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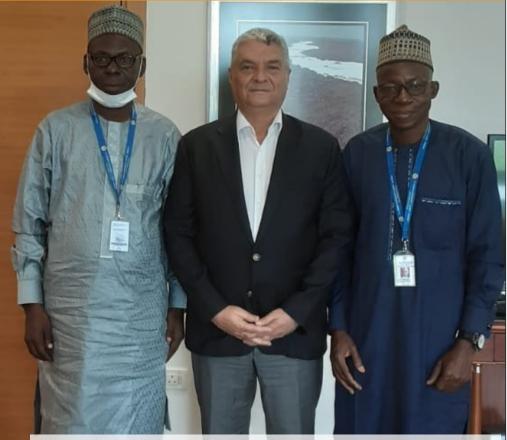
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Al-Hikmah University, P.M.B. 1601, Adewole Estate, Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria.

AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY SEEKS PARTNERSHIP WITH THE



REPUBLIC OF TURKEY



L-R: Dr. Sikiru Lanre Nurudeen, Ambassador Hidayet Bayraktar, and Prof. Noah Yusuf

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... Learning for Wisdom and Morality

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AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY SEEKS PARTNERSHIP WITH THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

he Management of Al-Hikmah University was granted audience by the Head of Mission, the Republic of Turkey in Nigeria, His Excellency Ambassador Hidayet Bayraktar, on areas of partnership between the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the University, on Tuesday, April 19, 2022, at the Turkish Embassy in Abuja. The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Noah Yusuf, was accompanied by the Director of Academic Planning, Dr. Sikiru Lanre Nurudeen to the meeting.

The Vice Chancellor, in his remark, pointed out that the 17-year-old University is Nigeria's first Islamic faith-based private University. He emphasized that in line with the University's Motto "Learning for Wisdom and Morality," all academic programmes in the University are blended with the right dose of moral and spiritual upliftment for its students. Prof. Yusuf further stressed that the University management is focused on producing graduates who are job creators rather than job seekers, thereby encouraging its students to

develop their entrepreneurial and vocational skills.

According to him, "the institution has enjoyed a smooth and uninterrupted academic calendar since its inception in 2005 and the quality of Al-Hikmah University's academic programmes has been certified by the National Universities Commission (NUC) in its successive accreditation exercises". He added that these extraordinary achievements have attracted a large number of applicants to the University, and this has put pressure on the current state of infrastructure in the institution. Hence, it becomes imperative for the University to expand its capacity in order to accommodate the growing number of applicants.

Prof. Yusuf, in the spirit of the theme of the Turkey-Africa Partnership Summit, stressed the need for functional collaboration between Al-Hikmah University and the Republic of Turkey in the areas of capacity building, staff and students' exchange between Al-Hikmah University and relevant institutions in the Republic of Turkey, funding of an

Endowment Chair in the Department of Islamic Studies, support for the activities of the Center for Islamic Heritage as well as the Centre for Entrepreneurial and Vocational Studies, among others.

Ambassador Bayraktar, in his response, praised the Management's efforts in maintaining the University's status as a first-choice private university in Nigeria. The Ambassador acknowledged that there are possible areas that the Republic of Turkey can collaborate with Al-Hikmah University and he promised to channel the University's requests to the Government of the Republic of Turkey. The Ambassador expressed his satisfaction with the Vice Chancellor's assurance that Al-Hikmah University, being a top-rated university operating in Ilorin, Kwara State, has been adjudged to be peaceful in spite of the spate in insecurity in other parts of the country. On a final note, he assured the University's delegation that his office would constantly update the University with the status of its request from time to time.

IT IS A DREAM COME THROUGH TO BECOME A FELLOW OF ICAN – BURSAR

he Bursar, Al-Hikmah University, Mr. Hafis Olawale Omoniyi has expressed satisfaction that it is a dream turned reality as he emerged a fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN) which is one of the most prestigious professional bodies in the country. He made this revelation after being bestowed with the fellowship at ICAN Event Centre in Amuwo Odofin, on Thursday, 21st of April, 2022.

Mr. Omoniyi said he was delighted and excited to become a fellow of the prestigious professional body which is the peak of any accountants' career. He added that though he has been due for it since 2018 but as a result of

certain reasons, God wants him to have it now.

The Bursar, who joined Al-Hikmah University in 2021 has added some positive impact to the development of the faith-based institution. Some of his innovations include: restructuring of the bursary unit, creating file index for the unit, opening of account chat, development of operating manual and discussing with directors of centres on how to increase students' enrolment.

Mr. Omoniyi therefore, urged the staff members to be passionate and dedicated to their jobs. He is of the view that if a staff is disciplined, instilling such value in students would be easy as you can not give what you do not have.





