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Prof. L. F. Oladimeji
 The Maiden Inaugural Lecturer

THERE ARE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN ISLAM AND CHRISTIANITY

AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY CLOCKS 17

» P2

DIGITAL CURRENCY CAN REDEFINE THE FUTURE - DR. AKINLASO

» P3

ISLAMIC FINANCE ENHANCES GENERAL ECONOMIC WELLBEING -DR. UTHMAN

» P3



- TABLE WATER
- GYM CENTER
- LAUNDRY
- BOOKSHOP
- GUEST HOUSE
- BUSINESS CENTER
- CAR WASH

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THERE ARE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN ISLAM AND CHRISTIANITY - PROF. OLADIMEJI

The Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Prof. Lateef Folorunsho Oladimeji has stated that despite the differences in methods of worship in Islam and Christianity, there are still some striking similarities between an Islamic Movement known as Jamâ'atut Tabligh and the Jehovah Witness Movement in Christianity.

Prof. Oladimeji said this while delivering the maiden inaugural lecture of Al-Hikmah University titled, "Roving Preachers of the Message: Deconstructing Da'wah Across Borders" on Friday, January 7, 2021 at the University auditorium.

The inaugural lecturer revealed that during the course of his research, he highlighted some interesting similarities among which are: the founding and the founders of both movements were obscure religious scholars who were not known or worldly celebrated but both sects have large gatherings across the globe; the two groups are apolitical; they are characterised by simple lifestyle; simple construction of worship centers; lack of publicity of events and

programmes especially with the use of electronic and social media; voluntarism in their programmes and the itinerant nature of their evangelism.

Prof. Oladimeji added that in consonance with the Qur'anic and the Biblical injunctions Nigerian Muslims and Christians have great opportunities to develop harmonious co-existence in the country. Nigeria as a great religious nation can still be greater if Muslims, Christians and Traditionalists would shun acrimony, hostility, rancour and discord that have characterised their relationship in the past.

Prof. Oladimeji further stated that, in view of the negative effects and dented image the wave of insecurity has caused Nigeria as a country, the practices of Jamâ'atut Tabligh as a peaceful, non-political and non-militant body of Muslims should be the ideal model for checking the wave of insecurity in the country. He added that this transnational Islamic movement has several virtues that could be deployed for peaceful coexistence and this is why the Movement remains acceptable wherever it operates in any part of the world, including Nigeria.



L-R: The maiden inaugural lecturer, Prof. L.F. Oladimeji, presenting inaugural file to the VC, Prof. Noah Yusuf and founder, Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin, Chief (Dr.) Abdulraheem Oladimeji, (OFR)

AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY CLOCKS 17TH anniversary

As part of the tradition of Al-Hikmah University to celebrate the Founder's Day annually, the Management held a special prayer and Jumuat service to celebrate 17 years of the existence of the University on January 7, 2022.

The Vice Chancellor, Al-Hikmah University, Prof. Noah Yusuf in his opening remarks stated that every January 7th is set aside to pray for the Founder and also reflect on the University's achievements. He added that this year's Founder's Day is special because it is the same day the institution would have her maiden inaugural lecture by Prof. Lateef Folorunsho Oladimeji.

Prof. Yusuf thanked Allah for all He has been doing for the institution for the past 17 years especially on excellent performance of the students and on the dedicated staff working day and night to take the University to a greater height.

The Founder, Chief (Dr.) Abdulraheem Oladimeji while

thanking Allah said dedication, persistence, hard work, prayers, passion for education and Allah's mercy were the factors that made the dream of establishing the University a reality.

The founder reiterated that it was his love for education and for Islam that made him established the institution in 2005. He thanked the Management, staff, students and the well-wishers of the institution for their hard work, prayers and dedication.



1



2

(1) The founder, Chief (Dr.) Abdulraheem Oladimeji, (OFR), (2) Management and staff of Al-Hikmah University at the prayer section marking 17th anniversary

DIGITAL CURRENCY CAN REDEFINE THE FUTURE – DR. AKINLASO



Group picture for the guest lecturer, Dr. Mustapha Ishaq Akinlaso (2nd position first roll), father to the guest lecturer Mallam M. Akinlaso (3rd position first roll) with the management and staff of Al-Hikmah University

The guest speaker at the two-day maiden programme for the Centre for Islamic Economics and Finance (CIEF), Dr. Mustapha Ishaq Akinlaso has explained that digital currency can transform the future and individuals should have knowledge of it, in order to be leaders in the future. Dr. Akinlaso stated this while delivering a lecture titled, “Digital Currency from Islamic Perspective: The Case of E-Naira” on Saturday, 15th January, 2022 at the Al-Hikmah University Auditorium.

