DAY 3:

FRIDAY, 13 OCTOBER, 2026

ADDRESS BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR, PROFESSOR PETER OLAMAKINDE OLAPEGBA, C.Psych, FSSAN, FNPA, fspsp AT THE CONGREGATION ADMISSION TO FIRST DEGREES IN THE FACULTIES OF EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN ON FRIDAY, 13 NOVEMBER 2026

Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration)
Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic)
Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research, Innovation and Strategic Partnerships)
Registrar
Bursar
University Librarian
Provosts of the College of Medicine and of the Postgraduate College
Deans of Faculties and of Students
Directors of Institutes and Centers
Heads of Departments
Members of Senate
Members of Congregation
President and members of the Student Union Executive
Members of the Students' Representative Council
Our Honoured Graduands
Parents and Guardians of our Graduands
Gentlemen of the Press
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

It is with great honour, immense joy, gratitude and a profound sense of responsibility that I welcome you all to the University of Ibadan, the first and the best, on this memorable occasion of the 78th Convocation and Graduation Ceremony for the admission to First Degrees. Today is a significant milestone in the life of our University as we gather to celebrate the academic achievements, perseverance and determination of our graduands. This year's Convocation has a total of 6,025 graduands from all the Faculties including the Distance Learning Centre and Affiliated Institutions and today marks the graduation of students from the Faculties of Education and Environmental Design and Management with 60 students graduating with First Class (Honours) from the Faculty of Education and 6 from the Faculty of Environmental Design and Management.

On behalf of the Governing Council, Management, Senate and the entire University community, I extend my warmest congratulations to all our graduands. Your presence here today is a testament

to your commitment, resilience and hard work throughout your academic journey. You have every reason to be proud of this achievement.

To our parents, guardians, sponsors and families, we recognise and appreciate your sacrifices, encouragement and unwavering support. Your contributions have played an invaluable role in making this day a reality.

I also wish to express my sincere appreciation to members of staff, both academic and non-academic, whose dedication, professionalism and commitment have continued to sustain the academic research and administrative activities of this great institution. Your contributions to teaching, research, innovation and service remain central to the University's pursuit of excellence.

As we celebrate this milestone, I pay tribute to all former Principals of the University College, Ibadan, and former Vice-Chancellors whose vision and leadership shaped our legacy of excellence.

I specially commend my immediate predecessor, Professor Kayode Oyebode Adebowale, mni, FAS for his invaluable contributions to the University's infrastructure, research capacity, global visibility and international partnerships. We remain grateful for his dedicated service and enduring legacy.

The University's Commitment to Excellence

The University of Ibadan has remained in the forefront of academic excellence since its establishment in 1948, committed to providing quality education, advancing research, promoting innovation and producing graduates who can make meaningful contributions to society. We recognise that the role of a university extends beyond the award of certificates and degrees; it encompasses the development of critical thinking, integrity, creativity, leadership and the capacity to address the challenges facing our communities and the world at large. The University of Ibadan graduates have come to hold key positions everywhere across all human endeavours; in professions, such as Teaching, Medicine, Law, Technology, Law, Politics, Business, Corporate world and the Armed Forces to mention but a few.

The University of Ibadan has continued to strengthen its position on the global academic landscape, achieving remarkable results in this year's university rankings. The QS World University Rankings 2026 and the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2026 both recognised UI as the highest-ranked university in Nigeria. In addition, the U.S. News & World Report Best Global Universities Rankings placed the University fourth in Africa. These achievements underscore the quality of our academic programmes, the growing impact of our research, and our unwavering commitment to the pursuit of knowledge. They also reaffirm our determination to build on these successes, expand our international presence, and sustain the University of Ibadan's reputation as a foremost centre of academic excellence and innovation in Africa.

In pursuit of its objectives, the University will continue to work towards strengthening its academic programmes, improving its research and creating opportunities for collaboration, innovation and entrepreneurship. We remain mindful that institutional progress requires collective commitment, effective leadership, prudent resource management and the support of all stakeholders.

MY CHARGE TO THE GRADUANDS

Dear graduands, today marks the completion of one important chapter of your lives and the beginning of another. As you leave this institution, I encourage you to regard your certificates not merely as evidence of academic achievement but as a call to responsibility, service and continuous learning. The world you are entering presents both challenges and opportunities. You will encounter competition, uncertainty and situations that will test your character and determination. In such circumstances, let integrity be your guide, excellence your standard and service your motivation.

