



## 38<sup>th</sup> Convocation: Dangote Advocates Knowledge Based Economy in Nigeria

By Nura Garba



Africa's richest man and Chairman of Dangote Group of Companies, Alhaji Aliko Dangote, has advocated for the shift to knowledge based economy in Nigeria rather than resource based. This, he said would transform the country's economy and put it in the global map of advanced economies.

Alhaji Aliko Dangote, who presented the 38<sup>th</sup> Convocation Lecture of Bayero University, Kano titled: The Role of the Private Sector in Building a Sustainable Knowledge Economy in Nigeria, noted that given the tremendous benefits that the knowledge economy offers, it is vital that Nigeria makes the transition to a knowledge-based economy.

Dangote, who was represented by the Group Executive Director of the Dangote conglomerate, Engineer Mansur Ahmed, stated that countries like South Korea, India, China, and the Asian tigers at one time or the other took the decision to institutionalize knowledge economy and are today reaping the benefits.

Dangote explained that there are many government research institutions and the existing knowledge gathered over the years can be put into use by the industries. Agricultural research institutes have produced new

varieties of seeds, legumes and others that are being cultivated in small quantities in their demonstration farms," he said.

According to him, this is where the government should come in with incentives for firms that would make use of these new varieties."

Government may decide to embark on phasing out of older low-yielding species of crops and provide incentives for those willing to plant the new ones in terms of subsidies, free fertiliser, and technical help from agriculture extension officers.

"Government through its agencies can help in insisting that firms and businesses apply existing knowledge in their operations.

He recommended that Nigerian youths that are passionate about new technologies should be encouraged and supported to exploit their natural talents by expanding entrepreneurship facilities and hubs.

"There should be reforms in our educational system with more emphasis on skill development than paper qualification. Innovators, founders of businesses and creators should be invited to speak," Dangote said.

He quoted the World Bank as stating that for Nigeria to make transition to a knowledge economy, it must pay attention to the business environment, education and skills, innovation systems and information communication infrastructure.

Earlier in his welcome address, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, said the theme and the presenter of the lecture were carefully chosen. He said the name Dangote' is a household name not only in Nigeria, but also in Africa and the world in general.

“In Bayero University, Dangote is a trademark that rings a bell, courtesy of Dangote Business School singlehandedly

built by Alhaji Aliko Dangote and donated to Bayero University, Kano. Established about a decade ago, Dangote Business School has produced thousands of postgraduates.

The Vice Chancellor stated that the establishment of Dangote Business School has added a lot of value to Bayero University, Kano with the School moving on from strength to strength and making a name beyond the shores of Nigeria.

Former Chairman of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), A.B Mahmoud was the chairman of the occasion.

## 38th Convocation Edition: Day 1 of BUK's 38<sup>th</sup> Convocation: 3,797 Graduated from Six Faculties

By Suleiman Salihu

A total of 3,797 students from Faculties of Agriculture, Arts and Islamic Studies, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Education, Law and Pharmaceutical Sciences graduated at the first day of Bayero University, Kano's 38<sup>th</sup> Convocation ceremonies held on Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2024 at the Convocation Arena.

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, in his speech said that BUK was a globally top ranked university with commitment to education, research and community services.

Prof. Abbas explain that the university has been pursuing its vision plan to transform from basically teaching to a research based university, from predominantly Arts and Humanities to Science-based University, to make it an information and communication technology driven university and also to be a global best practice institution.

According to him, the University Management and the Senate are working relentlessly to attain desired objective which is evidence in the giant strides it has made over the years, as it emerged the 4<sup>th</sup> best university in Nigeria in the February 2022 ranking of the universities released by Times Higher Education (THE) of the United Kingdom.

He added that by this ranking BUK was also adjudged as the best in North-Central, North-West, North-East and South-South zones in the areas of teaching, research, knowledge-transfer and international outlook. He said BUK is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Best Value University for International Students in Nigeria. It also emerged among the top 1000 in the world.

