



BAYERO UNIVERSITY, KANO



ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

by

Col. Sani Bello (Rtd)

On the Occasion of Receiving an
Honorary Doctorate Degree

from Bayero University, Kano

Saturday, 15th February, 2025

**ACCEPTANCE SPEECH BY COLONEL SANI BELLO (RTD)
ON THE OCCASION OF RECEIVING AN HONORARY DOCTORATE
DEGREE FROM BAYERO UNIVERSITY, KANO
15TH FEBRUARY, 2025**

The Visitor, His Excellency President Bola Ahmed Tinubu,
ably represented by Professor Suwaiba Said Ahmad, Minister of State for
Education

The Senate President, represented by...,

The Executive Governor of Kano State, Engr Abba Kabir Yusuf,

Distinguished Members of the National Assembly, Visiting
Governors, Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Esteemed
Faculty, Graduates, and Distinguished Guests,

Please permit me to stand the existing protocol

We stand before you today with immense gratitude and a deep sense of
humility as we accept our Honorary Doctorate Degrees from the
prestigious. This recognition is truly an honor, and we sincerely thank the
leadership of this esteemed institution for deeming us worthy of such
distinction.

Commitment to Education and Legacy

Education has always been a cause I have championed because I firmly
believe it is the foundation of progress and a pathway to empowerment for
individuals and societies alike. During my tenure as Governor of Kano
State from 1975 to 1978, my administration faced the critical challenge of
addressing gaps in the educational sector, particularly in areas that would
support the state's booming agricultural and commercial activities.

Upon assuming office, we observed that while agriculture and commerce
were thriving in Kano State, the standard of education needed to sustain
and advance these and other sectors of the economy was in disarray. This
realization led to the establishment of an **Education Advisory
Commission, chaired by Professor Shehu Galadanchi**, which played a
crucial role in shaping the educational policies of my administration.

I must recognize and appreciate the contributions of my cabinet members and those who worked tirelessly alongside me during this critical period. Among them were the late **Engr. Balarabe Isma'il, who served as Secretary to the Government, the late Professor Ibrahim Ayagi, Aminu Dorayi**, and many others who dedicated themselves to advancing education in the state.

Establishment of Kano's First Special Science Colleges

One of the landmark outcomes of this initiative was the establishment of **Kano State's first Special Science College-Dawakin Tofa and Dawakin Kudu** —under the guidance of the **Science and Technical School Board**. I must acknowledge the invaluable leadership of **Dr. Sadik Wali, who served as Chairman, and Mallam Ado Gwaram**, the indefatigable and hardworking **Executive Secretary of the Kano State Science Schools Management Board**. Their commitment and vision played pivotal role in laying the foundation for these institutions.

We believed that investing in science and technology education was essential to equip our youth with the skills and knowledge necessary to drive Kano and Nigeria toward a more prosperous future. Today, these schools stand as a testament to what can be achieved when we prioritize education and invest in the younger generation.

Ongoing Commitment to Education

This recognition today is not just a celebration of our contributions but also a testament to the collective efforts of many individuals who shared our vision. It is a reminder of what can be accomplished when we work together for a greater cause.

In more recent years, my dedication to education has remained steadfast. Through the **Sani Bello Foundation**, we are pleased to announce a donation of **100,000,000 Naira (One Hundred Million Naira)** to support Research and Development in Science, and Technology. This contribution reflects my strong belief in the transformative power of innovation and our desire to see Nigerian institutions—particularly Bayero University Kano—lead the charge in solving real-world challenges through research and technology.

Message to Graduates

To the graduates seated here today, let me say this: The education you have received at Bayero University is a powerful tool. Use it wisely—not only to elevate yourselves but also to uplift those around you and contribute

meaningfully to society. The challenges you may face beyond these walls could be daunting, but the knowledge and skills you have acquired here will equip you to overcome them.

To those still pursuing their education, I urge you to work hard and remain disciplined. Prepare yourselves, for the challenges of tomorrow may even be greater than those of today. Listen to the words of your lecturers, parents, and elders, for through them, you will gain wisdom, knowledge, and invaluable experience.

Final Appreciation

Finally, on behalf of my fellow honorary awardees, I extend our deepest gratitude to the entire university community—especially the Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, and the entire management of Bayero University Kano—for this incredible honor. Your recognition of our humble contributions serve as an inspiration for us to continue striving for excellence and service to humanity. Thank you for upholding the legacy of this great institution as a beacon of knowledge, progress, and opportunity.

Thank you all, and may **Allah (SWT) bless us abundantly.**

