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**R**ev. Elijah Olorunsogo Ajayi's pedigree transcends his exalted office as the University Bursar until few days ago when he retired. Ajayi is a man of many parts. A clergy in the vineyard of God, a reputable Accountant and Chairman, Abeokuta District of the Institute of Chartered Accountant of Nigeria (ICAN).

From UAC to Ogun-Oshun River Basin Development Authority (OORBDA) and later to UNAAB, the professional life of Rev. Ajayi reads like a literary masterpiece – "The Rise and Rise of An Enigma".

Rev. Ajayi examined the University's financial situation in the face of economic meltdown and declared, "Economic meltdown is hardly affecting UNAAB". He spoke on other issues in a chat with UNM crew of Kola Adepoju, Stella Kayode, Ajayi Saba, James Oyelakin and Ope Ilori.

#### His Birth and Rise

I was born in 1950 in Abeokuta, which means I'm 60 this year. I went to Baptist Boys High School (BBHS), Abeokuta. After secondary education, I worked with John Holt. I later moved to Government Coastal Agency. Thereafter, I moved to National Bank of Nigeria. I was there till 1972. Travelled out to United Kingdom to study Accounting at the Institute of Cost and Management Accounts, where I spent 18 months and became qualified in 1975 as a Chartered Accountant. On getting back to Nigeria, I was employed at Palm-Line Agency which is a division of UAC and later moved to UAC Foods. In 1982, I became Senior Accountant (Commercial). In 1985, I became Divisional Commercial Director. I bowed out in 1990 from UAC. In 1997, I was appointed as the Acting Executive Director (Finance and Administration) at Ogun-Oshun River Basin Development Authority while in November 2000, I was appointed as the Bursar of this University.

#### Core Challenges

The challenges were numerous. When I became the Bursar, we were under the Federal Ministry of Agriculture. It was later they moved us to the Federal Ministry of Education. At the Federal Ministry of Education, they were giving us N216,000 as monthly allocation and our recurrent expenditures and overhead cost was over 1 million naira. This means that we had to look for other means of generating fund. It was during one of our meetings that I suggested that there was need for us to increase our own fees, most especially, that of pre-degree students when compared to higher fees being charged by other schools. There was a consensus then and it was implemented. As a matter of fact we had to write to the Government for approval that our hostel fees of Ninety Naira (N90) should be increased because of the fact that there is need for us to fuel our generators, pay water bills and so on. Thanks to the incumbent Vice-Chancellor, Prof. O. O. Balogun who has been working round the clock to ensure that we do not experience any financial meltdown. With the zeal of Prof. Balogun, we have been building Laboratories, Lecture Halls, offices and other developmental structures.

#### Economic Meltdown and UNAAB

Economic Meltdown is a global phenomenon, and in Nigeria, the fact still remains that we need to go back to farming, we should not rely solely on Petroleum. My prayer is that by the time we are true with



Rev. Elijah Ajayi

## 'Economic Meltdown Has Not Really Affected UNAAB'

### Rev. Ajayi

global economic meltdown there will be no mass retrenchment. **The global economic meltdown has not really affected us as a University and this is due to the fact that the Vice-Chancellor, who is a visionary leader sat with us sometimes last year to prepare this year's budget with a bid to increase our student's population in order to generate more revenue and need to increase the number of staff, both Academic and Non-teaching so as to cater for the proposed increased number of students we are expecting.** To God be the glory, the Federal Ministry of Education approved it. Also, the Federal Ministry of Finance also made sure that it paid the personnel cost to Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Federal Government as and when due, which has helped us a lot.

#### Memory Lane

The day I will never forget was the day I was locked out of the Main Gate of the University by the former Acting Vice-Chancellor. He did not allow me to enter the campus to perform my duties as the Bursar for that day. What happened was that I gave a financial advice that will better the lot of the university and the Acting Vice-Chancellor misunderstood me. The fact is that if anything happened in terms of finance, the onus is on me. It took the intervention of the then Governing Council Chairman who instructed the Acting Vice-Chancellor to release me. I will not forget that day because many of the staff thought that I embezzled the University's money, which was not true.

#### Legacy

I want to be remembered for being modest. Another thing is that it is during my tenure that the Bursary was computerized. Also, during my time, there was relative peace.

