

REDEEMER'S NEWSLETTER

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PASTOR FOLU ADEBOYE BAGS HONORARY DOCTORATE DEGREE

A few Days after Celebrating her birthday, the wife of the General Overseer of The Redeemed Christian Church of God, Pastor Mrs Folu Adeboye, has bagged a Doctor of Education Degree from Ben Idahosa University.

The 73 years old mother-in-Israel took to her official Instagram handle to celebrate the feat and also appreciate her husband, Pastor E.A. Adeboye, for Believing in her and supporting her all through the process. While sharing the picture of her convocation on her Instagram Handle, Mummy G.O, as she fondly called, wrote, "Today, I'm grateful to God Almighty for hitherto He has helped me, knowing fully well that all of these achievements is by Him alone, Him alone deserves all the Praises. My darling husband, who is my mentor and has always pushed me to be more, God bless you for the constant support".

She also appreciated Benson Idahosa University's



(From left) Dr. Feb Idahosa II, Preseident, Benson Idahosa University, Archbishop M. E. Benson Idahosa, Chancellor, Benson Idahosa University, Pastor (Mrs.) Folu Adeboye (The Honoree) and Pastor E. A. Adeboye, General Overseer, Redeemed Christian Church of God during her conferment as Doctor of Education at Benson Idahosa University, Benin City

management and prayed for them.

These achievements have been melting the hearts of many as they trooped into her timeline to congratulate and celebrate her.

Meanwhile, Pastor Mrs Folu Adeboye bagged her Doctor of Divinity Degree in the year 2000 from the University of Sussex, had a Ph.D in

management and Operations in 2015, also our honorary recipient of Redeemer's University and is now a Doctor of Education.

This is a big challenge for a 73-year-old Married Woman and Mother to many.

We sincerely Congratulate Mummy G.O, and we pray for more Wins and Grace.

- ★ Pastor Folu Adeboye Bags Another Doctorate Degree A Few Days After Her Birthday.
- ★ "I am living a borrowed Life" Prof. Anthony Akinlo.
- ★ BIU Confers Honorary Degree in Education on Mummy G.O.

- ★ Winning NLNG Prize for Literature was something big for me - Prof. A. P. Yerima, Provost, CPGS.
- ★ RUN, ISCAN Sign MoU on Corporate Governance.
- ★ RUNCEDS holds Train the Trainers Programme.



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I AM LIVING A BORROWED LIFE - PROFESSOR ANTHONY AKINLO

To celebrate his 60th birthday, the Vice-Chancellor of Redeemer's University and an erudite Professor of Economics, Professor Anthony E. Akinlo, was honoured and ushered to a distinguished surprise birthday reception by the RUN community recently on his birthday.

In his appreciation remark, the ever-humble Professor Akinlo said, "It is a thanksgiving story simply because I was supposed to be dead before I turn 40. By ordinary run of events, maybe, I shouldn't be alive. That I am alive is an evidence of God's faithfulness. After receiving insights about how long I have to live, even my father advised me to stop visiting prophets and let things be. He even added that if I die in my bed at home, they will come and pick up the corpse and bury it properly."

He further explained that God gave him a revelation in a night vision about a young girl that was to tell him something thrice but refused to speak up. He took the clue and asked the young lady who at the time liked him and was beginning to run away from him because of the information she gathered after inquiring about him from a prophet. She said the same thing everyone told him and his father, but the solution she proffered would be to pray earnestly.

Professor Akinlo said that he took the clue and started visiting different mountains and prophets. The challenges became so overwhelming that he resorted to sleeping in the hills rather than on his bed.

He reiterated that he picked a young man dressed in all white as his custom was on one occasion when he visited the mountain; he had his bags packed and ready to spend three days seeking the face of God. The young man entered the car and said, "I thank God." The Professor asked him why and he replied, "God told me to stand here and wait for someone to pick me." The Vice-chancellor said he remembered vividly that the man only said a prayer for two minutes and told him to return home. In disbelief, he said, "I am here to spend the entire weekend; my bag is here." The man added I see your wife. She is a bank manager, and you know her, and she knows you, but you have never spoken. At this point, the Celebrant said he picked up his bag and searched for his would-be wife.

Professor Akinlo said it happened just like the young man said. His battles were over; he got married.

The Celebrant decided to share this testimony because he knows he is living a borrowed life by the grace of God. He appreciated the entire community for honouring him in this unique way as he had already decided not to do anything.

The celebration, which took place at the University's auditorium, started with thanksgiving,



The Vice-Chancellor, Redeemer's University, Prof. Anthony Akinlo with wife, Prof. (Mrs.) Olayinka Akinlo and daughter during his surprise birthday celebration at the auditorium, recently

followed by a Public Lecture titled "Fiscal Sustainability and Development Trajectory for The Nigerian Economy", delivered by his former student Professor Dauda Olalekan Yinusa, PhD, Professor of Development Economics and Honorable Commissioner for Economic Planning, Budget and Development, State Government of Osun, Nigeria.

Dr. Adebayo Adedokun who is the Special Adviser to the current Osun State Governor on Economic Planning, Budget and Development represented Professor Yinusa.

