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**AL-HIKMAH**  
UNIVERSITY, ILOPIN, NIGERIA



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**AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY**  
 ILORIN, NIGERIA Adeta Road, Adewole Housing Estate, P.M.B 1601, Ilorin, Nigeria  
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**The 1st Islamic Faith-based University in Nigeria**

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LL.B. Common Law  
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 B.Sc. Public Health  
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 B.Sc. Finance  
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 B.Sc. (Ed.) Biology  
 B.Sc. (Ed.) Physics  
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 B.Sc. Software Engineering  
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 B.Sc. Information System  
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 B.Sc. Industrial Chemistry  
 B.Sc. Physics with Electronics  
 B.Sc. Computer Science  
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 B.Sc. Statistics

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 B.Ed. Educational Technology  
 B.Ed. Guidance & Counseling  
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### FACULTY OF EDUCATION

M.A. Arabic  
 M.A. English  
 M.A. History  
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 M.Sc. Statistics  
 M.Sc. Economics  
 M.Sc. Accounting  
 M.Sc. Biochemistry  
 M.A. Islamic Studies  
 M.Sc. (Ed.) Biology

LL.M Islamic Law  
 LL.M Common Law  
 M.Sc. (Ed.) Chemistry  
 M.Sc. (Ed.) Computer  
 M.Sc. Computer Science  
 M.Sc. (Ed.) Mathematics  
 M.Ed. Arabic Education  
 M.Ed. Business Education  
 M.Sc. Mass Communication  
 M.Sc. Microbiology

M.Sc. Business Administration  
 M.Ed. Islamic Studies Education  
 M.Ed. Educational Management  
 M.Ed. Guidance and Counselling  
 M.A. Peace and Security Studies  
 Professional Master's (Peace and Security Studies)  
 M.Sc. Geology and Mineral Science  
 Master's in Business Administration (MBA)  
 Master's in Public Administration (MPA)  
 M.Sc. Public Health  
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### POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES

PGD Mass Communication  
 PGD Public Health  
 PGD Education  
 PGD Economics

PGD Statistics  
 PGD Business Administration  
 PGD Computer Science  
 PGD Business Education

PGD Accounting  
 PGD Educational Management  
 PGD Guidance and Counselling  
 PGD Management and Strategic Planning  
 PGD Peace and Security Studies

### M.Phil/Ph.D and Ph.D PROGRAMMES

Arabic  
 English  
 History  
 Finance  
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 Accounting  
 Islamic Law

Common Law  
 Biochemistry  
 Islamic Studies  
 Computer Science  
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Business Administration  
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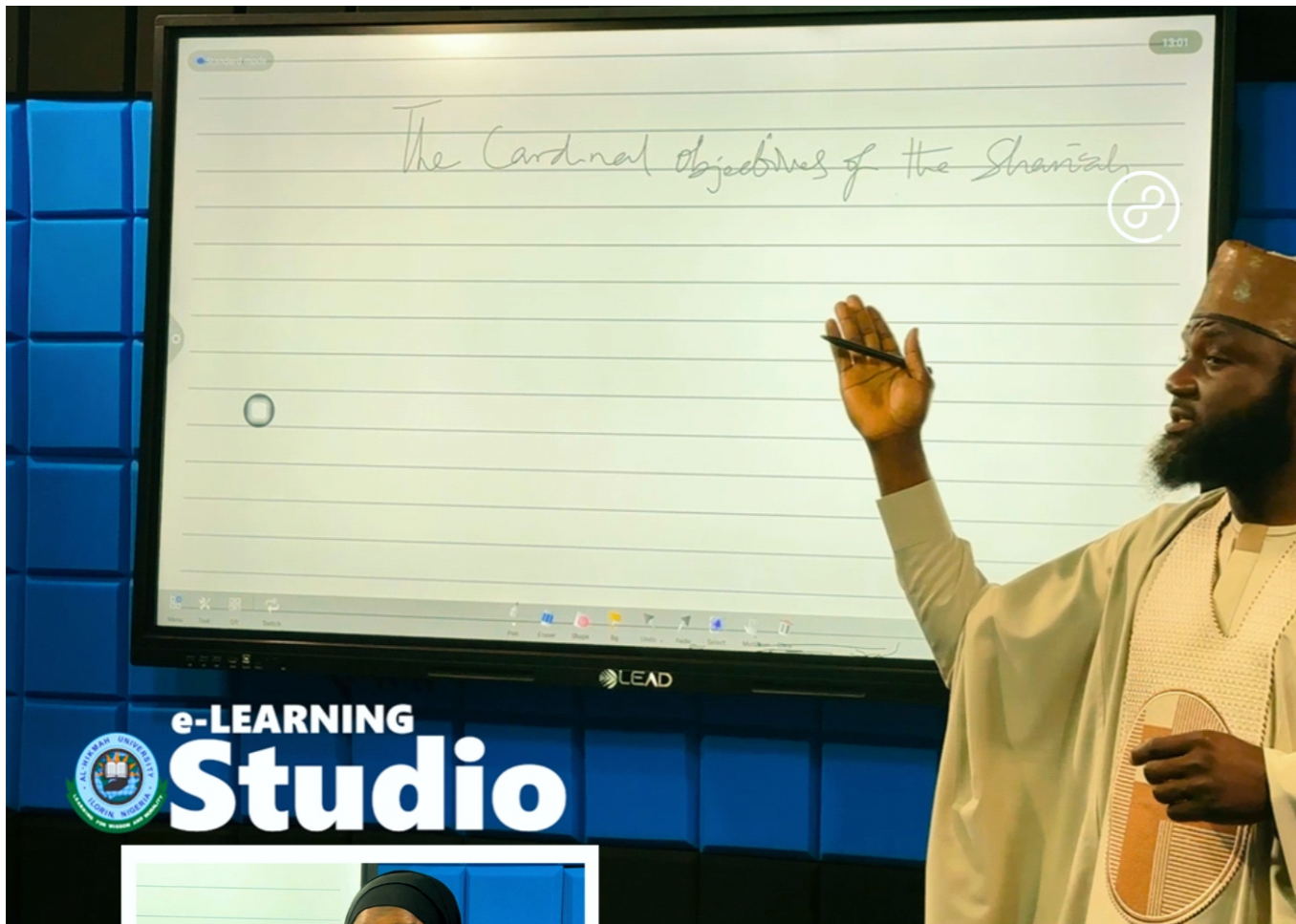
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**PREAMBLE**

In the present society, many marriages are unstable, and the stable ones are conflict habituated. The consequences of marital instability and conflict habituated marriage have devastating effects on the couples, their children, the extended family and the society at large. Professional training in Matrimonial Conflict Management will help to reduce cases of divorce and foster healthy relationship among married couples.

**OBJECTIVES**

The programme is designed to train prospective candidates on how to:

- i. apply concepts and techniques in the assessment and management of marital conflict;
- ii. disseminate information on the causes and consequences of marital conflict/divorce; and
- iii. explore career opportunities in the field.

**ELIGIBILITY**

The programme is open to Counsellors, Legal practitioners, Social-workers, Psychologists,

Clergies, and all other candidates interested in developing professional skills in the helping profession.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATION**

Any candidate seeking admission into this professional programme should be a first degree holder preferably in Counselling, Psychology, Law or Sociology.

**DURATION**

3 months.

**STUDY PERIOD**

Friday 3pm-6pm and Saturday 9am-11am, 11am - 1pm, and 2pm - 4pm

**APPLICATION FEE**

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**FEE**

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**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION**

23rd September, 2024

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**FOR ENQUIRIES CONTACT:** ● Ag. Director 08033968704 ● Programme Coordinator 08036845123



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**EDITORIAL TEAM**



**EDITOR'S NOTE**

**D**ear Esteemed Readers, It is with immense gratitude and honour that I welcome you to this commemorative edition of the Al-Hikmah University 20th Anniversary Magazine. Over the past two decades, Al-Hikmah University has not only achieved remarkable milestones but has also significantly contributed to the advancement of knowledge, moral rectitude, and community development.

This publication is a celebration of the collective achievements of our university, a testament to the dedication of our visionary founders, staff, students, alumni, and the wider Al-Hikmah community. Through the pages of this magazine, we reflect on the journey that has brought us to this landmark, showcasing stories of resilience, innovation, and progress that define our institution.

As we celebrate, we also look ahead with renewed determination to uphold the values that have set us apart. Our commitment to academic excellence,

character building, and societal impact remains unwavering. This anniversary is not just a reflection of our past but a call to action for the future—one that inspires us to continue striving for greater heights. I extend my deepest appreciation to all contributors and stakeholders whose support has made this publication possible. Your efforts are invaluable in capturing the essence of Al-Hikmah University's legacy and aspirations.

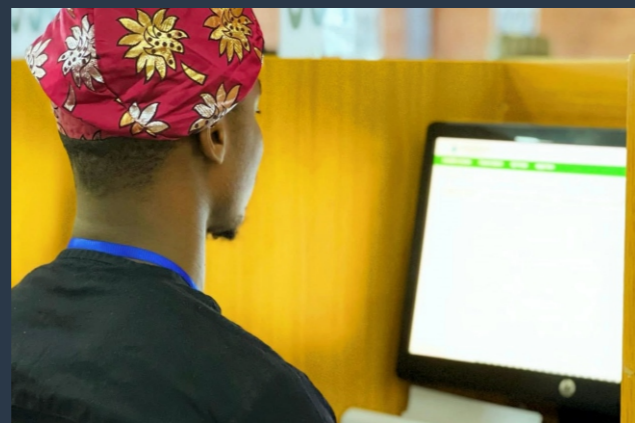
As you peruse this special edition, may you be inspired by the narratives of hope, resilience, and achievement that resonate throughout. Together, let us forge ahead into a brighter future, building on the foundation of excellence laid over the past twenty years.

Warm regards,

Dr. Bashir Ajjjola  
 Editor-in-Chief  
 Al-Hikmah University  
 20th Anniversary Magazine



# PHOTO REELS



# ABOUT AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY



**A**L-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY, ILORIN-NIGERIA was established in 2005 by the Abdur-Raheem Oladimeji Islamic Foundation (AROIF), Nigeria. The University came into existence via the granting of a license to operate as a Conventional Private University by the Federal Government of Nigeria (License No. 010) on 7th January 2005. It commenced academic activities during the 2005/2006 academic session with 70 students spread across the three (3) take-off Colleges: (Humanities, Management Sciences, and Natural Sciences).