#### All Work But No Play

I unwind by reading christian literatures, going to farm to do some planting and harvesting by myself because I have interest in farming, apart from this office life. 🍅



# Echoes Of The 26th/27th Inaugural Lectures

By Kola Adepoju, Stella Kayode and Kehinde Akiode



A cross-section of Deans and other senior academic staff

**J**ulius Amiobi Okojie (JAO) Lecture Theatre III is very imposing and sprawling. More importantly, it is a beautiful sight to behold giving its architectural masterpiece, especially in the University community.

JAO III, as it's popularly called, is no doubt, a popular venue and destination of choice for the hosting of big events in the community. The Lecture Theatre moments of enviable engagement were presented with the hosting of the 26th and 27th Inaugural Lectures delivered by the Dean of the College of Animal Science and Livestock Production (COLANIM), Prof. (Mrs.) Daisy Erubetine and Professor Samuel Adejuyigbe of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Administrator, Works and Services Department, respectively.

Professor Erubetine who took the audience spellbound lectured on "Revolutionising the Feed Industry for Increased Poultry Production" while Professor Adejuyigbe thrilled the audience with the topic titled "Manufacturing and Computer-Aided Engineering: A Panacea for Wealth Creation".

The two Lectures were well attended by the University's Principal Officers, led by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Oluwafemi Olaiya Balogun, juggernauts in the academia, both from within and outside, family members, relations and friends.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Oluwafemi Olaiya Balogun in a warm handshake with Prof. (Mrs.) Daisy Erubetine and Prof. Samuel Adejuyigbe, the 26th and 27th Inaugural Lecturers respectively