Professor Abbas also hinted that BUK under his management had made history by graduating the first set of Doctors of Pharmacy (Pharm D) in Nigeria. “BUK was the first university to achieve this milestone,” he said.

Prof. Abbas disclosed that the Management of BUK had launched an On-Campus Students' Job Scheme in fulfillment of the desire to alleviate the difficulties and challenges faced by some students. He said the scheme attracted 15,000 naira monthly and had started with 125 students and later increased to 150. He said the Management would continue to review the scheme for the benefit of the students.

He said this was in addition to creating Skills Acquisition Centre for students at the Student Affairs Deanery for the training of students to learn various skills in order to become self-reliant after graduation.

He further commended distinguished individuals and state governments of Kano, Jigawa, Katsina and Kaduna for the



Cross section of the graduands taken oath of allegiance of the BUK Alumni Association

payment of registration fees for their indigent students in the 2022/2023 academic session.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Sagir Adamu Abbas while congratulating the graduands for successfully completing their studies, urged them to be worthy ambassadors of BUK and endeavor to give their best in the development of

## 38th Convocation Edition: 2nd Day: 3,739 Graduated, as Ahmad Adeniyi Clinches VC's Overall Best Graduating Student Award

By Ibrahim Ado Saleh

Bayero University Kano on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024, graduated students from the Faculties of Allied Health Sciences, Clinical Sciences, Dentistry, Computing and School of Continuing Education (SCE) with Ahmad



VC, Prof. S.A. Abbas presenting a goodwill message to one of the female graduands

Adeniyi Sharafuddeen emerged as the Vice Chancellor's Overall Best graduating student with CGPA 4.94.

This was acknowledged at the 38<sup>th</sup> Convocation ceremony that graduated a total of 3,739 graduands that cut-across the above mentioned faculties and School.

The Vice Chancellor Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas

*FMAN*, expressed pleasure towards realization of the 38<sup>th</sup> Convocation ceremony for the 2020/2021 academic session. "As you all know convocation ceremonies are meant to felicitate with our graduands that are joined by family members, friends and well-wishers and of course lecturers to rejoice and celebrate the result of the years they spent toiling in order to succeed in their chosen fields and endeavor".

He added that the University is the first among Nigerian Universities to graduate the first set of Doctors of Pharmacy (Pharm D) which is indeed a historic milestone. Doctor of Pharmacy is a prestigious degree recognized by the National Universities commission (NUC) and the Pharmacy council of Nigeria (PCN).

Meanwhile, Ahmad Adeniyi Sharafudeen won the Vice Chancellor's award for the Overall best graduating Student with 4.94 CGPA, from the Faculty of Computing.

Adeniyi expressed his gratitude to the Almighty Allah for this wonderful award, saying that this came to him a surprise as he knew there is a great challenge in achieving this award.

The breakdown of the 3,739 graduands are: Faculty of Allied Health Science (312), Faculty of Clinical Sciences (116), Faculty of Computing (289), Faculty of Dentistry (15) and School of Continuing Education (SCE) (3,007).

## Day 3: 3,748 Graduated from Seven Faculties

By Fausat A. Opayomi

A total of 3,748 students who were found to be worthy in character and learning for the conferment of degrees at the third day of the 38<sup>th</sup> Convocation Ceremony held on Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> February, 2024.

The graduands were from the Faculties of Basic Medical Sciences (400), Communication (309), Engineering (569), Life Sciences (595), Management Sciences (490) and Social Sciences (662).

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, in his speech said that BUK was a globally top ranked university with commitment to education, research and community services.

Prof. Abbas said that the university has been pursuing its vision plan to transform from basically teaching to a research based university, from predominantly Arts and Humanities to Science-based University, to make it an information and communication technology driven university and also to be a global best practice institution.



Cross section of the graduands

BUK and endeavor to give their best in the development of the community and the nation.

