



# NEWSFLASH

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## GOVERNOR MASSARI COMMISSIONS NEW HOSTEL

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**- PRO-CHANCELLOR**



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**NIGERIAN EDUCATION HAS WITNESSED THE SCOURGE OF VIOLENCE IN RECENT YEARS**

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- TABLE WATER
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- LAUNDRY
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- BUSINESS CENTRE
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## GOVERNOR MASSARI COMMISSIONS NEW HOSTEL

The Governor of Katsina State, Rt. Hon Aminu Bello Masari has commissioned a block of hostel named after him and also laid the foundation for another hostel at Igbaja Campus of Al-Hikmah University, on Wednesday, 17th August, 2022.

The Governor in his speech revealed that when he took over the government of Katsina State, his administration decided to focus on education, agriculture, water supply, health and youth empowerment which they called, "Restoration Agenda". He added that the provision of qualitative education is one of the cardinal objectives of his administration.

Gov. Masari added that his administration has given much priority to Primary Education, which consequently, enabled the sector to witness drastic increase in the enrolment figure for primary school children from 1,100,000 in 2015 to 2,200,000 in 2021. His Excellency said

about 1,308 new classrooms were constructed and another 1,309 classrooms were rehabilitated across the State. He added that his administration also procured and distributed instructional materials for primary schools in the State, 55 secondary schools were renovated and seven new secondary schools were constructed across Katsina State.

He added that his administration's commitment to facilitate the payment of examination fees for secondary school students, served as an encouragement for the students to study hard and pass their examinations. He mentioned that from 2015 to 2020, 475,988 candidates sat for WAEC, NECO, NABTEB and NBAIS which were fully sponsored by the State Government.

According to him, "Alhaji (Chief) Dr Abdurraheem Oladimeji, is someone I have known for many years and one thing I like about him is that he

makes sure he succeeds in whatever project he plans to execute. The level of progress recorded by the University as I can vividly see is not surprising to me".

Gov. Masari explained that the mutual relationship between the people of Kwara and Katsina States dated back to the pre-colonial period, especially, in the areas of religious education, commerce, and culture through inter-ethnic marriages. In his words, "this honour done to me therefore, serves as an extension and means of consolidating this long history of cordial relationship and brotherhood".

He, therefore, called on patriotic and well-to-do individuals to set up more private universities in order to complement the efforts of the Federal and State Governments in providing qualitative education to our sons and daughters, as the government owned universities are not adequate to cater for the teeming population of Nigeria.



(1) Founder, Al-Hikmah University, Alhaji (Chief) Dr Abdurraheem Oladimeji (OFR) presenting Special Award of Honour to Gov. Masari (2) Gov. Masari at the commissioning of new hostel (3) A cross section of the Royal Fathers at the commissioning ceremony

## THE COUNCIL WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE UNIVERSITY'S CORE OBJECTIVES – PRO-CHANCELLOR

The Pro-Chancellor and Chairperson of Council of Al-Hikmah University, Alhaja Sekinat Yusuf has assured the University's Management of the continued support of the Governing Council in achieving the University's objectives.

The Pro-Chancellor, who was represented by a Council Member, Prof. Muritala Awodun, made this commitment at the official commissioning of Rt. Hon. Aminu Bello Masari Hostel in Igbaja Campus on Wednesday, 17th August, 2022.

The Pro-Chancellor, emphasised that the event is a practical demonstration of the focus of the Council on the realisation of the strategic objectives of the University which among others, is linked to the University's infrastructural development.

According to her, “the advantages of housing students in a comfortable environment, and under one roof is germane because the students will be able to concentrate on their studies. This would go a long way in preventing them from undue exposure to negative external influences”.

The Pro-Chancellor added that this dream became a reality through the magnanimity of the Governor of Katsina State, His Excellency, Rt. Hon.

Aminu Bello Masari who provided the take-off fund, which the Management used to kick-start the project at the time the Igbaja Campus was in dire need of students accommodation. She added that the management chose Igbaja Campus because it is where the Faculty of Agriculture is situated and agriculture is an area where he has keen interests. His Excellency has passion for food security nationwide.



**Prof. Muritala Awodun**

She thanked the Governor of Katsina State for his generous donation and also appreciated the cooperation and support of His Royal Highness, Oba Ahmed Awuni Arepo III and the entire Igbaja community for providing a conducive environment for the staff and students of Al-Hikmah University, Igbaja Campus.

The Vice Chancellor, Al-Hikmah University, Prof. Noah Yusuf in his

address said the choice of His Excellency, Rt. Hon. Masari as the guest of honour is not by accident as the Management, over the years, has been impressed by his outstanding performance especially in education, agriculture, health, water and infrastructural development.