Prof.(Mrs.) Erubetine delivering the 26th Inaugural Lecture of the university

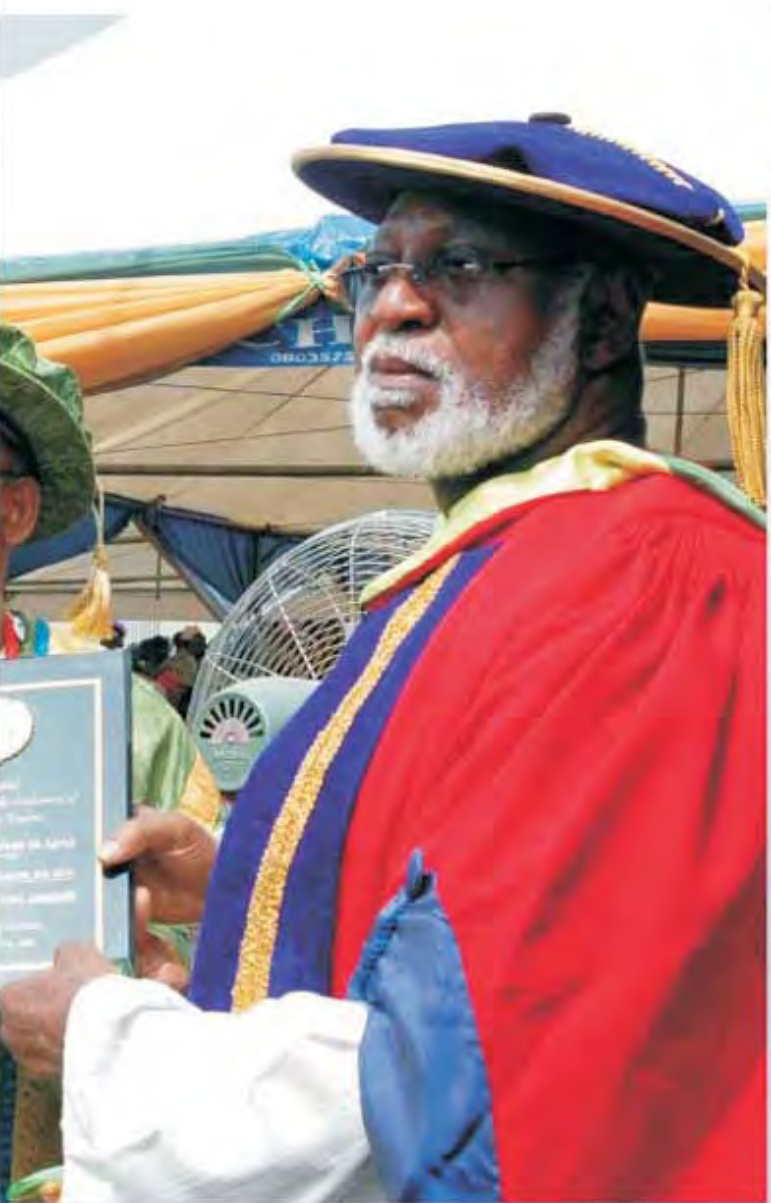


Prof. Samuel Adejuyigbe delivering the university 27th Inaugural Lecture



# Memories Of UNAAB's 21st Anniversary And 16th Convocation Ceremonies





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## OPINION

# Who Is Afraid Of EFCC?

BY KOLA ADEPOJU

I've heard some fellow Nigerians positing that "the fear of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) is the beginning of wisdom."

I make bold to fault this statement which, to an appreciable extent is not only erroneous and ill-informed but egocentrically adulating. I dare to say that the fear of EFCC is the beginning of wisdom for those who have skeletons in their cupboards.

For those who have no blemish and whose togas are untainted, methinks the fear of the rationale behind the petitions that spurred EFCC's invitations, ditto the attendant publicity in the media and the (mis)perception and (mis) conviction of the indiscernible public, is the beginning of wisdom.

Though I'm not well versed in the laws of the land, but I'm knowledgeable enough to ascertain that a man is presumed innocent of offences on charges brought against him until he's otherwise pronounced

by a legitimate umpire, which in most cases is the law court.

Unfortunately, here is Nigeria, where anything goes; a country where the citizenry are readily mis-fed by mischief makers with mischievous information from their (mis)imagination. Painfully, the unsuspecting preys gullibly admit their tissues of lies cheaply and swallow them hook, line and sinker and may even go as far as propagating the falsehood as the gospel truth.

For instance, in my thirteen years of practice as a print journalist (until recently when I delved into Public Relations), I've discovered even to my chagrin that some petitions to the EFCC are usually ill-informed, totally irrelevant and therefore unwarranted.

It is either the petitioner is using his petition (which in most cases is baseless and unfounded) to get back at a perceived enemy (vendetta mission) who in most cases is a public figure with untainted record or to deliberately embarrass his victim, knowing that once he's invited by the EFCC and the invitation is reported in the media, quite a chunk of the public will quickly tag him a black sheep.

I recall a particular case when a chieftain of one of the political parties asked me to report a petition he sent to EFCC, barely 24 hours after he visited me. Of course, as a very strict and disciplined professional, I refused his request and the accompanying Greek gift, only for another colleague to do his bidding.

The party chieftain took a step further when EFCC eventually invited his victim who happened to be the leader of a rival faction of his party. He celebrated his 'victory' in the media.

Methinks, this nefarious practice should be tamed **Pg. 29 →→→**



# Feminine Scope

- With Stella Kayode



## If You Have It Don't Flaunt It - Banuso

**N**igerian women irrespective of status, age grade, or educational background love to look good. They also appreciate being admired and complimented about their looks. It is doubtless that they have good dress sense and are prepared to go the whole length to make fashion statements.

There have been instances where fashion freaks take loans, go borrowing, or even starve themselves and their immediate families just to be trendy.

Researches have shown that fashion trends differ from individual to individual as there are various shades to this passion. Passion for jewellerys, shoes and bags, the latest dress or even perfumes.

An epitome of fashion and model of decent dressing, Mrs. Oluwakemi Olayemi Banuso, College Officer, College of Plant Science and Crop Production (COLPLANT) shares her views with Feminine Scope on what good dress sense entails and what extent ladies can go to trendy.

### Background

Born over 40 years ago, Mrs Banuso is a Senior Assistant Registrar who has been married for over 21 years to Dr. Babatunde Fatai Banuso and they are blessed with children.

She had her secondary education in Abeokuta Girls Grammar School and HND in Federal Polytechnic, Ilaro. Mrs Banuso also holds a Master in Communication Arts from University of Ibadan.

### Fashion View

It means being comfortable in whatever you put on, bearing in mind decency and simplicity. As a person, I am fashion conscious and believe in creating my own style but my comfort is paramount. Dressing can also be perceived as a form of communication that expresses an individual's culture, tribe, religion, and even personality.

