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Special Release

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## OBITUARY

### **Professor Matthew Olufemi Kayode, *FNES* (04 September, 1939 – 10 August, 2020)**

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor A. I. Olayinka, *FAS*, announces with deep regret, the transition of Professor M. O. Kayode, a retired staff in the Department of Economics, Faculty of the Social Sciences, University of Ibadan. The event occurred on Monday 10 August, 2020.

Professor Matthew Olufemi Kayode was born on 04 September, 1939 to the family of late Pa Ezekiel Kayode Asala and late Mama Marion Ola Kayode in Egbe, Kogi State, Nigeria.

He had his primary education at the Sudan Interior Mission (SIM) now known as Evangelical Church Winning All (ECWA) Primary School, Egbe. He had his secondary education at the Provincial Secondary School (PSS), Okene, now known as Abdulazeez Attah Memorial College (AAMCO), Okene, where he was the goalkeeper of the unbeatable school football team and served as the Head Boy of the school in 1959. His fame as the school's most outstanding goalkeeper and highly amiable and respected Head boy lasted for many decades. After obtaining his Cambridge Secondary School Certificate in Okene in 1959, he along with 9 of his classmates and 5 students from some other secondary schools in Northern Nigeria were admitted to the prestigious King's College, Lagos, for their Cambridge Higher School Certificate (HSC) Programme. They were the first set of Northern Nigeria students to attend the HSC Programme in King's College. He completed the programme successfully and actually won the Economics in prizes in 1961.

He then proceeded to the premier University of Ibadan on a Northern Nigerian Government scholarship to study Economics from 1962 to 1965. He graduated in the Second Class Upper Honours Division in 1965. He registered for the postgraduate programme of the Department of Economics, University of Ibadan, immediately he graduated. However, he later suspended his postgraduate studies to pursue Postgraduate Degrees at the London School of Economics (LSE) and the Harvard Business School (HBS), Cambridge, MA. Thereafter, he resumed his postgraduate studies at the University of Ibadan and obtained a PhD degree in Economics from the University of Ibadan in 1972. He was the holder of the first Ph.D degree in Economics of the University of Ibadan and a Fellow of the Nigerian Economic Society (NES).

Late Professor Kayode meritoriously served the University for 35 years. He started his career in the University as an Assistant Lecturer in 1968, became a Senior Lecturer in 1975 and a full Professor in 1978 specialising in Business and Management Economics. He was the Head of Department during 1991-94 period. He was the Coordinator of the Planning Studies Programme, designed to apply the social sciences to Nigeria's development challenges, and Pioneer Director, Consultancy Services Unit, Coordinating Director, Centre for Resource Management and Consultancy (CEREMAC). He also served as the Chairman of the University of Ibadan Strategic Planning Committee.

Late Professor Kayode retired from the Department in 2004. In appreciation of his goodwill for growth of his department, Professor Kayode was honoured with the first ever Distinguished Service Fellowship award of the Department.

Late Professor Kayode was an active member of the Nigerian Economic Society (NES). He was the Business Manager and Editor respectively of the Nigerian Journal of Economic and Social Studies, President of the Nigerian Economic Society; Chairman of the Think Tank for Strategic Studies, National Raw Materials Development Council; Member Council of the Nigerian Association of Management Education and Training; and Member of the Technical Committee of the Vision 2010 project.

He was Consultant to various state and federal government ministries, departments and agencies, and served as Chairman or Member of: Kwara State Investment Company; Board of Directors, Trade Bank Plc; and Board of Directors, Central Bank of Nigeria. He was the Chairman, Foundation for Economics Education (FEE), an organisation established to serve as an implementing agency for the M.Sc. Economics Collaborative Degree Programme for Africa. Internationally, he served on the Advisory Board, African Economic Research Consortium, Nairobi, Kenya. He also carried out many consultancy assignments for The World Bank, The World Health Organisation (Africa Regional Office) and Techlink International Nairobi.

Late Professor Kayode had many publications to his credit including a dozen single or jointly-authored books, chapters in books, monographs, numerous journal articles, technical reports and papers presented at learned conferences.

He is survived by his two daughters Olufunlola and Olutomilola, and many grandchildren.

His body will be interred in his hometown in Egbe, Kogi State on Friday, 16 October, 2020.

May his soul rest in peace. Amen.

**[END]**