

**UI loses former VC and legendary world-class scholar of history, Emeritus Prof. Tekena Tamuno**

**The Vce-Chancellor, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Prof. Isaac Folorunso Adewole, has formally announced with regret, the passing on of the University's former Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Tekena Nitonye Tamuno, OFR, FNAL, who died on [Saturday](#) at 83 years.**

**According to the VC, the news of the death of the foremost historian, consummate higher education administrator, public intellectual and former Vice-Chancellor, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Emeritus Prof. Tekena Nitonye Tamuno, OFR, came to the institution, Nigerians and the whole world as a rude shock.**

**He said Nigerians would really miss him, especially his immediate constituency-the academic community.**

**It is significant to note that "TNT" as he was fondly called, was the first alumnus of the University of Ibadan to become its Vice-Chancellor.**

**"The man, Emeritus Prof. Tamuno would continue to live in the memories of the University communities, where they had the benefit of his services as the Vice-Chancellor or Pro-Chancellor. especially at the University of Ibadan where he stood out for his effective leadership" , Prof. Adewole said.**

**Prof. Adewole stressed that Prof. Tamuno made giant strides in areas of infrastructure, staff development and academic empowerment during his tenure as the University's Vice-Chancellor in a statement by the Registrar and Secretary to the University's Governing Council, Mr. Olujimi Olukoya.**

**A brilliant scholar, renowned academic, world-class Professor of history, university administrator par excellence, visionary national planner and overall, a Nigerian who had indeed outstandingly contributed to the development of Nigeria, the VC said the University honoured him with the award of Doctor of Letters (D.Litt.) Honoris Causa at the institution's 2014 Convocation and 66th Foundation Day Ceremonies on 17 November, last year.**

Born on **January 28**, 1932, in Okrika, Rivers State, Late Prof. Tamuno studied History at the University of Ibadan from 1953 – 1958 before leaving the shores of Nigeria for further studies at the University of London and Columbia University. In 1963, he joined the Department of History at Ibadan where he rose to become a Professor in 1971.

In the University of Ibadan, his alma mater, Professor Tamuno served as Head of History Department, 1972 – 1975, Dean, Faculty of Arts, 1973 – 1975, Vice-Chancellor, 1975 – 1979.

In addition to his teaching and administrative career, Professor Tekena Tamuno was a distinguished scholar and author of international repute. Apart from numerous articles in high impact journals, especially in history and related disciplines, his major books included the following: *Nigeria and Elective Representation*; *The Evolution of the Nigerian State: The Southern Phase*; *Herbert Macaulay, Nigerian Patriot*; *Abebe: Portrait of a Nigerian Patriot*, among others.

Professor Tamuno was an accomplished academic and an edifice of knowledge; one who epitomized the capacity of the Ibadan alumnus to be among the best in the world in his chosen profession. A man of immense resourcefulness, he had trained and mentored generations of academics, administrators and industrialists who **today** occupy commanding heights in their respective careers. In wonderful ways, and on innumerable occasions, he projected the Ibadan image nationally and internationally. Until his death, he was an Emeritus Professor of History at the University of Ibadan.

Late Emeritus Professor Tamuno served as Chancellor, Redeemers University; Chairman of the Presidential Panel on National Security from **October 2001** to **December 2002** and Panel on Policing Nigeria Project from 2002 to 2003.

He was a recipient of the national honour of the Officer of the Federal Republic (OFR) and Fellow of the Nigerian Academy of Letters (FNAL).

**Tamuno and the famous Ibadan School of History ignited the fire of African historical scholarship, which keeps burning and very well. Tamuno's place in African historiography is cast in stone and it will always continue to be celebrated. He was a legend in African history. Prof. Adewole, on behalf of council, senate, congregation, management, staff and students of the University of Ibadan, Ibadan, condoled the family, friends and the academic family. according to him, "Emeritus Professor T.N. Tamuno has lived and done his best. He will forever live on in our memories. We pray his wonderful soul rests in perfect peace."**