Today, Al-Hikmah University has seven (7) Faculties (Humanities and Social Sciences, Management Sciences, Natural, and Applied Sciences, Education, Law, Health Sciences, and Agriculture) and the Postgraduate School. It has 50 Undergraduate, 12 Diploma and 43 Postgraduate Programmes. The University also has 12 Centres, viz: Centre for Part-time and Professional Studies, Centre for Diploma studies, Centre for JUPEB Studies, Centre for ICT and Distance Learning, Centre for Islamic Heritage, Centre for Community Development, Centre for Research, Industrial Linkage, and International Cooperation (CRIIC), Centre for Summer Studies, Centre for Entrepreneurial and Vocational Studies,

Centre for Remedial and Extral-Mural Studies, Centre for Islamic Economics and Finance, and Centre for Peace and Security Studies. At the moment, our students' population is above 7000, inclusive of Postgraduate students and the Institute of Education. All our academic programmes are accredited by the National Universities Commission (NUC).

Al-Hikmah University stands out among Nigerian universities as a conventional private university with a well-articulated mission of promoting both academic and moral excellence for the good of the Nigerian nation in particular and for furthering the course of humanity in general. The overall goal of the University is summed up in its motto: "Learning for Wisdom and Morality".

The curriculum of our Noble Institution is geared towards promoting academic excellence and also ensuring moral and spiritual uprightness of our youths, most especially in the face of the imposing vicious challenges posed to humanity at large in the wake of the 21st Century. Not only this, we are poised to contribute to the economic growth of the nation through the offering of admission and employment opportunities to all, irrespective of political, social, religious,

gender, racial, or ethnic affiliations.

From its inception to date, the institution has continued to experience tremendous growth in the quality and quantity of its human, physical and material resources. Like a Trojan horse, we began our race with calculated trotting steps. But with the vision and mission statements of the University as our propelling force, we have galloped into the full speed of launching scholarship with the uniqueness of some sort.

Alhamdulillah, we thank Allah (SWT) that we have not derailed from our set course and goals. Of course, we realize that by each day we are getting closer to where we hope to reach. This year's convocation marked our 10th time of turning out a large crop of students, who have been well baked and steeped in the rigorous academic tradition of Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin, Nigeria.

Our students are worthy ambassadors of this noble citadel of learning. This we can say without mincing words, that the curriculum of the institution is erected on the tenets and cornerstones of Islamic philosophy – rare to come by in contemporary institutions of higher learning, especially in Nigeria.



# FOUNDER'S VISION

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PRESIDENT- GENERAL, AROIF, JAGUNMOLU AND ASIWAJU OF IGBOMINA LAND, AROGUNDADE OF LAGOS AND BABA OBA OF OFFA KINGDOM

**Interviewer:** We already know who you are, sir, but could you share with us how the journey of Al-Hikmah University began?

**Founder:** In the name of Allah, the Most Benevolent and The most Merciful. I seek refuge in Allah from the accursed devil. I thank God and His Prophet, Muhammad (peace be upon him). This is a question people often ask me. My friends, who are leaders across various states, have also asked me, particularly on the day we received the university's license. They wondered what led me into the education sector. My answer has always been simple: it is God's work.

The thought of entering the education sector had been on my mind since 1952. By God's grace, I hoped that, with His permission, long life, and good health, I would one day contribute to the education system. This desire stemmed from personal hardships. I lost my parents at a young age and experienced difficulties while trying to communicate with my guardians back home after moving to Lagos in 1948. It was then I decided that education should be a priority in my life.

Over the years, during my prayers, I

asked God to help me fulfill this ambition. Allah answered my prayer and exceeded my expectations. Our journey didn't begin with Al-Hikmah University. Before Al-Hikmah, we had initiatives like Abdurraheem College of Advanced Studies and other Islamic studies programmes. These attracted visitors from Saudi Arabia, particularly from Madinah, and even the King of Makkah was aware of our work.

In 1982, we visited Madinah and were gifted books and other materials that encouraged us to pursue education further. Gradually, we started with a masjid built on land initially intended for a plastic factory. However, after a prayerful consultation during Umrah, we redirected the project towards education. I returned to Nigeria, canceled plans for the factory, refunded investments, and began focusing on establishing a school.

God brought people into my life who supported this vision. Some asked if I intended to start a secondary school, but my vision was broader—I wanted to establish a university. Despite challenges, including my lack of western education, we began the journey with faith. Early contributors

included individuals like Dr. Najimdeen Ishola Raji, Justice Ahmed Belgore Olanrewaju, and others. Some are no longer with us; may God grant them Paradise.

Before we obtained the university's license, we sent our students to Sudan and later to Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, for further education. The process of securing the license wasn't easy, but God sent helpers. Notable figures like former President Olusegun Obasanjo and others provided support. After much prayer and deliberations, we decided to establish the university in Ilorin, despite offers to locate it in Abuja. This decision allowed me to stay close to my children and roots.

When we started, our resources were limited. Salaries were difficult to pay, and we often relied on loans and support from friends. One friend lent us N200 million without interest, recalling how I had supported him financially in 1960 when he was starting his business. Today, by God's grace, we have conducted 13 convocations. Although we faced many challenges, including powerful opposition, God has been merciful.

# PHOTO REELS



# PHOTO REELS



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**OLADIMEJI**

“The thought of entering the educational sector had been on my mind since 1952.”  
Oladimeji



**Interviewer:** How did you secure the land for the university's Atere campus, especially being an area prone to land disputes?

**Founder:** The process of securing and developing land for Al-Hikmah university was challenging. Initially, the land remained unfenced, leading to encroachments. Some individuals even performed rituals on the land to claim it. However, with prayers and determination, we overcame these obstacles. We fenced the land and addressed disputes with clear documentation. Today, the land is secured, and we thank God for His guidance.

**Interviewer:** Al-Hikmah's university tuition fees are relatively low compared to other private universities in Nigeria. How do you sustain operations?

**Founder:** It is by God's mercy. Despite the modest fees, we follow the federal government's salary structure for our staff. We've managed through personal sacrifices, selling properties, and receiving support from well-wishers. Our aim has always been to prioritize quality education over profit. This commitment has brought blessings and allowed us to grow steadily.

**Interviewer:** What is the next step for Al-Hikmah university as it celebrates 20 years?

**Founder:** By God's grace, we have received the approval to start Medicine and Surgery for next academic sessions. We plan to introduce engineering programs next year, followed by pharmacy. These additions align with our vision of expanding academic offerings and maintaining high standards of education.

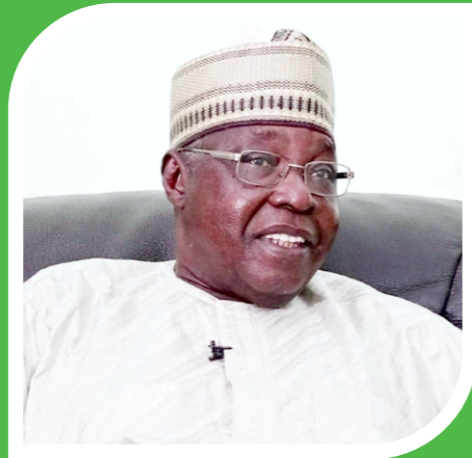
**Interviewer:** Sir, considering your achievements, what are you most grateful for?

**Founder:** I am most grateful for life and the knowledge God has granted me. Without these blessings, Al-Hikmah university would not have exist. I've dedicated myself to this cause and always pray for guidance and strength to continue. My gratitude extends to everyone who has supported this vision, both past and present. Particularly all the Royal Fathers, The Ulamas, The Staff, Students and their Parents/guidance. May Allah bless them all.

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Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin



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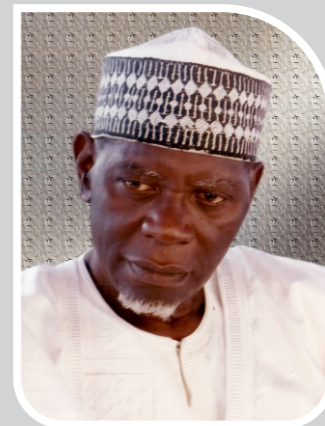


# MEMORIAL

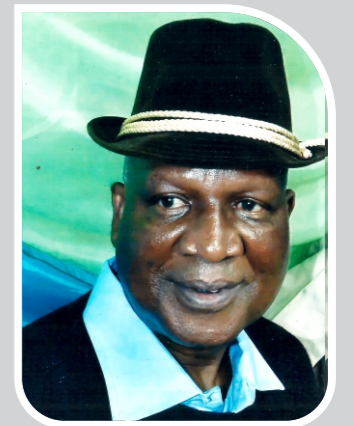
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*May Almighty Allah Forgive their shortcomings  
and grant them Al-Janat Fridaous (Amin)*





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**GROUP PHOTO SESSION: PAST AND PRESENT GOVERNING COUNCIL MEMBERS**



# ALUMNI HALL OF FAME



17

**Rafiat Oyindamola Giwa**

**Year of Entry:** 2008  
**Year of Graduation:** 2012  
**Course:** Business Administration  
**Current employer:** National Pension Commission  
**Post Held with current employer:** Senior Executive Assistant



18

**Nasiruddin Shuraim Abdulmumin**

**Year of Entry:** 2013  
**Year of Grad:** 2017  
**Course:** Islamic Studies  
**Current Employer:** Competro Oil and Gas (Chief Operating Officer)



19

**Lamir Umar Ibrahim**

**Year on entry:** 2012  
**Year of graduation:** 2015  
**Course:** Political science and conflict resolution  
**Current employer:** National Assembly  
**Post held:** Special Assistant on Youth Matters to Rt Hon speaker



20

**Abdul Qudus Mufeed Ibrahim**

**Year of Entry:** 2008  
**Year of Grad:** 2012  
**Course:** Economics  
**Current Employer:** Mufeed The Third Photography  
**Post Held With Current Employer:** Chief Executive Officer/ Lead Photographer

# ALUMNI HALL OF FAME >>>

13



**Aminu Abdul Kaka**

**Year of Entry:** 2011  
**Year of Graduation:** 2015  
**Course:** Political Science and conflict resolution  
**Current Employer:** ARAMCO Homes Ltd  
**Post Held:** MD/CEO



14



**Mubarak Olalekan Bakare**

**Year of Entry:** 2012  
**Year of Graduation:** 2016  
**Course:** Accounting  
**Current employer:** Self Employed  
**Post Held with current employer:** Founder/ Co-founder (BILARTERAL and Expedition 54 LIMITED)

15



**Mustapha Babayo Zaki**

**Year of Entry:** 2012  
**Year of Graduation:** 2016  
**Course:** Statistics  
**Current Employer:** Northeast Development Commission (NEDC)  
**Post Held:** Data Analyst



16



**Abdurashed Olaitan**

**Year of Entry:** 2009  
**Year of Graduation:** 2013  
**Course:** Political Science and Conflict Resolution  
**Current Employer:** Federal Inland Revenue Service  
**Post Held:** Tax Manager

# The **PROFESSOR MUSBAU ADEWUNMI AKANJI** **PIONEER** >>> **VICE CHANCELLOR**



**T**wenty years ago, Al-Hikmah University embarked on a transformative journey as Nigeria's first Islamic faith-based university. Today, as it celebrates its 20th anniversary, we reflect on its beginnings and achievements through the eyes of its pioneer Vice-Chancellor, Professor Musbau Adewunmi Akanji.

