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## **THE SIGHT OF HOPE – A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR**

It is another Christmas season – a season of gifts and remembrances of the intervention of God in the affairs of the world. It is a season to rejoice over what we have, and be hopeful for what is yet to come.

However, in the current conditions of the world, the conditions of global economic turbulence, war and insecurity, and fractured social support networks, it is easy to lose sight of hope. This we must never do. Like the Magi, we must keep our eyes on the star, and never lose sight of it. Without Google maps, AI, or even paper maps, the Magi arrived their destination safely because they did not lose sight of the star.

As the University of Ibadan community, we have a lot to be thankful for this year: a peaceful academic year, progress with campus security, timely promotion of staff, and improved student welfare. We have marked the 75th anniversary of our university in a grand way. All this was possible because together we maintained focus on our vision and future.

With us working together, we have even a lot more to be hopeful for, and we will not lose focus of the star.

Yet, hope is not always a matter of what is to come; sometimes, hope is right here! The four ingredients of hope are: Patience, Courage, Persistence, and Perseverance. I could see all playing out.

Colleagues and friends, as we go about celebrating and rejoicing during this season, let us be resolute, attentive, and observant. There is usually that one person who has less than we do and with whom we can share a bit of what we have. Those who have are the hopes of such a person who does not have – present, tangible, concrete hope.

As we seek answers, may we also be answers.

I wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year in advance.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kayode Adebawale', written over a light blue horizontal line.

**Professor Kayode Adebawale, mni, FAS, fspsp**  
Vice-Chancellor