Be courageous in pursuing your aspirations but remain humble enough to learn from others. Be innovative in your thinking, responsible in your decisions and compassionate in your dealings with people. Remember that true success is not measured solely by personal accomplishments or material possessions, but also by the positive difference you make in the lives of others. I charge you to remain adaptable, embrace technology responsibly and seek opportunities to create value wherever you find yourselves. Whether you choose a career in public service, academia, business, entrepreneurship or any other field, strive to distinguish yourselves through competence, diligence and ethical conduct.

To our graduating students of the Faculty of Education, I charge you to see teaching not merely as a profession, but as a calling to shape minds, transform lives and build the future of our nation. Go forth with integrity, passion and a commitment to lifelong learning. Be innovative educators, inspiring mentors and worthy ambassadors of the University of Ibadan. Remember, the future of every nation rests, in no small measure, in the hands of its teachers. I wish you success as you take up this noble responsibility.

To our graduating students of the Faculty of Environmental Design and Management, I charge you to become visionary professionals who shape not only our physical environment but also the quality of human life. Let creativity inspire your designs, integrity guide your decisions, and sustainability inform your solutions. As you confront the challenges of urbanisation, climate change and sustainable development, dare to innovate, think boldly and build responsibly. Remember, the spaces we create today will shape the lives of generations tomorrow. Go forth and

leave an enduring mark on your communities, our nation and the world. Make the University of Ibadan proud!

APPRECIATION TO OUR STAKEHOLDERS

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, the progress of a university depends significantly on the collective efforts of its stakeholders. I therefore express my profound appreciation to the Governing Council for its guidance and support, the Management team for its cooperation, Senate for its academic leadership, and members of staff for their unwavering commitment.

I also acknowledge our alumni, development partners, government agencies, corporate organisations, friends of the University and other supporters whose contributions continue to strengthen our institutional capacity and broaden our opportunities. We look forward to sustaining these partnerships as we work together to advance the University's mission and contribute meaningfully to national and global development.

SUMMARY OF GRADUANDS FOR 2026 CONVOCATION CEREMONY
FIRST DEGREES

FACULTY	**1ST Class Honours**	**2nd Class Honours (Upper Division)**	**2nd Class Honours (Lower Division)**	**3rd Class Honours**	**Pass**	**Unclassified**	***Total***
ARTS	75	271	226	11	-	-	*582*
SCIENCE	68	114	224	70	-	-	*476*
BASIC MEDICAL SCIENCES	4	22	70	12	-	-	*108*
CLINICAL SCIENCES	19	48	23	1	-	42	*133*
AGRICULTURE	33	65	120	22	-	-	*240*
SOCIAL SCIENCES	30	86	118	9	-	-	*243*
EDUCATION	60	203	247	20	-	-	*530*
VETERINARY MEDICINE (DVM)	-	-	-	-	-	54	*54*
TECHNOLOGY	69	107	141	26	-	-	*343*

PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCE	-	-	-	-	-	88	*88*
LAW	56	76	18	-	-	-	*150*
PUBLIC HEALTH	7	31	42	1	-	8	*81*
DENTISTRY					-	9	*9*
ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES	12	31	28	03	01	-	*75*
RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCES	15	56	59	6	-	1	*137*
ENVIROMENTAL DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT	6	19	13		-	-	*38*

DISTANCE LEARNING CENTRE	19	204	723	257	11	-	*1906*
AFFILIATED INSTITUTIONS	36	237	529	57	-	-	*859*
GRAND TOTAL							***6025***

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, in an increasingly competitive and rapidly changing world, it is with great pleasure that I inform you that members of staff and students of the University have continued to evolve, strengthen research, teaching and learning processes.

I have the pleasure to report some of the achievements:

Faculty of Education

- Emeritus Professor J. A. Akinpelu was post humously inducted into the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame (ACEHOF)
- Construction of Safety and Security post at the entrance of the Faculty.
- Installation of Close Circuit Television (CCTV) to complement and provide real time support for the Safety and Security unit.
- Facilitating of Research Collaboration by Memorandum of Understanding with Pennsylvania State University.

