

*19<sup>th</sup> Matriculation Ceremony, Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2020*



# **NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA**

19<sup>th</sup> Matriculation Ceremony

2020 Academic Year

Saturday, 13th June, 2020

Programme of Events

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The 78 Study Centres across Nigeria

**Our Vision**

To be regarded as the foremost University providing highly accessible and enhanced quality education anchored by social justice, equity, equality and national cohesion through a comprehensive reach that transcends all barriers.

**Our Mission**

To provide functional, cost effective, flexible learning which adds lifelong value to quality education for all who seek knowledge.

## **THE NATIONAL ANTHEM**

1. Arise, O compatriots,  
Nigeria's call obey.  
To serve our father land,  
With love and strength and faith.  
The labour of our heroes past  
Shall never be in vain,  
To serve with heart and might  
One nation bound in freedom,  
Peace and unity.

2. O God of creation,  
Direct our noble cause  
Guide thou our leaders right;  
Help our youth the truth to know  
In love and honesty to grow  
And living just and true  
Great lofty heights attain  
To build a nation where peace  
And justice shall reign.

## **NATIONAL PLEDGE**

I pledge to Nigeria my country  
To be faithful, loyal and honest  
To serve Nigeria with all my strength  
To defend her unity  
And uphold his honour and glory  
So help me God.

**NOUN ANTHEM**

National Open University of Nigeria  
Determined to be the foremost  
University in Nigeria  
Providing highly accessible and  
enhanced quality education  
Anchored by social justice, equity,  
equality and national cohesion

**Refrain:**

Come to N O U N  
For quality, cost effective  
and flexible learning  
That adds life-long value,  
For all who yearn  
For quality education  
and for all who  
seek knowledge.



## UNIVERSITY LOGO

It is open at the top indicating the philosophy and significance of Open Learning at the University.

It carries the National Emblem to confirm that it is a national institution. Placed conspicuously at the Centre of the Logo is an open book representing the flexible nature of Open and Distance Learning institutions regardless of time, place, pace and medium of instruction. The Green and White colours are national colours while the Red colour which carries the name of the University underscores the distinctiveness of the institution in Nigeria.

## UNIVERSITY MOTTO

Work and Learn

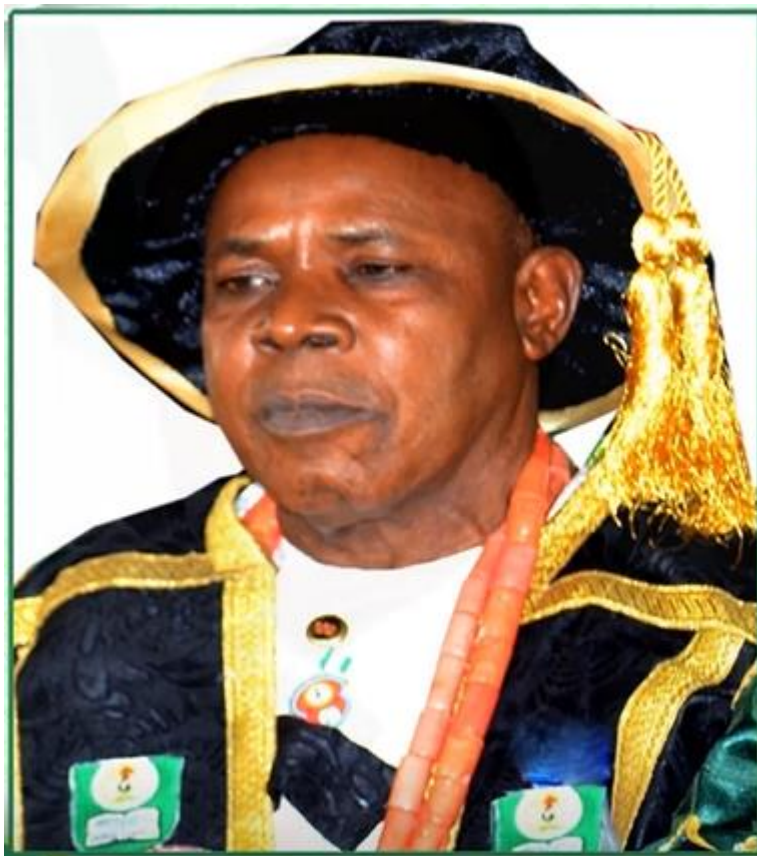
The Motto, *Work and Learn*, emphasises the difference between conventional and Open and Distance Learning institutions.



**Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR  
President, Federal Republic of Nigeria**



**Mallam Adamu Adamu**  
*Honourable Minister for Education*



**His Royal Highness**  
***IGWE AMB. LAWRENCE CHIKEZIE***  
***OKOLIO AGUBUZU KSM,CON***  
***Ogbu Nechendu Ezema of Olo Kingdom***  
  
***CHANCELLOR***





**Professor Peter Okebukola, OFR**  
*Pro- Chancellor and Chairman, Governing Council*



**Professor Abdalla Uba Adamu**  
*Vice-Chancellor*



## VICE-CHANCELLOR'S ADDRESS

### NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA

#### SPEECH OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA (NOUN), PROFESSOR ABDALLA UBA ADAMU, DURING THE 19<sup>TH</sup> MATRICULATION CEREMONY HELD ON 13<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2020

#### Protocols

I am sure the short video clip of our main campus in Jabi, Abuja, shown before we start has whetted your appetite to be part of the biggest ODL institution in Africa.

It is therefore with utmost joy that I welcome the new set of students who have enrolled into the National Open University of Nigeria for their academic journey. This is a historical Matriculation in many ways.

**First**, it is the first **Virtual Matriculation** this university is holding – the first of its kind in its history connecting over 15,000 students all over Nigeria in various places. No university matches this feat. We can afford to do this because we are revolutionary, not evolutionary, and we are not bound by space and time as traditional universities are. We are simply asking you to do what you will be doing for the next four years – having a flexible, affordable, accessible learning at your place, at your pace.

It is also the first in which you swear the oath in your own normal clothing and at your homes, without the pomp and pageantry associated with these activities. It shows NOUN's adaptability to situations. Regrettably there would

be no immediate photo opportunities but arrangement has been put in place for you to collect academic gowns as the lock down order is eased.

**Second**, this is the first time I am personally addressing, all the Matriculating students nationwide, as in the past it was done by the study Center Directors. However, due to the current Covid-19 Pandemic lockdown and closure of all educational establishments by the Federal Government of Nigeria since March 2020, it has not been possible to do this at the Centers. We are hopeful that the Nigerian Correctional Service will make it possible for our brothers and sisters in Correctional Centers to participate in this ceremony for the first time since this is beamed live on the Internet.

**Third**, it is my **last Matriculation** address as the Vice-Chancellor of NOUN. My tenure ends on 10th February 2021, and with the necessity of adjusting calendars, it is likely that the next Matriculation will be under another Vice-Chancellor. I am therefore extremely delighted to be part of this history of National Open University of Nigeria.

The NOUN family into which you are being inducted today is the largest student family not only in Nigeria but also in the whole of Africa. There is a total of 580,000 students spread from Abia to Zamfara in NOUN. Let me explain further that of these students, we have two categories: all those that enrolled (580,000) and those who are ready on their own to take examinations (over 100,000 each semester). This shows the flexibility of the University – **you learn at any place, and at your pace**. When you feel you are ready for exams, you register and take the exams. No pressure, no *wahala* (trouble).

Your school mates and classmates therefore come from all the states of the Federation. Like you, they will be undertaking their studies in any of the study Center of our University, including Correctional Service Centers for incarcerated individuals. We are the only University in Nigeria to provide this opportunity

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We are living in a strange time given the current COVID-19 Pandemic ravaging the entire globe, which in Nigeria started in February 2020. Your matriculation into the prestigious NOUN academic family has made you a participant in the global search for knowledge. You must bear in mind, at all times, that the purpose of education which you pursue is not only for your self-development but also for the advancement of your nation, and the world. Thus, the world's hope of eradicating future deadly diseases like we are witnessing today sits on your shoulders. You must not let us down. I charge you, therefore, to make the best from your studies. See whatever challenges that may come your way in the course of doing this as a building block. One block at a time, and you will erect a mansion. You are in the best situation to do this, because your learning is powered by your personal desire to learn. Many students enter higher institutions to become educated so that they can get jobs. But many of you already have jobs and occupations, and want to better yourself in your own way. This makes NOUN students superior to any.

