

FEC Approves ₦2b to Complete UniMaid Perimetre Fencing — VC pays thank you visit to HME



Mal. Adamu welcoming the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Ibrahim Abubakar Njodi, who presented a portrait to appreciate the minister. First left is Perm. Secretary, Arch. Sunday Echono

The University of Maiduguri, led by its Vice Chancellor, Professor Ibrahim Abubakar Njodi last Friday, paid an appreciation visit to the

Honourable Minister of Education, Malam Adamu Adamu over the approval of two billion Naira by the Federal Executive Council (FEC) to complete the perimeter fencing

of the entire campus to fortify the institution against Boko Haram attacks.

Speaking during the visit, the Vice Chancellor said that the

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university was encouraged by the approval to continue delivering on its mandate despite, the challenge from Boko Haram.

Prof. Njodi said that “ I am here with a high level delegation to formally express our appreciation to you for your support to the university during our most difficult times. We are here to specially thank you and through you, the Federal Executive Council for graciously approving enormous funds for the fortification of the university, following persistent attacks by suspected Boko Haram insurgents, which led to the loss of lives and property and inflicted injuries on some staff and students.”

He said their joy knew no bounds, over the positive consideration of their plight at the highest level of government, which informed their decision to visit the minister. “We found it extremely important to come and express our gratitude to you and your staff for your support and encouragement.”

He appealed to the Honourable Minister to initiate the processes for the release of the approved funds.

Responding, the Honourable Minister thanked the University for the visit and assured that it was his responsibility as the representative of government in the sector to ensure the security



Mal. Adamu Adamu
Minister of Education

of lives and property which, he said was the primary objective of government.

Malam Adamu said that the funds alone would not guarantee the security without the judicious application and vigilance of the security operatives. He therefore expressed the hope that the

funds, when released, would help in improving the security situation in the institution.

The Minister commended the courage and resilience of the entire staff of the university who in spite of the challenges did not consider the option of leaving to safer places and said government would continue to strive to surmount all security challenges to ensure that the nation’s higher institutions were safe for learning.

Malam Adamu advocated for the teaching and preaching of Islam by only accredited scholars who would not propagate negative ideas in the name of Islam, adding that the simple fact that someone spoke Arabic and was a preacher could not qualify them as Islamic scholars, adding that not all preachers were sound scholars. He said that it was necessary to guard Islam from



L-R: Mal. Adamu, Prof. Njodi and Chairman, Tetfund Governing Board,
Mr. Chukwemeka Nwajuba



fake teachers who would abuse the religion by teaching false doctrines.

He assured the University that the processes for the release of the funds would commence as soon as possible.

The delegation comprised top Management staff of the university.



Mal. Adamu (6th right), Perm. Sec. Arch. Sunday Echono (3rd right) and Nwajuba in a group photograph with UNIMAID Management

Veritas Varsity Holds 6th Convocation Ceremony

... Awards Automatic Master Programme to First Class Graduates

Veritas University, Abuja (VUNA) has rewarded students who graduated with a first-class automatic scholarship to undertake a Master degree programme in any field of their choice in the institution.

The Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Michael Kwanashie, disclosed this recently in his Convocation Address at the 10th Anniversary and 6th Convocation Ceremonies, held at the University's Main Auditorium. He said the decision was approved by the stakeholders of the university.

Professor Kwanashie said that VUNA was not only keen about

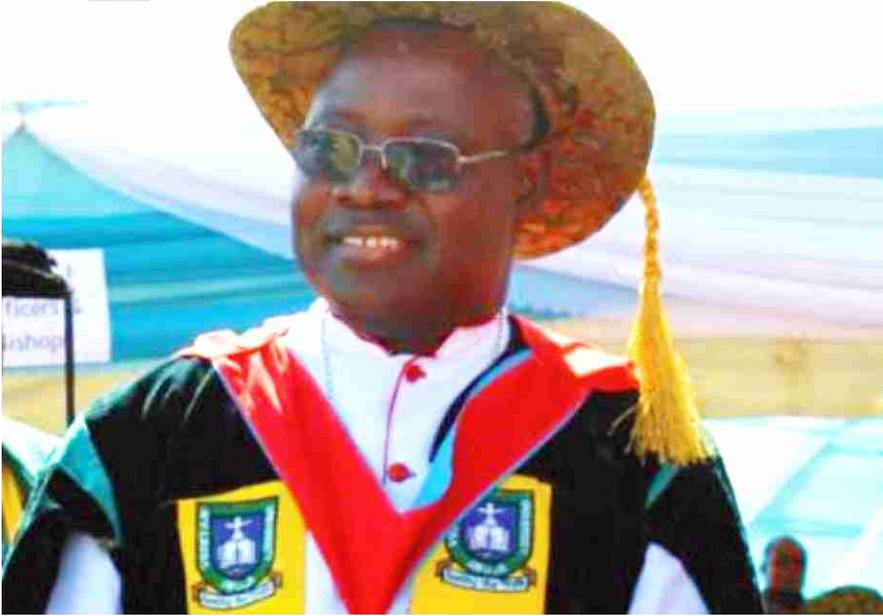


His Eminence Cardinal John Onaiyekan,
Chancellor and Catholic Arch-Bishop of Abuja