AGRICULTURE CAN SURPASS CRUDE OIL CONTRIBUTION TO GDP - DR. OLORUNNISOLA

he Acting Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Al-Hikmah University, Dr. Olorunnisola Saheed has revealed that if agriculture gets the necessary support and backing from the government, it can surpass the contribution of crude oil to Gross Domestic Product (GDP). He stated this during an interaction with the information crew in his office on Thursday, 28th April, 2022.

Dr. Olorunnisola pointed out that if government wants to use agriculture to boost the economy, some measures would need to be put in place. This measures include positive policies that would support foreign investors to come to Nigeria, provision of grants to farmers, granting subsidies and tax holiday to commercial farmers, and meeting a host of other conditions that will enhance profitability and sustainability of farming process. He added that the government also needs to work on the areas of security, financing and technological tutelage of the farmers to boost productivity and efficiency.

According to him, "the government

since 2015 has increased its expenditures on agriculture across several fronts like: creating financial options such as the anchor borrowers scheme, agricultural microfinance coordinated by The Nigeria Incentive-Based Risk Sharing System for Agricultural Lending (NIRSAL); and other non-interest single digit loans with extended moratoriums". He



added that though the schemes are innovative, they are still in infancy and need supportive technologies that will enhance farmers' adoption to yield desired results.

The Acting Dean noted that

farming gives farmers seamless earnings and self gratification in terms of fulfilling food needs of the population. It is however surprising that many youths do not subscribe to farming in most agrarian and urban centres, owing to negative societal attitude towards farming, compared to other businesses or vocations.

In his words, "in order to return agriculture back to its lost glory, the government needs to sustain existing policies, discourage import in areas of competitive advantage after introduction of subsidies and focus on farmers' education and wellbeing. This way, farming will become the new blue chip outfit that will receive influx of innovative youths and resourceful Nigerians.

Dr. Olorunnisola urged farmers to stay on course and focus on growing crops that bring best economic value with minimum input. He added that the government should also consider introduction of subsidies, sustain farmers education and strive to provide ancillary infrastructure for sustainable agricultural practices.

TRAINING OUR KIDS REQUIRES SACRIFICE - DR. YUSUF

he Acting Director, Counseling and Human Development Centre, Dr. Jemilat Yusuf has revealed that training our kids requires sacrifice and compromise from parents if we want a better society. The Acting Director made this revelation during an interview with the information crew on Tuesday, 26th April, 2022 in her office.

Dr. Yusuf said some of the societal problems the country is facing like rape, ritual killing, robbery, kidnapping, banditry and drug abuse are triggered by some factors including but not limited to poor or bad parenting, teenage pregnancy, peer pressure, porousity of the internet space and divorce or separation.

According to her "parents and guardian should train their children properly and instill value of honesty and discipline in them in order that such child will be well behaved with or

without such parent being present". She also encouraged parents and guardian to go for counseling as counseling encompasses everything especially on how to train a child.



Dr. Yusuf stated that the society is evolving and there is a possibility that we cannot maintain the sanity we had in our societies of about three decades ago because the youths of today are only interested in getting rich quickly through illegal means while the society is doing little or nothing to curb the trend.

She noted that the government is doing its best even though it is not the function of the government to take care of our kids for us as they are busy with more important state assignments and expecting government to raise our child for us would be difficult and almost impossible.

Dr. Yusuf pointed out that society can help ameliorate these problems by prosecuting anyone guilty of crimes, irrespective of their social class, ethnic or religious background. She added that these issues concern every member of the society as all hands must be on deck if we want to return sanity back to our society and country at large.

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NATIONAL SECURITY IS SYNONYMOUS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COUNTRY - PROF. OLADIMEJI

he Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Prof. Abdulateef Folorunsho Oladimeji has expressed that development of a country is intertwined with the national security of the polity. He made this remark in a lecture he delivered at Michael Imoudu Institute for Labour Studies, Ilorin on Tuesday, 26th April 2022, titled "Security and National Development"

The Dean pointed out that ethnic bigotry and criminal activities are creating element of insecurity bigotry element of that is affecting the legitimate social and economic activities in the country. These problems also have the very damaging consequences of giving the signal to the rest of the international community that Nigeria is not a safe and secure; and as such not suitable for economic investments and activities.