According to the guest lecturer, “we have different eras in the history of money, which are; direct exchange of goods or service to fulfil their economic needs; use of precious metals and stones to buy goods of need; use of coins & notes backed by gold reserves to fulfil economic needs; use of coins and notes (plus digital equivalent) backed by government authorities to fulfil

economic needs; and the use of centralised or decentralised digital currencies to fulfil economic needs”. He added that digital currency is any currency, money, or money-like asset that is primarily managed, stored or exchanged on digital computer systems, especially over the internet.

Dr. Akinlaso added that there are two types of money considered in Islam: natural and customary money. He said the Shariah has no issue with the concept of digital currency except when it conflicts with Shariah principles that qualifies money.

In his words, “there are certain things that qualify money in Sharia. They are: wealth, legal value, monetary usage, wealth, usufruct, right and liability. Money is used for transaction and precautionary motive and not for speculative motive because speculation breeds economic injustice and distortions”.

Dr. Akinlaso revealed that future trading in crypto-currency has the same principle as gambling and gambling is categorically prohibited in Islam by Allah in the Quran, (Chapter: Al-Maidah, Verse: 90) because in future trading, traders analyse the market and predict the future price of the

crypto-currency, by either taking a short or long position in the market. He added that many crypto-currency exchanges offer their users an opportunity to stake their coins for a certain period and earn a fixed amount of interest, which is not permissible in Islam. However, spot trading is halal because it involves a user buying and putting their crypto currency in their wallets in order to trade, buy, and sell the currency on the current market value.

The guest speaker pointed out that Central Bank digital currency are new variants of Central Bank money that are different from physical cash and reserves/settlement accounts. It is a digital representation of sovereign currency that is issued by a jurisdiction's monetary authority. He added that the objectives of the E-Naira include; macroeconomic management and growth, cross border trade facilitation, financial inclusion, monetary policy effectiveness, improved payments efficiency, revenue and tax collection, remittances improvement and targeted social interventions.

Dr. Akinlaso, therefore, urged members of the public to take advantage of digital currency as it can facilitate diaspora remittances, reduce cost and improve efficiency of cross-border exchange, enable direct welfare disbursements to citizens, increase revenue tax collection, reduce cost and processing cash encourage financial inclusion, support a resilient payment ecosystem and improve availability and usability of the Central Bank money.

ISLAMIC FINANCE ENHANCES GENERAL ECONOMIC WELLBEING – DR. UTHMAN

Lecturer and Acting Head of Accounting Department, Al-Hikmah University, Dr. Ahmad Bukola Uthman said the Islamic financing is preferred to profit maximization as it facilitates general economic well-being for everyone.

Dr. Uthman stated this while delivering a speech titled “Islamic Financing: Understanding its ethics and basic principles” at a 2- day programme organised by the Centre for Islamic Economics and Finance (CIEF) on Friday, 14th January, 2022 at the Al-Hikmah University Auditorium.

The Acting Head of department added that some social roles of Islamic financing include: financial inclusion, helping the needy without inflicting burden, moral and environmental responsibility (prohibition of trade in alcoholism, drugs etc), encouragement of investments rather than just savings, giving due value to human efforts through sleeping partnership.

According to him, “Islamic finance and banking is a faith-based financial system which foundation is laid on Shari'ah law and the principles of Islamic economics. It is, therefore, the placement of banking and financing within the beliefs and philosophy of Islam. The Islamic finance prohibits interest because in Islam, money is only a medium of exchange and not a commodity which can earn on its own”.

Dr. Uthman highlighted some ethical rules in Islamic business which include; all parties should be truthful, all contracts should clearly specify the quality, quantity and price, all parties in the contract should have entered it with mutual consent, no property should be appropriated wrongfully or unjustly, all employees of the business should be treated fairly, prohibiting hoarding or cheating, parties in the business transaction should be considerate of other parties, only halal businesses, products and transactions should be dealt with and all haram or prohibited items should be

avoided.

In another vein, the Acting Head of Mass Communication Department, Dr. Saudat Salah Abdulbaqi in her lecture titled, “Career Talk for Secondary School Student” stated that career objectives help students attain clarity on the appropriate career for them as well as on how to get into that career industry. She added that students should know themselves and the kind of career they can fit into.

Dr. Abdulbaqi highlighted different stages in career plan which include: identifying skills, interest and passion for the career, exploring different career ideas, make a decision and set achievable goals. She added that students should not just choose career and schools rather they should consider certain factors in choosing a higher institution, which are: courses offered, degrees awarded, learning environment, ease of getting admitted and tuition to be paid.