success in studies but making an impact in society via discipline,

moral standard and spirituality. He also noted that some of the





Most. Rev. Ignatius A. Kaigama
Pro-Chancellor Arch-Bishop of Jos and President of CBCN

students, who made first class, included Reverend Sisters who had the passion to study. The University, he said, was committed to ensuring that it was recognised among the best universities in the world while striving to maintain relevance in the Catholic Church.

The Vice-Chancellor also said that from 2018, Veritas University would commence postgraduate programmes in departments that were academically ready and not because the school wanted to. According to him, "I am sure and confident that we will not fall short after every scrutiny from the education bodies that may come to investigate our processes."

In his Goodwill Message, the Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission (NUC), Professor Abubakar Rasheed, Mni, MFR, FNAL, said that the Commission would

continue to partner with the University to execute notable projects that would promote standard in education. The Executive Secretary, represented by the NUC Director, Management Support Services, Barr Victor Onuoha, however, urged the graduates to strive to be employers of labour. Professor Rasheed also urged the university to identify and proffer solutions to challenges in the community.

In his speech, the Chancellor and Catholic Arch-Bishop of Abuja, His Eminence Cardinal John Onaiyekan, noted with delight that, the mustard seed which was sown some few years back had yielded a big tree that was providing intellectual shade and sanctuary for many. He expressed profound gratitude to the proprietor of the University, the Catholic Bishops Conference of Nigeria (CBCN) for remaining steadfast and committed to building the

Catholic University of Nigeria, in spite of other competing demands which they all faced in their domain.

The Chancellor lauded the efforts of the Professor Kwanashie-led Management for taking the University to a higher pedestal despite the odds facing them. He singled out the Senate for expanding the academic offerings and the commencement of postgraduate programmes as well as the recent launch of the University's Centre for Peace and Development, stressing that it was signs of greater things to come.

While congratulating the proud graduands of Veritas University, Cardinal Onaiyekan charged them to be good ambassadors of their alma mater. He reminded them that education was not an end but a means, adding philosophically that, it was not filling of a bucket but the enkindling of a fire. He asked them to think about what to bring to the society to make their mark in order to grow and develop the society, explaining that these were the knowledge, skills and attitudes which they had acquired during their training. He challenged them to go and be the agents of change in the society to which they had been properly educated while at Veritas.

Addressing the Convocation, the Visitor, Arch-Bishop of Jos and President of CBCN, Most. Rev. Ignatius A. Kaigama appreciated the past and present Management as well as staff and students of the Institution for bringing it to its





present level, since May 2007, when it was given license by the NUC. He charged them to remain focused, committed and to see VUNA as a family.

The Visitor also noted with delight that the Institution had continued to expand in terms of facilities, programmes and student enrolment. This commendable expansion, he said, would continue so as to meet the needs and yearnings of the Church and the Nigerian people. He also said that the University would continue to pursue collaboration with other Catholic universities in Africa and other parts of the world, explaining that such linkages were important in the advancement of truth in the expanding world of global connectedness.

Most Rev. Kaigama congratulated the University management for heeding his call for the establishment of a Centre for Peace and Development, expressing the hope that the Centre would be at the forefront in conflict resolution and peace building processes not only in Nigeria, but beyond. "The evil of violent conflict is clearly avoidable if there is an early response mechanism put in place by the relevant governmental and non-governmental organisations, he said."

According to him, Nigerians must realise that the project of ensuring peace and development in the country is their project and duty, especially now that the nation is currently bedeviled by armed herdsmen, hate speeches, Boko Haram, militants,



Rep. of the ES, NUC, Barr. Victor Onouha and the Vice-Chancellor, Veritas University, Professor Michael Kwanashie

kidnappers, and those who employ violence as a way of attracting attention to their cause. To address other prevailing challenges in Nigeria and the world at large, the Visitor charged the University's Management to further explore and consider the establishment of two other Centres for Human Settlement Studies and Disaster Preparedness and Reduction respectively, which were actually contained in its Academic Brief.