In NOUN, our vision is to become the foremost University in Nigeria. The hope of achieving this lies on you, the students of the university. Consequently, we have a standing commitment to provide you with the most exciting experience any university can offer in this part of the globe. Now technology has become a commodity, we have optimised our online facilitation exercise such that interested students can easily interact directly with their lecturers. We are the only University in this country with a full Directorate of Learning Content Management System (DLCMS) that will gradually transit into fully online university as allowed by the Law establishing the University. We have equally ensured the integrity of all the programs of the university by ensuring that all of them are fully accredited by the National Universities Commission. Our programs, quality assurance and delivery mechanisms are therefore more solid than that of many conventional universities who kept coming to us to see how we work this technological magic. We are also strong members of international network of Distance Learning agencies, including Commonwealth of Learning (COL), International Council of Distance Education (ICDE), African Council for Distance Education (ACDE) and others.

Thus, the National Open University of Nigeria is a unique university. As such you must bear in mind that our responsibility is more about providing you the

best condition for learning. To make the best of your NOUN experience, discipline is key. You must be able to regulate yourself in your studies and in your habits. NOUN is not a resident university, you are, as a result of this, immune from all the anomalies, like cultism, sexual harassment and other vices. I want to meet you in the next four years, during your graduation, when if God wills, I will be in the audience as a Guest, not as a Vice-Chancellor, full of knowledge and ready to take on the world as a result of your studentship in NOUN, and proudly watch you graduate with flying colors as simply the best of the best.

Congratulations!

Prof. Dr. Abdalla Uba Adamu ([www.auadamu.com](http://www.auadamu.com))

Vice-Chancellor, NOUN

**VISITOR**

**His Excellency, MUHAMMADU BUHARI, GCFR**  
**President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces,**  
**Federal Republic of Nigeria**

**CHANCELLOR**

**His Royal Highness, Igwe Ambassador Lawrence Chikezie Okolio Agubuzu, CON, KSM**  
*Ogbu Nechendu Ezema of Olo Kingdom*

**PRO-CHANCELLOR**

Professor Peter Okebukola, OFR

**PRINCIPAL OFFICERS**

**Vice-Chancellor**

Professor Abdalla Uba Adamu

**Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)**

Professor Uduma Oji Uduma

**Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration)**

Professor Justus A. Sokefun

**Registrar**

Mr. Felix I. Edoaka MNIM, MAUA, KSM

**Bursar**

Mr. Ernest Odeigah

**Librarian**

Dr. Adam G. Saleh

**DEANS**

**Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies (SPGS)**

Professor Mande Samaila

**Dean, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences**

Professor Isaac S. Butswat

**Dean, Faculty of Arts**

Professor Doris L. Obieje

**Dean, Faculty of Education**

Professor Uchenna S. Osuji

**Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences**

Professor Grace C. Okoli-Nnabuenyi

**Dean, Faculty of Law**

Dr. Adakole E. Odike

**Dean, Faculty of Management Sciences**

Dr. Samson B. Osoba

**Dean, Faculty of Sciences**

Professor Monioluwa Olaniyi

**Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences**

Dr. Ganiyat Adeshina-Uthman



**DIRECTORS**

**Academic Planning**

Professor Nebath Tanglang

**Learner Support Services (LSS)**

Professor Gregory O. Okagbare

**Regional Training and Research Institute for Distance and Open Learning  
(RETRIDOL)**

Professor Patrick E. Eya

**Centre for Human Resources Development (CHRD)**

Professor Grace E. Jokthan

**Examinations and Assessments**

Professor Godwin I. Akper

**Olusegun Obasanjo Centre for African Studies**

Professor Stanley N. Ngoa

**Student Industrial Work and Experience Scheme (SIWES)**

Professor Sam O. Smah

**Research, Administration and Advancement**

Professor Chiedu F. Mafiana

**Centre of Excellence in Migration and Global Studies (CEMGS)**

Professor Hakeem-Ibikunle-Tijani

**Academic Registry**

Temitayo R. Olowola (Ms.)