# Minister of Education Commissions Projects in BUK

## -Calls for Collaboration between Nigerian Companies and Varsities

By Fausat A. Opayomi



Minister of Education, Prof. Tahir Mamman, SAN, cutting the tape to commission Centre for Teaching and Learning (middle); Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sagir Abbas (left) and Hon. Ibrahim Sha'aban Sharada (right) assisting him

The Honourable Minister of Education, Professor Tahir Mamman has commissioned some projects at Bayero University, Kano as part of the activities of the staggered 38<sup>th</sup> Convocation Ceremony

The projects commissioned by the Minister were the Center for Teaching, Learning; Microteaching laboratory at the University's Faculty of Education and the Department of Veterinary Anatomy of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, and the Center for Reading Research and Development was the fourth newly built edifice commissioned by the Honorable Minister, Prof. Tahir.

The Minister who was led to commission each of the newly constructed edifices by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas and other Principal Officers of the University.

The Minister also visited other places such as Training and Research Farm and Instrumentation Laboratory at the Centre for Dryland Agriculture, as well as Solar Power Plant Station.

At the University's Solar Power Plant Station, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Sagir Adamu Abbas appealed the Minister to as a matter of exigency resuscitate the solar power plant by replacing the batteries and inverters that have been spoilt as a result of non-usage for a long time. This, he said has affected the power supply of the University, leaving the University in total darkness. In addition, it has cost the University to spend millions of naira monthly to purchase diesel to power the generators.

The Education Minister, Prof. Tahir disclosed that already

the Federal Government has a plan to power Nigerian Universities. He, however, pointed out that the N5 billion power plant in BUK would not be allowed to be wasted as something is going to be done to bring the power plant back to life. He said the Federal Government would investigate the contract.

At the University's Center for Dryland agriculture, the Director of the Centre, Professor Jibrin Mohammed Jibrin informed the Minister that CDA has instrumentation Laboratory, which is used to analyze various data and helps farmers to use the accurate formula of fertilizers in their farms.

The Director added that the CDA made a significant break-through in its Central Instrumentation laboratory by identifying the sexes of date-palm, which had been plaguing farmers of the dateplam for many years. With the recent research findings, one of the major problems of farmers has been addressed by the centre.

The Education Minister expressed his happiness with the development and explained that even the President, Alhaji Asiwaju Bola Ahmad Tinubu, would be pleased to hear about break-throughs like this.

The Minister then called on Nigerian companies to collaborate with Nigerian universities in order to benefit from the innovations of the universities through research.

He further revealed that one of the targets of the federal government is the inculcation of skills to learners at all levels. He, therefore, explained that imparting agricultural skills through the University's farm could not be an exception.

# Public Educational Institutions Hope of a Common Man ...Says Deputy Senate President, Barau Jibrin - *Vows to ensure Improve Funding of 'Varsities*

By Lamara Garba

The Deputy Senate President, Senator Barau I. Jibrin has said that public tertiary institutions remains the hope of a common man in which he urged government at all levels to ensure proper and adequate funding with a view to ensuring affordable quality education to the citizenry.

Senator Barau who spoke in Kano at the commissioning of the School of Postgraduate studies and the Advancement office at Bayero University, Kano on Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024 explained that the best legacy any government can leave is to provide quality education to the citizenry.

According to him, the cost of attending private universities and other schools are too prohibitive for the common man and therefore, governments must always provide the necessary funding so that all public schools could be adequately provided with the relevant teaching and instructional materials in which conducive atmosphere of learning could be put in place.

“We all know that greater percentage of the people in this country cannot afford the fees at private schools, therefore, the best thing to do is to improve on the facilities at the public schools for the benefit of all,” said Senator Barau.

He commended the Management of Bayero University, Kano under the leadership of Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas over what he termed as prudent management of resources and commitment to making the university great.

In particular, Senator Barau was happy with the current status of the university which was ranked as the best 5<sup>th</sup> in the country in terms of quality teaching and research as well as 1016<sup>th</sup> in the global ranking out of over 40,000 universities assessed by the UK based Times Higher Education International assessor.