Prof. Yusuf reiterated that the reason for the construction of the hostel in Igbaja is because the Governor has emphatically stated that the main stay of Katsina economy has always been agriculture. He lauded the University's noble cause of not charging any tuition fees for agriculture for the first three years, which is vital in encouraging and showing the management's supports for students who are ready to contribute to food security drive in our country.

The University don appreciated Gov. Masari for demonstrating true qualities of leadership and interest in Al-Hikmah University by accepting the request to name the project after him and equally accepting to be personally present during the commissioning. He equally appreciated the Governor of Kwara State who was unavoidably absent but was represented by the Secretary to the State Government, Prof. Manman Saba Jibril.

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## AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS WILL GRADUATE IN RECORD TIME - VC

The Vice Chancellor, Al-Hikmah University, Prof. Noah Yusuf said the postgraduate students of the faith-based university would graduate as and when due without any delay.

Prof. Yusuf said this at the interactive session with the postgraduate students on Tuesday, 2nd August, 2022 in the University Auditorium.

The university don added that the University's teaching and non-teaching staff are dedicated and committed to their jobs and they need the cooperation of all postgraduate students to make their academic journey smooth and successful.

He highlighted some of the unique features of the University which include stable academic calendar, the strategic location of the University which is in the heart of the state capital, uninterrupted power supply, fast and reliable internet connection, serene learning environment, well-stocked library and motivated staff.

Prof. Yusuf, however, said that Al-Hikmah postgraduate courses are new on board compared to some public universities. He therefore, reiterated the commitment of the staff members which is evident in the

record time completion of the Ph.D. programme of a candidate (being the first in the entire University) from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Department of Languages (Arabic Unit).

The Dean of Postgraduate School, Prof. Adeshina Olamide Yusuf Raji in his remarks warned the students against plagiarism and urged them to follow due protocols and guidelines in writing any academic work, especially their thesis as all projects/thesis must pass plagiarism test.

Prof. Raji reiterated that students are not expected to spend more time than expected on any postgraduate programme. He added that students can cause their own delay by not doing the following, registration and documentation as and when due,

attending classes, attending seminars, meeting their project supervisors as and when due and participating in other important events as stated by the University.

In his words, "postgraduate students' relationship with their lecturers is expected to be purely academic and nothing else". He added that the institution has zero tolerance for irregularities including dressing indecently, drug abuse, lecturers selling handouts and students bribing lecturers.

He therefore urged the students to pay their tuition fees on time and stop delaying their payments because delaying payment attracts consequences of extra payments and may eventually lead to stoppage of the students programme.



A cross section of Al-Hikmah University postgraduate students

## INFORMATION IS KEY TO ORGANISATION'S DEVELOPMENT – MR. BUNDU

The Faculty Officer, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Al-Hikmah University, Mr Usman Bundu, stated that information and records are vital resources organisations require to achieve their goals and objectives.

Mr Bundu said this at a training session organised by the Registry Unit of the University on Friday, 9th September, 2022, at the University Computer Based Centre (CBT).

The Faculty Officer added that the importance of the Registry cannot be overemphasised as it is a "memory house" for the receipt, dispatch, preservation and retrieval of essential

records for the effective performance of the organisational duties.

In his words, "the core function of the registry unit is opening of correspondence, recording, classifying, indexing, keeping custody of files, filing of correspondences and other documents, in order to facilitate their location, supplying of files on demand and preparation of mails for dispatch".

Mr. Bundu highlighted some of the qualities of a good record personnel which include comprehensive and up-to-date knowledge, dedication to the on-going success of the organisation, possession of analytical abilities,

resourcefulness, economy in the use of resources, time-consciousness, security-consciousness, confidentiality, good human relations, effective communication with record users, and flexibility.

Mr Bundu stated that records constitute the cornerstone upon which ministerial information systems are built. He therefore advised the Registry personnel to implement a sustainable system with time saving procedures for effective management of records as efficiency, effectiveness and economy in record management are vital to corporate success, survival and profitability.

## POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION SHOULD PROVIDE SKILLS FOR INNOVATION – PROF. ADERINTO



**Prof. Abideen Adeyinka Aderinto**

The former Dean, Postgraduate School and former Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academics), University of Ibadan, Prof. Abideen Adeyinka Aderinto said that the essence of postgraduate education is to mould persons with skills for development and also provide opportunity to develop skills to work in a range of careers and translating postgraduate research into practice.

Prof. Aderinto said this while speaking on the topic, “Repositioning Postgraduate Programmes in Al-Hikmah University for Effective Service Delivery” at the maiden Al-Hikmah University postgraduate retreat on Monday, 5th September, 2022 at Hibroach Hotel and Suites, Ilorin.

He added that for a University to be rated as world class, it should possess highly qualified staff who are leaders in their disciplines, research, publications and innovation, well-defined autonomous governance structure, international mix (proportion of foreign students and

staff), well-equipped laboratories for teaching and research, high level of funding, quality teaching environment that promises critical and strategic thinking and highly talented students.

