





## WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR, PROF. SAGIR ADAMU ABBAS, FMAN ON THE OCCASION OF THE 38<sup>TH</sup> CONVOCATION LECTURE OF BAYERO UNIVERSITY, KANO HELD AT THE CONVOCATION ARENA ON FRIDAY, 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH, 2024 AT 4:00 P.M.

- ✓ The Visitor, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, ably represented by the Minister of Education, Prof. Tahir Mamman, OON, SAN,
- ✓ The Chancellor of Bayero University, His Royal Highness, Alhaji (Dr) Shehu Ibrahim Sulu-Gambari, CFR, the Emir of Ilorin,
- ✓ His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Kano State, Engr. Abba Kabir Yusuf,
- ✓ Guest Lecturer, Alhaji Aliko Dangote, GCON, Chairman, Dangote Group,
- ✓ Chairman of the Convocation Lecture, A. B. Mahmoud, SAN, former President of Nigeria Bar Association,
- ✓ His Highness, Sarkin Kano, Alhaji Aminu Ado Bayero,
- ✓ Members of the Senate Here Present,
- ✓ Distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,
- ✓ Gentlemen of the Press, Good Afternoon,

I welcome you all to Bayero University, Kano for the 38<sup>th</sup> Convocation Lecture. It is a tradition in this University to organize a convocation lecture on the eve of the grand finale of the staggered convocation ceremonies of the University. And it is usually held on a Friday, the same time as now to serve as an interim period between the convocation of First Degree Graduands and Higher Degree Graduands.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, the Convocation Committee – which is the organizing committee of the 38<sup>th</sup> convocation ceremonies for the 2020/2021 academic session – was very careful in choosing a theme for the lecture; a theme that is contemporary, appropriate and educative. As we all know, the topic for today's convocation lecture is "The Role of the Private Sector in Building a Sustainable Knowledge Economy in Nigeria". The guest speaker, who will be properly introduced later, is a well-known personality, a philanthropist, a business guru of international repute, and a man who has travelled far and wide.

Your Excellencies, let me, once again, welcome you all to the 38<sup>th</sup> Convocation Lecture of the University. May I seize this opportunity to express our gratitude to the Guest Speaker, Alhaji Aliko Dangote, GCON for accepting to honour our

invitation. 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 singlehanded built by Alhaji Aliko Dangote and donated to Bayero University, Kano. Established about a decade ago, Dangote Business School has produced thousands of postgraduates. Indeed, 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. We would appreciate it a great deal if the Managing Directors of the Dangote Foundation visited scholars of the University from time to time to share experiences and to critically compare notes between industry and scholarship, believing that knowledge transfer will be beneficial to one and all. As a matter of fact, a knowledge-sharing culture is a corporate culture that encourages and enables the free exchange of knowledge, insight and experience in order to benefit individuals and drive a business toward key strategic goals.

Our thanks also go to the Chairman of the occasion, our own A. B. Mahmoud (SAN), the former President of Nigeria Bar Association. I say thank you to all our invited guests. His Highness, the Emir of Kano, Alhaji Aminu Ado Bayero, we thank you most sincerely for honouring our invitation.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I hope to meet you again at the grand finale of the 38<sup>th</sup> Convocation ceremony of the University, which comes up tomorrow, *insha Allah*.

Thank you and God bless.



## BAYERO UNIVERSITY KANO