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14th Professorial Inaugural Lecture:
Oral Songs Help to Chart a Path for
Society's Cultural Identity/Relevance
– Prof. Gusau

A Professor of Hausa Studies in the Department of Nigerian Languages, Professor Sa'idu Muhammad Gusau has likened singing to a conveyer belt which societies employ to chart a path for their cultural memory and relevance as well as relay what they feel are good and morally upright values and therefore worth preserving for the benefit of future generations.

The erudite scholar's submission was contained in a lecture he delivered at the 14th Professorial Inaugural Lecture titled *WAKAR BAKA BAHAUSHIYA* (The Hausa Oral Song) on Monday 26th May, 2014 at the Musa Abdullahi Auditorium.

He said societies the world over have since time immemorial built up unique ways of life that are not just valuable to them but also become "custodians of such ways of life, for which they could become well known," saying that "singing is one among such ways that some societies employ in charting a path for their cultural memory and relevance."

Professor Gusau argued that there is no society where some form of singing is not found. He gave as examples European, Arab, Indian, Pakistani, Chinese, Filipino, Yoruba,

Nupe, Hausa, Igbo and Fulani societies whom he said have one form or another of oral songs. He said the oral songs found in the aforementioned societies often played a significant role in the cultural life of the people.

Coming back to the topic under discussion, the erudite scholar said "the Hausa Community has been blessed with a natural environment that gave its people opportunities to perform and communicate songs abundantly from time immemorial."

The Professor of Hausa Studies said that "the Hausa songs were initially composed orally in gatherings and in public functions or in individual homes of the Hausa people." He added that today, "Hausa Songs are composed in both oral and written form with the traditional musical instruments or in the studios."

He observed that "the specific religious as well as socio-cultural imperatives of the Hausa society have engendered the development and subsequent deep entrenchment over time, of oral songs in all its expansive forms," adding that in "this way, the oral songs have become, so to emphasize, common place and have been domesticated in the cultural life of the Hausa people, ranging from the traditional rulers, to Islamic clerics, the wealthy and the masses."

Professor Gusau classified the Hausa oral songs into two major distinctions, namely;

traditional/ classical and modern/ contemporary songs. He said “traditional or classical songs are songs that are composed orally, presented in gatherings, or in public, or in any of the homes and memorized by the composer/singer. And Contemporary or modern Hausa songs are composed in written form, rhymed in studio and very rarely memorized by a singer.”

He said the paper placed “the modern/ contemporary Hausa songs that are composed in the studio in Nigeria, Sudan, Egypt and other countries of the African Continent as folk songs, explaining that the placement was based on their objectivity, mode and pattern of presentation; mode of communicating the songs, accompaniment of music, chorus performance and other modes of composing.”

Professor Gusau concluded that “all the Hausa oral songs are the same in performance pattern, mode of composition between solo, choruses or without chorus, music or melodies pattern, rhyme and rhythmic pattern, performance structure and communicating pattern.”

Shehu Ajilo Sings “Nigerians Want to Live in Peace” in B.U.K

Hausa traditional musician, Shehu Ajilo has bemoaned the current security situation in Nigeria and called for concerted efforts by government, traditional institutions and other individuals to work towards entrenching sustainable peace in the country.

Shehu Ajilo, who performed his songs live on Monday night at Musa Abdullahi Auditorium as part of the activities of the

14th Professorial Inaugural Lecture delivered by Professor Said Muhammad Gusau titled *Wakar Baka Bahaushiya* (Hausa Oral Songs), said in one of the songs that “peace” remains a vital tool that would unite Nigeria and Nigerians at this crucial moment want peace to thrive in order to carry out their economic and other social activities.

The musician further advocated the need for students wherever they are to pray fervently for perpetual peace and tranquility in Nigeria.

The musical performances also featured Aminu Ala, Maryam Fantimoti and Ali Gadanga.

Many dignitaries attended the occasion. Some of whom were: the Deputy Vice Chancellors, Academic and Administration, Professor Muhammad Yahuza Bello and Professor Sadiq Isah Radda respectively; Sa’in Kano, Alhaji Wada Waziri; the Librarian, Professor Lukman Diso; Professor Shehu Dalhatu; Head of the Department of Mass Communication, Dr. Balarabe Maikaba; Malam Gausu Ahmad; Deputy Comptroller of Immigration, Alhaji Ado Jafar; Provost of Aminu Kano College of Legal Studies, Dr. Garba Shehu; Professor Abdallah Uba Adamu; Dr. Habibu Sani Babura; Director, Advancement Office, Ahmad Shehu; Dr. Maikudi Zukogi and many senior academics from the Department of Nigerian Languages and Linguistics.