Prof. Oladimeji stated that apart from the loss of lives, there are some other negative impact of insecurity like the rise of operating costs as a result of high demand for security which has negative consequences on the investment behaviour, incessant terrorist attacks which cause withdrawal of foreign direct investment by companies due to the direct destruction of infrastructure, influence of prices of stock as well as



Prof. Abdulateef Folorunsho Oladimeji

the sales and purchase of stocks in the stock market and diversion of economic resources from highly productive sectors to less productive security measures thereby crowding out investment. He added that no meaningful growth and development can take place in the continuous face of insecurity as it will not only reduce Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and fuel inflation but also the flow of Foreign Direct Investment.

In his words "the root causes of crimes and violent conflicts in Nigeria are said to be complex and systematic in nature and the prominent among them are injustice, religious and ethnic sentiments, corruption, demand for the change of a system or policy, crime inclination, ignorance, arrogance and above all, lack of sincere belief in Allah and the Day of Judgement". He added that all these evils are systematic in nature as one gives birth to other and both the people in authority and their subjects share the blame.

Prof. Oladimeji highlighted some roles Islam plays in the promotion of national security. These include: sound moral training for Muslim children at home, religious moral instruction in the school, promotion of national security, roles of religious leaders, relevance of worship to peace and national security.

INNOVATION IS NOT EASY TO EMBRACE - DR. ABDULBAQI

lecturer in mass communication currently on Sabbatical from University of Ilorin, who is presently acting as the Head of Department, Dr Saudat Salah Abdulbaqi has stated that innovation is not always easy to embrace. Dr. Abdulbaqi who also doubles the Chairperson of the Nigeria Institute of Public Relations, Kwara State Chapter, said this on Monday, 25th April, 2022 in her office while briefing the information crew on the circumstances surrounding unbundling of Mass Communication.

According to her, "the process of unbundling mass communication has taken effect since September 2021 when the National Universities Commissions (NUC) gave the approval to all degree awarding

institution to stop awarding degree in mass communication; they should rather award degrees in 7 separate



Dr. Saudat Salah Abdulbagi

departments of mass communication, namely: Public Relations, Advertising, Journalism and Media Studies, Broadcasting, Film and Multimedia studies, Development ... Learning for Wisdom and Morality Communication Studies and Information and Media Studies". She added that Mass Communication would be referred to as a Faculty or School of Communication and Media Studies by institutions that have unbundled.

Dr. Abdulbaqi highlighted some of the advantages of unbundling, which according to her will make graduates of mass communication become specialists in their chosen fields; allow theories in classroom to be properly linked to practical experience in the field as practitioners; allow lecturers and students interact regularly; make mass communication graduates to be more marketable; and enable Nigerian students to be able to compete favourably with their

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INNOVATION IS NOT EASY TO EMBRACE - DR. ABDULBAQI

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would be able to compete favourably with their counterparts globally. She highlighted other benefits of unbundling like ameliorating the problems of poor funding, outdated equipment, inadequate mass communication studios and lack of manpower.

Dr. Abdulbaqi commended the founding fathers of mass communication for this innovation because it would make mass communication graduates more skilled in their area of specialty. While appreciating the NUC for not forcing the unbundling process on institutions

but rather giving intuitions freehand to embrace the process when they have the necessary facilities, and admonished institutions that cannot unbundle to continue running the traditional mass communication as a department without any sanctions until they are ripe enough to do so.

NIGERIAN EDUCATIONAL SECTOR LACKS FUNDING - DR. AKINNUBI

n Associate Professor of Educational Management and the Acting Dean of the Faculty of Education, Al-Hikmah University, Dr. Olaolu Paul Akinubi has stressed that lack of funding in the educational sector is the core factor leading to the decay of the Nigerian educational system.

He made this known in an interview with the information crew in his office on Tuesday, 26th of April, 2022. Dr. Akinubi stated that for a long time, students in public universities have been suffering from an archaic system which offers platforms to learn practical courses as theories. He queried how such students, after graduation, would cope and also be able to apply what they learned in the real world.

The Acting Dean revealed that the

Nigerian budget does not really prioritize education; rather the government focuses on other sectors. He added that United Nations



Education Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) recommends that at least 26% of a country's budget be directed to the educational sector in order for such

country to be able to provide quality education. According to him, "lack of funding is the fundamental problem of education in Nigeria. Lecturers have lost their passion for the teaching profession because of the little remuneration which makes some of them end up selling marks to student".

Dr. Akinnubi pointed out that all education stakeholders should come together to make education a priority because it is through education we can rapidly develop our nation. He added that we have enough universities in the country already and we don't need more; rather, what we need is equipping the existing universities either private or public to meet up with international standard so we can produce graduates that can compete favourably at the global scene.

AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY HOSTS INTERSCHOOL DEBATE

he Education Students' Association of Nigeria (ESAN), Al-Hikmah University Chapter, hosted a debate competition titled "Nigeria Education Curricular: An effective Document in Solving Societal Problems" in the university auditorium.