“I am indeed delighted with the facilities I saw here in BUK and the current status of the university amongst the comity of tertiary institutions, this is commendable and impressive. We shall do our best to



Deputy Senate President, Senator Barau I. Jibrin (centre) cutting the tape to commission the School of Postgraduate Studies being assisted by the VC, Prof. Sagir Adamu Abbas (right) and representative Emir of Ilorin Dr. Usman Abubakar Jos, Magayakin Allah Namu of Ilorin (left)

making a positive impact in our educational institutions,” he declared.

Earlier, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas had told the Deputy Senate President that the university has been adjudged as one of the best five in the country.

He said, the management has been judiciously utilizing the little resources to improve on the facilities and infrastructure with a view to maintaining standards and quality, saying in Bayero University, quality and standards are paramount. He expressed gratitude to the Deputy Senate President for his support and assistance to the university.

## Dr. Taufiq Abubakar Hussain Takes over as new Director, CICID

By Suleiman Salihu

Dr. Taufiq Abubakar Hussain has taken over the mantle of leadership as the new Director of the Centre for Islamic Civilization and Interfaith Dialogue (CICID). He took over the affairs of the Centre from the immediate past Director, Dr. Muhammad Sani Umar Rijiyar Lemo.

The handover event took place on Wednesday, 21st February, 2024 at the Board Room of the Centre and it was witnessed by many staff members.

In his address, the new Director, CICID, Dr. Taufiq Abubakar thanked the immediate past Director, Dr. Muhammad Sani Umar Rijiyar Lemo for the achievements he recorded during his tenure. He described Dr. Umar as colleague, teacher, mentor and a renowned scholar whom the Centre still needs his services. He told the gathering that the legacy and blueprint left by the former director would be sustained.

He prayed that staff members will extend their give support and cooperation as accorded the immediate past Director, for the upliftment of the Center to greater heights.

Earlier, in his valedictory remarks, the immediate past Director, Dr. Muhammad Sani Umar Rijiyar Lemo, thanked Almighty Allah for the completion of the tenure. He highlighted some of the achievements recorded during his tenure. He described the appointment of Dr. Taufiq as well-deserved and transition that that will leverage on the mission and vision of the Centre. He prayed to Almighty Allah to guide the new director the wisdom, knowledge and determination to govern.

He urged staff of the Centre to give to the new Director all the necessary support and cooperation towards discharging his responsibilities.

The Vice Chancellor also commended the contractor handling the projects, Alhaji Usman Yahaya Kansila, who he described as a man of commitment and had the interest of the education at heart. “I must commend the contractor handling these projects for the quality job done as well as his commitment to ensure timely completion of the projects.

The projects commissioned included the School of Postgraduate Studies and the Advancement office which were all provided through a budgetary allocation following an intervention by senator Barau I Jibrin.

Earlier, in his introduction, the Deputy Director of the Centre, Dr. Ibrahim Abdullahi Sani, briefed the gathering that the Centre was established in 2015 with Dr. Bashir Aliyu Umar as the pioneer Director followed by Prof. Salisu Shehu, Dr. Muhammad Sani Umar Rijiyar Lemo and now Dr. Taufiq Abubakar Hussain as the 4th Director of CICID.

He said the Centre is renowned and had developed collaborations, partnerships, linkages and agreements with other great institutions of learning and agencies both within and outside Nigeria.



Former Director CICID, Dr. Sani Umar R/Lemo (2nd from left) presenting the handing over notes to the new Director, Dr. Taufiq Abubakar Hussain (3rd right)

In his vote of thanks, the Administrative Secretary of the Centre, Malam Abdulmuhsin A. Nuhu on behalf of the staff of the Centre, welcomed the incoming Director and thanked the outgoing Director for his immense contribution towards making the Centre great. He equally extended same to the past and current Deputies Director; Prof. Usman Aliyu Dutsinma, Dr. Ibrahim Abdullahi Sani, Dr. Rabi'u Yahaya Hassan, Dr. Najeeb Auwal Abubakar and so on, he wished them Allah's guidance and blessings.

