's performance at JAMB had become a significant representation of the values, discipline, integrity, innovation and commitment to excellence for which the University of Ilorin is known.

The don also highlighted Prof. Emeritus Oloyede's pioneering role in the development of the University of Ilorin, particularly through initiatives associated with the institution's KU8+ vision and his contributions to improving infrastructure and student welfare.

Prof. Akanni stressed the importance of alumni engagement and



■ Prof. Oloyede

endowment as sustainable means of supporting universities, noting that endowments could provide long-term financial support for academic excellence, scholarships, student welfare, research and other institutional priorities.

He explained that a strong culture of endowment would enable alumni to contribute meaningfully to the continued growth and development of their alma mater rather than leaving the responsibility of funding university development entirely to the government.

He, therefore, urged graduates of the University to emulate distinguished alumni and former university leaders by supporting the institution through various forms of giving an endowment.

Earlier in his remarks, the National President of the University of Ilorin Alumni Association, Prof. AbdulRazaq Olubusuyi Kilani, had emphasised the importance of alumni participation in the development of the University.

Prof. Kilani noted that the Association remained committed to supporting projects that would have lasting benefits on students and the University.

He disclosed that plans were underway for the foundation-laying of an Alumni Male Hostel named after Prof. Emeritus Is-haq Oloyede.

The initiative, according to him, represents part of the efforts of the Association to contribute to the



■ Prof. Akanni



■ Prof. Kilani

infrastructural development of the University and provide better accommodation facilities for students.

Present at the event included the Vice Chancellor of the African School of Economics (The Pan-African University of Excellence), Abuja, Prof. Mahfouz Adedimeji; the Director of Academic Planning, Prof. A. A. Adeoye; Prof. Shehu Adaramaja; Dr Barakat Raji of the Faculty of Law; Prof. Adam Sirajudeen of the Federal University of Lafia; Prof. Rachael Bello of Lagos State University (LASU); and Mr Hakeem Bello of the Federal Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC), Abuja, among others.

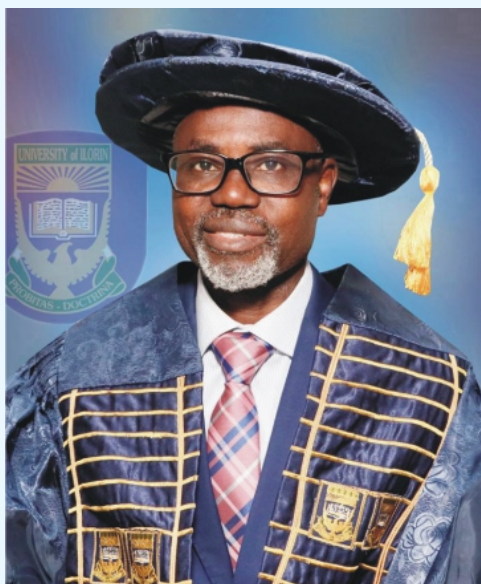
Egbewole reaffirms UNILORIN's commitment to U6+ Consortium

(Contd. from front page)

The Vice Chancellor, who is also the Secretary-General of the Association of West Africa Universities (AWAU), said that the University of Ilorin, as a critical stakeholder in the establishment of the U6+ Consortium, recognises the importance of collaboration among universities in promoting meaningful academic engagement and advancing the purpose for which universities were established.

He expressed optimism that the Conference would provide an opportunity for participants to exchange ideas, connect the conference theme with the ideals of the U6+ Consortium, and develop practical and implementable solutions capable of strengthening higher education and contributing to Africa's development.

Prof. Egbewole, who is also the Vice President (West Africa) of the Association of African Universities (AAU), equally commended the Vice



■ Prof. Egbewole

Chancellor of the University of Eldoret and the Local Organising Committee for organising the conference as he described the event as a valuable platform for

academic interactions.

He noted that the University of Ilorin was pleased to participate in the Conference and expressed optimism that participants would return home with positive experiences and fond memories of the gathering.

Other members of the UNILORIN delegation at the Conference include the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research, Technology and Innovation), Prof. Muhtair Adeiza Etudaiye; the Dean of the Faculty of Management Sciences, Prof. T. A. Olaniyi; a former Vice Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Minna, Emeritus Prof. Musibau Akanji; the U6+ Desk Officer, Dr Biliqis Abiola Lawal; the Director of the Centre for Cultural Studies and Creative Arts, Dr A. A. Adebisi; and Dr Halimat Funmilayo Babamale of the Department of Industrial Chemistry, among others.

Egbewole greets AbdulRazaq on turbanning as Sardauna of Ilorin

By Abubakar Imam

The Vice Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, has congratulated the Governor of Kwara State, Mallam AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq, CON, on his upcoming turbanning as the Sardauna of Ilorin by the Emir of Ilorin, Alhaji (Dr) Ibrahim Sulu-Gambari, CFR. The event is scheduled for Wednesday (September 18, 2026) at the Emir's palace in Ilorin.

In a statement issued by the University's Director of Corporate Affairs, Mr Kunle Akogun, the Vice Chancellor described the title as a befitting honour for the Governor.

Prof. Egbewole said that Mallam AbdulRazaq has before and since his election as the Governor of Kwara State in 2019 proven himself to be a great and unassuming patriot.

The Vice Chancellor thanked the Governor for ensuring the positive physical transformation of Ilorin and Kwara State, saying that the construction of the flyover bridge at Tanke and the rehabilitation of the road connecting the University with the town are two of the several projects that the University would



■ Mallam AbdulRazaq

continue to cherish.

He also appreciated the Governor for his huge investment in education over the years as he thanked him for establishing the Kwara State University of Education, Ilorin, and for facilitating the favourable environment, which encourages the establishment of more private universities across the State.

He specifically commended the Governor for appointing several alumni and staff members of the University into



■ Prof. Egbewole

sensitive positions in his government and institutions of higher learning owned by the State.

While thanking the Emir for finding the Governor worthy of being conferred with the prestigious traditional title, the Vice Chancellor wished Mallam AbdulRazaq a very peaceful and successful turbanning ceremony and a more eventful tenure.

UNILORIN researchers identify heavy metal contamination in ground Food

(Contd. from front page)

The team comprises the Principal Investigator, Prof. Sulaiman Abdulkareem of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Prof. Ismaila Idowu Ahmed, Prof. Jamiu Kolawole Odusote, Prof. Rasheedat Modupe Mahamood, Dr Jeleel Adekunle Adebisi, Dr Segun Isaac Talabi, and Mr Taiwo Yahaya from the Department of Materials and Metallurgical Engineering.

Prof. Lawrence Aderemi Olatunji of the Department of Physiology and Dr Mariam Kehinde Sulaiman of the Department of Medical Microbiology & Parasitology contributed medical and biological expertise to the investigation, while Prof. Jamiu Adetayo Adeniran of the Department of Chemical Engineering was later invited to join the team, contributing environmental source apportionment and health-risk modelling expertise.

Speaking on behalf of the team, Prof. Abdulkareem said the findings highlighted the need for improved milling practices and stronger quality-control standards for grinding discs used in food processing.

The researchers found that up to 1.7 grams of metallic contaminants can be introduced into 10 kilograms of ground maize during dry grinding operations, according to the study published in *Results in Engineering*.

The team said the average contaminant particle size was approximately 43 micrometres, making the particles small enough to pass into the stomach unnoticed.

Prof. Abdulkareem said dry grinding produced significantly higher quantities of metallic contaminants than wet grinding, with water serving as a lubricant that reduces wear during the process.

The researchers said the research demonstrated significant corrosion susceptibility among all the grinding discs when exposed to simulated gastric solution, a fluid matching the human stomach environment at pH 1.7 and 37°C.

The team said corrosion occurred at varying degrees among the discs, with the imported sample showing the highest susceptibility, while the pit furnace-produced disc showed the most resistance.