### Inspiration

It is innate. You do not have to go to any school to learn how to look good. My husband to a great extent also has an impeccable fashion personality and as a wife I have to measure up to standard. The nature of his job requires that I look presentable at all times while accompanying him to functions and events. This has also rubbed off on

my personal and private dress sense. At home, I am also conscious of what I wear. Looking good for me, has become a habit. As women, we are generally expected to be prudent managers of funds and resources and the secret to looking good does not

always depend on how much is spent. It is not mandatory that you patronize a specific Designer for all your wears, as there is no justification for being extravagant, especially when there are limited funds. Modesty in cost should be the watchword. The first step to looking good is having good eyes for blends in colours, discovering what actually suits you and then finding a good tailor who can meet your specifications. Women must learn to be unique in dressing and be their own designers. In our markets today, we have varieties of good clothing materials which when properly designed will come out beautifully. We must not make it a rule to always go with what is in vogue. Self-Carriage is also an important determinant in looking good because the way you carry yourself is the way you are perceived.

### Dos and Don'ts in dressing

Responsible career women should never be caught wearing body revealing or transparent clothes. Your dressing adds value to your personality, self-confidence and self-worth. There is an instructive saying, which says, "Dress the way you would like to be addressed". Ladies must also endeavour to be neat at all times. I am in full support of the University's campaign against indecent dressing.

### Advice

In our society today, there are many cases of broken marriages and relationships, which ordinarily could have been avoided if ladies can at least pay a little more attention to themselves and their looks. Ladies, as soon as they get married tend to get shabby about their dressing because they feel no one is looking at them hence causing their spouse to look out. Experts in marriage counselling insist that ladies maintain themselves more after the marriage so that their spouse can always look back and recognise the women they married, years ago.

Banuso steps out in style





# Prof. Sanni Emerges UNAAB Alumni President

Prof. Sanni



**T**he University's leading Alumni scholar, Professor Lateef Sanni has emerged the new President of the University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Alumni Association.

Professor Sanni was elected at the just concluded 13th Annual Convention of the Association held at the Neu-Gate Hotel, Abeokuta.

According to the Alumni Relations Officer, Mrs. O. O. Adenuga, also elected were; Mr. Segun Ogundiran (Vice-President 1), Mr. Bolaji Gbadamosi (Vice-President 2), Dr. Sam Wobo (Director of Finance), Mr. Bamidele Olalere (Director of Socials) and Mr. Bambo Adelaja (Director of Public Relations).

The new officers are to pilot the affairs of the Association for the next three (3) years,

with Prof. Sanni promising to consolidate on the gains of the University.

Professor Sanni is currently the Director of Leventis Memorial Centre for Learning (LEMCEL) and also the Country Manager, Cassava: Adding Value for Africa, C:AVA.

Excerpt of his acceptance speech titled "Sustaining the Gains of UNAAB", read thus:

My vision is to expand the quest for positive contributions of the UNAAB Alumni Association to the advancement of our Alma mater. We intend to comb all areas where several UNAAB Alumni are making the University Proud in their areas of endeavours which spread into governance, politics, civil service, the financial sector and academia... Our goal is to ensure that our potential members are encouraged through Alumni

academic endowment, scholarship especially to less privilege members, leadership and mentoring schemes to all including student leaders. Our aspiration is to commence process of a well befitting Alumni Centre with shopping malls, Alumni Hostels, etc. ■

**On behalf of the Alumni, let me use this medium to congratulate the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Oluwafemi Olaiya Balogun for his uninterrupted strive to raise the bar of excellence at UNAAB. We commend his cabinet and the Governing Council for this lofty achievement.**

**Long live UNAAB**

**Long live UNAAB Alumni**

**Long live Federal Republic of Nigeria.**

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# Federal Govt Supports UNAAB'S GRADFES

The Federal Government has thrown its weight behind the Graduate Farming Employment Scheme (GRADFES) of the University with the release of fund to construct the first phase of its Farm Centre.

The Graduate Farming Employment Scheme, designed to assist incubating graduate farmers of the University in crop production of choice was successfully launched last year.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Oluwafemi Olaiya Balogun announced the establishment of the scheme, which is currently recruiting for its second-batch, during the institution's last Stakeholders' Meeting held at the Julius Okojie Lecture Theatre.

