

AN ADDRESS DELIVERED BY HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR
OF OSUN STATE, PRINCE OLAGUNSOYE OYINLOLA, AT THE
COMMISSIONING OF THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
BUILDING AND EXPERIMENTAL FARM OF EJIGBO CAMPUS OF
THE OSUN STATE UNIVERSITY HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8TH
OCTOBER, 2008.

Her Excellency, the Deputy Governor of Osun State,

Hon. Speaker, Osun State House of Assembly,

My Lord, the Chief Judge of Osun State and the President of the State
Customary Court of Appeal,

Kabiyesis,

Parliamentarians in attendance,

The Secretary to the State Government,

Chief of Staff to the Governor,

Head of Service,

Members of the State Executive Council and Special Advisers,

Chairmen of Statutory Commissions,

The Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council and other members of the
Governing Council of UNIOSUN,

The Vice-Chancellor and other Principal Officers of Osun State University,

My Lords Spiritual and Temporal,

Permanent Secretaries, Executive Assistants and Heads of Non-Ministerial Agencies,

Chairmen of Local Governments,

Senior Government Functionaries,

Distinguished Guests,

Gentlemen of the Press,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Precisely on 30th June and 31st July 2008, we had gathered together at the Osogbo and Okuku Campuses of Osun State University respectively to commission some completed projects; Central Administration and College Buildings as well as other facilities of Osun State University. During the ceremonies, I informed our people that it would soon be the turn of other campuses of the University to witness similar events. I give glory to the Almighty God that He has made it possible for us to gather here today at Ejigbo to commission the College of Agriculture Building and the University Experimental Farm for teaching and research.

The efforts to develop infrastructure and facilities that would match our dream of building a model University at the earliest possible time have continued. Government is therefore committing enormous resources that would enable the University to build permanent structures that would stand the test of time. Our developmental strategy is working as we commit ourselves to

building our communities and impacting their economies through the development of campuses of our University in different parts of the state, in most cases, through developing absolutely virgin lands as we have here today.

I have already pointed out that fanciful structures are not all that are required to produce world class graduates. As such, we will remain committed to properly equipping these structures with the most modern teaching and learning facilities that would compete favourably with other universities in other countries of the world. We know that the challenges are enormous and the costs are high but we are prepared to make the investments for the sake of the future of our younger generation in this country.

You will all agree with me that the time in which we are now demand new thinking and new ways of doing things. Thus, conscious and determined efforts must be made to explore and exploit new ways of doing things to get new results that will justify the huge investments being made as we seek to make a difference in the educational landscape of this country.

I like to enjoin members of the Council and the Management of the University not to rest on their oars as we look to more years of purposeful leadership that will guarantee the development of UNIOSUN to the standards of our hearts' desire and the legacy of our dream that we can proudly bequeath to those coming behind.

In establishing Osun State University, Government was not interested in building just another university. The programmes of the University must be

adding quality to what is already available in the country. Thus, in relation to the College of Agriculture whose main building is being commissioned today, it behoves the authorities of the University to evolve agricultural programmes and services that are consciously targeted at boosting the capacity and efforts of farmers in Osun State in particular and Nigeria in general, with a view to making Osun State the food basket of the nation. I also expect the academic staff of the College to engage in rigorous research into agricultural development issues that will contribute to global efforts in tackling the world food crisis.

I must challenge all stakeholders to partake in this legacy construction efforts by having all hands on deck with the conviction that in future, when we look back, we would be able to appreciate our contributions to the training and development of the lives of the young ones that would pass through the four walls of this institution. The task of building the University would be made easier if we all join hands to do it. I want you as individuals, organisations, communities and groups to take a look at the needs of the University and see where you can complement the efforts of the Government. The kind of tomorrow we expect can only come when we put in the right and matching efforts today.

In conclusion, I congratulate the authorities of Osun State University for another feat that has been achieved in the institution's journey to attaining excellence. I wish you the very best as you march forward.

Thank you all and God bless.