He acknowledged the participation and generosity of the Catholic Laity in some projects in the University and called on all materially endowed men and women to join in creating a brighter future for the youths through what VUNA intends to offer Nigeria.

He thanked especially the Federal Ministry of Education, NUC, the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB), the Federal Government through the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) and others for the support given to the Institution as well as the Zuma

and Gaba Communities for being good hosts to the University.

More than 50 students from the school's College of Education, Management Sciences, Natural and Applied Science, Post Graduate Studies and others graduated from the university.

Among the graduates, 12 sisters from Veritas University cohort one (entered in October 2014) graduated with Bachelor's Degrees in various fields. Two sisters from the first Master's cohort that entered in October 2016, graduated with Master's degrees in English and Literary Studies. Eight of the 12 Sisters bagged First Class, while one of the sisters, Sr. Lois Moses, SSL, received three awards, including: Vice Chancellor's Award for Overall Best Graduating Student, with the best CGPA of 4.79; Head of Department Award, for best graduating student in educational foundation as well as the College of Education Award.





Flashback

Study Tour of Egyptian University System

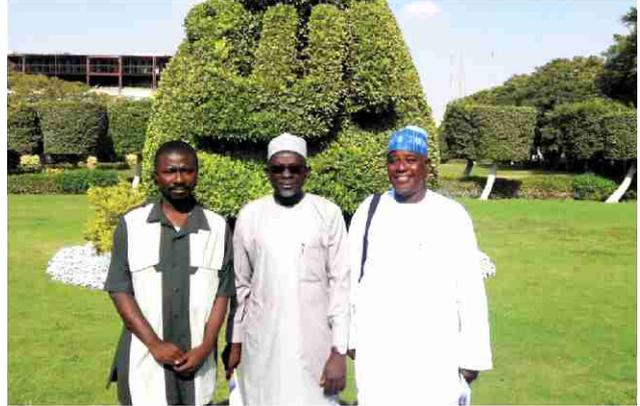
Last week we published some photographs of four out the nine universities visited.

Following are some more photographs from three more universities

October 6 University, Cairo (Private University)



DES, Mal. I.I. Dan'iya with the V.C. October 6 University, Cairo,
Prof. Ahmed Attia Saeda



At a garden inside October 6 University, campus



L-R: Dean of Student Affairs, Prof. Ibrahim Muhammad; VC, Prof. Saeda; Mal. Dan'iya; Education Affairs Officer, Nigerian Embassy, Cairo



Group photo with some Nigerian Students, Dean of College of Health Science (4th left), at October 6 University





Flashback

Mansoura University (Public University)



VC, Mansoura University, Mohamed Elkenawy; DES, Mal. I.I. Dan'iya and Prof. Ibrahim, BUK



Meeting with officials at Mansoura University



VC, Mansoura University with the NUC delegation



Dr. Adesina standing in front of the administrative block of Mansoura University



Mal. Ibrahim receiving a souvenir from the Vice Chancellor



Reception of Mansoura University Admin block



Flashback

Mansoura University (Public University)



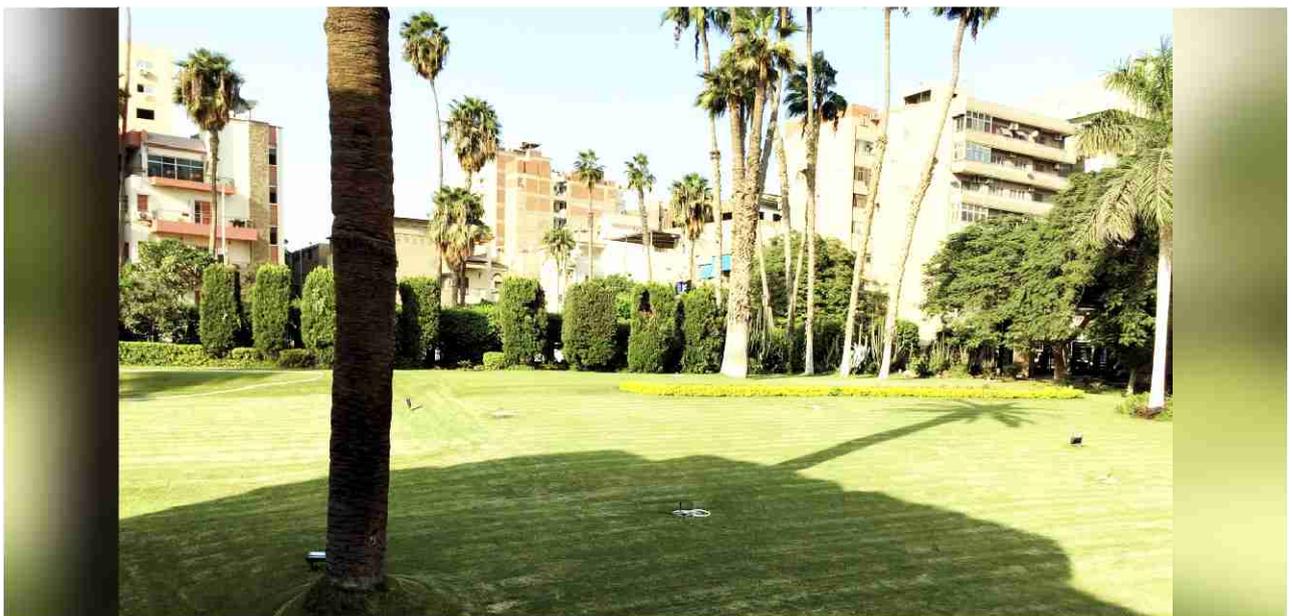
Mansoura University Urology and Nephrology Centre