According to the Vice-Chancellor, 100 graduates of the University will be assisted to the tune of N200,000.00 Interest-Free loan with free farmland that will be prepared by the University for the production of maize, cowpeas, soyabeans and other varieties of crops.

The scheme was designed to stem the trend of massive unemployment in the country and turn fresh graduates into employers of labour rather than searching endlessly for unavailable jobs after graduation.

Professor Balogun had then expressed the hope that the Federal Government will appreciate the merit of the scheme and urgently take over the initiative as a solution to the increasing unemployment figure as well as ensuring food security in the country.

The loan for the scheme is expected to be rolled-over for a period of five years before the principal is paid back into the scheme's revolving account.

# Prof Eruvbetine Gives Panacea for Increased Poultry Feeding

The answers to solving the ever increasing need for feed in the poultry industry in Nigeria are by-products of biofuel and biodiesel production.

This was part of the submission of Professor (Mrs.) Daisy Eruvbetine while delivering the University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (UNAAB) 26th inaugural lecture.

According to Prof Eruvbetine, the effective utilization of products and by-products which do not compete as food for man is central to the achievement of the feed revolution.

The Professor of Monogastric Animal Production believed that Africa, especially Nigeria must wake to this realization and embrace new ideas in order to bring about the much needed development for the continued survival of the feed industry and poultry production in particular.

She added that the recent lifting of ban on maize importation is a step in the right direction which would have positive impact when government ensures that the importation is monitored and the tax of 80 per cent is reduced to enable feed millers benefit from the largesse.

To make the Cassava Initiative Programme more effective, Prof. Eruvbetine opined that more efficient and cost Saving Devices must be put in place to encourage farmers to go into massive cultivation of Cassava with a view to encourage farmers to use cassava in feed for poultry.

Prof. Eruvbetine recommended that the new trends in biodiesel utilization must be encouraged not only to help relieve the dependence on fossil fuels but also to save the limited crop resources from being converted to fuel. The establishment of Jattopha sps which is a plant not in competition for use by man and at the same time environmentally friendly is a valuable option not only for production of biodiesel but also the numerous by products among which is glycerin which can be fed to animals.

The inaugural lecture which had in attendance the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Oluwafemi Olaiya Balogun, all Principal Officers, Deans, Directors, members of the University Community and Academia was also attended by friends and well wishers of the inaugural lecturer.

## OPINION Pg. 26

and dumped in the abyss of the dustbin of history, for the ongoing rebranding of the nation's collective psyche being championed by the Honourable Minister of Information and Communication Prof. (Mrs.) Dora Akunyili, to succeed.

In this context, there is the urgent need for the EFCC to discourage frivolous petitions by imposing sanctions on dubious petitioners. Secondly, the Commission should also ensure that whoever is cleared of charges should not only be given a clean-personality bill, names of such acquitted, should be adequately advertised in the media for the sake of posterity.

Thirdly, the EFCC should make it mandatory for any arm of the media that reported the invitation or arrest of a suspect, to also report the outcome, failure of which the medium will be liable to sanction.

The aforementioned corrective measures, if adopted, will calm frayed nerves and assuage the feelings of innocent victims of mischievous petitions like the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (UNAAB), Prof. Oluwafemi Olaiya Balogun, a man profoundly commended by the ranks and files in the education sector, for his integrity, but now being deliberately bandied as a fraud before the EFCC and in the media by a mischievous cabal who feels threatened by his no-nonsense style of administration.

It appears that this die-hard clique that seems to have sworn at Okija and Ijebu-Igbo shrines will stop at nothing to blackmail the person and office of the Vice-Chancellor for "firing" their members who were found wanting in their beats, by the Governing Council after observing due administrative procedure.

Initially they launched a media war which failed woefully, following revelations by the University officials which expectedly rubbished their bunch of lies. They have of recent taken their campaign of calumny to the EFCC and in the same breadth cajoling the media to sensationalise their exploit, wantonly betraying their selfish motive of creating a state of anarchy in the University. They should not get too carried away in their delusive and surreal minds, the public, particularly members of the University Community are wise enough to be deceived by their red-herrings. One thing is certain, no matter how fast deceit travels, truth will prevail and overtake it in just a twinkle.

