

A



HISTORICAL JUBILEE

A History of the Department of History
and Strategic Studies, University of Lagos,
1965 - 2015

EDITED BY
OLUFUNKE ADEBOYE
& IRENE OSEMEKA

© 2015, Olufunke Adeboye, Irene Osemeka and Department of History & Strategic Studies, University of Lagos

Published by
Department of History and Strategic Studies,
University of Lagos, Akoka
Lagos, Nigeria

First published September 2015

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced or stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the copyright owners.

National Library of Nigeria Cataloguing in Bibliographic Data

Adeboye, O. and Osemeka, I. / *A Historical Jubilee: A History of the Department of History and Strategic Studies, University of Lagos, 1965-2015*

ISBN 978-34902-2-2

Printed in Nigeria

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface

iii

SECTION ONE: GENERAL OVERVIEW

Department of History and Strategic Studies, 1965 – 2015: An Overview

Irene Osemeka

1

SECTION TWO: REMINISCENCES

The Power Pendulum: Reminiscences about the Department of History at Fifty

T.G.O. Gbadamosi

26

Reminiscences of a Past Head of Department

A. I. Asiwaju

35

My March through the History and Strategic Studies Department of the University of Lagos

Akinjide Osuntokun

39

My Tenure as Head of Department, 2001 – 2004

Ayodeji Olukoju

43

My Footprints as a Head of Department

A. A. Lawal

47

Reminiscences as Head of Department

O. A. Akinyeye

50

Reflections on the Department of History, University of Lagos

Rufus Taiwo Akinyele

53

The Journey so Far: My Experience as Head of Department

Olufunke Adeboye

57

Appendix I

60

Appendix II

63

PREFACE

The idea behind this book is to document the key moments in the history of the department. The book is divided into two sections. In the first section, Irene Osemeka provides a general overview of the birth and gradual growth of the department, highlighting the principal actors, key developments and achievements made in the course of fifty years. The second section is a collection of reminiscences by past Heads of Department. These personal recollections are frank, sometimes humorous and easy to read. We have deliberately kept the tone of the book light and reduced references to make it readable and commend it to readers even outside the ivory tower. We added two appendices to show the list of staff that have taught in the Department since its inception and also to display the wide array of subjects researched by our PhD candidates.

We thank our founding fathers in the department, especially Professor T. G. O. Gbadamosi, a pioneer staff since 1965, for finding time to document his recollections for inclusion in this volume. We also thank our Emeritus Professors, viz, Professor A. I. Asiwaju and Jide Osuntokun for responding to our "Call for Recollections". We thank Professors A. O. Olukoju, A. A. Lawal, O. A. Akinyeye, and R. T. Akinyele for turning in their stories promptly.

We acknowledge the grant given the Department by the University of Lagos to support the 50th Anniversary Conference. To Mr. Henry Nmose who worked on the manuscript day and night, we say a big thank you. We also appreciate the efforts of Dr. David Aworawo

who read portions of the draft and gave suggestions on how to improve them. Last but not the least, we appreciate the 'legwork' of both Ariyo Aboyade and Abimbola Oyarinu.

Olufunke Adeboye and Irene Osemeka

Department of History and Strategic Studies

University of Lagos

September 2015