Dr. Magashi Appointed HOD Microbiology

Dr. A. M. Magashi has been appointed as the Head of Department of Microbiology for two years commencing from 5th June, 2014,

according to a letter signed by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Abubakar Rasheed *mni*, MFR, dated 27th May, 2014.

46th Congregation to Hold 11th June, 2014

As earlier announced, the Secretariat of the Standing Committee on Congregation wishes to inform all staff in the service of the University eligible to attend, that the 46th Congregation meeting will take place on Wednesday, 11th June, 2014, at 10am, Musa Abdullahi Auditorium, New Site.

Scheduled 3 of the University law (no. 79 of 1979), page 20 (4) says: “(i) the Congregation shall consist of – (a) The Vice Chancellor and the Deputy Vice Chancellor; (b) the full time members of the academic staff; (c) The Registrar; (d) The Bursar, and (e) every member of the administrative staff who holds a degree of any University recognized for the purpose of this statute by the Vice Chancellor, not being on honorary degree.”

Semester Break

This is to inform the University community that below is the Library operation hours during this Semester break, effective from Monday, 2nd June, 2014.

Monday – Saturday: From 8:00am – 6:00pm

Sunday: –closed

This operation schedules would continue until further notice.

SEMINARS

The following departments invite the University Community to their departmental seminars, scheduled as follows:

Department of Physics: *PhD & M.Sc Proposal Presentation*

Presenter 1: Nuradeen Aliyu Kankia (SPS/11/PPY/00002) – (PhD)

Topic: ‘*The Simulation of the Dynamics of Ruthenium Organometallic complex using FHI-aims Code.*’

Chairman: Dr. A. O. Musa

Presenter 2: Maryam Adamu Sunusi (SPS/11/MPY/00028) – (M.Sc)

Topic: ‘*Development of Cadmium Telluride (Cd Te) for Solar Cell.*’

Chairman: Dr. T. H. Darma

Presenter 3: Auwal Mustapha Imam (SPS/11/MPY/00049)

Topic: ‘*Advanced Timing System with Microcontroller PIC/6F877.*’

Chairman: Dr. Abdu Yunusa

Presenter 4: Suleiman Muhd Gana (SPS/11/MPY/00032)

Topic: ‘*Design, Implementation and Simulation of a Digital Clock with 12 and 24 hours Timing, Date Indicator and Stop Watch.*’

Chairman: Dr. Abdu Yunusa

Date: Thursday, 5th June, 2014

Time: 10:00am

Venue: Physics Research Laboratory

Department of Community Medicine:
College Academic Lecture Series

Presenter: Dr. Zubairu Iliyasu MBBS, MPH, FWACP, FMCPh, Associate Professor

Topic: *'How well Protected are our Children from Polio? Findings from Seroprevalence Surveys in Kano.'*

Date: Tuesday, 3rd June, 2014

Time: 10:00am

Venue: College Lecture Auditorium (within Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital).

Department of Geography: *PhD Departmental Seminar Series*

0 of Sustainability in Northwestern Nigeria.'

Presenter 2: Ibrahim Aliyu Hassan (PGS/10/PGE/00004)

Title: *'Harnessing the Etho-cultural Potentials for Tourism Development in Kaduna State, Nigeria.'*

Chairman: Prof. J. Falola

Date: Thursday, 5th June, 2014

Time: 10:00am

Venue: A43 Geography Department

Wedding Fatiha

Malam Sani Sa'idu of the Internal Audit Unit invites members of the University community to his wedding fatiha with his groom, Hadiza Abubakar, scheduled to take place as follows:

Date: Saturday, 7th June, 2014

Time: 10:00am

Venue: Gwammaja Tagwayen Gida, Late Malam Kalarawi's Line, Alh. Isyaku residence.

Lost Items

- 1) A wallet containing BUK I.D. card, NUESA I.D. card, Library I.D. card, 2 passports, driving license and ATM cards belonging to Yahaya Sayuti (ENG/12/AGR/00027).
- 2) A wallet containing BUK I.D. card, NUESA I.D. card, voters' card, and ATM card belonging to Mansur Mohammed Alhassan (TEC/08/CIV/00337).
- 3) A BUK I.D. card belonging to Amina Umar Dandanduna (EDU/12BAE/00351).

If found please bring it to the Publication and Documentation Division for onward return to the owners.

Do You Know:

- That the Environment Needs our Care and Attention?
- That You Have to Nurture Nature in Order to Enjoy It?
- That the Pressure on the Environment is too Great?
- That We are Losing too Many Trees, Fauna and Flora?
- That the University spends a lot of Money to Maintain the Environment?
- ✓ **Plant a Tree Today and Maintain it to Maturity.**
- ✓ **Keep Your Office and Residence Neat and Tidy.**
- ✓ **Use the DUSTBIN to Dispose of all Litter.**

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