Department of Arts and Social Sciences

- Israel Bolarinwa and Mayowa Adekola both students of the Arts and Social Sciences Department in the Faculty of Education came first position in the Independent National

Electoral Commission campus debate and emerged as representatives of the University and the South West, Nigeria at the national competition at Abuja in September, 2026.

Department of Adult Education

- The UNITWIN/UNESCO Chair 2026 was awarded to two Nigerians both from the University of Ibadan. Professor Omobolanle Omoyeni Adelore of the Department of Adult Education was one of the awardees. She is UNESCO Chairholder in Intergenerational Learning and African Values.

Department of Counselling and Human Development Studies

- Professor Amos Oyesoji Aremu has been appointed as External Examiner to the University of Education, Winneba, Ghana for the 2026/2027 and 2027/2028 academic sessions.

Department of Science and Technology Education

- **Empowered School Proprietors and Key Education Stakeholders** through a high-impact professional development workshop designed specifically for educator in Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Agricultural Science, Basic Science, and Computer Science on 4th August, 2026
- **Hosted a Landmark International Conference** on *Artificial Intelligence and Innovation in Education*, attracting global scholars to the Faculty of Education on 3rd - 6th August, 2026 at the Faculty of Education, University of Ibadan, Ibadan.
- **Celebrated Dr. Tomi Ogundipe**, who was among the winners of this year's Fafunwa Educational Foundation Postdoctoral Award in Education.

Department of Guidance and Counselling

- The floor housing the Department in the new building has been shaped to reflect professionalism of counselling.
- The 2024/2025 convocated set of the PhD students donated a giant flat screen television to the Department to make final oral defence seamless and to add value to the departmental office
- The 2024/2025 Masters in Education graduating set donated a giant industrial printer to the Department.
- A 15KVA solar inverter has been installed in the department, and it serves all offices on the counselling floor in the new faculty building to enhance the discharge of duties with ease.

Department of Estate Management

- **First Position in National Quiz Competition organised by the Estate Surveyors and Valuers Registration Board of Nigeria (ESVARBON)**
  The Department achieved a remarkable feat by emerging victorious in the 50th Anniversary National Quiz Competition organised by the Estate Surveyors and Valuers Registration

Board of Nigeria (ESVARBON) opened to all Universities, Polytechnics, and Colleges of Technologies Offering Estate Management in the country and two of our students, **UMOH Daramfon Ini and ANI, John Godwin** represented our Department on behalf of the University of Ibadan.

The Department was presented with **Certificate, Plaque as well as a cash prize of N500,000.00 (Five Hundred Thousand Naira)** for its achievement.

- **Delivery of Valedictory Speech by a Student of the Department at the 2025 Convocation Ceremony**

  Another remarkable achievement was the selection of the best graduating student from the Department of Estate Management, **AJANI Omolara Christiana** to deliver the Valedictory Speech at the last (2025) University's Convocation ceremony
- **Commencement of Master of Science (M.Sc.) Estate Management Programme**

  The Department attained another academic milestone with the commencement of its first postgraduate programme – Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Estate Management in the ongoing 2025/2026 academic session.
- **Upgrade of Three Staff Members to Fellowship Cadre of the Nigerian Institution of Estate Surveyors and Valuers**

  Three (3) members of academic staff of the Department were upgraded to the Fellowship Cadre of the Nigerian Institution of Estate Surveyors and Valuers in January, 2026.

Conclusion

To our graduands, congratulations once again. May the knowledge you have acquired, the relationships you have built and the experiences you have gained during your time in this University serve as a strong foundation for a fulfilling and productive future. As ambassadors of this University, your conduct and achievements will contribute to the reputation of the institution that has helped shape your intellectual, personal development and character, I pray the Almighty God grant you speed for greater accomplishment in life. Amen.

Please, never forget to give back to your alma mater as the Lord gives you grace. I wish you success in all your legitimate endeavours and trust that you will continue to make the University proud.

To our teachers, parents, guardians and relations, I say thank you for your support, advice and for honouring us with your presence at this important occasion. Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, may God Almighty grant you all journey mercies back to your various destinations.

Long live our graduands.

Long live the University of Ibadan.

Long live the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

Professor Pete. O. Olapegba, C.Psych, FSSAN, FNPA, fspsp
Vice-Chancellor