Professor Akanji's career is a testament to dedication and leadership. Born in 1951, his academic journey began at St. Mark's Anglican Primary School and progressed through esteemed institutions, including the University of Ibadan. By 1993, he had risen to the rank of Professor of Biochemistry. In 2005, he accepted the challenge of becoming the first Vice-Chancellor of Al-Hikmah University, a role he describes as both daunting and fulfilling.

Reflecting on the university's early days, Professor Akanji candidly shared the obstacles they faced. "Starting an Islamic faith-based university was a bold move.

Parents initially lacked confidence in sending their children to us, especially with tuition set at ₦250,000 annually, compared to ₦17,000 at the University of Ilorin for similar courses like Arabic and Islamic Studies," he explained. Despite these challenges, the team's innovative strategies, such as offering significant rebates for certain programmes, laid a solid foundation.

Professor Akanji's tenure was marked by resilience and resourcefulness. Under his leadership, the university overcame financial constraints, secured essential partnerships, and established its core identity. "We started with three faculties and 70 students. Attracting both students and qualified lecturers was a challenge, but we were determined to uphold high standards," he said. One notable achievement was the emphasis on punctuality and discipline. "Respect for time became a cornerstone of our culture,"

he noted.

Looking back, Professor Akanji takes pride in the institution's evolution. From its humble beginnings, Al-Hikmah University now boasts of seven faculties and a diverse student body. "When I see the growth—the infrastructure, academic programmes, and reputation—I feel immense joy," he said. He highlighted the importance of sports and extracurricular activities in fostering a balanced university experience, a legacy that continues till today.

As Al-Hikmah charts its path for the next 20 years, Professor Akanji advises caution with cost-intensive programmes, emphasizing sustainability and impactful research. "The future lies in maintaining quality academic standards, managing resources efficiently, and fostering innovative research that benefits society," he concluded.

The story of Al-Hikmah University is one of faith, perseverance, and vision. As the community celebrates two decades of achievements, it also honours the sacrifices and dedication of its pioneer leaders, whose efforts have left an indelible mark on Nigeria's educational landscape.

AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY, ILORIN, NIGERIA

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**PROF. SULYMAN AGE ABDULKAREEM**  
Former Vice Chancellor  
Al-Hikmah University

**A**l-Hikmah University commemorates two decades of excellence, Prof. Suleiman Age Abdulkareem, the third Vice-Chancellor (2010-2015), who steered the institution during its formative years reflects on his tenure, the challenges faced, and the milestones achieved, offering a glimpse into the legacy of leadership that has shaped Al-Hikmah University into the beacon of education it is today.

“When I assumed office in 2010,” Prof. Abdulkareem recalls, “the university faced a significant challenge—a lack of a viable internet system. It was a pressing concern even during my visits prior to my appointment. Resolving this was among my first objectives, and we eventually overcame it.”

Acknowledging the tremendous support from the Council Chairman, Prof. Abdulkareem highlights the rapid growth in student population during his tenure. “We went from less than 1,000 to nearly 5,000 students in five years,” he says, attributing this success to a deliberate strategy of

reaching out to students across Nigeria, especially from the northern regions.

He proudly reflects on the university's expansion during his leadership: “From three faculties, we grew to five. We not only increased our academic offerings but also delivered quality education that justified tuition increments. Our alumni's success globally speaks volumes about the quality of education we imparted.”

Prof. Abdulkareem identifies quality education as his foremost priority. “We focused on recruiting a robust teaching staff and providing the necessary equipment for all courses,” he explains. The impact was evident as students excelled in national competitions, earning the university a stellar reputation. “Our students became our ambassadors, showcasing their brilliance and solidifying Al-Hikmah University as a household name in Nigeria.” He concluded.

## AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY REMAINS A TRAILBLAZER IN NIGERIA

“Every leadership comes with its challenges,” Prof. Abdulkareem admits. “For me, the ‘people problem’ was the most persistent.” He elaborates on the ideological differences he faced: “Some stakeholders envisioned the university as strictly religious, whereas our license mandated a conventional university model. Navigating this dichotomy required consistent communication and adherence to federal guidelines. Eventually, we established clarity and unity of purpose.”

Reflecting on Al-Hikmah University's broader impact, Prof. Abdulkareem underscores its inclusivity. “We attracted a diverse student body from across Nigeria,

fostering an environment where religious and cultural differences dissolved. The university's dress code, adopted voluntarily by students, symbolized discipline and morality alongside academics.”

“The legacy I am proud of is the consistent quality of our graduates,” he says. “Their success, both in Nigeria and globally, is a testament to the solid foundation we built. Employers frequently commend their performance, which reaffirms our commitment to excellence.” Prof. Abdulkareem also highlights the dedication of the staff and the continued support of the council, which has sustained the university's high standards.

**A**s the university looks forward to the next 20 years, Prof. Abdulkareem emphasizes the importance of strategic leadership. “We need focused administration across our campuses, ensuring consistent quality and effective coordination. Diversification and partnerships with global institutions should also be prioritized.”

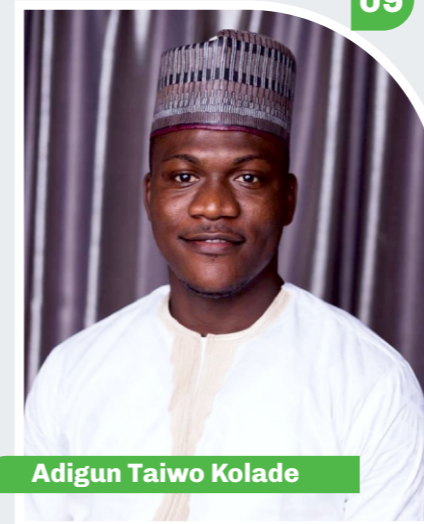
He expresses optimism about the

university's expansion into medical education and other specialized programmes like architecture. “While these programmes require significant investment, they are essential for comprehensive academic offerings. Our aim should be not just growth in numbers but sustaining the quality that defines Al-Hikmah University.”

Prof. Abdulkareem's tenure was marked by transformative growth, a steadfast

commitment to quality education, and a vision that continues to inspire. As Al-Hikmah University celebrates its 20th anniversary, his insights serve as a guidepost for sustaining and enhancing the institution's legacy. “The pride of any university is its graduates,” he concludes. “If we maintain our standards, Al-Hikmah University will remain a trailblazer in higher education.”

# ALUMNI HALL OF FAME



**Adigun Taiwo Kolade**

**Year of Entry:** 2009  
**Year of Graduation:** 2013  
**Course:** Computer Science  
**Current Employer:** Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin  
**Post Held:** Senior Systems Analyst/ Pioneer Alumni Association Welfare Director



**Kaka Hajara Sheikh Yahaya**

**Year of Entry:** 2012  
**Year of Graduation:** 2016  
**Course:** History and International Relations  
**Current Employer:** Taj Bank  
**Post Held with Current Employer:** Relationship Manager/ Team Lead Deputy



**Assc. Prof. Munir Kolapo Yahya-Imam**

**Year of Entry:** 2005  
**Year of Grad:** 2009  
**Course:** Computer Science  
**Current employer:** Lincoln University Malaysia  
**Post Held with current employer:** DVC Academics & International



**Dr. Muhammad Mustapha Ishaq**

**Year of Entry:** 2008  
**Year of Graduation:** 2011  
**Current employer:** TAJBANK Limited | De Mont Fort University (Dubai)  
**Post Held with current employer:** SNC Risk Management & Product Development | Adjunct Professor, Business & Finance



“This university belongs to all of us. Let us support every positive step and policy to elevate Al-Hikmah University to greater heights.”

# NEW PROJECTS



# ALUMNI HALL OF FAME



01



Dr. Adewumi Sulaiman

Year of Entry: 2005  
Year of Graduation: 2009  
Course: Business Administration  
Current Employer: Universiti Sains Malaysia  
Post Held: Senior Lecturer/ Pioneer Alumni President

02



Dr. Haruna Sanusi Lafiaji

Year of Entry: 2005  
Year of Grad: 2009  
Course: Islamic Studies  
Class of Degree: First Class  
Current Employer: Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin  
Post Held: Senior Lecturer/University Orator/ Pioneer Alumni Treasurer

03



Dr. Olaolu Micheal Arowolo

Year of Entry: 2008  
Year of Graduation: 2012  
Course: Computer Science  
Pioneer: Social Director Alhikmah University Alumni Association  
Current employer: Xavier University of Louisiana USA  
Post Held: Assistant Professor

04



Adewumi Zain Adebayo

Year of Entry: 2009  
Year of Graduation: 2013  
Course: Business Administration  
Current Employer: Zain World  
Post Held: CEO



# WE PRODUCE GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE GRADUATES

- Deputy Vice Chancellor  
Associate Prof. S.L. Nurudeen

**A**l-Hikmah University gears up to celebrate its 20th anniversary on January 7, 2024, it's a moment to reflect on its remarkable journey of academic excellence and societal impact. Leading the way in this celebration is Dr. S. L. Nurudeen, Associate Professor of Political Science and the current Deputy Vice Chancellor, who shared his insights into the university's growth, achievements, and future aspirations.

Dr. Nurudeen's 17-year's tenure at Al-Hikmah University epitomizes commitment to educational excellence. Having served in various capacities—from Head of the Department of Political Science to Director of the GNS Unit, Dean of Student Affairs (2014-2018), and Director of Academic Planning—he now holds the position of Deputy Vice Chancellor, a role he assumed in October 2024.

In each of these roles, Dr. Nurudeen has significantly contributed to the university's mission. As Director of Academic Planning, he oversaw the accreditation of more than 50 programs and led the recent efforts for the proposed MBBS program. Under his guidance, the institution has maintained stringent quality assurance, ensuring programs are both robust and globally competitive.

Reflecting on the university's evolution

over two decades, Dr. Nurudeen noted its growth from a modest start to an institution with over 10,000 students across undergraduate and postgraduate programs. "Our mission is to develop globally competitive graduates," he stated, highlighting the university's emphasis on discipline, academic excellence, and high-caliber staff. "Al-Hikmah graduates are making their mark worldwide, and we're proud to honor a few of them during this milestone celebration."

The university's impact extends beyond academics. Its presence has catalyzed development in the Adewole area of Ilorin, boosting business activities and improving infrastructure. "The transformation is evident in the physical and virtual development of the area," Dr. Nurudeen remarked.

Dr. Nurudeen envisions a bright future for Al-Hikmah University, one rooted in maintaining high standards and expanding its academic offerings. While emphasizing the importance of sustaining quality in existing programmes, he revealed plans to introduce new disciplines, including Engineering, Pharmacy, and Architecture. The MBBS programme approved by NUC, is expected to set a new benchmark for medical education in Nigeria.

