

UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS, NIGERIA



**WELCOME ADDRESS OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROFESSOR RAHAMON A. BELLO, *FAEng*
AT THE 2013 FIRST NIGERIAN NATIONAL MERIT AWARD (NNMA) WINNERS' LECTURE ON
WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2013 IN THE MAIN AUDITORIUM, MAIN CAMPUS, AKOKA**

Governor of Lagos State and Special Guest of Honour, **Mr. Babatunde Raji Fashola, *SAN***

Secretary to the Government of the Federation and Guest of Honour, **Senator (Dr.) Anyim Pius Anyim *GCON***

Royal Father of the Day, the Oba of Lagos, **His Royal Majesty, Oba Rilwan Akiolu 1, *CFR***

Chairman of the NNMA Governing Board and Chairman of Today's occasion, **Professor Oluwafeyisola S. Adegoke *PhD, DSc (Hon), FNMGS, FAS, NNOM,***

Today's Lecturer, Vice Chancellor Emeritus, Kogi State University, Anyigba and Professor of Agricultural Economics, University of Ibadan, **Professor F. S. Idachaba, *NNOM, DSc (Honoris causa), FAAAAE, OFR***

Members of the NNMA Governing Board,

Principal Officers of the University of Lagos,

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

Gentlemen of the Press,

It is my honour and privilege to welcome you all to the University of Lagos, Nigeria's University of First Choice and the Nation's Pride for the 2013 First Nigerian National Merit Award (NNMA) Winners' Lecture.

The University of Lagos is proud to be associated with the Nigerian National Merit Award which is synonymous with rewarding intellectual, academic and professional excellence in Nigeria. The University is particularly always glad to be host for the NNMA Award Winners' Lectures, organized to create and foster intellectual discourse and exchange of ideas.

I recall with satisfaction that three of our members of staff have been great recipients of this Award in recent past, including our 9th Vice-Chancellor, Professor Tolu Odugbemi.

Let me assure you that the University of Lagos remains committed to providing the right environment for the promotion of scholarship and other academic excellence that would lead to the rapid socio-economic development of our society.

Today's Lecture entitled: **Nigerian Agricultural Policy Analysis and Advocacy – is the Path to Implementation Linear? What I have learned** would be delivered by an academic giant, a Vice Chancellor Emeritus, Kogi State University, Anyigba and a Professor of Agricultural Economics, **Professor F. S. Idachaba**, *NNOM, DSc (Honoris causa), FAAAAE, OFR*. It is my belief that today's lecture will broaden our horizon and help chart a positive course for us all.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, this is not supposed to be a parallel lecture as I know that you all are anxious to listen to the Professor Idachaba. I can assure you that we are all in for a tremendous literary treat, I urge you to sit back and enjoy the Lecture.

I thank you for your kind attention.

Professor Rahamon A. Bello FAEng

Vice-Chancellor, University of Lagos

Wednesday, May 8, 2013