According to the team, the health-risk assessments examined concentrations of eight potentially toxic



Metallic contaminants extracted from (a) wet maize, and (b) dry maize, using regular milling machine

elements in milled maize and found that the mean concentrations of lead, cadmium and arsenic exceeded permissible limits set by the Codex Alimentarius Commission of 0.2, 0.1 and 0.5 milligrams per kilogram, respectively.

The researchers said Positive Matrix Factorisation modelling identified grinding-disc wear as a significant contributor to contamination levels, alongside other sources including vehicle traffic emissions, application of pesticides and herbicides, use of manure and zinc-enriched fertilizer, irrigation with industrial wastewater, lubrication oil leakage and emissions from leaded-fuel combustion.

He said although the hazard-index assessments showed that immediate non-cancer risks were not significant, the potential for long-term accumulation of toxic elements, particularly cadmium, lead and arsenic, remained concerning.

The team said children were found to be 9.3 times more vulnerable than adults to health risks from the contaminants, saying that the ingestion pathway contributed over 94% of non-cancer risk and over 97% of cancer risk, making dietary exposure the primary concern.

The researchers also established that corrosion of metallic contaminants in simulated gastric solution followed an exponential trend, with hydrogen gas evolution occurring within 15 to 30 minutes of exposure to the acidic environment.

The team said a related study published in the *Nigerian Journal of Technological Development* demonstrated that adding ferrochromium to the cast iron used for grinding discs substantially improved performance.

They stated further that the study, which utilised recycled Toyota engine-block scrap as base material, found that hardness increased from 543 to 600 kgf/mm² with up to 1.5 weight percent ferrochromium addition.

The researchers said yield strength improved from 10 to 28 megapascals, while specific wear rate was reduced by approximately 27% at higher applied loads.

The team said corrosion resistance also improved significantly, with corrosion potential increasing from -0.91 to -0.69 volts.

The researchers called for multiple interventions based on their findings, including implementation of quality-control standards for grinding-disc manufacturing, promotion of wet grinding over dry grinding and adoption of ferrochromium-alloyed discs by local foundries.

The team also recommended the development of magnetic scavenging devices to capture metallic contaminants, public-awareness campaigns and further research into the long-term health effects of exposure to the contaminants.

According to him, the proposed solutions were practical and could be implemented using locally available materials and existing foundry equipment.

The researchers said the interventions would support safer food-processing practices and contribute to the objectives of United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3 on healthy living and well-being.

Raji canvasses greater investment in disease surveillance

(Contd. from front page)

The Inaugural Lecturer said that the coordinated national surveillance programme should be established and sustained to monitor disease incidence, identify epidemiological risk factors, monitor seasonal disease trends, and provide real-time surveillance of antimicrobial resistance to enable rapid public health interventions.

Prof. Raji, who is also the Chairman of the University of Ilorin Sports Council, also called for the institutionalisation of what he called "inter-sectoral collaboration" among relevant agencies.

He suggested that a formal and sustainable mechanism should be established for routine collaboration and information sharing among the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, the Federal Ministry of Health, the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC), the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC), and Veterinary Teaching Hospitals (VTH).

Prof. Raji, whose Inaugural Lecture was the 5th to be delivered from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Ilorin, explained that such collaboration is essential for effective disease surveillance, outbreak investigation, and coordinated emergency response.

He also called for remarkable improvement in food safety, biosecurity, and environmental sanitation, saying that governments, livestock producers, and livestock market associations should enforce strict hygiene, sanitation, and biosecurity standards throughout the production chain.

The Inaugural Lecturer, who also served as the pioneer Editor-in-Chief of the *Savannah Veterinary Journal*, equally encouraged the introduction of modern slaughterhouses, reliable water supply, effective waste disposal systems, routine inspection, and strict compliance with food safety regulations at designated places so as to reduce food-borne diseases and safeguard public health.

Prof. Raji also said that it was high-time to ensure increment in investment in Animal and Public Health, calling on governments at all levels to significantly increase funding for disease surveillance, laboratory infrastructure, vaccine development, antimicrobial resistance monitoring, and

research.

According to the don, the private sector, development partners, and philanthropic organisations, should complement the efforts of government through strategic investments and public-private partnerships that strengthen national health security.

Prof. Raji also called for the strengthening of the regulation of veterinary drugs and vaccines, stressing that regulatory agencies should intensify the enforcement of laws governing the production, importation, distribution, sale, and use of veterinary drugs and vaccines.

He also noted that the manufacture and circulation of counterfeit and substandard veterinary products should attract severe sanctions as he suggested that the prescription and administration of restricted veterinary medicines should remain the exclusive responsibility of licensed veterinary practitioners to promote responsible antimicrobial stewardship.

Prof. Raji, who has supervised no fewer than 10 doctorate degree dissertations, also called for the promotion of digital health and veterinary telemedicine. He said that governments and private technology companies should expand digital health infrastructure to support telemedicine and tele-veterinary services.

He also called for remote consultation, disease monitoring, electronic reporting, and digital advisory platforms, which he noted, would improve access to veterinary and public health services, particularly in rural and underserved communities.

The Inaugural Lecturer, who is also a former Head of the Department of Veterinary Microbiology, also called for the strengthening of public awareness and community engagement. He noted that governments, educational institutions, professional bodies, civil society organisations, and the media should intensify public education campaigns on



■ **The representative of the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Bakare-Odunola (right), receiving the lecture notes from Prof. Raji (left), last Thursday**

food hygiene, responsible antimicrobial use, vaccination, environmental sanitation, and zoonotic disease prevention.

Prof. Raji further canvassed community participation, which, he said, is indispensable for stakeholders to achieve sustainable disease prevention and control.

Drawing from personal experience, Prof. Raji enjoined youths to positively explore the nation's heterogeneity by not restricting themselves to a particular segment of the country based on stereotypes. He explained that such dispositions could be very rewarding as it would enhance nation-building.

Prof. Raji also encouraged senior academics to always render mentorship to the upcoming ones. He noted that availing younger ones necessary career support and guidance would smoothen the career progression of the beneficiaries and ultimately enhance national development.

The Inaugural Lecture, which was presided over by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, represented by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic), was also attended by Principal Officers of the University, former Deans of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, relations, friends, colleagues, students and members of the public from far and near.

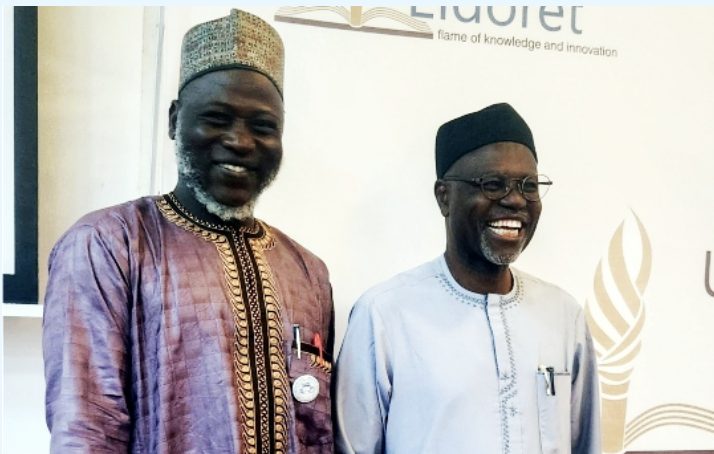
AT THE WEDDING OF DR MUBARAK AKINTOLA PENULTIMATE SATURDAY



The bride and the groom cutting the cake



At the Meeting of Vice Chancellors of the U6+ consortium during the 10th International Conference of U6+ Consortium held at the University of Eldoret, Kenya



■ The Vice Chancellor Prof. Wahab Egbewole (right), and Dr A. A. Adebisi at the Conference



■ Vice Chancellors of Unilorin and Kwasu at the Conference



■ Prof. Wahab Egbewole and Prof. Olaniyi, Dean Faculty of Management Sciences, University of Ilorin, at the Conference



■ The Vice Chancellor and Dr Halimat Babamale of the Department of Industrial Chemistry at the Conference



Cross section of some of the Conference delegates

At the Meeting of Vice Chancellors of U6+ Consortium during the 10th International Conference of U6+ Consortium held at the University of Eldoret, Kenya



The Vice Chancellors Prof. Wahab O Egbewole (2nd left) and some Nigerian participants at the Conference



Dr Bilqis Abiola Lawal, U6 Desk Officer, Unilorin, at the Conference



The host VC, the VC of the University of Eldoret at the Conference



The Vice Chancellor, of Unilorin and FUTA, with Emeritus Prof. Musbau Akanji and some other participants at the Conference



Members of the University of Eldoret Council, Management and some of the Vice Chancellors of U6+ Consortium

At the Meeting of Vice Chancellors of U6+ Consortium during the 10th International Conference of U6+ Consortium held at the University of Eldoret, Kenya



The Vice Chancellor, Unilorin and the Unilorin Delegates at the Conference



MOU between University of Ilorin Nigeria and University of Eldoret Kenya. The two Vice Chancellors display the signed MOU documents.