"We're focused on ensuring that every student's learning experience remains

top-notch," he said. The university's governance and management, supported by a reliable governing council and board of trustees, are well-positioned to achieve these goals.

As the university marks its 20th anniversary, Dr. Nurudeen commended the visionary founder and successive leaders who have upheld its ideals. "Without their inspiration and vigilance, we wouldn't be celebrating this milestone," he said. Their collective efforts have positioned Al-Hikmah University as a beacon of excellence in Nigeria's educational landscape.

With its unwavering commitment to academic quality and societal impact, Al-Hikmah University stands poised for even greater achievements in the years to come.



**AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY, ILORIN**

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• POSTGRADUATE  
• PROFESSIONAL  
• SANDWICH  
• PART-TIME  
• JUPEB PROGRAMMES

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# LEADERSHIP

## IS A PRIVILEGE NOT A RIGHT - PROF. G.O. AKASHORO



PROF. AKASHORO

**T**he immediate past Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Al-Hikmah University, Prof. Ganiyu Olalekan Akashoro has stated that leadership is not a birthright because Allah chooses who he deems fit for leadership.

Prof. Akashoro made this statement during an interview with the magazine crew on Wednesday, 25th December, 2024 in his residence in Ilorin, Kwara State.

The Professor of Mass Communication revealed that the position of Deputy Vice-Chancellor was not expected because he never lobbied for it. He added he was not sure why he was picked for the position by the administration, maybe it was because of his assertive nature on issues but he was certain that it was Allah's decision because he has barely spent 2 months in office as Dean of Postgraduate School before he was appointed as DVC.

According to him "the office of the DVC requires an up and doing person because it is a tripartite position that includes administrative, academics and

research and innovation. You have to be able to multitask for you to excel in that office and Alhamdulillah I was able to finish my tenure successfully". He added that he never treated people from a position of authority because he knows that every position or phase in life is transient.

Prof. Akashoro noted that he tried as much as possible to be fair and just regardless of who was affected. Justice and fairness guided me as the chairman of the Staff Disciplinary Committee and Student Disciplinary Committee, if you are innocent of the charges leveled against you, you will be set free but if you are guilty you will face the penalty.

The University Don pointed out that during his tenure, many programmes and centres were successfully floated while other programmes secured full accreditation especially from the Health Sciences. "We were able to successfully unbundle department of computer science into a full Faculty and we also secured many affiliations and collaborations during my tenure", he said.

Prof. Akashoro highlighted some challenges like inadequate teaching facilities, inadequate accommodations for students and no accommodation for the staff inside the university. Though, the management is addressing all of these challenges and adding more structures and facilities to match the growth but keeping up with the growth of the institution is a bit difficult because the University is private which relies solely on school fees as funding.

According to him "Al-Hikmah University is growing and staff has to brace up and be in tandem with academic activities especially research. For a 20 years old institution we are moving towards

maturity and all hands must be on deck to achieve this especially the academics because they have major role to play in achieving this feat.

Prof. Akashoro emphasized that university lecturers need to go to the field to get themselves acquainted with the current trends of the profession because this is the only way they can train students that would be relevant to the industry.

The University Don reminisced on his time he practiced in the industry before he became a lecturer; the practice gave him leverage when he moved into academics because everything was seamless. He added that lecturers should not just limit

themselves to theories alone, gathering hands-on experience would make them more than capable to train students that would be employable immediately after graduation.

He however urged all staff and students to be good ambassadors of the faith-based university especially with the rapid pace the university is growing and getting recognition locally and globally.

Finally, he give thanks to Almighty Allah for the successful completion of his 4 years tenure as the Deputy Vice Chancellor. He also grateful to the founder of the university and the current Vice Chancellor, the registrar and the bursar.

# AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY: TWO DECADES OF VISION, GROWTH, AND EXCELLENCE

Founded in 2005 with a vision of academic excellence underpinned by strong Islamic values, Al-Hikmah University has carved a remarkable legacy over the past 20 years. From its modest beginnings with 70 students and three faculties, the institution has grown into a beacon of learning, currently serving over 15,000 students across multiple programs and campuses.

Al-Hikmah University was born from the efforts of Chief Dr. AbdurRaheem Oladimeji and the AbdurRaheem Oladimeji Islamic Foundation. Licensed in January 2005, the university began its operations the following year. "We were hell-bent on ensuring quality was not compromised," recalls Professor A.O.Y. Raji, Dean of the Postgraduate School. Early achievements included securing a solid academic and infrastructural base, with three faculties—Humanities, Natural and Applied Sciences, and Management Sciences—and just 12 lecture rooms at its Adeta campus.

The last 20 years have seen extraordinary growth in infrastructure. From just one campus and 12 lecture rooms, the university now boasts over 100 lecture halls across three campuses. Milestones in infrastructural development include the construction of a central administrative block, a 24-classroom complex at Adeta, and a multi-story science laboratory, made possible by partnerships with organizations like the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) and individuals such as former Kano State Governor Malam Ibrahim Shekarau.

Between 2010 and 2017, Al-Hikmah made strides in upgrading its facilities, commissioning a CBT center, a university clinic, and expanding students accommodation to house over 3,000 students. Female students benefited from projects like the International Hostel and the Commasie Hostel, each reflecting the university's commitment to providing conducive living environments.



Prof. A.O.Y. Raji

The academic journey of Al-Hikmah has been equally transformational. The initial 12 programmes have grown to over 50 undergraduate offerings and nearly 70 postgraduate programmes. Landmark achievements include the introduction of the Law programme and the establishment of the Faculty of Education. Today, the university is renowned for producing skilled graduates, with enrollment numbers swelling from 70 students at inception to over 15,000 across regular, part-time, and sandwich programs.

One pivotal moment came in 2008, when Al-Hikmah achieved 100% success in its first accreditation exercise conducted by the National Universities Commission (NUC). This laid the groundwork for consistent quality assurance and academic excellence, evidenced by the university's steady climb in rankings, including recognition from the Times Higher Education Ranking system.

This year's convocation ceremony is a testament to the university's growth, with 2,211 undergraduate and postgraduate students graduating—a significant leap from the fewer than 200 students at the first convocation. The university's achievements

extend beyond academics; its campuses are now fully tarred, with modern facilities and a dynamic fleet of over 25 vehicles supporting operations.

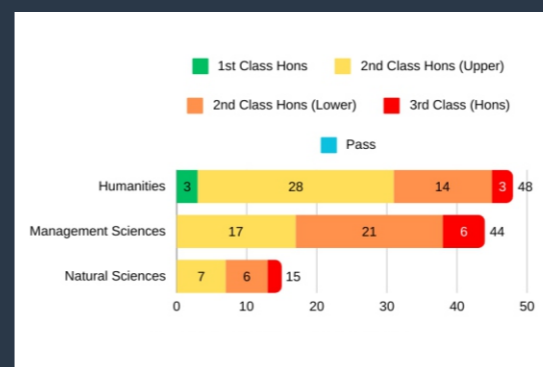
Looking ahead, Professor Raji emphasizes the need for strategic expansion, particularly in postgraduate education. "We must make a conscious effort to promote excellence in all its ramifications," he asserts. Other priorities include housing all students in halls of residence for better monitoring and fostering an environment of discipline and academic rigour.

Al-Hikmah University's journey over the past two decades reflects a steadfast commitment to excellence in education, infrastructure, and Islamic values. As it sets its sights on the next 20 years, the university aims to deepen its national and global influence. By bolstering research programmes, enhancing staff-to-student ratios, and improving campus facilities, Al-Hikmah is poised to continue its legacy as a center of knowledge and moral leadership.

With a strong foundation and ambitious goals, the future of Al-Hikmah University shines brightly, promising even greater achievements for generations to come.

# GRADUATE STATS

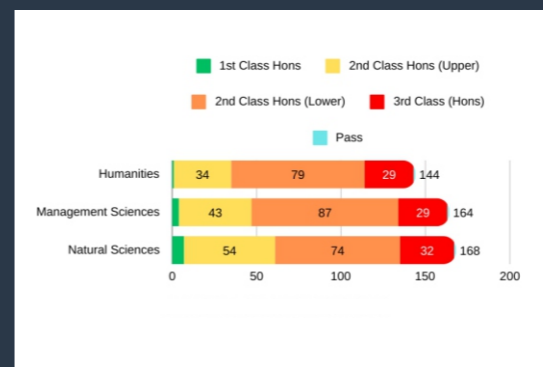
## SUMMARY OF GRADUATING LIST FROM INCEPTION TILL DATE



2009/2010 ACADEMIC SESSION



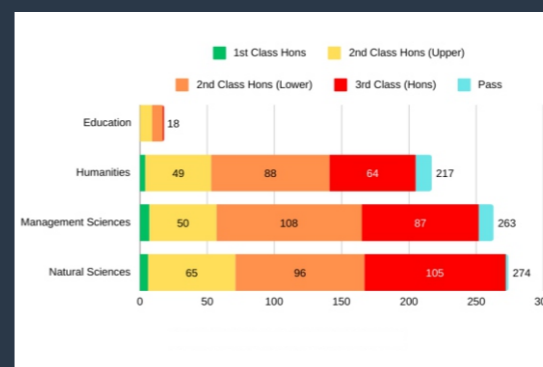
2011/2012 ACADEMIC SESSION



2012/2013 ACADEMIC SESSION



2013/2014 ACADEMIC SESSION



2014/2015 ACADEMIC SESSION



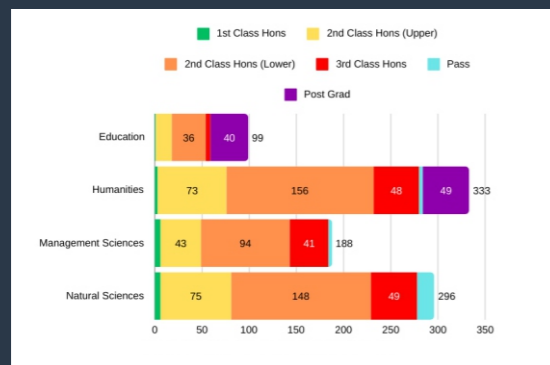
2015/2016 ACADEMIC SESSION



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# GRADUATE STATS

## SUMMARY OF GRADUATING LIST FROM INCEPTION TILL DATE



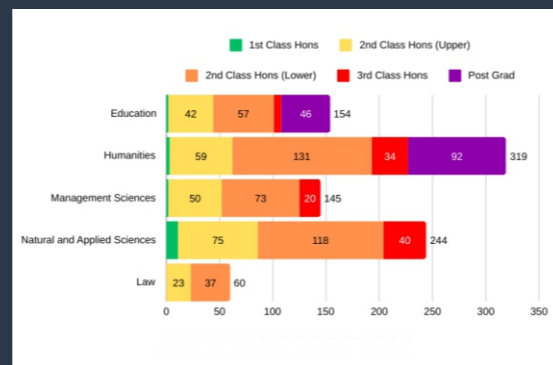
2016/2017 ACADEMIC SESSION



2017/2018 ACADEMIC SESSION



2018/2019 ACADEMIC SESSION



2019/2020 ACADEMIC SESSION



2020/2021 ACADEMIC SESSION



2021/2022 ACADEMIC SESSION

Stability, and a relentless focus on improving the quality of education. Strengthening ties with alumni and fostering a sense of community among them will also be key to ensuring ongoing support and collaboration.

