

UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS, NIGERIA



**WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR,
PROFESSOR RAHAMON A. BELLO, FNSChE, FNSE,
FAEng ON THE OCCASION OF THE FIRST ANNUAL
LECTURE OF THE PASTOR E.A. ADEBOYE
PROFESSORIAL CHAIR IN MATHEMATICS ON 19TH
FEBRUARY 2015**

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Research),
Professor Babajide Alo, FAS,

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Management Services),
Professor Duro Oni,

The Registrar and Secretary to Council, **Dr. (Mrs.)
Taiwo F. Ipaye, MNIM**

The Bursar, **Mr. Lateef Odekunle,**

The University Librarian, **Dr. (Mrs.) Olukemi A.
Fadehan,**

The Provost, College of Medicine, **Professor Folasade
T. Ogunsola,**

Deans of Faculties here present
Members of Senate here present
Directors and Heads of Departments here present
The General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian
Church of God, **Pastor Enoch Adejare Adeboye**
Members of the Board of Trustees, Pastor E.A. Adeboye
Professorial Chair in Mathematics here present
Members of the Redeemed Christian Church of God,
Apapa Family
Members of the University Community
Members of the Press
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the Council, Management, Senate, Staff and
Students of the University of Lagos, **The University of
First Choice and The Nation's Pride**, I warmly
welcome you all to this first (1st) Annual Lecture of the
Pastor E.A. Adeboye Professorial Chair in Mathematics.

I specially welcome the General Overseer of the
Redeemed Christian Church of God, Pastor E.A.
Adeboye, and appreciate his being physically present at

this first edition of the Annual Lecture of Mathematics in his name.

Let me also welcome the Leadership and members of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (Apapa family) who thought it fit to institute this Professorial Chair in honour of Pastor E.A. Adeboye, who himself had a distinguished career in Mathematics in this University before his calling.

Let me state here that out of all the endowed Chairs at this University, the Adeboye Chair in Mathematics is the only active endowed Chair currently. All others are either not funded or moribund. Hence, we cherish this Chair dearly.

The concept of endowing Chairs in an Institution like University of Lagos is aimed at developing and promoting academic excellence through devoted research opportunities. Opportunities offered by endowed Chairs enable adequate pursuit of specific

research agenda. These are what make universities elsewhere excel.

We use this opportunity to call on philanthropists and corporate organisations to contribute to academic excellence in Nigeria through sponsorship of research and endowment of academic Chairs. This is the only way the lost glory of our foremost institution can be redeemed and academics can be fully tasked.

The Pastor E.A. Adeboye Professorial Chair in Mathematics commenced with the official presentation of a **Fifty Million Naira (N50, 000,000.00)** cheque to the University of Lagos by the General Overseer, Pastor E.A. Adeboye at the Thanksgiving Service of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (Apapa Family) held to mark the conclusion of their Excel 2009 Conference tagged: *Impacting your world* at the Tafawa Balewa Square **on Sunday 31st May, 2009.**

The Board of Trustees of the Chair was inaugurated by the late Vice-Chancellor, Professor Adetokunbo Babatunde Sofoluwe on **Wednesday 28th April 2010** at our Senate Chamber. The Chair has since then progressed through several stages including the full constitution of the Board of Trustees, the registration of the Trust Deed with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) Abuja, and the recruitment of a seasoned and tireless researcher- Professor Samuel Segun Okoya to occupy the Chair. He assumed duty in the Department of Mathematics on the 29th of July 2013. Suffice to say that Professor Okoya's specialisation is Applied Mathematics, which was Pastor Adeboye's area of specialisation in Mathematics as well.

Since his assumption of duty, Professor Okoya has contributed immensely to the continued progress of the Department of Mathematics. Some of his contributions include the following:

1. Supervision of various M.Sc and PGD projects.
2. Giving of a Departmental Seminar titled “Mathematical Description of Thermal Explosion” on April 3, 2014.
3. Teaching of MAT 813 (Ordinary Differential) Equation in the first semester of 2013/2014. It is noteworthy that MAT 813 is a course that the Department of Mathematics had not offered for a while prior to the assumption of duty of Professor Okoya.

Apart from this, Professor Okoya made a strong and commendable contribution to the presentation made by the Department of Mathematics, to the Council of the Nigerian Mathematical Society (NMS) in preparation for the 2015 hosting of the Nigerian Mathematical Society (NMS) Annual Conference.

History is being made today, as our erudite scholar is delivering the 1st Annual Lecture of the Pastor E.A. Adeboye Professorial Chair in Mathematics. At this

junction, I hereby enjoin you all to listen attentively to the lecture titled “The Relevance of Mathematics to Everyday Living” which I believe will be an additional contribution to the field of Mathematics, not only in Nigeria but worldwide.

Thank you and God bless you all.

Professor Rahamon A. Bello, *FAEng*

Vice-Chancellor, University of Lagos, Nigeria.

Thursday, February 19, 2015