Prof. Egbewole



A group photograph after the MOU signing between the University of Ilorin, Nigeria and the University of Eldoret, Kenya, last Thursday

Egbewole felicitates Yusuf Ali on 70th birthday

By Abubakar Imam

The Vice Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, has congratulated the Kuliya of Ilorin, Prof. Yusuf Olaolu Ali, SAN, on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

In a birthday congratulatory message made available to newsmen in Ilorin last Monday (September 7, 2026) by the University's Director of Corporate Affairs, Mr Kunle Akogun, the Vice Chancellor said, "Today, as always, the Governing Council, Senate, Management, Staff, and Students of the University of Ilorin rejoice with Prof. Yusuf Olaolu Ali, SAN on the auspicious occasion of his 70th birthday".

The Vice Chancellor said that Prof. Ali embodies "the very best of the legal profession", adding that as a Senior Advocate of Nigeria and an international arbitrator of repute, he has raised the bar of excellence, integrity, and advocacy.

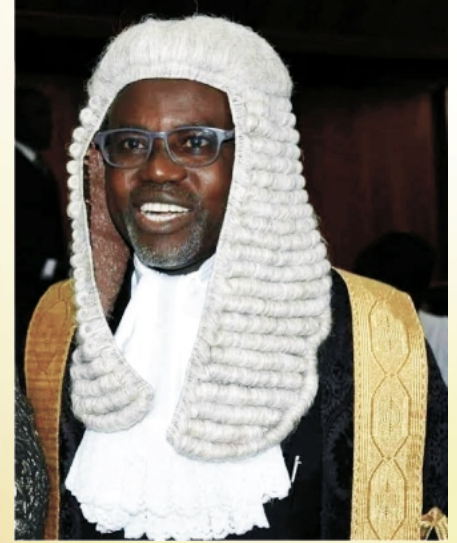
Prof. Egbewole said that



■ Prof. Ali

beyond the courtroom, "the legendary generosity and unwavering commitment of the legal icon to the development of education have left indelible marks on our great University."

He pointed out that "at 70, Prof. Ali stands as a beacon of wisdom,



■ Prof. Egbewole

humility, and service", saying that he is a pride to the Bar, and to humanity."

"We pray that Almighty Allah continues to grant you good health, strength, and many more years of impactful service to the nation and mankind", Prof. Egbewole said.

Listen to your body, AbdulRaheem charges all

By Bashir Dawodu
and Muizdeen Adewole

Lecturer at the Department of Health Promotion and Environmental Health Education, University of Ilorin, Dr Adijat Mojisola AbdulRaheem, has charged Nigerians, particularly staff and students of tertiary education institutions, to "move often, sit wisely and listen to their bodies to prevent neck and back pains."

Dr AbdulRaheem made the call last Wednesday (September 9, 2026), while discussing her research, titled "Back Pain, Neck Pain and Modern University Lifestyle," during an interview with *UNILORIN Bulletin* in her office.

The don noted that "a few minutes of movement today could help protect the back and neck tomorrow, thereby contributing to a healthier University environment and improved productivity."

She explained that the human



■ Dr AbdulRaheem

body is designed for movement, stressing that sitting for prolonged periods, particularly in awkward positions, can place continuous stress on the muscles, joints and other structures supporting the spine.

According to Dr AbdulRaheem, "Poor posture can make the problem

worse. For example, sitting with the head pushed forward towards a computer screen or repeatedly bending the neck to look down at a mobile phone can strain the muscles of the neck and upper back."

The don pointed out that the solution to back and neck pain is not to abandon technology, but to develop healthier habits.

She advised people to raise their phones closer to eye level whenever possible, take regular breaks from screens, change their positions frequently, and use voice calls or voice-to-text functions when appropriate rather than continuously looking down at their devices.

She added that sitting for long periods without changing position could cause stiffness and discomfort in the lower back.

Dr AbdulRaheem advised all to seek medical attention if they experience severe pain or if the pain persists without improvement.

CILS celebrates Yusuf Ali at 70

By Abubakar Imam

As the Kuliya of Ilorin, Prof. Yusuf Olaolu Ali, SAN, marked his 70th birthday anniversary last Monday (September 7, 2026), the Director of the Centre for Ilorin Studies (CILS), University of Ilorin, Prof. Ali Arazem Abdullahi, has described the renowned legal luminary as an enigma who deserves to be celebrated.

Prof. Abdullahi, in a statement, said that Prof. Ali has, through his exemplary professionalism, patriotism, and philanthropy, become a celebrated figure not just within the Ilorin Emirate but also across and beyond Nigeria.

The Director, who thanked Prof. Ali for being one of the most consistent benefactors of the Centre, recalled the several contributions of the seasoned legal practitioner to the development of the CILS since its establishment.

He said that apart from honouring invitations to several of the



■ Prof. Ali

programmes organised by the Centre, the Director recalled Prof. Ali's recent financial support to the Centre through which it was able to stock its Gallery with some relevant publications authored by indigenes of the Ilorin Emirate.

While encouraging Prof. Ali to continue to support the Centre for it to achieve the essence of its establishment,



■ Prof. Abdullahi

the Director urged other well-to-do indigenes and friends of the Ilorin Emirate to emulate Prof. Ali's consistent philanthropic gestures.

Prof. Abdullahi wished the renowned legal luminary more years of sound health and quality services to the nation and humanity.

UNILORIN VC commiserates with Leadership Editor, Olesin on mom's passing

By Abubakar Imam

The Vice Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, has expressed profound sadness on the passing of a prominent community leader, Alhaja Munirat Hanafi Imam Olesin.

Alhaja Olesin, who was the mother of a veteran journalist and North Central Regional Editor of LEADERSHIP newspaper, Alhaji Abdullahi Olesin, died on Tuesday September 8, 2026 at the age of 87 years.

Prof. Egbewole, in a statement issued by the University's Director of Corporate Affairs, Mr Kunle Akogun, said that the management, staff and students of the University received the

news of the passing of the matriarch of the Olesin family of Ilorin with sadness.

The Vice Chancellor specifically sympathised with the veteran journalist and his siblings as well as other relations of the deceased, saying that the death of an elder, particularly at this point-in-time, is painful as her experience, wisdom and prayers are required to enhance national rebirth.

Prof. Egbewole, who is also the Chairman of the Consortium of Kwara universities (KU8+), encouraged Alhaji Olesin to take solace in the fact that his beloved mother lived a relatively long life and was able to leave behind remarkable legacies.

The Vice Chancellor prayed to Allah to forgive the shortcomings of the



■ Late Alhaja Olesin

deceased and reward her good deeds with Aljanat Fridaous.



DID YOU KNOW?

Customer service should not be a department. It should be the entire company. - Tony Hsieh (Taylor Chastain)

Omipidan urges Nigerians to speak out on suicide prevention

By *Mustafa Abubakar*

The Founder and Initiator of the Euthanasia Prevention Initiative, Faculty of Law, University of Ilorin, Prof. Bashiru Adeniyi Omipidan, has called for greater awareness, compassion and open conversations as part of efforts to prevent suicide and promote hope among people facing difficult circumstances.