**A Call to Action**

The success of Al-Hikmah University is not merely the responsibility of its administration and faculty. It is a shared endeavour that involves alumni, stakeholders, and the broader community. Each group has a vital role to play.

Al-Hikmah University is a product of vision, dedication, and collective action. As this significant milestone is marked, we must honour the sacrifices made, the lessons learned, and the pivotal values that has guided the university through two decades of excellence. Rededication to its mission and collective efforts can ensure that Al-Hikmah University continues to flourish and inspire future generations. Built on faith and vision, this institution thrives on the collective efforts of all who believe in its cause. Together, it can be ensured that Al-Hikmah University remains a foothold of Islamic scholarship, intellectual pursuit, and societal transformation for decades to come.

## THE STAKEHOLDERS' FORUM HAS BEEN ACTIVE SINCE INCEPTION - CHAIRMAN



The Chairman stakeholders' forum Alhaji Zubair Tijjani Yusuf Orisankoko has revealed that the forum has been active since commencement in Al-Hikmah University.

fast and reliable computers; revamping the nursing complex; scholarship to indigent students and iftar for students during Ramadan.

My first contact with Al-hikmah university was the time my two daughters were admitted to study at the university at the instance and advice from my wife who insisted that Al-hikmah university is a fast growing citadel of learning which I later agreed with her since that time I have been assisting the university in getting new students especially from the northern part of Nigeria which is where I have worked as a banker and retired. Presently, I have more than 150 students who are admitted to Al-hikmah university through me.

In his words "it is not possible to have such forum without challenges, some of the challenges we face include: unbefitting office, poor recognition of the stakeholders from the management, not getting reimbursement of the money paid by the students back into the stakeholders' account as at when due". He added that all of these issues have been discussed with the management and that he is certain that it would be addressed very soon.

Alhaji Orisankoko became the Stakeholders' forum chairman in 2020 at the Annual General Meeting after an election.

However, the Chairman appealed to the management to always consult the forum on matter that borders on students welfare and wellbeing especially in the hostel.

Alhaji Orisankoko highlighted some of the achievements of the current stakeholders' forum executive which include but not limited to completion and equipping the CBT Centre with

Alhaji Orisankoko advised the University to collaborate more with the stakeholders by caring them along on issues related to student's welfare in the faith-based institution.

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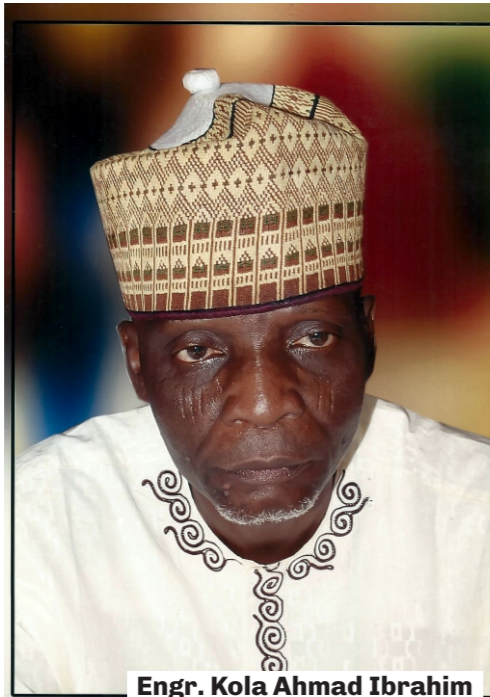
Al-Hikmah Table water is manufactured by Al-Hikmah Ventures, a subsidiary of Al-Hikmah University, North, Nigeria. Al-Hikmah Table water is available across North Metropolitan at all retail stores.

*Al-Hikmah Table Water ...the Best for Thirst*

## STAKEHOLDERS' FORUM: PARTNERS IN PROGRESS

Twenty years is a significant milestone, a definite moment to reflect, celebrate, and reminisce on all that has brought us to this day. For Al-Hikmah University, these two decades tell a story of resilience, vision, and unwavering faith. What began as a dream has blossomed into a foothold of Islamic scholarship, intellectual growth, and societal transformation.

The Pioneer Chairman of the Stakeholders Forum Engr. Kola Ahmad Ibrahim has had the privilege of witnessing the remarkable journey firsthand and as Al-Hikmah University marks its 20th anniversary, he has expressed his fulfillment, immense pride and gratitude for all that has been achieved together so far.



Engr. Kola Ahmad Ibrahim

Beyond these tangible contributions, the Stakeholders Forum fostered a sense of community and shared purpose. Every small victory was celebrated, setbacks were learned from, and excellence was consistently pursued. The forum's work often required personal sacrifices, but we were motivated by a belief in the university's mission. This was because it was well established that the forum was part of something greater, a legacy that would shape future generations.

### Celebrating Excellence

The university's journey is marked by a dedication to academic excellence. Over the years, it has consistently attracted top-tier faculty and provided students with a rigorous and enriching academic experience. This emphasis on quality education has cultivated a strong alumni network, many of whom are now leaders in their respective fields.

Beyond academics, Al-Hikmah University has nurtured a vibrant campus life. The institution places a strong emphasis on character development and Islamic values, offering students ample opportunities for extracurricular activities. From sports to cultural events and community service initiatives, the university has created a well-rounded environment that produces well-rounded individuals with a strong sense of social responsibility.

Today, Al-Hikmah University stands as a testament to what can be achieved through faith, vision, and collective action. The university has not only survived but thrived, earning a reputation for academic excellence and producing graduates who are making meaningful contributions to society.

### Looking Ahead

As this momentous occasion is celebrated, it is crucial to recognize that the journey is far from over. The challenges of the 21st century demand continuous innovation and adaptation. Al-Hikmah University must remain at the forefront of educational excellence by embracing new technologies and innovative teaching methodologies. At the same time, it must stay true to its core values, providing an education that is both intellectually stimulating and spiritually enriching.

Long-term sustainability will depend on strong and visionary leadership, financial

### The Early Days

The early days of Al-Hikmah University were fraught with immense challenges. As a fledgling institution, it faced significant hurdles—financial constraints, infrastructural limitations, and the ever-present uncertainty of the unknown. Yet, amidst these challenges, an unwavering determination prevailed. The founder, described as a man of profound vision, inspired all involved by ensuring steadfast commitment to establishing an institution that would impart knowledge, nurture character, and instill Islamic values.

The Stakeholders Forum, a unique initiative, brought together parents, students, faculty, and community members, fostering a sense of shared responsibility and collective action. The success of the university hinged on the active participation of all stakeholders, a fact that shaped its growth and achievements.

### The Role of Stakeholders

The contributions of stakeholders were multifaceted. The forum played a pivotal role in ensuring the school met its accreditation requirements, a critical milestone in the university's history. This achievement legitimized efforts

and opened new doors for growth and recognition. The forum also undertook the monumental task of constructing the university auditorium, a landmark structure on campus that has since become a hub for both academic and social activities.

Additionally, stakeholders worked tirelessly to ensure the establish the university clinic, ensuring the health and well-being of students and staff. Recognizing the indispensable role of technology in modern education, they supported the development of the university's ICT infrastructure which has grown into what is now the CIT Department. The forum not only facilitated the provision of reliable water supply across Atere, Adeta and Igbaja campuses, other efforts like the ongoing sports centre at Atere underscored the significant achievements of the forum, showing the dedication to providing a conducive learning environment.

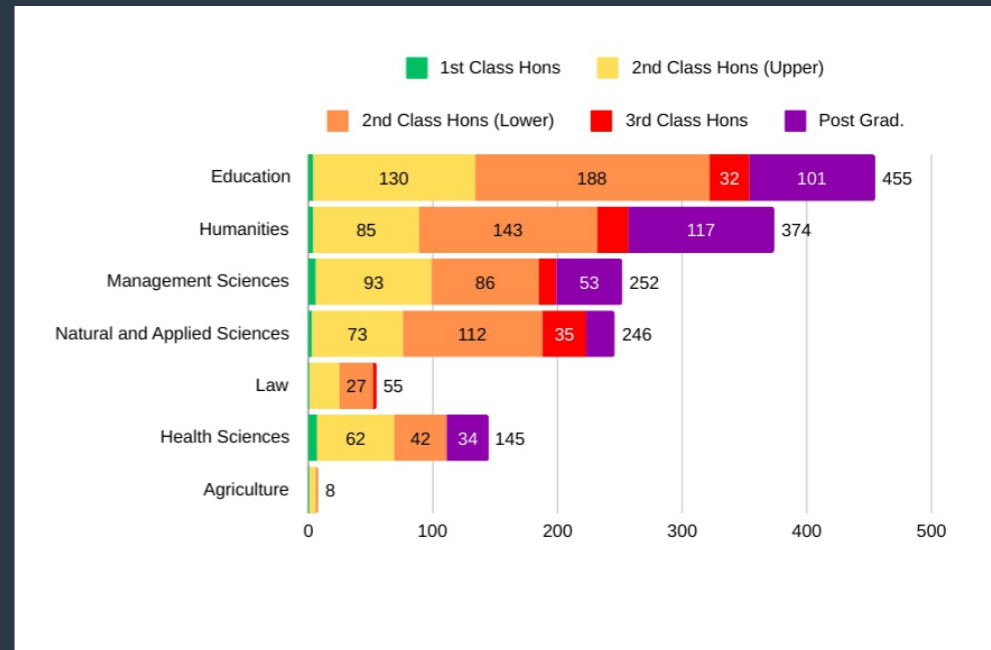


Engr. Kola and the Founder Al-hikmah university

# GRADUATE STATS

BY DESIGN SOUL

## SUMMARY OF GRADUATING LIST FROM INCEPTION TILL DATE



### 2022/2023 ACADEMIC SESSION

**AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY**  
ILORIN, NIGERIA

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PROGRAMMES

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# AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY IS ONE OF NIGERIA'S BEST