14.3% OF NIGERIA POPULATION IS DRUG ABUSERS - DEPUTY COMMANDER, NDLEA



The Deputy Commander of the Kwara State Command of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), Mrs. Fatima Gambari has revealed that 14,300,000 Nigerians use various types of drugs, while 10,600,000 Nigerians use cannabis sativa which is 10.6% of Nigeria's population.

Mrs. Fatima stated this in a programme organised by the Counselling and Human Development Centre titled: "Anti-Drug Abuse Talk, Drama, Exhibition/Social Skills Training", on Thursday, January 20th, 2022 at the University auditorium.

The Deputy Commander added that drug abuse has negative impacts on the socio-economic development of the society. Some of its negative impact according to her include: low productivity at workplace, domestic and industrial accidents, family disintegration, loss of jobs, unhealthy youths, corruption/fraudulent practices, high rate of school dropouts and destruction of

societal norms and values.

According to her, 213,000 of Kwara State population are drug users and this makes the state to have the highest number of drug abusers in the North Central Zone. This is why the NDLEA has outlined series of activities towards

curbing drug abuse in Kwara State which include: raid of illicit drug joints, arrest of illicit drug dealers and seizure of exhibits, prosecution of drug offenders, counselling of persons who use drugs (PWUD), drug education in schools and other public places and treatment and rehabilitation of drug dependent persons. She added that war against drug abuse (WADA) was launched by the Federal Government on June 26th, 2021 in collaboration with the NDLEA.

Mrs. Gambari, however, urged everyone present not to punish drug users, judge drug users, discriminate against drug users, stigmatise drug users or criminalise drug users. Rather, they should counsel, care, support, treat, rehabilitate, show empathy and provide help to drug abusers when the need arises.

The Acting Director, Counselling and Human Development Centre, Dr. Jemilat Yusuf in her remarks said the event was timely because of the increase in the rate of drug abuse and addiction among the

teeming youths. She added that in Nigeria today, adolescents form a substantial proportion of the population that are particularly prone to drugs because of the influence of peer pressure, freedom from the control of their family and the urge to experiment drug.

According to the counsellor, "research has shown that there are higher rates of drug addiction among the adolescents than in other adults. The best preventive measure in reducing the spread of the use of drug is to provide accurate and periodic education to the teeming youths."

Similarly, a Senior Counselling Psychologist, Mr. Sadiq Atanda Razaq, in his lecture stated that Nigerian youths need to be assertive. In his words, "assertiveness means being able to stand up for your own or other people's rights in a calm and positive way, without being aggressive or passively accepting wrong. It is also known as social skills. The characteristics of an assertive person according to him, includes: self confidence, respect the opinions of others, being a good listener and a problem solver".

Mr. Razaq added that decision making skills help individuals in choosing between two or more alternatives. He, therefore, highlighted seven steps of effective decision making skills. These according to him, are: identifying the decision, gathering relevant information, identifying the alternatives, weighing the evidence, choosing among alternatives, taking action, reviewing decision and its consequences and urging youth to possess decision making skills in order to eradicate the social menace in the society.

Dr. Adigun Sirin Aaraba	Islamic Studies	01	M. Uvabile Yehajiragayin	Security, Igboja	03
Dr. Hura S. Milramad -Bita	Islamic Studies	01	M. Ajirita S. Oluwerisrta	Busary	05
Dr. Nurudeen Siku Larre	Ed. Sci. & Public Admin	01	M. Anulastarr L. Olatile	Public Admin/IT Law	05
M. Busari Alesin Oajirita	Med Lab Science s	01	M. Anucha Mohammed	Security, Abeta	07
M. Azeez Abdulokada	Works, Abeta Campus	01	M. Atajenikisala	Works, Abeta Campus	09
M. Ojuntiji Oluwale Thomas	Works, Abeta Campus	01	M. Keimu Ajirita	Security, Abeta	09
M. Abdulrahman Kaseem	Works, Abeta Campus	01	M. Atisa Atesina Aderiran	Est. Division	10
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M. Yusuf Yekun Adebunle	Works, Igboja	01	Dr. Lavel Sebastian Abiodun	Nursing Sci	10
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M. Gariyu Aesin	Works, Abeta Campus	03	M. Oj Atebata Atevale	Physical Science	22
M. Sa'addeen Jimoh Janiu	E-Registry	03	Dr. Makiwale Sani Oluwale	Science Educ	31

The Management of Al-Hikmah University on behalf of the entire staff wishes the under listed staff many Happy Returns

JANUARY