Prof. Omipidan made the call last Thursday (September 10, 2026), in a message commemorating the World Suicide Prevention Day, observed annually on September 10.

Quoting South African cleric and Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Desmond Tutu, who said, "Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness," Prof. Omipidan said that the occasion provides an opportunity to pause, listen and remember that behind every statistic is a human being with a story, struggles and people who care about them.

He noted that life could become challenging, stressing that many people endure emotional pain while continuing with their daily activities, including going



■ *Prof. Omipidan*

to work and interacting with others.

According to Prof. Omipidan, who is also the Dean of the Faculty of Law, "this makes it important for society to initiate conversations about suicide and mental distress rather than allowing shame and silence to prevent people from seeking or receiving help.

"Prevention begins with awareness, compassion, and connection. We do not have to wait until someone is at their lowest point to care," he said.

He advocated the creation of

supportive environments where people can speak about their difficulties without fear of judgment, ridicule or being dismissed with statements such as "just be strong."

The Dean who is also a former Director of the Centre for Open and Distance Learning, also emphasised that helping someone does not always require having the right answers, adding that sometimes, offering a listening ear and reassuring words could make a significant difference.

"Sometimes, it starts with saying, 'I am here. You can talk to me,'" he said.

Prof. Omipidan also urged individuals going through difficult moments not to lose hope, assuring them that overwhelming feelings and circumstances can change.

He called on members of the public to replace silence with conversation, judgment with compassion and isolation with support, stressing that every life matters.

Prof. Omipidan reaffirmed the opposition to suicide by the organisation, urging people facing difficult circumstances to embrace patience, prayers and available support.

Ex-Unilorite shines at Jakande Leadership Academy

By *Mubarak Oladosu*

An alumna of the University of Ilorin, Titilope Anifowose, has made history as the first Fellow of the Lateef Jakande Leadership Academy, (LJLA) to win both the Standout Performer and the Best Representation Awards.

Anifowose, who served as a UNILORIN Advocate in 2024 at the Academy, received her certificate and awards penultimate Friday (September 4, 2026) during the graduation ceremony of LJLA for the 2025/2026 cohort.

Speaking at the event, the Governor of Lagos State, Mr Babajide Sanwo-Olu, who was accompanied to the event by his Deputy, Mr Obafemi Hamzat, noted that the Fellowship is a pathway for competent Nigerians to join the Lagos State civil service strictly on merit.

Reacting to the development, the Vice Chancellor of the University, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, described the success of Anifowose, a 2016 Law graduate of the University, as a testament to the quality of graduates produced by the University.



Governor Sanwo-Olu (left) presenting the award to Anifowose

In a statement issued by the Director of Corporate Affairs, Mr Kunle Akogun, the Vice Chancellor said that "the University is immensely proud of Titilope Anifowose for this outstanding feat. Her performance at the LJLA reflects the sound training, discipline and leadership qualities that UNILORIN alumni are known for

around the world".

Prof. Egbewole, who is also a Member of the Nigerian Body of Benchers, urged the young lawyer to continue to fly the University's flag as she joins the Lagos State civil service and urged current students to emulate her commitment to excellence and service to humanity.



■ Dr Olawuyi



■ Dr Anis



■ Dr Akintola

Four Unilorin alumni win Sejong Science Fellowship in Korea

By Bashirat Omotosho

Four graduates of the University of Ilorin have emerged among five Nigerians selected for the prestigious National Research Foundation (NRF), Sejong Science Fellowship in the Republic of Korea, highlighting the growing global impact of the institution's graduates in research and innovation.

The highly competitive Fellowship supports outstanding international researchers to undertake innovative research in Korea and

establish long-term research collaborations, and it runs for five years.

The programme has about 160 slots available across Korea. This makes the selection of five Nigerians, four of whom are graduates of the University of Ilorin, a significant achievement for Nigeria and the University.

The five Nigerian awardees are Dr Oluwafemi Ibukunoluwa Fola, a Research Professor at Pusan National University; Dr Akintayo Akintola Ashraf and Dr Anis Rabi, both Research Professors at Kyungpook

National University; alongside Dr Muhammed and Dr Adeyemi.

Dr Akintola graduated from the Department of Zoology in 2015; Dr Rabi finished from the Department of Agricultural Engineering in 2016; Dr Olawuyi graduated from Food Sciences Department in 2017, while Dr Adeyemi finished from the Department of Physics in 2014.

The five projects secured a combined research funding of over 2.96 billion Korean Won equivalent to N2.784 billion, reflecting the scale and significance of the research being undertaken by the fellows.

The Fellowship is designed not only to support cutting edge researches but also to strengthen international research networks and promote sustained collaboration between researchers in Korea and other countries.

The achievement has been described as a proud moment for Nigerians in Korea, with the Nigerian Students and Associates in Korea (NSA-Korea) congratulating the researchers for their accomplishment and describing their success as an inspiration to present and future generations of Nigerian researchers.

For the University of Ilorin, the success of four of the five Nigerian awardees further underscores the institution's contributions to developing researchers whose expertise and scholarship are gaining recognition on the international stage.



Again, Akogun honoured at home

By Abubakar Imam

Penultimate Saturday (September 5, 2026), was another great day for the Director of Corporate Affairs, University of Ilorin, Mr Kunle Akogun, as he was honoured by the Oke-Ode Elite Youth Development Forum (OEYDF) in appreciation of his exemplary contributions towards the peace, progress, and educational development of the community.

The event, held at the Igbomina House, Ganmo, and coming barely a month after he was honoured by the UNILORIN Chapter of the Igbomina National Students Union (INSU), attracted dignitaries from all walks of life.

Speaking at the event, the Elesa of Oke-Ode Land, His Royal Highness, Oba Mufutau Ibrahim Akanbi Adebayo, Ilufemiloye I, described Mr Akogun, who is a member of the Oke-Ode Traditional Council (the Elesa-in-Council), and Chief Akogun of Oke-Ode land, as an epitome of hardwork, integrity and patriotism who deserves the honour.

The traditional ruler, who also congratulated other honourees, said that Mr Akogun's "recognition is in appreciation of his dedication, impactful service, commitment to humanity, and the positive influence he continues to make within and beyond our community".

Oba Ilufemiloye further stated



The Elesa of Oke-Ode Land, Oba Ilufemiloye presenting the Award Certificate to Mr Akogun

that the veteran journalist's "contributions have inspired many and have been significant in the strident march of the community to greatness and all-round development over the years".

Speaking with newsmen on the sidelines of the programme, Mr Akogun said that "nothing could bring a patriot more happiness than being recognised and honoured by his people".

He explained that one of the things that is rare in our contemporary society is for an individual who is neither a political office holder nor a money-bag to be honoured for his contributions.

The veteran journalist explained that his contributions to the development of his ancestral community was not informed by the desire to be rewarded but

as a way of giving back to a community through which he became a member of the human community.

Mr Akogun, who thanked the organisers of the event for finding him worthy of the honour, assured them that he would not relent in doing his best for the community, the nation and humanity at large.

Among those who witnessed the event were the General Manager of *UNILORIN 89.3 FM*, Mr Idris Akintola Ibrahim; the Deputy Editor of *UNILORIN Bulletin*, Mr Abubakar Imam; the Kwara State Correspondent of *The Punch* newspaper, Mr Tunde Oyekola, as well as relations, friends and colleagues of the renowned journalist from far and near.

