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Special Release

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OBITUARY

LATE PROFESSOR BABATUNDE O. OSOTIMEHIN, OON

(1949 – 2017)

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Abel Idowu Olayinka, FAS, announces the transition to glory of Professor Babatunde Osotimehin, OON, former Head, Department of Chemical Pathology and former Provost of the College of Medicine. The sad event occurred on 05 June, 2017.

Born on 06 February, 1949 in Ijebu-Ode, Ogun State, Late Professor Osotimehin attended Igbobi College. He, thereafter, proceeded to the University of Ibadan, graduating with a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) degree in 1972. He also had a Doctorate degree in Medicine (M.D.) from the University of Birmingham, United Kingdom in 1978.

Late Professor Osotimehin started his career in the University as Lecturer 1 in the Department of Chemical Pathology in 1978. He rose through the ranks to become Professor in 1988. Professor Osotimehin served the University in various capacities; He was Head, Department of Chemical Pathology, College of Medicine between 1986 and 1990 and Provost, College of Medicine between 1990 – 1994.

Apart from being a distinguished medical doctor and teacher, Professor Osotimehin also made significant contributions at home and in the international community. He was the Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) for two terms; Minister of Health, Federal Republic of Nigeria; Director-General of the Nigerian National Agency for the Control of AIDS; Chairman, National Action Committee on AIDS (NACA); Project Manager for the World-Bank assisted HIV/AIDS Programme Development Project; Chairman, Committee on Presidential Advisers of AIDS Watch African; Chairman, Project Governing Board Joint Regional HIV/AIDS Project in Abidjan-Lagos Transport Corridor 2003 – 2008; Vice President, 14th International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa (ICASA) 2005; Member, Policy and Strategic Committee of the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; African Spokesperson, Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health; Co-ordinator, the Social Sciences and Reproductive Health Research Network, Ibadan; Chair, World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on the Demographics Dividend; Co-chair, Family Planning 2020 Reference Group; Member, WHO Review Committee for the International Health Regulation 2010-2011 as well as Member, American Institute of Management and Population Association among others.

As a scholar, Late Professor Osotimehin belonged to several academic and professional bodies. He was Fellow, Royal College of Physicians (U.K.); Fellow in Endocrinology, Conell University Graduate School of Medicine, New York, USA; Distinguished Visitor, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Chicago, USA; Visiting Fellow, Harvard Centre for Population and Development Studies, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA; Fellow, Nigerian Academy of Science; Fellow, National Postgraduate College of Medicine and Pathology; Fellow, the West African College of Physicians (Laboratory Medicine); External Examiner to Universities at Postgraduate and Undergraduate levels; Editor-in-Chief to African Journal of Medicine and Medical Sciences and Editor to many Scientific Journals of International repute.

He served humanity by championing youth and female gender issues and reproductive health right-advocacy. He was a scholar, physician, pathologist, public health activist of local and international repute. He took his endocrinology base to the domain of public health internationally, championing the reproductive rights of the female gender and adolescent sexuality.

Late Professor Osotimehin was a recipient of the Nigerian National Honour of Officer of the Order of the Niger (OON). He had over 262 publications in peer reviewed journals.

He is survived by his wife 'Funke and five children: 'Jide, 'Lola, Taiwo, Kehinde and 'Tomi

Burial arrangements as announced by the family.

May his soul rest in peace.

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