Registrar



**Dr. Kazeem Oladimeji**  
Registrar, Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin

As Al-Hikmah University, Nigeria's first Islamic faith-based university, approaches its 20th anniversary, Dr. Oladimeji Kazeem, the institution's registrar, offers an illuminating reflection on the strides made during his tenure. "Alhamdulillah, since my assumption of office, we have focused on achieving outlined objectives to enhance both academic and administrative excellence," says Dr. Kazeem. Under his leadership, the university has seen a remarkable increase in fully accredited programs and the development of critical infrastructure. "We have expanded hostels at both Atere and Adeta campuses, ensuring that our students enjoy a conducive learning environment," he notes. Dr. Kazeem's efforts extend beyond physical development. He has championed the digitization of administrative processes, reducing operational costs and transitioning the registry department towards a paperless system. "We've embraced technology, streamlining applications and requests through online platforms, making our operations more efficient," he explains. One standout accomplishment is the

enhanced social media presence. "Previously underutilized, platforms like Facebook, TikTok, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube are now vibrant channels for engagement, significantly boosting our visibility," he says. When asked about staff development, Dr. Kazeem shares his commitment to training and welfare. "We hold registry fortnight meetings to discuss technological advancements and productivity. Additionally, the governing council's recent approval of a 50% salary increment has cushioned economic burdens for staff," he highlights. His leadership has also seen the introduction of ISO certification processes for academic and teaching staff, alongside key performance indicators (KPIs) aimed at maximizing productivity. "Staff audits have been initiated to identify and address gaps, ensuring alignment with the university's goals," he says. Reflecting on the university's two-decade journey, Dr. Kazeem identifies the approval of the MBBS program as a defining milestone. "Starting with three faculties, we've grown to seven, with an eighth focused on medical programs. This achievement propels

our institution's image and impact," he shares proudly. Looking to the future, Dr. Kazeem advises students to uphold the university's values as ambassadors. "We've equipped them with skills, spiritual guidance, and entrepreneurial training to thrive in society. Hard work and time management are key to their success," he emphasizes. To staff, he extends gratitude and a call to continuous improvement. "Your dedication makes Al-Hikmah University one of Nigeria's best. Together, we can achieve even greater heights." As the university prepares for its anniversary celebrations, Dr. Kazeem's vision and efforts underscore a legacy of excellence, innovation, and faith-driven growth.

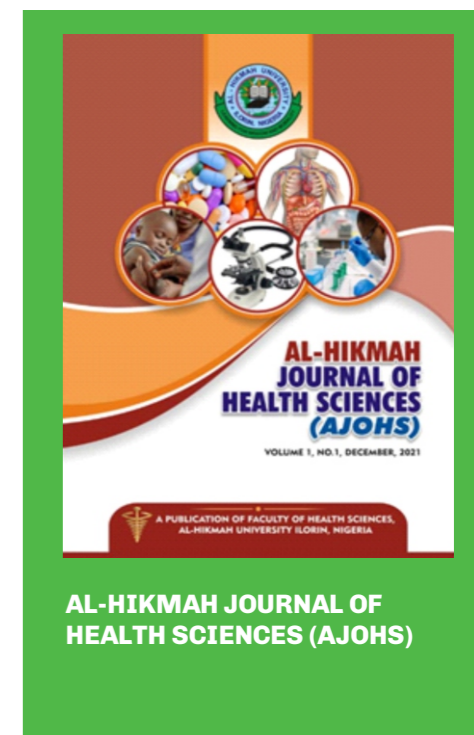
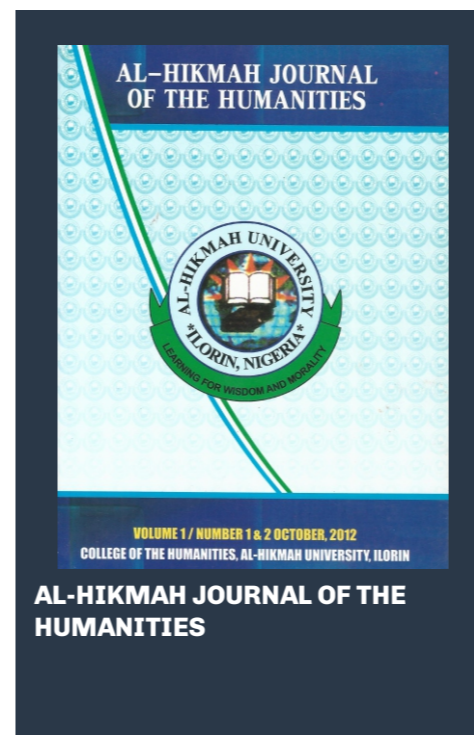
**AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY, ILORIN**

- UNDERGRADUATE
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- PROFESSIONAL
- SANDWICH
- PART-TIME
- JUPEB PROGRAMMES

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ILORIN, NIGERIA

2024/2025  
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# ACADEMIC JOURNALS

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OCTOBER 2019 ISSN: 2141-6885

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published by Department of Arabic and Islamic studies

**SPRINGBOARD Journal**  
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ILORIN, KWARA STATE-NIGERIA

**SPRING BOARD JOURNAL**  
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**THE NEXUS**  
A PUBLICATION OF AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY, ILORIN  
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**AL-HIKMAH MANAGEMENT Review**  
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Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria.

**AL-HIKMAH MANAGEMENT REVIEW**  
published by the Faculty of Management Sciences, (Business Administration)

**AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY JOURNAL OF EDUCATION**  
VOLUME 6 NO. 1, JUNE, 2019  
AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY  
a publication of the Faculty of Education

# Honoris Causa

## LIST OF AWARDEES

01

**ALHAJI CHIEF (DR.) ABDUR-RAHEEM OLADIMEJI**  
President General, AROIF, Founder, Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin



Doctor of Business Administration (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCATION : 1ST YEAR : 2011

02

**LATE HON. JUSTICE MUSTAPHA M. AKANBI**  
Wakilin Ilorin, Former Chairman, Board of Trustees (BOT), Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin



Doctor of Letters (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCATION : 1ST YEAR : 2011

03

**DR. SALIH BIN SULYMAN AL-WUBAY**  
Secretary-General (WAMY)



Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCATION : 1ST YEAR : 2011

04

**HIS EXCELLENCY, MALLAM IBRAHIM SHEKARAU**  
Former Executive Governor, Kano State



Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCATION : 1ST YEAR : 2011

05

**ALHAJI SAYYU DANTATA**  
Chairman/CEO, MRS Oils PLC, Lagos, Chancellor, Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin



Doctor of Business Administration (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCATION : 2ND YEAR : 2012

06

**HIS EXCELLENCY, ALHAJI ABULFATAH AHMED**  
Former Executive Governor, Kwara State



Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCATION : 2ND YEAR : 2012

# Honoris Causa

## LIST OF AWARDEES <<<

07

### HIS EXCELLENCY ALHAJI ABDULAZEEZ YARI ABUBAKAR

Former Executive Governor, Zamfara State



>>> Doctor of Political Science (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCAATION : 2ND YEAR : 2012

10

### MOHAMMED DIKKO ABUBAKAR

Inspector-General of Police (rtd)  
Former Pro-Chancellor and Chairman, Governing Council, Al-Hikmah University



>>> Doctor of Letters (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCAATION : 2ND YEAR : 2012

08

### HIS EXCELLENCY, LATE SENATOR ABIOLA AJIMOBI

Former Executive Governor, Oyo State



>>> Doctor of Business Administration (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCAATION : 2ND YEAR : 2012

11

### LATE ALHAJI ABDULLAHI DIKKO INDE

Former Comptroller-General, Nigerian Customs Service



>>> Doctor of Finance (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCAATION : 2ND YEAR : 2012

09

### HIS EXCELLENCY, ALHAJI (DR.) ALIYU MAGATARKADA WAMAKO

Former Executive Governor, Sokoto State, Sarkin Yamman Sokoto



>>> Doctor of Letters (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCAATION : 2ND YEAR : 2012

12

### HIS ROYAL MAJESTY, ALHAJI AHMED AWUNI BABALOLA AREPO III

Elise of Igbaja Land



>>> Doctor of Political Science (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCAATION : 2ND YEAR : 2012

# OUR LIBRARY IS STOCKED WITH QUALITY RESOURCES

- Ag. Librarian



Al-Hikmah University is a beacon of academic excellence, and one of its most vital pillars is its library system. At the helm of this resourceful institution is Mr. Isiaka Alao, Deputy University Librarian functioning as the University Librarian. Mr. Alao has been steering the library's operations since 2021, ensuring it meets global standards and supports the university's core mission of teaching, research, and community service. Under his leadership, significant milestones have been achieved in library operations and services. Notable among these are the adoption of KOHA Integrated Library Management Software and an expansion in library acquisitions. The number of book volumes rose from 612 in 2021 to 4,908 in 2024, while local journal titles and database subscriptions also saw substantial growth. This progress underscores the library's commitment to evolving with the times

and meeting the needs of its users. One of the most transformative advancements has been in e-library services. Students and staff can now access the library's resources from anywhere on campus, their hostels, or even from their phones. The provision of desktops in the library ensures no one is left behind, making resources universally accessible. This shift has been supported by steady internet connectivity and reliable power supply, enabling seamless access to e-resources. Professional development and staff welfare have also been prioritized. Library staff have benefited from sponsorships for conferences, workshops, and advanced academic studies. Promotions and internal career development opportunities further demonstrate the library's commitment to fostering a supportive work environment. As Al-Hikmah celebrates its 20th anniversary, the library remains integral

to the university's success. Mr. Alao envisions a future where the library operates from a new state-of-the-art facility in Atere, with a stronger emphasis on e-resources. By 2044, he foresees a system enriched with more faculty and departmental libraries, all interconnected and driven by cutting-edge technology. Reflecting on accreditation exercises, Mr. Alao emphasizes the library's meticulous preparation. Innovations in organizing resources have streamlined the process, earning commendations from accreditation teams. This success is a testament to the library's evolving role in supporting the university's academic endeavors. Al-Hikmah University's library, under the leadership of Mr. Isiaka Alao, continues to inspire progress, embodying the university's vision for academic excellence and community service.

# AL-HIKMAH TABLE WATER



# CONVOCAATION LECTURES AND LECTURERS



Prof. Adeniyi Sulaiman Gbadegesin, a professor of Geology, University of Ibadan and the former Vice-Chancellor, Ladoko Akintola University of Technology (LAUTECH) Ogbomoso, delivered the Eleventh convocation lecture titled “**Entrepreneurial Education and Sustainable Human Development: A priority for Nigerian Private Universities**” on 3rd December, 2021.

The Twelfth University's convocation lecture was presented by Prof. Ibrahim Agboola Gambari (CFR) the Chief of Staff to the former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, on the 9th December 2022 on the topic titled “**Democratic Transition and Challenges of Good Governance and Human Security in Nigeria**”.



The Thirteenth convocation was graced by the Vice-President Federal Republic of Nigeria, Sen. Kashim Shettima (GCON) who delivered the convocation lecture titled “**Addressing Nigeria's Food Security Challenge Through Hi-Tech Approach: The Role of Nigerian Universities**” on Saturday 9th December, 2023.