New Appointments

NAME	FACULTY / DEPARTMENT	APPOINTMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE
Dr. Grace Ezeoke	Clinical Sciences / Obstetrics and Gynaecology	Coordinator, Clinical Skills and Simulation Laboratory	1 st August, 2026
Dr. Mojirola M. Fasiku	Clinical Sciences / Epidemiology and Community Health	Coordinator, Community Based Experience and Services	1 st August, 2026
Dr. Saratu I. Abdulkareem	Life Sciences / Zoology	Acting Head, Department of Zoology	1 st August, 2026



We'll work with you, Social Sciences Faculty assures CILS

By Abubakar Imam

The Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ilorin, Prof. A. Y. Mohammed, has assured the management and staff of the University's Centre for Ilorin Studies (CILS) of the support of the Faculty

Prof. Mohammed gave this assurance last Monday (September 7, 2026) when he led the management team of the Faculty on a courtesy visit to the new Director of the CILS, Prof. Ali Arazeeem Abdullahi, in his office.

The Dean, who congratulated

the new Director and his Deputy, Dr Mahmud Danjuma, on their appointments, said that his Faculty was happy that one of its members had been found worthy of heading the CILS.

Prof. Mohammed added that he was convinced that the new Director, who teaches at the Department of Sociology, has all it would take to lead the Centre to greatness.

The Dean said that apart from rejoicing with the new Director and his Deputy, the visit was also informed by the need for him and members of his entourage to familiarise themselves

with the mandates of the Centre.

Prof. Mohammed said he and members of his entourage were excited and amazed by what they saw at the Centre, pointing out that he never knew that the Centre was endowed with such fascinating collections.

The Dean assured the management of the CILS that his Faculty would work with the Centre towards preserving the history, culture and heritage of Ilorin.

Responding, the Director of CILS, Prof. Abdullahi thanked the Dean and his team for the visit and their kind words, which, he said, were quite stimulating and encouraging.

Prof. Abdullahi, who is the sixth Director of the CILS, took time to explain the mandates of the Centre to his guests as he also took them round the Gallery of the Centre.

Among those who accompanied the Dean on the visit were the Sub-Dean of the Faculty, Dr M. A. Adebiyi; the Faculty Officer, Mr Folusho Olobayo; the Chairman of the Faculty of Social Sciences Social Media and Digital Committee (FSSSMDC), Dr O. S. Balogun, as well as other members of the Committee such as Dr K. O. Laro, Dr Sadiat I. Aliyu, and the Committee's Secretary, Mr Abdulsalam Abubakar.





NOTICE TO THE 2025/2026 ACADEMIC SESSION FINAL YEAR (GRADUATING) STUDENTS

This is to inform all final year students that the clearance process has been automated and can now be accessed via the University website. This initiative is aimed at easing the clearance process and making it seamless. All affected students are enjoined to complete the clearance form following the stipulated guidelines.

Similarly, graduating students are required to make payment for the Convocation as part of the clearance process. The payment details are as follows:

A)	Undergraduate Degrees: N	41 st Convocation	MODE OF PAYMENT	
			TSA	Unilorin Holdings
1	Hiring of Academic Gown (Non-refundable)	5,000		5,000
2	Order of Proceedings	15,000		15,000
3	Student's Copy of Transcript	10,000	10,000	
4	Muffler	3,575		3,575
5	Student ID Card	1,500		1,500
6	Certificate	10,000	10,000	
7	Lapel Pin	3,510		3,510
8	Certificate Holder	9,100		9,100
9	Service Charge	5,000		5,000
	TOTAL	62,685	20,000	42,685
B)	Master's and other Postgraduate Degrees:			
1	Hiring of Academic Gown (Non-refundable)	5,000		5,000
2	Order of Proceedings	15,000		15,000
3	Student's Copy of Transcript	10,000	10,000	
4	Muffler	3,575		3,575
5	Certificate	10,000	10,000	
6	Lapel Pin	3,510		3,510
7	Certificate Holder	9,100		9,100
8	Service Charge	5,000		5,000
	TOTAL	61,185	20,000	41,185
C)	Ph.D. Degrees:			
1	Muffler	3,575		3,575
2	Lapel Pin	3,510		3,510
3	Certificate	10,000	10,000	
4	Order of Proceedings	15,000		15,000
5	Certificate Holder	9,100		9,100
6	Administrative Charges	5,000		5,000
	TOTAL	46,185	10,000	36,185
D)	Diploma			
1	Hiring of Academic Gown (Non-refundable)	5,000		5,000
2	Order of Proceedings	15,000		15,000
3	Student's Copy of Transcript	10,000	10,000	
4	Certificate	10,000	10,000	
5	Certificate Holder	9,100		9,100
6	Service Charge	5,000		5,000
	TOTAL	54,100	20,000	34,100

It is important to note that the completion of the clearance process will facilitate the presentation of final year results for approval by the Senate. All affected students are hereby advised to complete their clearance without delay, please.

Signed,
Mr Alfonla
Registrar

Foundation sponsors students' solar-powered borehole project

By Bashir Dawodu

The MAY Foundation, a Kwara State-based Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO), has sponsored the construction of a solar-powered borehole water project initiated by the M.Sc. students of the Department of Mass Communication, University of Ilorin, as part of their Development Communication course.

The solar borehole project was commissioned penultimate Sunday, (September 6, 2026) at the Tanke Odokoto Aiyedade community.

The project was facilitated by five students: Ms Michael West Faith, Mrs Anukam Rahmat Osirole, Mrs Neye Deborah Abiodun, Ms Oni Oluwaferanmi Precious and Mr Mohammed Mohammed Sabi.

Speaking at the commissioning, the Founder of the NGO and Deputy Chief Whip of the Kwara State House of Assembly, Hon. Maryam Yusuf Aladi, commended the students for conducting a thorough research that drew her attention to the water challenges confronting the community.

She urged the students to continue to use their knowledge and skills to advocate societal development while wishing them success in their future endeavours.

Hon Aladi also charged residents of the community to protect and make proper use of the facility to ensure its sustainability.

She commended the management of the University of Ilorin, particularly the Department of Mass Communication, for



exposing students to practical approaches to identifying and addressing societal challenges through courses such as Development Communication.

Also speaking, the Dean of the Faculty of Communication and Information Sciences, University of Ilorin, Prof. Saudat Salah Abdulbaqi, commended Hon. Aladi for supporting the students' initiative and contributing to improved access to potable water in the community.

Prof. Abdulbaqi, who teaches Development Communication, described the project as a significant achievement for the students, noting that the needs assessment they conducted had translated into a tangible intervention for the community.

She congratulated the students for their efforts and prayed that the borehole water would be safe and beneficial to the health of community residents.

Speaking on behalf of the students,

Ms Michael West Faith said the Development Communication course provided them with an opportunity to conduct research and identify pressing challenges within communities.

She explained that their research led them to Tanke Odokoto Aiyedade where they discovered that some residents relied on river water and unclean well water for their domestic needs.

Ms Faith expressed gratitude to God for the successful completion of the project and appreciated the MAY Foundation for providing the financial support that made the intervention possible.

She also commended the University of Ilorin and the Department of Mass Communication for providing the students with the opportunity to identify community challenges and contribute to finding practical solutions to them.

UNILORIN HOLDINGS LIMITED UNIVERSITY OF ILORIN MEDICAL SCREENING CENTER UNIVERSITY OF ILORIN, ILORIN, NIGERIA (INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT)

Applications are hereby invited from suitably qualified individuals to fill the position of a **Medical Laboratory Scientist** at the University of Ilorin Medical Screening Center, University of Ilorin.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Conduct, interpret, and report routine and specialized laboratory investigations. Maintain quality assurance and accurate documentation in line with laboratory standards.