Group photo with some Nigerian students and staff of the University



A section of Mansoura University

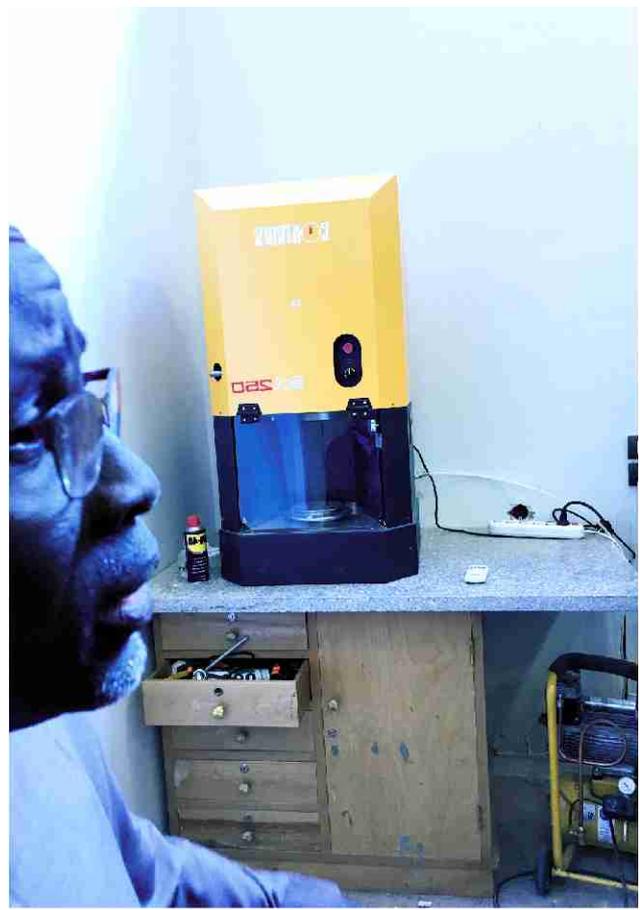


Mansoura University Teaching Hospital



Flashback

Mansoura University (Public University)



State of the Art Engineering equipment at Mansoura University



Some of the NUC team members with some members of the Mansoura University Management



Flashback

Ain Shams (Public University)



Entrance to the VC's office



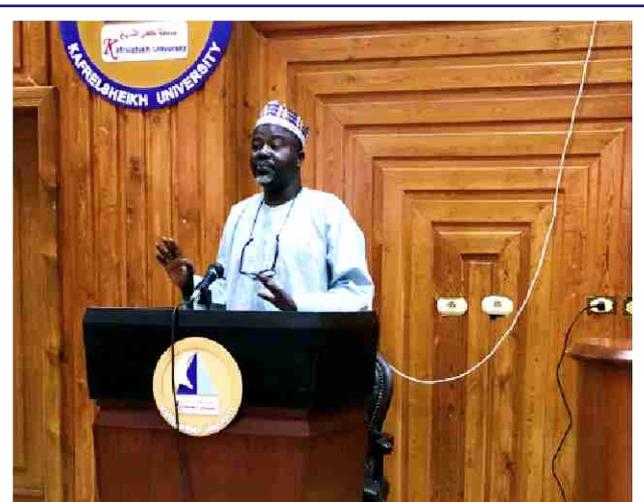
Ain Shams VC Office



The NUC team in front of the Dentistry Department of Ain Shams



Faculty of Dentistry AIN Shams University, Al Waily at Giza



DCC, Ibrahim Usman Yakasai delivering vote of thanks at Kafrelsheikh University, Egypt