While delivering his well-researched paper, the Professor said that the report presented observed that sub-national governments have vital roles to play in repositioning the country on the roads to financial prudence and fiscal sustainability path. He added that development could be achieved with little resources when financial management is enthroned and accountability is the hallmark of public service delivery.



Prof. Anthony Akinlo, wife and daughters

BIU CONFERS HONORARY DEGREE IN EDUCATION ON MUMMY G.O

For a woman whose life epitomises excellence through hard work and has over the years devoted her entire life to empowering humanity through the provision of quality education and scholarships at different educational levels globally, Benson Idahosa University, Benin City, Edo State, is conferring Doctor of Education (Honoris Causa) today on Pastor(Mrs) Folu Adeboye, our mother-in-Israel and the jewel of inestimable value to our father, the General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God.



Pastor (Mrs.) Folu Adeboye, husband, Pastor E. A. Adeboye with Dr. Feb Idahosa II, President, Benson Idahosa University (left) while cutting her 74th Birthday cake during her conferment

It will be recalled that just a few days ago, she celebrated her 74th birthday.

RUN, ISCAN SIGN MOU ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Anthony Akinlo, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators of Nigeria (ICSAN).

The Vice-Chancellor has assured the President of the Institute, Barrister Taiwo Owokalade, that the suggestions tabled by the institute on having internal capacity and in-house customized programme would be considered.

Meanwhile, Barrister Taiwo also spoke on making governance an undergraduate course. The Professor assured the delegates of ICSAN that the University's Adeboye Centre for Peace and Good Governance is also looking into making this a reality soon.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Anthony Akinlo (left) with the President of ICSAN, Barrister Taiwo Owokolade (right) during the official signing



Plaque presentation to the Vice-Chancellor by the President of ICSAN, Barrister Taiwo Owokolade

WINNING NLNG PRIZE FOR LITERATURE WAS SOMETHING BIG FOR ME - PROF. A.P. YERIMA, PROVOST, CPGS

Sitting in his office, the affable Provost, College of Postgraduate Studies, Redeemer's University, Ede, Osun State, PROFESSOR AHMED YERIMA, who is a Fellow of the Nigerian Academy of Letters and winner, of the 2006 NLNG Prize for Literature with smiles on his face laced with an accommodating aura, in this interview with Adetunji Adeleye, Olufemi Bellos, Blessing Bamigbola and Bright Olatunji, speaks copiously and eloquently on the challenges he has faced since his assumption of office and the solutions his team has provided to reposition the college.



Provost, College of Postgraduate Studies, Redeemer's University, Prof. Ahmed Yerima (FNA) in his office

Your experience since assumption of office so far?

It's been fun and full of challenges working here. I am excited to be part of the history of this great institution. When I first came in, I studied the environment and made sure I blended well into the system. As a former member of the Governing Council, and Head of the Theatre Arts Department, those years have prepared me for the job because I saw the issues firsthand. I am aware of the challenges. I have been groomed for the job all these years. I also had my dreams for the school, where I project it to be.

As the provost of the college of postgraduate studies with experience as a seasoned manager, who has successfully directed and managed the Nigerian National troupe, the direction and template we are currently following was adopted by us. When we came on board, we met 47 students in PG school and the ratio of students has increased to over 403 students. This drastic increase gave us insight on the

need to increase our programmes and capacity to accommodate more people. We have since increased our programmes in Humanities, Social Sciences, Management Sciences and Natural Sciences.

Highlights of the new directions you have charted with your team since coming on board as the provost?

We launched a programme for Youth Corp members which we used to engage them to enroll where about 500 of them came for documentation. We told them our environment is conducive for learning. We invited one of their coordinators from the local government to come speak with them along the line, the question of religion came up and we told them the school is open to all religions. I told them I am Ahmed by name and nobody is throwing me out. When we told them no tuition for M.sc, they all accepted to get enrolled and felt more comfortable.

To achieve a great feat in an academic setting, some things are quite essential. Our work ethics together with the efforts of team

members and staff, ensured we achieved such a great feat within a short while. We work hard here and we are committed to the vision of the university. The University has also opened room for sponsorship. I must thank the Board of Trustees for that.

“There is now a master's and PhD for Bible Religious students. This also contributed to the spike in enrolment for our post-graduate courses. We have also started to publish our own journals. We are having a conference in August where we will discuss gender, women in power, politics and education. We will get everybody involved. We allow students to feel the school and we launched an award for the best PhD student. We allow a healthy competition and we are after anything that will bring quality”. Adding to one of the reasons for the spike in enrolment, Yerima disclosed that post-graduate students are from diverse backgrounds. “Some are graduates of none faith-based institutions and are used to the freedom of doing things their own way. Here, we incorporated a mentorship system that further perfected a smooth relationship

WINNING NLNG PRIZE FOR LITERATURE WAS SOMETHING BIG FOR ME - PROF. A.P. YERIMA, PROVOST, CPGS

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between students and their lecturers. We made sure they understood the reason they are here”.