# Honoris Causa

## LIST OF AWARDEES <<<

13

**HON. JUSTICE S. M. A. BELGORE**

Former Chief Justice of Nigeria



>>> Doctor of Letters (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCAATION : 3RD  
YEAR : 2013

14

**ALHAJI MUSILIU ADEOLA KUNBI SMITH**

Inspector-General of Police (rtd)



>>> Doctor of Public Administration (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCAATION : 3RD  
YEAR : 2013

15

**YUSUF ALI ESQ.**

Senior Advocate of Nigeria



>>> Doctor of Letters (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCAATION : 4TH  
YEAR : 2014

16

**RT. HON. (HADJIA) MONSURAT JUMOKE SUNMONU**

Honourable Member, Federal House of Representatives



>>> Doctor of Public Administration (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCAATION : 4TH  
YEAR : 2014

17

**HIS EXCELLENCY RT. HON. AMINU BELLO MASARI**

Executive Governor, Katsina State



>>> Doctor of Political Science & Public Administration (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCAATION : 8TH  
YEAR : 2018

18

**ALHAJI YUSUF SULEIMAN**

Former Minister of Transport



>>> Doctor of Political Science & Public Administration (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCAATION : 8TH  
YEAR : 2018



# Honoris Causa

## LIST OF AWARDEES <<<

19

**ALHAJI DAHIRU BARAU MANGAL**

Director, MRS Oils Nigeria PLC



>>> Doctor of Business Administration (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCATION : 8TH  
YEAR : 2018

22

**MRS FOLUKE KAFAYAT ABDULRASAQ**

Vice-Chairman, Transcorp PLC



>>> Doctor of Finance (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCATION : 12TH  
YEAR : 2022

20

**MR AFOLABI TAJUDEEN ADEOLA**

Former Managing Director, Guaranty Trust Bank



>>> Doctor of Business Administration (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCATION : 12TH  
YEAR : 2022

23

**HIS EXELLENCY, RT. HON. ABBAS TAJUDEEN**

Speaker, Federal House of Rep. Nigeria



>>> Doctor of Public Administration (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCATION : 14TH  
YEAR : 2024

21

**MRS MOSUN BELO-OLUSOGA**

Former Executive Director, Guaranty Trust Bank



>>> Doctor of Accounting (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCATION : 12TH  
YEAR : 2022

24

**ENGR. JANI IBRAHIM**

Founder and Chairman, LUBCON Group



>>> Doctor of Business Administration (Honoris Causa)  
CONVOCATION : 14TH  
YEAR : 2024

# CONVOCATION LECTURES AND LECTURERS



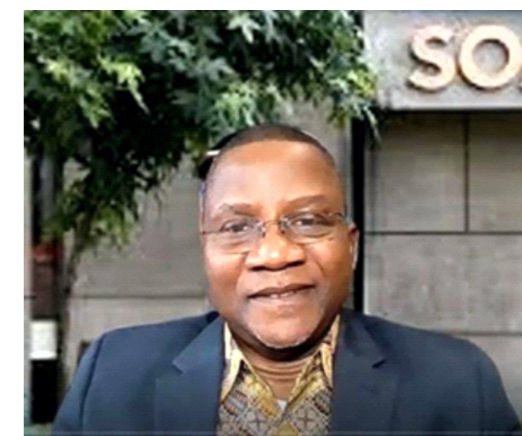
The university management, further beamed their flash light on a unique personality who is one of the pioneers of Islamic banking in Nigeria, in person of Alhaji Hassan Usman, FCA, the managing Director and CEO of Jaiz bank Plc, who delivered the Sixth convocation lecture on the title **"Non interest (Islamic) banking as a strategic option for poverty reduction and revival of the Nigerian Economy"** on Friday 2nd September, 2016.



Prof. Ishaq Akintola from the Department of Religions and Peace Studies, Lagos State University, delivered the seventh convocation lecture on the title **"Acrobatic Religiosity and Paradoxical Criminality: Who did this to Nigeria"**.

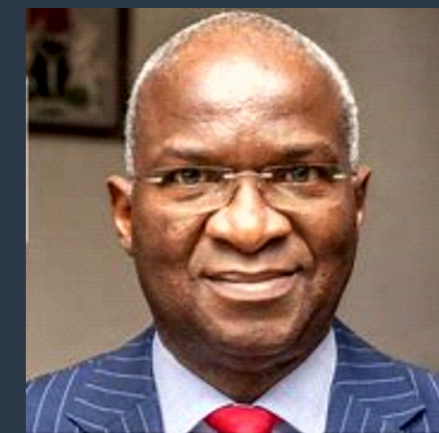


The university hosted an important personality who played a pivotal role at the initial stage of licensing process of the university in 2001 at the National Universities Commission (NUC), in person of Emeritus Prof. Munzali Jubril, the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Federal University Lafia, Nasarawa State who delivered the Eighth convocation lecture which was titled **"To re-structure or Not to re-structure Nigeria: That is the Question"** on Friday 30th November 2018.



Ninth convocation lecture was delivered by Prof. Mashood Baderin from the School of Law, School of Oriental Studies, University of London, on the topic titled **"Nigeria in search of Peace, Security and Socio-economic Survival: the Islamic Perspective"** on Friday 13th December, 2019.

The Tenth convocation lecture was delivered by Hon. Babatunde Raji Fashola the former Minister of Works and Housing, **"University Education Entrepreneurship and Employment Prospects: Survival Imperatives in Post COVID-19 Era"** on 4th December 2020.



# TWO DECADES OF EXCELLENCE

## AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY THROUGH THE LENS OF PROF. L. F. OLADIMEJI

For 20 years, Al-Hikmah University has exemplified how a vision rooted in faith, philanthropy, and academic excellence can create a lasting legacy. Among the figures shaping this journey is Professor Lateef Folorunso Oladimeji, a pioneer staff member whose multifaceted roles have steered the institution from its modest beginnings to its current status as a beacon of higher learning in Nigeria.

Professor Oladimeji's contributions span numerous leadership roles, including serving as the pioneer Head of Department for Islamic Studies, the first Registrar, and later as Deputy Vice-Chancellor. His reflections highlight the university's evolution, challenges, and significant milestones over two decades.

Al-Hikmah University traces its roots to the AbdurRaheem Oladimeji Islamic Foundation (AROIF) under the visionary leadership of Chief AbdurRaheem Oladimeji. The foundation's initial goal was to elevate the AbdurRaheem College of Higher Islamic Studies to a university. This dream materialized when Nigeria liberalized education, paving the way for Al-Hikmah University's licensing in 2005.

The university's motto, "Learning for Wisdom and Morality," underscores its mission to blend intellectual development with ethical values. Chief Oladimeji's philanthropic spirit played a central role in this endeavour, making Al-Hikmah one of the most affordable private universities in Nigeria, with a



**Prof. L. F. Oladimeji**  
Dean, Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences,  
Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin

focus on empowering the less privileged.

From just 70 students at its inception, Al-Hikmah University has grown into a thriving academic institution with multiple faculties and programs. Notable achievements include the expansion into disciplines like Agriculture and Health Sciences, robust scholarship initiatives through the AROIF, and significant infrastructure development, including modern lecture halls and dedicated campuses for new faculties.

The university prides itself on its faith-based environment, integrating Islamic values into daily life. From students' dress codes to the central role of the masjid, spirituality remains at the heart of its identity, fostering graduates who embody Islamic ethics in their conduct and interactions.

Despite its successes, Al-Hikmah faced early challenges,

particularly with funding as a private institution reliant on internally generated revenue. Strategic financial management ensured staff salaries were never delayed, even as the university maintained one of the lowest tuition fees among private universities.

Infrastructure development posed another challenge, as transforming the old AbdurRaheem College into a university required significant investment. Through partnerships and prudent planning, Al-Hikmah steadily upgraded its facilities to meet modern academic standards.

Professor Oladimeji played a pivotal role in overcoming these hurdles. His efforts in securing external support, such as funding for a state-of-the-art laboratory from the then-Governor of Kano State, Mall. Ibrahim Shekarau are just one example of his dedication. His leadership in various capacities has helped shape the university's policies and

growth.

Looking ahead, Professor Oladimeji envisions Al-Hikmah University as a leading African institution recognized for research, international collaborations, and societal impact. Expanding partnerships and embracing technology are key to this vision, particularly in fields like Agriculture and Health Sciences, which hold transformative potential.

As the university marks its 20th anniversary, its journey reflects a legacy of faith, education, and philanthropy. The unwavering commitment of its founder, staff, and students to uplifting lives through education continues to shine brightly.

For Professor Oladimeji, Al-Hikmah University is more than an institution; it's a family where dreams are nurtured, and values are upheld. As it strides into the future, its foundation of wisdom and morality remains a guiding light.

“From just 70 students at its inception, Al-Hikmah University has grown into a thriving academic institution with multiple campuses, faculties and programs.”

# CONVOCAATION LECTURES AND LECTURERS

It is the tradition of every university to incorporate convocation lectures as part of their convocation activities this aged long academic tradition enables the university to have the following benefits which include motivating graduands by providing guidance and wisdom towards navigating future challenges that would enable them make positive impact. Convocation lecture also facilitates networking opportunities between accomplished individuals in the society and the host university.

Therefore as part of efforts to spread its tents as a reputable academic institution of learning

with a blend of wisdom and morality, Al-Hikmah University have hosted several distinguished and outstanding personalities who have made remarkable impact within the academia and other fields of endeavour across the country. These individuals have successfully delivered thirteen thought provoking convocation lectures on issues bothering on education, governance, insecurity, religion, governance, agriculture, career progression, entrepreneurship and lots more.



The maiden convocation lecture was delivered by Prof. Abdul-Rasheed Lawal a renowned Professor of History, from the department of History, University of Ibadan. The lecture was titled "Parallax Snaps: Comparing Islamic Fundamentalism in the 1950s and 2000s" on Friday, 28th September 2012.



The Third convocation lecture was also delivered by another outstanding academician in person of Prof. Nurudeen Olorun-Nibe Adedipe the then Pro-Chancellor of Fountain University Osogbo, on the topic titled "Strains and stresses in the Nigerian University System: Sustainable Quality Assurance Prospects by Private Universities" on Friday, 20th September, 2013.



Prof. Muritala Aderemi Bidmos another erudite scholar, from the Department of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Lagos, delivered the Fourth convocation lecture on the topic titled "Western and Islamic Education, Debate: A display of paradoxes" on Saturday, 20th September, 2014.



