



4807

Special Release

06 September, 2024

OBITUARY

EMERITUS PROFESSOR SAMUEL KOLADE ADEYOJU (1935-2024)

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor K. O. Adebowale, mni, FAS, announces the transition of Emeritus Professor Samuel Kolade Adeyoju, a distinguished retired Professor of Forestry with specialization in Forestry Science at the Faculties of Agriculture and Renewable Natural Resources, University of Ibadan. He was aged 88 years.

Late Emeritus Professor Samuel Kolade Adeyoju was born on 09 September, 1935, in Ijan Ekiti, Ekiti State. He started his schooling at St. Paul's Anglican Primary School, Ijan Ekiti in 1942. He transferred to Ijan/Ilu-Omoba United Primary School in 1944 and completed his primary school education at Emmanuel School, Ado-Ekiti in 1949. He was a proud alumnus of Christ School, Ado Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria and obtained his PhD in Geography from the prestigious London School of Economics.

Late Emeritus Professor S. K. Adeyoju started his illustrious career in forestry after being recruited among the first set of indigenous academic staff at the old Department of Forestry, University of Ibadan, Nigeria in 1965. He was one of the pioneer members of staff recruited by the Food and Agriculture Organization, when the first degree-awarding Department of Forestry in Africa was established at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria in 1963. He assumed duty as a Training Fellow in 1966 and rose through the ranks to become the first Professor of Forestry in Africa in 1976.

Late Kolade Adeyoju was the first African Professor of Forestry and the first indigenous Head of Department of Forestry at the University of Ibadan. He also served as the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry. His seminal book, *Forestry and the Nigerian Economy* published in 1975 remains a major reference material in forestry science till date.

Late Professor S. K. Adeyoju was a dogged, fearless and courageous man, who believed that hard work and honesty were virtues required for achieving excellence. He worked tirelessly to place the forestry profession in Nigeria and Africa on the global map. He was

a teacher of teachers, a mentor of mentors, a bridge builder and quintessential academic. He was a man of excellence and became the first indigenous Head of Department (1971-1974; 1976-1979 and 1982-1986); in Nigeria's pioneer Department of Forestry at the University of Ibadan. He also became the first forester to become Dean of Agriculture and Forestry at University of Ibadan from 1986-1988.

Late Professor Emeritus S. K. Adeyoku helped to establish the forestry profession in many universities within and outside Nigeria. This erudite scholar received numerous awards and was a consultant to many national, regional and global organizations.

He initiated the process that led to the creation of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Management in 1981, after approval was received from the University of Ibadan Council in 1977, that the Faculty of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries be created. The approval became a reality in his lifetime, when the Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry was split into Faculty of Agriculture, and Faculty of Renewable Natural Resources in 2017.

Late Emeritus Professor Adeyoku was a legend in African forestry and he left his indelible mark on the progress and development of the University of Ibadan.

He is survived by his consort of many years, Dr. Adeola Adeyoku and two wonderful children, family, as well as many academic children, grandchildren and great grandchildren at University of Ibadan in Nigeria and around the world.

The University of Ibadan community is grateful to God for the impactful and inspiring life that he lived.

May his soul rest in peace.

The programme of events for his burial are as stated below:

- **Day of Tributes**
Monday, 09 September, 2024
Trenchard Hall, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
11.00 am
- **Service of Songs**
Monday, 09 September, 2024
Chapel of the Resurrection, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
4.00 pm
- **Lying in State**
Tuesday, 10 September, 2024
Trenchard Hall, University of Ibadan, Nigeria,
8.00 am

- **Commendation Service,**
Tuesday, 10 September, 2024
Chapel of the Resurrection, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
10.00 am

- **The body departs** for Ijan-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria

- **'Iwusi' Event**
Wednesday, 11 September, 2024
Ijan-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria

- **Service of Songs**
Thursday, 12 September, 2024
Anglican Church, Ijan-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria

- **Funeral Service and Thanksgiving**
Friday, 13 September, 2024
Ijan-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria
10.00 am

●●● END ●●●