QUALIFICATIONS & REQUIREMENTS

1. B.MLS from a recognized institution
2. Current practicing license from Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria (MLSCN)
3. NYSC Discharge/Exemption Certificate

4. Must be proficient in Haematology and Chemical Pathology tests
5. Experience with automated analyzers is an added advantage
6. 1-2 years' post-qualification experience preferred
7. Good communication, teamwork, and computer skills

Interested and eligible applicant should submit their applications with a detailed CV, cover letter and academic documents within 2 weeks of the date of this publication to:

The Administrative Officer,
Unilorin Holdings Limited,
University of Ilorin

Or send via email to: unilorinholdingslimited@unilorin.edu.ng



UNILORIN WEEKLY FINANCIAL DIGEST

FUND SOURCES AND UTILIZATION REPORT FROM 3RD SEPTEMBER TO 10TH SEPTEMBER 2026

RECEIPTS:

	N
Academic Transcript	20,000.00
Administrative Charges Income	9,000.00
Capitation NHIS	277,102.00
Sundry/Other Fees & Student Charges	1,434,743.40
Sundry Other Income	118,656,225.00
Transcript Charges	20,000.00
Convocation Souvenir	145,700.00
Convocation Undergraduate Charges	21,775,600.00
Disciplinary Fines	50,000.00
Electricity Charges From Shop, Kiosk etc	13,017,812.00
Income from Verification /Screening	790,000.00
Insurance Claims/Others	555,827.29
CODL -Form Processing charges	100,800.00
CODL - General Payment	40,400.00
CODL - Undergraduate charges	60,400.00
Contractors Registration Fees	12,000.00
Staff and student I.D Cards	13,000.00
Tender fees	100,000.00
Utility Income	38,500.00
Rent on University Property	40,000.00
Others	28,600.00
Postgraduate Acceptance Payment	1,447,200.00
Postgraduate School Charges	15,646,634.25
Postgraduate Application Form	50,400.00
Postgraduate Transcript Payment	207,000.00
Ilorin Business School Charges	2,036,100.00
Ilorin Business School Application Form	226,800.00
Ilorin Business School Acceptance Payment	35,200.00
Institute of Education Application Form	25,200.00
Institute of Education Hostel Accommodation	20,200.00
Institute of Education School Charges	20,241,726.90
Institute of Education Acceptance Payment	50,400.00
JUPEB Application Form	1,159,200.00
JUPEB Acceptance Payment	3,553,200.00
Remedial Application Form	167,200.00
Undergraduate School Charges	6,153,025.00
Undergraduate Clearance Charges	6,000.00
Undergraduate Transcript Payment	763,800.00
Undergraduate Post UTME Registration	176,400.00
TOTAL RECEIPT FOR THE PERIOD	209,151,395.84

PAYMENTS

PAYMENT TO CONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS & OTHERS:

		N
SKYRULE TRAVELS LTD	RETURN FLIGHT TICKETS	10,014,500.00
OPOTU ABDULKARIM & OTHERS	REMUNERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL STAFF SALARY FOR AUGUST	1,070,000.00
PROF MOJI BAKARE ODUNOLA & OTHERS	REMUNERATION FOR SUPERVISION FOR 2026/2027 POST UTME	11,740,000.00
TRIKAF VENTURES LTD	PAYMENT FOR AWARD OF CONTRACT OF CLEANING& PROJECT STAFF SERVICES	38,213,670.00
EMPREZPEARL EMPORIUM	PAYMENT FOR ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR AWARD OF EXCELLENCE	4,019,366.95
ZAAMB INTEGRATED SERVICES LTD	CONSTR & FURNISHING OF A STOREY BLOCK OF 4NR 100 CAPACITY LECTURE HALL (TETFUND)	71,722,678.40
SKYRULE TRAVELS LTD	RETURN FLIGHT TICKETS	13,698,077.00
SKYRULE TRAVELS LTD	RETURN FLIGHT TICKETS	13,315,240.00
MEEM SOLAR SOLUTION	SUPPLY & INSTALLATION OF CCTV	1,229,585.00
FOLUB CONSTR COMPANY LTD	CONSTR OF A MINI BOTANICAL GARDEN	2,590,132.27
BABA ABDULLAHI AND OTHERS	TETFUND INSTITUTE BASED RESEARCH	19,548,474.53
OLANIYI TAIWO AZEEZ	LEARNED CONFERENCE ACAD TETFUND	5,804,004.75
ABDULKADIR ADEOLA MUSTAPHA	LEARNED CONFERENCE ACAD TETFUND	312,000.00
OLMASH INTERNATIONAL LTD	REPAIR OF ROOF DAMAGED BY RAINSTORM	6,777,422.04
SULEIMAN ABDULKAREEM	TETFUND NATIONAL RESEARCH GRANT	675,000.00
AHMED ISMAILA IDOWU	TETFUND NATIONAL RESEARCH GRANT	475,500.00
CYTECK ENGR CONSTRUCTION LTD	CONSTR AND FURNISHING OF A STOREY BLOCK OF 2NR 300 CAPACITY LECTURE HALL	58,992,669.73
LAWAL BILQIS ABIOLA & OTHERS	INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE (TETFUND)	39,963,781.50
MESSR ADVANCE DATA SERVICES LTD	PROCUREMENT OF COMPUTETRS & ACCESSORIES LOT3 (TETFUND)	19,313,336.60
OKEREKE CHINENYE & OTHERS	NYSC CORP MEMBERS ALLOWANCE FOR MONTH OF AUGUST	2,525,000.00
SAADU GANIYU ELEJA & OTHERS	LOCAL LEARNED CONFERENCE (TETFUND)	4,652,949.00
GANIYAT BOLA SAKA & OTHERS	LOCAL LEARNED CONFERENCE (TETFUND)	962,141.00
Various	Various I.E DTA, IMPREST, REFUND E.T.C	47,499,342.71
Purchase Advance	Various	494,166.00
TOTAL TSA CHARGES	Various	159,530.00
TOTAL		375,768,567.48