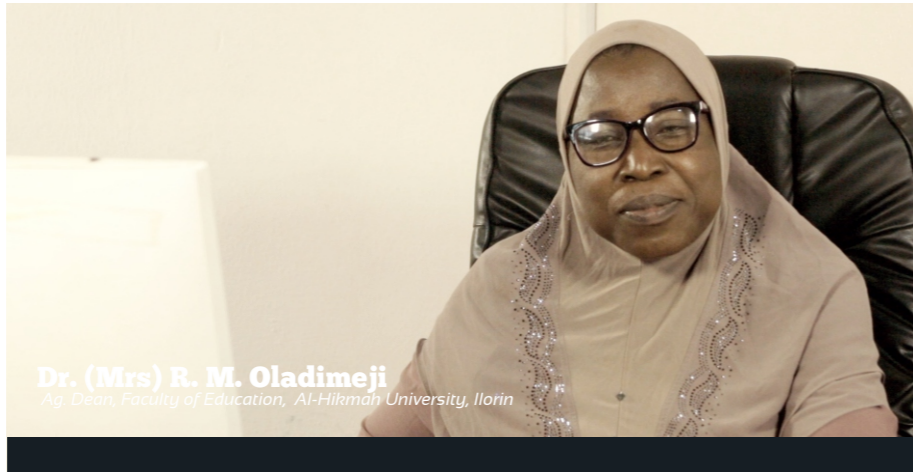
The Fifth convocation lecture was delivered by Prof. Femi Odekunle (Member, Presidential Advisory Committee on War Against Corruption) on the topic titled "Tackling Corruption in Nigeria: Strategic and Operational Options for the Buhari Administration" which was delivered on Friday 11th September 2015.





# AL-HIKMAH UNIVERSITY IS UNIQUE IN ALL RAMIFICATIONS

**D**r. Rashidat Modupe Oladimeji, Acting Dean of the Faculty of Education and Senior Lecturer at Al-Hikmah University, has played a transformative role in the institution's growth since joining in 2008. Starting as a Senior Assistant Registrar, she steadily rose through the ranks to become the substantive Registrar in 2012, serving for a decade before her current role. Her contributions span administrative governance, academic excellence, and student mentorship.



Dr. (Mrs) R. M. Oladimeji  
Ag. Dean, Faculty of Education, Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin

Reflecting on Al-Hikmah's unique identity as Nigeria's first Islamic faith-based university, Dr. Oladimeji highlights its commitment to blending Islamic education with interfaith understanding. The university offers programs in Islamic Studies and Arabic while welcoming staff and students of diverse religious backgrounds. This inclusive approach fosters coexistence and mutual respect, setting an example for harmonious societal interactions. Celebrating its 20th anniversary, Al-Hikmah boasts significant milestones. Academically, the institution has

grown from 70 students to over 50 programs for undergraduate and postgraduate studies. Its emphasis on moral and ethical leadership is complemented by groundbreaking infrastructural developments, including state-of-the-art facilities like the Moot Court and the building for housing the medical school. Looking ahead, Dr. Oladimeji envisions a future where Al-Hikmah continues to lead through innovative programmes, robust research initiatives, and global partnerships. She emphasizes the

importance of strengthening alumni networks and introducing distance learning to expand the university's reach.

Her advice to students is simple yet profound: remain focused and disciplined. To the staff and leadership, she advocates for unwavering commitment to academic and administrative excellence. With these principles, Al-Hikmah University is poised to achieve even greater heights in the years to come.



Dr. Mariam Bayero-Jimoh, the Acting Dean of the Faculty of Law, stands out as a pivotal figure in its legacy. Her journey, marked by dedication, innovation, and excellence, began as the university's legal officer. "One of my major contributions during that time was creating a guide to ensure the university's adherence to rules and laws, effectively preventing litigation," she noted. Her tenure was distinguished by a litigation-free record, a rare achievement in the educational sector. Rising through the ranks, Dr. Bayero-

## WE PRODUCE 1ST CLASS GRADUATES AT THE NIGERIAN LAW SCHOOL

- Ag. Dean, Faculty of Law, Dr. Mariam Bayero-Jimoh

Jimoh served as Acting Head of the Department of Private and Business Law, where she focused on enhancing academic excellence by developing curricula and initiating journals addressing contemporary issues in Nigeria. Now as Acting Dean of the Faculty of Law, she has overseen significant milestones, including producing first-class graduates at the Nigerian Law School. "The commitment of our lecturers and students has been instrumental in achieving these results," she emphasized.

The Faculty of Law has experienced remarkable growth under her leadership, with enrollment doubling and successful accreditations from the National Universities Commission and the Council of Legal Education.

The university's Islamic foundation remains central to its operations. Dr. Bayero-Jimoh highlighted how students, regardless of faith, uphold the university's values. "It's heartening to see Christian students voluntarily continuing the use of the hijab after graduation," she shared, reflecting the inclusive environment Al-Hikmah fosters.

Looking to the future, Dr. Bayero-Jimoh underscores the importance of collaboration and increased research grants to expand the university's influence and foster groundbreaking work. "The progress Al-Hikmah University has made in 20 years is remarkable. With sustained efforts in academic excellence and research, the sky is no longer the limit," she concluded.

**A**l-Hikmah University approaches its 20th anniversary, it's an opportune moment to reflect on the milestones that have defined its journey. At the heart of these achievements is the bursary department, which has been instrumental in shaping the financial backbone of the institution. In an exclusive interview, Mr. Hafiz O. Omoniyi, the Bursar of Al-Hikmah University, shared insights into the pivotal role his unit has played in the university's growth and development.

According to Mr. Omoniyi, "Bursary is the

lifeblood of any institution." Serving as the Chief Financial Adviser, he has overseen a transformative era for the department. Under his leadership, the annual revenue of the university has grown significantly, increasing from 2 billion to 3 billion naira. This financial growth has been underpinned by improved enrollment and strategic restructuring of the bursary department. The department was restructured into three divisions: Treasury, Finance, and Budget and Planning, each with 11 units. This decentralization has enhanced efficiency

and ensured timely submission of financial reports, tax payments, and budget allocations. The adoption of a licensed payroll software, Admo Payroll, marked a major technological advancement, streamlining processes and ensuring sustainability. The bursary's effective financial management has directly impacted the university's infrastructure. Landmark projects such as the Moot Court, the Faculty of Management Sciences, and the extensive transformation of the Igbaja and Atere campuses stand as testaments to this.

# Bursary is the

## LIFEBLOOD OF ANY INSTITUTION

— MR. HAFIZ OMONIYI



**A**ll the infrastructure you see, from hostels to road networks, are funded entirely by the university's internally generated revenue (IGR)," Mr. Omoniyi noted with pride.

One of the standout achievements is the expansion of faculties from five to seven, with five already having dedicated buildings. Additionally, the university's ability to accommodate 60% of its students in on-campus hostels is a significant milestone, with plans to further increase capacity.

Recognizing the importance of student satisfaction, the bursary has implemented a flexible and accessible payment system. Students can pay their fees remotely and gain immediate access to essential academic services like course registration and exam pass issuance. Hostel booking and allocation have also been simplified, allowing students to select options based on their preferences and budget.

Looking ahead, Mr. Omoniyi envisions a future where Al-Hikmah University becomes a benchmark institution. "With more courses, increased enrollment, and enhanced infrastructure, the sky is the limit for us," he stated. The strategic location of the university, coupled with its affordability and faith-based values, will continue to be its major selling points.

As the university celebrates 20 years, Mr. Omoniyi attributes its success to prudent financial management and the dedication of its Board of Trustees. "All our achievements are self-funded, a testament to our commitment to record-keeping and prudent expenditure," he emphasized. The 20th anniversary coincides with the 14th convocation, making it a dual celebration of academic and institutional milestones.

With its unwavering commitment to excellence, Al-Hikmah University is poised to reach even greater heights in the years to come.

[info.alhikmah.edu.ng](http://info.alhikmah.edu.ng)

# INAUGURAL LECTURES AND LECTURERS >>>

Inaugural lectures hold significant importance for universities, serving as a platform for knowledge dissemination, academic advancement, and institutional reputation. It also highlights the academic milestone of every university and plays a pivotal role towards allowing the newly elevated academician into the highest academic rank of Professorship, to share their research findings, insights, and innovative ideas with the university community and wider audience, and contribute to the advancement of knowledge in their respective fields. Therefore, as part of the success, achieved by the university since its inception, five senior lecturers that have been elevated to the rank of Professorship including Prof Lateef Folorunsho Oladimeji, Prof. Ndarabi Assayouti Ologele, Prof. Adesina Yusuf Raji, and Prof. Ajepe Taiwo Shehu and Prof. Qaasim Badmaasi have presented their inaugural lectures.



Prof. Lateef Folorunsho Oladimeji

The university's maiden inaugural lecture was presented by Prof. Lateef Folorunsho Oladimeji from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Department of Islamic Studies, on Friday 7th of January 2022. His lecture was titled **"Roving Preachers of the Message: Deconstructing Da'wah across border"**.



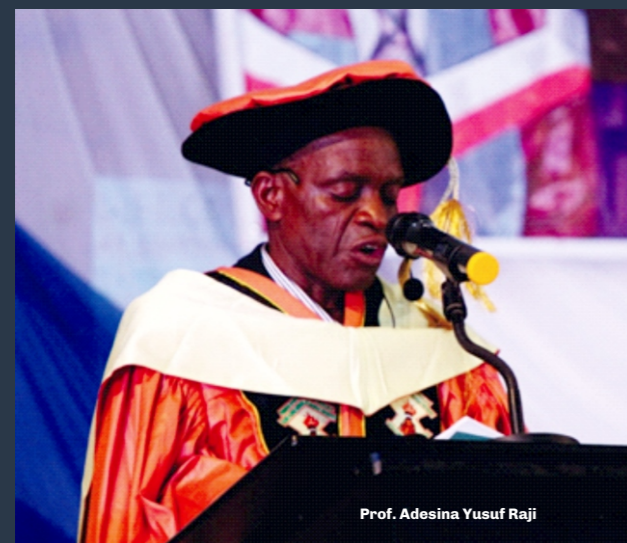
Prof. Shuaib Ndarabi

Prof. Shuaib Ndarabi Ologele from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, (Language Unit) Department of Arabic Language, presented the 4th inaugural lecture in the university on Tuesday 6th June 2023, on the title **"Arabic language at the crossroads: Tapping the potentials of a towering language"**.



Prof. Qaasim Badmaasi

The 5th inaugural lecture was delivered by Prof Qaasim Badmaasi also from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, on the topic titled **"The Travails of Arabic Syntax in the Nigerian Context"** which was held on Wednesday, 31st July 2024.



Prof. Adesina Yusuf Raji

Prof. Adesina Yusuf Raji from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences also presented the second inaugural lecture in the university on the topic titled **"Unveiling Nigeria's dysfunctional goldmine: A chronicle of the neglected agricultural potentials in an emerging economy"** which was held on Wednesday 30th March 2022.



Prof. Ajepe Taiwo Shehu

The third inaugural lecturer was Prof. Ajepe Taiwo Shehu, from the Faculty of Law (Department of Public and International Law) his lecture was titled **"Constitutionalism and Good Governance: The Legal political approach to taming the monster of insecurity in Nigeria"** held on Wednesday 9th November 2022.



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