## Faculty of Education Organizes Skills Acquisition Training For Students

In an effort to build and improve student's skills potentials for efficiency and productivity BUK's Department of Adult Education and Community Services in collaboration with Shama Foundation organized a six-week training program for one hundred female students of the department held its first phase on the Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2024.

In his address, the Acting Head of department, Dr. Auwal Halilu disclosed that the program was approved by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas as part of the initiative of the entrepreneurship skills for all students of the university.

Subsequently, Dr. Halilu, who is also the Coordinator of Skills Acquisition of the department, urged the students to take a positive advantage of the opportunity the department and the university have offered them. He also commended the efforts of Shama Foundation for sponsoring such a successful training.

In the same vein, a senior lecturer in the department, Dr. Usman added that graduating with both skills and certificate is an added privilege for the students. As such they should strive to be self-employed, as the economy of the country is no longer smiling; in that sense the students should count themselves lucky among others. He said that the vocational center of the department is open for the university community to patronize.

In his effort to indulge the students, he quoted a popular slogan "skills rather than just the degree" by Prof Isa Ali Pantami (Former Minister of Communication and Digital Economy).

While enlightening the students, the HOD prayed and hoped that the skills acquired at the end of the training should be extended to other members of the university at large, so as to uplift the hard earned reputations of the department and the university community even after graduation.

Speaking at the training, Miss Shamsiyya Mustapha of Shama Foundation, who is also a student in the department, affirmed to train and deliver the best she could to ensure smooth and retentive training throughout the program.

Also in attendance were Malama Aisha (member skills committee), Malam Tawakaltu (Technical person skills) and Dr. Samir Haliru (Facilitator).



Cross section of trainees at the skill acquisition programme

## APPOINTMENT

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, has approved the appointments of the underlisted staff:

SN	NAME	DEPARTMENT	APPOINTMENT	EFFECTIVE
1	Dr Atiku Mamuda	Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care	Head, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care	27th March 2024
2	Dr. Taufiq Abubakar Hussaini	Department of Islamic Studies and Shari'ah	Appointed as the Director, Centre of Islamic Civilization and Interfaith Dialogue,	15th February, 2024
3	Dr. Rabiuh Yahaya Hassan	Department of Islamic Studies and Shariah	Appointed as the Deputy Director II, Centre of Islamic Civilization and Interfaith Dialogue,	15th February, 2024
4	Dr Najeeb Auwal Abubakar	Department of Islamic Studies and Shariah	Appointed as the Deputy Director I, Centre of Islamic Civilization and Interfaith Dialogue,	15th February, 2024
5	Professor Zubairu Iliyasu	Department of Community Medicine	Notification of Election to the Fellowship of Nigerian Academy of Science	With immediate effect



# BAYERO UNIVERSITY, KANO

New Campus Jumu'at Masjid

## RAMADAN FEEDING (IFTAR) EXERCISE 1445 AH (2024)

Bayero University New Campus Juma'at Mosque is organizing a Ramadan Iftar feeding program for this coming Ramadan, 1445AH.

The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said: "Whoever gives food for a fasting person, he will earn the same reward as the one who has observed the fast without diminishing in any way the reward of the latter". It is with this understanding that we propose to conduct an Iftar feeding program to provide food to those in need during this upcoming Ramadan (1445 AH). Our goal is to serve meals at the cost of N1500 per person to approximately 200 persons daily especially undergraduate students who cannot afford to feed themselves during the blessed month of Ramadan.

To make this program a reality, we are seeking your support in the form of financial contributions/donations of food items/volunteer assistance. Any support you can provide will go a long way in ensuring the success of this Iftar program Insha'Allah.

If you are interested in supporting this initiative, please feel free to contact Professor Abubakar Jiddere (08033118526) or Dr. Nura Ibrahim (08036572655) or you can make your contribution through the following account details:

**Account Name:** BUK New Campus Jumaat Mosque

**Account Number:** 0009606702

**Bank:** JAIZ

**Signed:**

Nura Ibrahim, PhD

*Secretary, Mosque Committee*



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