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Special Release

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OBITUARY

PROFESSOR JOSEPH ADEGBOYEGA OLAJIDE MAGBAGBEOLA

(24 September, 1930 – 14 June, 2019)

Professor A.I. Olayinka, FAS, Vice Chancellor, University of Ibadan, Ibadan announces with deep regret, the transition of Professor Joseph Adegboyega Olajide Magbagbeola, retired Professor in the Department of Anaesthesia, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Medicine. The sad event took place on Friday, 14 June, 2019.

Late Professor Magbagbeola was born on the 24 September, 1930 to the Family of Magbagbeola of Abeokuta. He attended Igbobi College, Lagos. After a brief stint as a Court Clerk in Lagos, he proceeded to the United Kingdom and attended the University of Bristol between 1954 and 1959 for his M.B., Ch.B, degree.

He returned to Nigeria in 1960 and joined the services of the University College Hospital for Housemanship. He served as Senior House Officer/ Registrar in the Department of Anaesthesia UCH from June 1961 to 1963. With the aid of a scholarship from UCH, he proceeded to the University of Liverpool for post graduate Anaesthetic course under the tutelage of the famous Prof T.C. Gray. He returned to UCH in February 1966 and was appointed Senior Registrar in Anaesthesia.

He was appointed Lecturer 1 in the Department of Anaesthesia, University of Ibadan in May, 1967 and rose through the ranks to become a Professor on 01 October, 1974. He was Head of the Department of Anaesthesia from 1977 to 1980.

Late Professor Magbagbeola was very active throughout his career and made significant contributions to the field of Anaesthesia both locally and internationally. He was one of the pioneers in Anaesthesia and his research works included many original papers on drugs used in Anaesthesia and the development of new techniques such as epidural anaesthesia and novel airway techniques. He was passionate about pain management, the bedrock of Anaesthesia. He delivered the University of Ibadan inaugural lecture in 1976 entitled, “Pain, Agony and Triumph”.

Late Professor Magbagbeola was a diligent teacher and encouraged the training of medical specialists in Anaesthesia. He had numerous academic publications in learned journals in the fields of Anaesthesia and Critical care.

He retired from the services of the University of Ibadan in 1983 and as an outstanding professional and scholar, Professor Magbagbeola was recruited by the prestigious King Faisal University (KFU), Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as a Professor of Anaesthesiology between 1982 and 1994. He, however, continued to mentor the academic staff of the Department of Anaesthesia, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan from his post in Saudi Arabia. He maintained a warm relationship with the Department until his transition. He was the Chairman, Department of Anaesthesiology, King Faisal University Saudi Arabia and Chairman, Pain Clinic at the KFU teaching hospital between 1984 and 1992. He retired and returned to Nigeria in 1994.

Late Professor Magbagbeola was a member of many learned societies. He was the Vice-President, International Association for the Study of Pain: Member World Federation of Anaesthesiologists and Council, Member of the Society of Anaesthetists of West Africa.

He was on the Editorial Board of learned journals including Nigeria Medical Journal, West African Journal of Surgery and African Journal of Medicine and Medical Sciences.

Late Professor Magbagbeola was married with children. His hobbies included soccer and tennis, and in his adult life he was an avid snooker and billiards player.

He also enjoyed classical and country western music but his love for hymns grew much stronger in his later years.

May his gentle soul rest in peace.

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