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Special Release

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OBITUARY

EMERITUS PROFESSOR Victor Adenuga OYENUGA (April 09, 1917 – April 10, 2010)

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Olufemi A. Bamiro, FNSE, FAS announces the transition of Emeritus Professor Victor Adenuga Oyenuga, which occurred on Saturday, 10 April, 2010.

Emeritus Professor Victor Adenuga Oyenuga was born on Saturday 09 April, 1917 in Isonyin via Ijebu-Ode in Ogun State, Nigeria. His father, the late Prince Thomas Oyenuga, Son of His Highness, the late Ajalorun of Ijebu-Ife was an artistic tailor with ingenuity for embroidery and beads. His mother Matilda Oyenuga was a Princess of Ikija, Ijebu, royal family. The young Victor was raised by his brother, the late Alfred Oyenuga, who later became Ajalorun of Ijebu-Ife.

Professor Oyenuga attended Emmanuel School Ado-Ekiti (1930-32), Ekiti Central School (now Christ School Ado-Ekiti. (1933), Emmanuel School, Isonyin, (March-June, 1930) and Wasimi African Church School, Ijebu-Ode (1934). He however could not complete a formal secondary school programme due to a consistent transfer of his late brother Alfred, a Police Officer. He had to teach after his primary education for a while before studying as a private candidate for London Matriculation Examination which he cleared with distinction. He proceeded to Durham University, Kings College, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, England (1945 to 1951) where he was the first African student. He passed the B.Sc. Degree in Agriculture, specializing in Agricultural Chemistry with honours in 1948. He capped this degree in Agriculture with a B.Sc. (Hons) Nutrition (first position in class) second class upper division at the same University in 1949. He also bagged a Ph.D in Agricultural Biochemistry and Nutrition from Durham University in the year 1951. In 1978, this same University at Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, England, awarded him a D.Sc. degree based on his outstanding publications in reputable journals. Emeritus Professor Oyenuga had several additional educational and professional qualifications, such as D.Sc (Honoris Causa) University of Ife (Now Obafemi Awolowo University) 1977; D.Sc. (Honoris Causa) Ogun State University, 1996, and Certificate of Recognition of Courses in Agricultural Extension, University of Wageningen, The Netherlands, 1953. He was a fellow of 16 professional bodies within and outside Nigeria-Association of the Royal Institute of Chemistry (ARIC) London, 1953; Royal Institute of Chemistry (FRIC), 1959; Royal Society of Chemists (FRSC) London, 1959; Academy of Science (FAS), Nigeria, 1977; Nigerian Institute of Food Science and Technology, (FNIFST) First Recipient 1978; Nigerian Society for Animal Production (FNSAP) First Recipient, 1987; Nutrition Society of Nigeria (FNSN) First Recipient, 1988 and African Academy of Science (FAAS), 1993.

Professor Emeritus Oyenuga was a member of 41 learned societies, and, in most cases, a pioneer member. He was the first President, Nigerian Academy of Science (1977-79); First President, Agricultural Society of Nigeria, 1962-64 and First Chairman, Nigeria Council for Science and Technology, Lagos, 1970-74. He was a member of 23 International Commissions such as Nutrition Education and Training 1966-69; Animals of Agricultural Importance 1969-82; Scientific Council for

Africa 1962-63, 1972-74; Council, International Society for Research and Vial Substances, Hanover, Germany 1969-82

Papa Oyenuga was appointed a Lecturer in Animal Nutrition, University of Ibadan 1951-58; Senior Lecturer 1958-61; Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Chemistry and Soil Science, 1966-77; Head Department of Animal Science, 1966-77; Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Sciences, 1966-1969; Deputy Vice-Chancellor 1972-76 and Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, University of Port-Harcourt, 1992-93.

He retired voluntarily in October, 1979.

He was appointed the first Emeritus Professor of the University of Ibadan by the University Council in 1980. In fact, he was the first Nigerian/African lecturer and Professor of Agriculture at the University of Ibadan. He bagged the National Honour, CFR, in 2008.

As an educator, he made leading and notable contributions to the growth and development of scientific, agricultural and economic areas of Nigeria, particularly University of Ibadan over a period of thirty years. May His Soul Rest In Perfect Peace, Amen.

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