The former Dean stated that for postgraduate education to reach its full potential, the teachers must not relent on their responsibilities. Some of the responsibilities of the postgraduate teachers according to him, include but not limited to, effective teaching, advising of students, effective supervision, prompt response to students' academic requests, attendance at seminars, commitment to research, quality publications, mentorship, updated curriculum, effective communication and feedback, development of appropriate curricula and promotion of research culture.

The University don explained that the benefits of university education cannot be overemphasised. He highlighted some benefits of education which include employment opportunities and enhanced earnings compared to non-graduates as many jobs now demand a degree, acquisition of knowledge from the experts and potential achievement, benefit dependency, development of life skills and self-confidence building, intergenerational and social mobility, promotion of health and wellbeing, nurturing of social experience, maintaining lifelong friendship, matching business needs with graduate skills, production of quality graduates, creation of business space, knowledge transfer, continuous

professional development, business profitability and productivity, reduction in demand for health services, reduction in interactions with criminal justice system, stimulation of positive reputation of nation abroad and greater tax-base and earnings.

Prof. Aderinto also said some challenges of postgraduate education in Nigeria include funding, getting good job, programme proliferation, growing student population, quality assurance, access and affordability, gap between academic programmes, attraction of global talents, outdated curriculum, intellectual engagement, poor research facilities, lack of state-of-the-art seminar halls, staff shortage, lack of supervision and mentoring, and declining research culture, among others.

According to him, “the way forward for postgraduate programme is recruitment of graduate students, improvement of curriculum, clarity of courses and administrative procedures, adequate facilities and resources, encouraging research for development, learner-centered programmes, collegiality, valuing students as adults with experience and expertise, trained and resourceful staff, mutual relationship between University and the society, lifelong learning, ICT, development and utilization, keeping up-to-date webpage, showcasing of areas of excellence and success, individual mentoring by lecturers to attract students and increasing focus on student satisfaction”.



**Group picture of the participants with Al-Hikmah University Management**

**NIGERIAN EDUCATION HAS WITNESSED THE SCOURGE OF VIOLENCE IN RECENT YEARS – PROF. AREMU****Prof. Aremu Oyesoji**

Nigeria between January and August, 2021, which resulted in the abduction of over 1,400 children and killing of 16 children in the process. These statistics postdated the years of Chibok's girls, 140 kidnapped school children in Kaduna, and 279 Jangebe school girls' kidnappings”.

The don reiterated that schools and their associated activities can only thrive in a physically and emotionally secure environment which requires that safety in schools should be of paramount concern to all stakeholders, especially the government, whose primary responsibility to the citizenry is safety of lives and property by ensuring absolute internal security.

Prof. Oyesoji emphasised the need to implement strategic policies and practices for safeguarding schools which include Safe Schools Initiative (SSI) launched at the World Economic Forum on Africa Security Education Agenda through which strategic measures can be developed and recommended for the security of Nigerian schools, community intelligence, deployment of non-conventional security personnel to protect Nigerian schools. According to him, “these personnel can be complemented with the Nigerian Army and the Police, especially, in hotbed states like the Northern part of the country”.

Similarly, the second speaker, Prof. Ayo Hammed from the Department of Counselling and Human Development Studies, University of Ibadan, while speaking on the topic, “Contemporary Approaches to Safety and Security Education in Nigeria,” stated that safety and security education play a vital role in creating the right attitudes in the members of a society, which in-turn improves their security by prompting an appropriate behaviour from community members.

Prof. Hammed added that an educated society can react appropriately to emerging threats by taking specific corrective and preventive actions. He emphasised that in order to build the awareness and knowledge of people, security and

safety education is essential. He added that education about safety is inseparably connected to citizens' peaceful existence within the state as awareness of security can build security and entrench peace in the world.

In his words “security is a very important value for humanity and the state. Therefore, knowledge of its basic types makes it possible to respond effectively to emerging threats in a given area and know about potential threats, how to respond to them and depict the level of a society's sense of security”.

The final speaker, Prof. Gambari Amosa Isiaka, while speaking on the topic “Insecurity and Nigeria Education System: Challenges and the Way Forward” added that provision of welfare, security of lives and property of the citizens are primary responsibilities of the government at all levels. These services, according to him, are viable tools for measuring the government's performance and the progress of a nation. He, however, noted that Nigeria is lagging behind in the area of security and this has negative implications on education.

He highlighted some of the security challenges in Nigeria such as terrorism, farmer-herder feud, separatists agitation agenda, police and other security agent's brutality, porous border, proliferation of arms and ammunition, organised criminal gangs, oil bunkering, kidnapping, militancy, cattle rustling and so on.