**Human Resources**

Mr. John J. Ubaji

**Information and Communication Technology (ICT)**

Dr. Madu B. Galadima

**Management Information System (MIS)**

Dr. Muhtar H. Alhassan

**Media & Publicity**

Mal. Ibrahim Sheme

**Physical Development, Works and Services**

Arc. Abubakar Y. Alfa

**Staff Training & Development**

Mrs. Margaret I. Boro

**Bursary**

Mr. Funsho B. Odebode

**Centre for Entrepreneurship and General Studies**

Dr. Juliet Inegbedion

**Learning Content Management System**

Dr. Adewale O. Adesina

## **ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS**

**11.00am** - Arrival of Matriculating Students and their Guests

**11.05am** - All Matriculating Students and Guests to be seated

**11.10am** - Entry of the Vice-Chancellor's Procession into the Arena  
(All Stand)

**11.15am** - National Anthem  
NOUN Anthem

**11.20am - Opening of Matriculation Ceremony**

**The Registrar rises, doffs his cap and says:**

“The Vice-Chancellor, Deans and Directors, Staff and the Matriculating Students of the National Open University of Nigeria, Ladies and Gentlemen, I humbly invite the Vice-Chancellor to declare the matriculation ceremony open”

**The Registrar Resumes His Seat.**

The Vice-Chancellor rises, doffs his cap and says:

“Deans and Directors, Staff and the Matriculating Students of the National Open University of Nigeria, Ladies and Gentlemen; by the authority conferred on me by the Senate of the National Open University of Nigeria, I now declare the **19<sup>th</sup> Matriculation Ceremony of the National Open University of Nigeria** open”

**11.25am - The Vice-Chancellor's Address:**

**The Registrar Rises, Doffs His Cap and Says:**

“Deans and Directors, Staff and the Matriculating Students of the National Open University of Nigeria, Ladies and Gentlemen; it is my pleasure to invite the Vice-Chancellor to give his Matriculation Address”

**The Registrar Resumes His Seat.**

**11.40am - The Matriculation Oath**

**The Registrar Rises, Doffs His Cap and Says:**

“Will the matriculating students please stand”

*“I hereby administer the Oath on matriculating students here present and those who are unavoidably absent for whom I stand proxy”.*

The Registrar then administers the Oath on the students by reading the Oath in sequence and the students repeat after the Registrar.

**The Registrar and the Students Resume their Seats.**

**11.50am - Signing of the Matriculation Oath Forms**

The students while sitting sign the Matriculation Oath Forms

**Collection of the Matriculation Oath Forms**

Officers of the Study Centre are to collect the duly endorsed Matriculation Oath Forms from the students after the lockdown.

**11.52am - Closing of the Matriculation Ceremony**

**The Registrar Rises, Doffs His Cap and Says:**

“The Vice-Chancellor, Deans and Directors, Staff and the Matriculating Students of the National Open University of Nigeria, Ladies and Gentlemen; it is my pleasure to invite the Vice-Chancellor to declare the matriculation ceremony closed”

**The Registrar Resumes His Seat.**

**The Vice-Chancellor Rises, Doffs His Cap and Says:**

“Deans and Directors, Staff and the Matriculating Students of the National Open University of Nigeria, invited Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen; by the authority conferred on me by the Senate of the National Open University of Nigeria, I declare the ceremony closed”

**Vice-Chancellor Resumes His Seat.**

**11.55am - The NOUN Anthem**

**The National Anthem**

**12.00pm - Exit of the Vice-Chancellor’s Procession from the Arena**

(All stand)

The Vice-Chancellor’s procession will leave the arena in reverse order.