REMARKS
OF THE
VICE-CHANCELLOR,
PROFESSOR RAHAMON A. BELLO, FAEng.
AT THE DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC LECTURE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIOLOGY, FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES IN CONJUNCTION
WITH THE CENTRE FOR BLACK AND AFRICAN ARTS AND
CIVILIZATION (CBAAC) ON THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2013

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic & Research), Professor Babajide Alo, FAS;
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Management Services), Professor Duro Oni;
The Registrar, Oluwarotimi O.A. Shodimu, Esq;
The Bursar, Mr. Lateef .A. Odekunle;
The Librarian, Dr (Mrs) Olukemi Adebimpe Fadehan;
The Chairman of today’s Lecture, High Chief Edem Duke;
The Distinguished Guest Lecturer, Professor Abdul Karim Bangura;
The Dean of Faculty of Social Sciences, Professor Omololu Soyombo;
Deans of other Faculties here present;
Director-General, Centre for Black and African Arts and Civilization (CBAAC), Professor Tunde Babawale;
Directors, Heads of Departments/Units here present;
Our Dear Staff and Students;
Ladies and Gentlemen;
Distinguished Gentlemen of the Press;
It is with great pleasure and honour that I welcome you all to the Distinguished Public Lecture of the Department of Sociology of our great University- the University of First Choice and The Nation’s Pride, in conjunction with the Centre for Black and African Arts and Civilization (CBAAC) under the leadership of one of our distinguished Professors on loan to the Federal Government, Professor Tunde Babawale.

Today’s lecture entitled “The Democratic Project and The Human Condition Across the African Continent” is one of the Lecture Series often organized by the Department of Sociology on a regular basis to underscore the position of our University as a front runner committed to keeping the torchlight of intellectualism alive. These Lectures attract individuals of very giant status, cerebral substance and international acclaim, within and outside the shore of the University environment, to share their experiences and knowledge as well as witness and add colour to what we are doing in this University. A look around the venue of today’s lecture will confirm this assertion.

I like to specifically welcome to today’s lecture: the Honourable Minister for Tourism, Culture and National Orientation, High Chief Edem Duke, the Guest Lecturer Professor Abdul Karim Bangura; and other key participants here.

This lecture is also special in the sense that it seems that the Department of Sociology and CBAAC in an act of being proactive, peered into the future and foresaw which seed shall grow and which seed shall not, and keyed into the spirit of the moment to choose, not only the timing of this occasion, but also the theme of discourse. The African continents blackguarded with all forms of unfavourable human conditions as a result of the failure or inadequacies of the democratic practices across the continents. Thus a discourse like this will bring to the fore, necessary antidotes to improve the qualities of human life in the continent.

As I whole-heartedly congratulate the Sociology Department and CBAAC once more for characteristically spear-heading an occasion of this type, I have full confidence
that the distinguished lecturer, Professor Abdul Karim Bangura, shall put us through a memorable illuminating lecture, on this subject.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, you are warmly welcome to this occasion and I thank you for your kind attention.

Professor Rahamon A. Bello, FAEng.
Vice-Chancellor
University of Lagos

Thursday, June 20, 2013