Signed
Abiodun Lawal FCNA
Bursar



- The immediate past Registrar of the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB), Prof. Is-haq Oloyede, has criticised some Nigerian parents for treating universities as 'Asylum', for children they can no longer control. ("Oloyede : Parents now see universities as 'Asylums' for children they can no longer control", *The Herald*, Sunday, August 23, 2026, p.11; "How Leadership Innovation, Trust Can Make Nigerian Universities Resilient", *The Guardian*, Sunday, August 23, 2026, p.26)
- Two academic pharmacists at the University of Ilorin, Prof. Abdulganiyu Giwa and Dr Olusegun Eniayewe, were among the 2026 Merit Awards winners of the Kwara State Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria (PSN). ("UNILORIN pharmacists awarded at 2026 PSN" <https://decency.home.blog>)
- The Vice Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, has congratulated the Kuliya Ngeri of Ilorin Emirate, Prof. Yusuf Olaolu Ali, SAN, on the occasion of his 70th birthday ("UNILORIN VC Felicitates Yusuf Ali on 70th Birthday", <https://newtelegraphng.com>; "UNIVERSITY OF ILORIN 70 HEARTY CHEERS to a Legal Icon and Philanthropist", *Nigerian Tribune*, September 7, 2026, p.24; "Unilorin VC Celebrates Legal Icon Yusuf Ali at 70", <https://www.fellowpress.com>; "Prof. Egbewole Celebrates Yusuf Ali at 70, Hails Legal Icon's Impact on Education", <https://choicereporters.com>; "Egbewole celebrates Yusuf Ali at 70, hails legal icon's impact on education", <https://thegraphicsnews.ng>; "Egbewole Felicitates Yusuf Ali on 70th Birthday", <https://www.dailytopic.com.ng>; "Egbewole Felicitates Yusuf Ali on 70th birthday", peoplevoiceng.blogspot.com; "Unilorin VC Hails Legal Luminary", dailyinfolink24.wordpress.com; "Unilorin VC, Emir of Ilorin congratulates Yusuf Ali at 70", <https://decency.home.blog>; "Emir of Ilorin UNILORIN hail legal luminary, Ali, at 70", <https://dailyembassage.com.ng>; "Unilorin VC felicitates Yusuf Ali on 70th birthday", <https://thereflection.com.ng>;
- While speaking at the 306th Inaugural lecture of the University, titled "GREEN FEEDS, HEALTHY FISH: ENHANCING AQUACULTURE PRODUCTIVITY", Prof. Wasiu Jimoh of the Department of Aquaculture and Fisheries, University of Ilorin, has called on government to recognise sustainable aquaculture as a strategic component of Nigeria's food security, nutrition and economy agenda. ("UNILORIN Prof. Calls for sustainable aquaculture for food security", <https://decency.home.blog>; "Don Proffers Sustainable Aquaculture For Food Security", <https://www.dailytopic.com>; "Food Security: University Don Calls on Govt to Take Strategic Interest on Aquaculture Growth", <https://thisdaylive.com>; "Unilorin don urges FG to prioritise aquaculture", <https://www.vanguardngr.com>;
- The Director of Corporate Affairs, University of Ilorin, Mr Kunle Akogun, has been honoured by the Oke-Ode Elite Youth Development Forum (OEYDF), in recognition of his exemplary contributions towards the peace, progress and educational development of the community. ("Again, Akogun honoured at home by Oke-Ode Elite Youth Development Forum", <https://democracynewsline.com>; "Again, Akogun Honoured at Home", <https://www.facebook.com/share/P/1DCGq5gSn4/>; "Akogun honoured as Oke-Ode Youth Celebrate his service to community", <https://thegraphicsnews.ng>; "Again, Akogun honoured at home", "Again, Akogun honoured at home by Oke-Ode Elite Youth Development Forum" <https://dailyinfolink24.wordpress.com>;
- The Vice Chancellor of the University of Ilorin, Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole, SAN, has expressed profound sadness on the passing of a prominent woman community leader, Alhaji Munirat Hanafi Imam Olesin. ("UNILORIN VC commiserates with Leadership Editor, Olesin on mom's passing", <https://decency.home.blog>; "UNILORIN VC commiserates with Leadership regional editor, Olesin, on mother's passing", *Blueprint*, Wednesday, November 9, 2026, p.10; "UNILORIN VC Mourns, Consoles LEADERSHIP Editor, Olesin over Mother's Death", <https://choicereporters.com>; "UNILORIN VC commiserates with Leadership Editor, Olesin, on mom's passing", <https://justeventonline.com>; "UNILORIN VC commiserates with Leadership Editor, Olesin, on mom's passing", <https://dailyinfolink24.wordpress.com>; "UNILORIN VC commiserates with Leadership Editor, Olesin, on mom's passing", <https://fellowpress.com>; "UNILORIN VC commiserates with Leadership Editor, Olesin, on mom's passing", <https://www.dailytopic.com.ng>;
- While delivering the 307th Inaugural Lecture of the University of Ilorin, titled "Microbes: Invisible Enemies of Humans and Livestock", Prof. Mashood Abiola Raji of the Department of Veterinary Microbiology has said apparently healthy livestock could harbour and shed pathogens capable of infecting humans, making farmers, abattoir workers, livestock handlers and consumers particularly vulnerable. ("How Hidden Livestock Pathogens Could Threaten Nigeria's Food Chain-Varsity Don", <https://share.google/RChVYRiI5yH88Z6>; "Expert Seeks Penalty for Producers of Counterfeit Livestock Products" <https://the-cabal.ng>; "Don Seeks Heavy Sanctions Against Manufacturers of Substandard Vet Products", <https://newtelegraphng.com>; "UNILORIN Veterinary Professor Seeks Sanctions for Manufacturers of Counterfeit Livestock Products", <https://globalnewsportalv.wordpress.com>; "Unilorin Veterinary professor seeks sanction for counterfeit livestock products", <https://centuryherald.com>; "UNILORIN Veterinary Professor Seeks Sanctions for Manufacturers of Counterfeit Livestock Products", <https://timenigeria.com>; "UNILORIN Veterinary Professor Seeks Sanctions for Manufacturers of Counterfeit Livestock Products", <https://democracynewsline.com>; "UNILORIN Veterinary Professor Seeks Sanctions for Manufacturers of Counterfeit Livestock Products", <https://theabujapost.com.ng>; "UNILORIN Veterinary Professor Seeks Sanctions for Manufacturers of Counterfeit Livestock Products", *The Sunday Times*, Sunday, September 13, 2024, p.4)

We Need More Oloyedes in Govt Agencies

(Cond. from back page)

And financial probity was only one part of the story. Oloyede abolished the scratch-card system that had nourished fraud and profiteering and replaced it with electronic PIN vending. His JAMB introduced the Central Admissions Processing System, or CAPS, which made admissions more transparent and gave candidates the ability to track, accept or reject admission offers electronically. CAPS also made it harder for tertiary institutions to conduct admissions completely outside JAMB's view.

His administration strengthened biometric verification, tightened the accreditation and monitoring of CBT centers and created the JAMB Equal Opportunity Group to make the UTME more accessible to blind candidates and other people with disabilities. These were tangible institutional innovations with consequences for ordinary people.

This is where Oloyede's record reinforces a point I have repeatedly made about Nigerian institutions. In a March 30, 2019, column titled "INEC as Greatest Danger to Nigeria's Democracy," I observed that the weakness of our institutional structures causes government agencies to take on the character and temperaments of the people who head them. Dora Akunyili stamped her energetic vigilance on NAFDAC. Yemi Kale's analytical rigor gave the National Bureau of Statistics unusual credibility. Attahiru Jega's personal reputation for integrity rubbed off on INEC.

Oloyede's JAMB belongs in that tradition. His personal frugality, intolerance of financial opacity, obsessive attention to processes and concern with institutional reputation became attributes people increasingly associated with JAMB itself.

That is simultaneously reassuring and troubling. It is reassuring because it shows what a conscientious leader can do even within the severe constraints of the Nigerian public service. It is troubling because institutions should eventually acquire virtues that survive the people who temporarily lead them. A system whose integrity depends entirely on the moral fiber of

one individual remains dangerously vulnerable to regression.

Oloyede's tenure certainly had its failures. The gravest was the catastrophic 2025 UTME error that compromised the results of 379,997 candidates in 157 centers in Lagos and the Southeast. The scale of the error was horrendous.

I wrote at the time that the disaster deserved outrage while also pointing out that comparable technology failures had disrupted standardized examinations in the United States, Britain and India. JAMB investigated the complaints, acknowledged its error, apologized and organized a resit for the affected candidates. Oloyede accepted responsibility publicly.

We later learned that his first instinct when the scale of the failure became clear was to resign. People around him persuaded him that leaving in the middle of the crisis would amount to abandoning the students whose results had been compromised. He stayed to supervise the remedial process.

For me, that episode revealed as much about him as his successes did. Anyone can bask in the reflected glory of institutional success. Character becomes more legible in moments of humiliating failure. Oloyede did what Nigerian public officials almost never do: he admitted that his institution had grievously failed, apologized without hiding behind a committee and took personal responsibility for an error he did not personally cause.

Professor Segun Aina, a professor of computer engineering and systems expert, succeeded Oloyede on July 31. Aina has said that protecting JAMB's integrity will be a central priority of his tenure. That is a promising starting point.

My hope is that he will build on Oloyede's achievements, correct the flaws that became apparent during his tenure and institutionalize the habits of transparency and accountability so deeply that they cease to depend on who occupies the registrar's office.