Prof. Isiaka highlighted the causes of insecurity in Nigeria education system which include but not limited to physical violence, battery and assault, burning of schools or fire outbreaks, abduction and kidnapping of persons, false imprisonment and detention of students, armed robbery, stealing and trespassing. Others include burglary and vandalism of facilities, drug abuse, alcoholism and smoking, cultism and hooliganism, non-chalant attitude of school administrators on security, non execution of security duties by incompetent guards and overcrowding of students with diverse characters in schools.

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## EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE IS KEY TO GOOD LEADERSHIP - MR. BRIMMO

**A** Principal Registrar, Al-Hikmah University Mr Brimmo Ibrahim stated that emotional intelligence refers to the ability to perceive, control and evaluate emotions. He explained further that emotional intelligence can be learned and strengthened, while others claim it is an inborn characteristic.

Mr Brimmo stated this while delivering a lecture titled "Emotional Intelligence and Effective Leadership" at the University Computer Base Centre on Friday, 23rd September, 2021.

He highlighted some domains of

emotional intelligence such as knowing ones emotions, managing one's emotions, motivating oneself, recognising and understanding other people's emotions and managing relationships. Mr Brimmo added that understanding oneself, one's goals, intentions and understanding others and their feelings are major aspects of emotional intelligence.

According to him, "emotional intelligence requires some skills such as ability to quickly reduce stress, ability to recognise and manage one's emotion, ability to control temper and eschew deliberate provocation, ability

to use humour and cope with challenges and ability to resolve conflicts positively with confidence". He added that emotionally intelligent people are self motivated, as they can hardly be lured by money or a title. They are usually resilient and optimistic when they encounter disappointment and mostly driven by an inner ambition.

Mr Brimmo summed up that no man can succeed in life without the help of others. Man has no other option than to relate with the people by controlling his emotion and recognising others' feeling and emotions for their co-existence to be a success.

## PLAN FOR THE AGEING POPULATION – DR. MUSAH

**T**he Director, Centre for Wellness and Creative Art Therapy, Kwara State University, Malete, Dr Khadijat Toyin Musah, has urged all critical stakeholders in low and middle-income countries to address the needs of the ageing population in the society.

Dr Musah, who doubled as the Keynote Speaker at the 2nd Annual Induction and Oath Taking Ceremony of the Associates, Fellows and Members of African Institute of Public Health Professionals (AIPHP) said this on Wednesday, 10th August, 2022 while delivering her Keynote address in the University Auditorium.

The Director added that some of the developing countries, including Nigeria have no policy in place that can cater for the older people and this has increased the rate of poverty and higher risk of vulnerability among older persons, most especially older women.

According to her, "ageing is a natural process that everyone must undergo. This is because it reflects all the changes taking place over the course of life and these changes start from birth till one grows, develops and attains maturity. The ageing population

is a major global trend that affects all countries, though at a different pace and level. It also reflects significant achievements of human development such as improved health, greater longevity and lower mortality".

The Director highlighted some causes of ageing, which include oxidative stress, glycation, telomere shortening, side reactions, mutations, aggregation of proteins, sun exposure and smoking, alcohol consumption, poor diet, lack of exercise, disease and unguided use of medication.

She, however, noted that digitalisation holds important promises for ageing populations because it includes innovations, efficiency gains and cost-saving techniques in the health sectors, the labour market, lifelong learning and social participation, assistance and gains in autonomy and independence for older persons whose physical and cognitive abilities are impaired.

Dr Musah emphasised that ageing people should not over-stress themselves and let digitisation do most of the work for them as the digital age has some unique characteristics which

involve interaction, innovation, elimination of geographical barriers and multiculturalism.

She, therefore, urged all public health professionals to help the ageing people to weather the storm of old age by encouraging them to adapt to the modern technology, telemedicine, remote care, home-health care service, disseminate relevant information, do disease profiling among older adults, dietary modification, lifestyle modification, detoxification, sleep hygiene protocols, exercise, digital knowledge and fruit therapy.

The Registrar and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), African Institute of Public Health Professionals, Dr Ayodele Bankole James while administrating the oath to the inductees, urged practitioners to discharge their duties diligently and ethically as their performance will always have an effect on the Institute.

The CEO appreciated the Management of Al-Hikmah University Faculty of Health Sciences, the staff and students of the institution for making the day a memorable one.

## NIGERIAN EDUCATION HAS WITNESSED THE SCOURGE OF VIOLENCE IN RECENT YEARS – PROF. AREMU

*continued from page 6*

Prof. Isiaka, therefore, highlighted ways of tackling security challenges in Nigeria to include review of the 1999 Constitution, creation of ministry of National Unity, development of strong

political will, instituting visible police patrol, putting in place elements of intelligence gathering as negotiation breeds motivation, redefining the role of security agencies, stipulating stiff

penalty for political offenders, ensuring stiff penalty for transnational crime and provision of quality education.

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

# October