The workshop enables them to know their supervisor very well. The overseas time frame set for MSc and PhD also helped students to focus. It will 'ginger' and allow them to work so they can graduate on time.

You are one of the iconic scholars in this university and a celebrated playwright. With your status like many eminent scholars, many people believe that persons of towering heights normally have recipes and routines that have contributed to their success. Kindly share these success tips with our readers.

Every staff is focused with no distraction. "No ASUU, we get paid and paid well. I have written over 70 plays. When I came to RUN, I had 25 in 2012. Now my plays are over 80. We know the vision and mission of the University so it helps us navigate to sustain the vision and mission of the school. Every day at 2 am, my eyes open. My best friend is my laptop and my wife."



The crew during the interview session with Prof. Ahmed Yerima in his office

If you were to revisit your youthful days, what are the things you would have done differently?

My youthful days contributed to what shaped me today. I have no regrets and I love my primary school where I discovered my talents as a playwright and also my secondary school where I was head boy. "I enjoyed my youthful days. I love my father. I love my mother she is more friendly. I was head boy in primary and secondary school. If there were to be a head boy in the university, I would have been one. I was tutored by Professor Wole Soyinka. Working at the National Theatre is a dream which came true for me. I feel so fulfilled and thankful to God.

Highlights of your personal historical watersheds as a renowned playwright, cultural ambassador and film director?

I want to rest now. I have done enough. I watched 'orisa ibeji' a play of mine on celluloid. I want to take a bow and enjoy. When I won the Nigerian prize for literature, I was very excited. it was something big for me. I now sit on the advisory

board and it is fun for me. I just want to enjoy and thank RUN for giving me the peace to write. I always thank and pray for Daddy G.O and Mummy G.O for giving us this space to function well. We are the only faith-based private university that has a theatre arts department. I asked Daddy G.O why they created this department and he said he was looking at Drama as a tool for instruction. That's why we invite Mike Bamiloye here.

He is not writing the 'preachy-preachy' kind of plays. I love one of his plays so much that I have seen it over ten times and I still don't remember the title erm please remind me...yes, Abejoye! "Mike Bamiloye is giving me more courage to write my plays. My new Play is 'Kaaku Laye'. A pastor that wants to be King but does not want to go through the formal traditional rites. Mike brings our reality as a society. My play reminds me of the New *Soun of Ogbomosh* who is an RCCG pastor.

From the boardroom to the classroom, how were you able to transition in taking a new role after your retirement from the Federal Civil Service as Director-General of one of the

parastatals to become a scholar and a leading professor in your field?

I was focused and never gave up. "I was at ABU when I got the appointment. I faced my work. I took up a teaching job at the University of Lagos. After seven years, the University in Nasarawa told me to come and be a visiting professor. I didn't go as just a DG; I went through several experiences as a technical person with vast knowledge. While on the job, I built a very robust CV. So as a practical person, it was easy for me to blend."

There is a side that people do not know about which is that you carry royalty. What does it entail to manage royalty with being a leading professor in the field of Theatre Arts?

Although a prince, I transferred my royalty into my plays. I write about Kings. I write my fear about being a King in a character of my plays. RUN took away that paraphernalia because we are all equal. I took away that aspect of my life because we are all leveled in this environment. You must be humble because humility is the first thing for Christ. I never thought of royalty.

Photos Speak from the Vice-Chancellor's Surprise Birthday Celebration



RUNCEDS HOLDS 'TRAIN THE TRAINERS' PROGRAMME

The Redeemer's University Centre for Entrepreneurial Development Studies, popularly known as RUNCEDS, has successfully churned out proficient entrepreneurs in her just concluded 'Train the Trainers' programme.

The trainees who participated in the training had their crafts displayed in the exhibition recently held at the University's auditorium.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Adebola Adebileje, graced the occasion and the trainees presented some of their crafts to the amiable DVC. She said that the exhibition is a reasonable means to showcase what the most recent trainees learnt over a short period at the Centre.

The RUNCEDS Director, Dr. Olufemi Omoyele, assured everyone that there would be a 'Learn a Skill' programme during the first week of the 2022/2023 session.

He said he hopes to introduce freshers to this entrepreneurial scheme and further sensitise the community members on the need for multiple income streams in this era.



RUNCEDS' Team with the participants (Baking/Pastries) at the Maiden Workshop: Train the Trainer held recently



The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof. (Mrs.) A. O. Adebileje and RUNCEDS Director, Dr. O. Omoyele (left) while examining a product during the exhibition



Photos Speak from RUNGEDS' EXHIBITION



Candidates while writing the first 2022/2023 Post UTME computer-based exam in Redeemer's University, Ede, recently



Deputy Director, Strategic Communication, Redeemer's University, Pastor Oluseyi Alakija (centre), during the interactive session with the parents and guardians of prospective admission seekers into Redeemer's University, Ede



The Registrar, Mr Olukayode Akindele (left) while presenting the University's souvenir to the Director-General of Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria (FRIN), Professor Adesola Adepoju at the headquarters in Ibadan, Oyo State recently



Group photograph of the crew after the presentation of Twingle Twangle (A Twinning Tale) by Department of Theatre Arts



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