The Acting Dean of Education, Dr. Olaoluwa Paul Akinnubi who was represented by the Acting Head of Department, Science Education, Dr. Hameed Olalekan Bolaji, during his welcome address, pointed out that this is just a competition and not a battlefield that the participants should be on their best behavior. He added that the ultimate aim of the competition is to bring the abilities of the students to

the limelight and to showcase how much they have been imparted in their respective schools through the debates.

Dr. Bolaji commended the Faculty of Education for hosting such an important competition in the university and also appreciated the representatives of the Education Students' Association of Nigeria (ESAN) for organising the event. He further advised the students on the diligence that is expected from them and how they must be good ambassadors of their respective institutions.

Four institutions participated in the interschool debate, they are; Al-Hikmah University, Kwara State University, Ekiti State University and Kwara State College of Education respectively. All of the institutions had two students as representatives and they all did justice to the various motions that were assigned to them.

Al-Hikmah University represented by Ojikutu Mistura and Lawal Abdullateef came 1st, followed by Kwara State university, represented by Olufemi Grace Feranmi and Abolaji Timileyin Nathaniel, then Ekiti State University, represented by Aladegboye Naimat and Adesope Abdul Azeez; and Kwara State College of Education, represented by Murtador Ridwan and Shukurah both came third with the same score of 105.0 points.

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 - (v) B.A. Islamic Studies
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FOR ENQUIRIES



Ag. Director +234-9066204343



Direct Line CPPS +234-8115690998

VISIT US

Adeta Road, Adewole Housing Estate, P.M.B. 1601, Ilorin, Kwara State.

DR. (MRS) RASHEEDAT .M. OLADIMEJI

www.alhikmahuniversity.edu.ng







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EMROL NOW Adeta Road, Adewole Housing Estate, P.M.B. 1601, Ilorin, Kwara State.

Coordinator

DR. (MRS) RASHEEDAT .M. OLADIMEJI
Registrar & Secretary to Council

Direct Line CPPS +234-8115690998

www.alhikmahuniversity.edu.ng





AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY RECORDS SUCCESS AT NUC ACCREDITATION

l-Hikmah University records full accreditation status for the 11 programmes paraded for accreditation at the 2021 National Universities Commission (NUC) accreditation.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Noah Yusuf during a press briefing on Monday, 25th April, 2022 at the Senate Chamber stated that this feat by the University translates that virtually all the undergraduate programmes in the universities have secured full accreditation status for the next five years (2021 - 2026) and the ones that require professional accreditation have also been accredited.

Prof. Yusuf highlighted the programmes that were accredited and their scores as follows; Software Engineering scored 90.7%; Business

Education got 92.8%; Education Arabic Language had 93.3%; Education Islamic Studies got 93.9%; Education Chemistry scored 88.1%; Education Economics with 77.8%; Education Political Science got 78.9%; Social Science scored 79.2%, Educational Management had 88.0%; Guidance and Counseling scored 86.4; and Sociology got 95.1%.

According to him the current outstanding performance by the University in NUC accreditation has further served to re-position Al-Hikmah University as one of the foremost and mostly subscribed faith-based private Universities in Nigeria. He added that the University would continue to strive to give quality education to the masses and that is the more reason the University constituted a committee on how to

commence Al-Hikmah University Medical School.

He however appealed to the federal government and other relevant agencies to extend the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) to private universities to assist in building more infrastructures to cater for increasing numbers of students.

The Registrar, Dr. Rasheedat Modupe Oladimeji, while giving the vote of thanks, appreciated the media for their consistent support and love for the University. She prayed that the relationship between both parties would continue to wax stronger. She also appreciated the management team, staff and the university community for their continuous support and love for Al-Hikmah University.

Mr Ahmed Nafiu Arikewuyo	Languages	01	Mr Alao Quam Alominle	Bursary	11
Dr AjagbeTundeSuraj	Banking and Finance	03	Mr Salaudeen Hammed Tayo	Bursary	14
Miss Yusuff Rukayat Temitope	Clinic, Ilorin	03	Mrs Abeebat Kehinde Solati	Clinic, Ilorin	14
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Mr Sado Salimon. Sulaiman	Works, Adeta Campus	04	Mrs KolawoleAsiawu Moronranti	Bursary	21
Mrs Wonuola Modasola Monsurat	Mass Comm.	05	Mrs Obalola Risikat Funmilayo	Dean's Office, Natural Scs	22
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Miss Rahmon Mistura Omobolanle	Academic Planning	09	Mrs Olarewaju Adijat Omoladun	Science Educ.	30

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



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