**Kola Adepoju, a Public Affairs Analyst and spokesman of NIPR, Ogun State writes from UNAAB**



## UNAAB VC Proffers Solutions To Food Insecurity And Poverty

The Federal Government has been admonished to embrace the 2003 Maputo Treaty which stipulates an annual budgetary provision of not less than 10 percent for agriculture by African leaders as a way of combating threats to food security and rising spate of poverty.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Oluwafemi Olaiya Balogun gave this advice while delivering a keynote address at the Annual Conference of the Agricultural Society of Nigeria in Abuja.

Professor Balogun observed that the current food situation in the country is pathetic and worrisome as "the most populous country in Africa and the eighth-largest oil producing nation in the world can barely feed its over 140 million people despite its enormous agricultural potentials".

According to the don, the nation's habit of importing all categories of food commodities to feed its citizenry, regardless of its capacity to mass produce such, even for export, does not augur well but, capable of causing permanent damage to her socio-economic development.

The Vice-Chancellor noted that the current global food crisis should not be entirely blamed for the nation's food predicament as some critical domestic factors were attributable to the soaring food prices in Nigeria. He said the global food crises "only exacerbated an existing and prolonged food crisis that the country has been experiencing for over the past four decades".

Professor Balogun, therefore, counselled that the nation should critically examine its food system and embark on

policy measures and actions to improve its functioning while concerted efforts should be made to reverse the perennial neglect of the agricultural sector by improving on the funding of agricultural research and support services.

While imploring government to provide critical infrastructure in agriculture, including roads, transportation facilities, water supply, electricity, health services, storage and processing facilities the don chided his colleagues to desist from the lackadaisical act of conducting esoteric researches targeted at merely increasing their publications for promotion purposes.

Professor Balogun asked the nation's policy formulators to ensure that they promote a pro-poor agricultural and economic growth noting that the enormous revenue the country generated from crude oil export to date failed to translate into increased prosperity because "our development strategies have not been sufficiently pro-poor".

Concluding the paper titled, Global Food Crisis and the Nigerian Agriculture, the Vice-Chancellor posited that most reform agenda of government that usually encouraged government to withdraw subsidies on critical inputs were ill-advised, as they often contribute to "the rising incidence of poverty, low productivity in agriculture and food insecurity".

### New GM For Microfinance Bank

Alhaji M. A. O. Adeyemo has been appointed the new General Manager of the UNAAB Microfinance Bank.

His appointment came on the approval of the Chairman of the Board of Directors and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Oluwafemi Olaiya Balogun.

Alhaji Adeyemo holds a B.Sc. (Hon)

in Finance and Banking from the University of Lagos and possesses professional qualification in Banking, from the Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria.

Until his appointment, Alhaji Adeyemo was a Chief Accountant with the University and his appointment took effect from January 4, 2010.

### UNAAB Guest House Reviews Service

In its bid to provide quality services to members of the University Community, the Management Board of the Royal Greens Guest House (RGGH) is requesting for 50 per cent part payment before rendering services to customers.

The decision according to RGGH's Manager, Mr. Olayinka Samuel Akinrefon, was taken in line with the directives of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Oluwafemi Olaiya Balogun to ensure that the Guest House functions profitably without compromising customers' satisfaction.

### AMREC Takes Cassava Campaign To Olorunda

The Agricultural Media Resources and Extension Centre (AMREC) of the University, has stepped-up its enlightenment of peasant farmers on the comparative advantages of improved varieties of cassava.

The campaign received a boost on Thursday, January 14, 2010 when the UNAAB AMREC Team under the Cassava: Adding Value for Africa (C:AVA) Project, held an Agricultural Field Day for Cassava farmers in Olorunda Community, Abeokuta North Local Government of Ogun State.

The event, coordinated by the Director of AMREC, Professor Kola Salako was attended by over 100 farmers, comprising representatives of farmers' groups, Cassava Growers Association of Nigeria and individual farmers.

In a post-event release, issued by AMREC's Programme Leader, Media and Farm Broadcast, Mr. Olalekan Oyekunle, participants were exposed to the over-riding advantages of improved varieties of cassava over the local ones.

Farm implements like spraying pumps, cutlasses and hand files were later distributed free to farmers' groups and individual farmers at the occasion.