S/N	NAME	DEPARTMENT	BIRTHDAY
1	OLAJOYE GANIYAT OMOLOLA	UNILORIN STAFF SCHOOL	13-Sep
2	GALADIMA JAMIU MOHAMMED	REGISTRY	13-Sep
3	OMOTESHO FUNMILAYO KEMI	AGRIC. EXTENSION & RURAL DEVELOPMENT	13-Sep
4	FORI KATE ANTHONY	REGISTRY	13-Sep
5	ALIU FATIMA OMOTAYO	POLITICAL SCIENCE	13-Sep
6	JIMOH JEMILAT	NETWORK OPERATING CENTRE	13-Sep
7	RASHEED ABDULKADIR SHEHU	QUANTITY SURVEYING	13-Sep
8	DOLAPO TAWAKALITU ABIOLA	AGRIC. EXTENSION & RURAL DEVELOPMENT	14-Sep
9	YUSUF KAMORUDEEN OLANIYI	AGRIC. & BIOSYSTEMS ENGINEERING	14-Sep
10	ABDULKADIR ISSA	LIBRARY	14-Sep
11	YUSUF IBRAHIM AROWOSAIYE	PUBLIC LAW	14-Sep
12	BILIAMINU SIKISU ABAYOMI	CHEMICAL PATHOLOGY & IMMUNOLOGY	14-Sep
13	ADEGBOYE TAIYE OLADAPO	BURSARY	14-Sep
14	ALABI ADE STEPHEN	ANATOMY	14-Sep
15	ABDULRAHIM HALIMAT AMIN	MEDICAL BIOCHEMISTRY	14-Sep
16	YUSUF SA'ADAT YETUNDE	CROP PROTECTION	14-Sep
17	OGUNNIYI OLUWATOYIN	HEALTH SERVICES	14-Sep
18	YUSUFF AFOLABI TAOHEED	ANIMAL PRODUCTION	14-Sep
19	ISIKA AYOKA BOLAJI	UNILORIN STAFF SCHOOL	15-Sep
20	YAHAYA -SHESHE ADO	WORKS: ELECTRICAL/TELECOM	15-Sep
21	FOLAMI LAWRENCE ADENIYI	REGISTRY	15-Sep
22	BOLA-IGE BOLA-IGE ELIZABETH	REGISTRY	15-Sep
23	ADEOTI JOHNSON OLABODE	BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	15-Sep
24	SADIKU NUSIRAT ADERINSOLA	FOREST RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	15-Sep
25	OSASONA FOLUSHO FRIDAY	WORKS: WORKS/MAINT. OFFICE	15-Sep
26	AINA MICHAEL GBEMISOLA	HUMAN KINETICS & HEALTH EDUCATION	15-Sep
27	OLAIFA FOLASHADE HELEN	VETERINARY PHYSIOLOGY & BIOCHEMISTRY	15-Sep
28	SALIMAN WASILAT OMOWUMI	REGISTRY	15-Sep
29	ALATISE TAOFEEQ NASIR	PRIVATE & PROPERTY LAW	15-Sep
30	KAREEM IYABODE FALILAT	UNILORIN STAFF SCHOOL	16-Sep
31	KOLADE TIMILEYIN SOLOMON	REGISTRY	16-Sep
32	AJIBOYE ADELEKE RAHEEM	COMPUTER SCIENCE	16-Sep
33	EKUNDAYO ADEITAN FUNMILAYO	REGISTRY	16-Sep
34	USMAN SEDEEQ AJADI	WORKS: WORKS/MAINT. OFFICE	16-Sep
35	TAJUDEEN LAWAL BOLAKALE	LIBRARY	16-Sep
36	ADEYEMO ISMAIL ADEWUYI	VETERINARY MICROBIOLOGY	16-Sep
37	SOLIU RASAQ AREMU	REGISTRY	17-Sep
38	OYEYIOLA JULIANAH YEMISI	REGISTRY	17-Sep
39	IYAMA ANTHONIA	REGISTRY	17-Sep
40	YUSUF IBRAHIM AYINLA	REGISTRY	17-Sep
41	OMOTOYE OMOBUKOLA GRACE	REGISTRY	17-Sep
42	KADIR RAFIU ADEBISI	VETERINARY MEDICINE	17-Sep
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We Need More Oloyedes in Govt Agencies

By Farooq A. Kperogi

I didn't get a chance to write a retrospective evaluation of Professor Is-haq Oloyede's tenure as JAMB registrar when most people did after his departure in July because the time of his exit competed with more pressing national discourses that invited my intervention. But I have always been haunted by a gnawing guilt that I haven't shared my own assessment of a man who, though fallible like the rest of us, transformed a consequential educational institution in remarkable ways.

I have met Professor Oloyede only once in my life, and it was at the Ilorin airport in 2023 when I visited Nigeria for the first time in seven years for the formal presentation of a book that I co-wrote with colleagues Prof. Moses Ochonuga and Dr. Osmund Agbo.

While waiting for my delayed Lagos flight, I saw someone who looked distinctly like him. Because I had heard several great things about him from mutual friends, I summoned the courage to go and say hello to him. I was shocked that he knew me. I found him to be a warm, lively, friendly, intellectually alert yet generous and humble person.

People who knew closely had told me he embodied several curious contraries. He is a profoundly intelligent and innovative person who is nonetheless self-effacing to the point of giving you permission to underestimate him.

And although he had a First Class degree in Arabic and is deeply religious, I was told, he is wary of people who flaunt public displays of religiosity, who pepper their conversations with performative Arabic phrases that they barely understand. He himself keeps it plain and simple when he relates with Muslims outside religious contexts.

In my short interaction with him at the Ilorin airport, I instinctively activated my Arabic vocabularies to punctuate my conversations, knowing that I was speaking with a professor of Arabic and Islamic studies. He didn't require my performative zealotry with superior Arabic phraseology, like many people with his Arabic erudition and deep Muslim faith would do. He spoke plain English. Then I recalled what I had heard about his indifference to or even suspicion of such behavior. I quickly adjusted.

That's why I think the most unfair charge often hurled at him by his detractors is the charge that because of the depth of his Islamic faith and his scholarly investments in Arabic and Islamic studies, he is a Muslim bigot. It isn't only that he self-consciously chooses not to mix the profane and the divine in everyday contexts even when he relates with fellow Muslims, he takes it as an article of faith to be scrupulously fair to Christians and other people who don't share his faith.

There are probably people who will attribute disadvantages they suffered from him to their faith. I don't know. Being humans, all kinds of things are possible, but people who know him intimately and whose judgment I trust, both in and out of JAMB, tell of a man who is animated by and concerned with justice and fair treatment for all irrespective of faith or other primordial variables, whose passion for making a difference is consuming.

This is the background behind his success at JAMB. When Oloyede assumed leadership of JAMB in 2016, he inherited an organization in which astonishing large amounts of money routinely disappeared into bureaucratic sinkholes. In his first full year, JAMB remitted N7.8 billion to the federal government. The government had expected a remittance of about N500 million. The ICPC later publicly commended the anti-corruption reforms that produced this result.



I initially had a slightly different reaction to JAMB's newfound capacity to generate billions of naira. I thought there was something morally perverse about an examination body boasting of revenue generated largely from poor young people seeking admission into universities.

In a July 13, 2021, article titled "Why Must Students Take UTME Every Year?" I argued that compelling students to retake UTME every year was "needlessly exploitative." A student who scores well and fails to secure admission for reasons unrelated to academic competence should, I argued, be able to use the score for at least two years and ideally for up to five years, as is possible with the SAT in the United States. I still stand by that argument.

In fact, the enormous surpluses JAMB began to remit under Oloyede helped make the case that the examination fee itself was too high. The federal government eventually reduced the basic application fee from N5,000 to N3,500 in 2019. Then Education Minister Adamu Adamu explicitly cited the extraordinary rise in JAMB's remittances as evidence that the agency could charge candidates less and still cover its expenses. Oloyede himself later said a suggestion from the Nigerian Guild of Editors prompted him to formally recommend the reduction.

With time, however, I came to see another dimension to the revenue story. The billions JAMB suddenly started remitting were also an index of the stupendous scale of the leakages that had existed before Oloyede arrived.

The infamous story of the JAMB official in Benue who claimed that a snake had swallowed N36 million illustrates this perfectly. Many Nigerians remember the story as evidence of JAMB's corruption. The actual story points in the opposite direction. The money disappeared years before Oloyede became registrar. It came to light because he ordered an unusually thorough audit of JAMB's finances after assuming office. The audit exposed old thefts, led to recoveries and triggered prosecutions. I made this point in my 2023 column on the controversy over Mmesoma Ejikeme's forged JAMB result.

By the time Oloyede left office, JAMB said it had remitted more than N50 billion in operating surpluses over his decade in office. Before his appointment, the comparable remittances were almost risibly insignificant. Whatever disagreements one may have with specific JAMB policies, the financial transformation is difficult to explain away.

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