

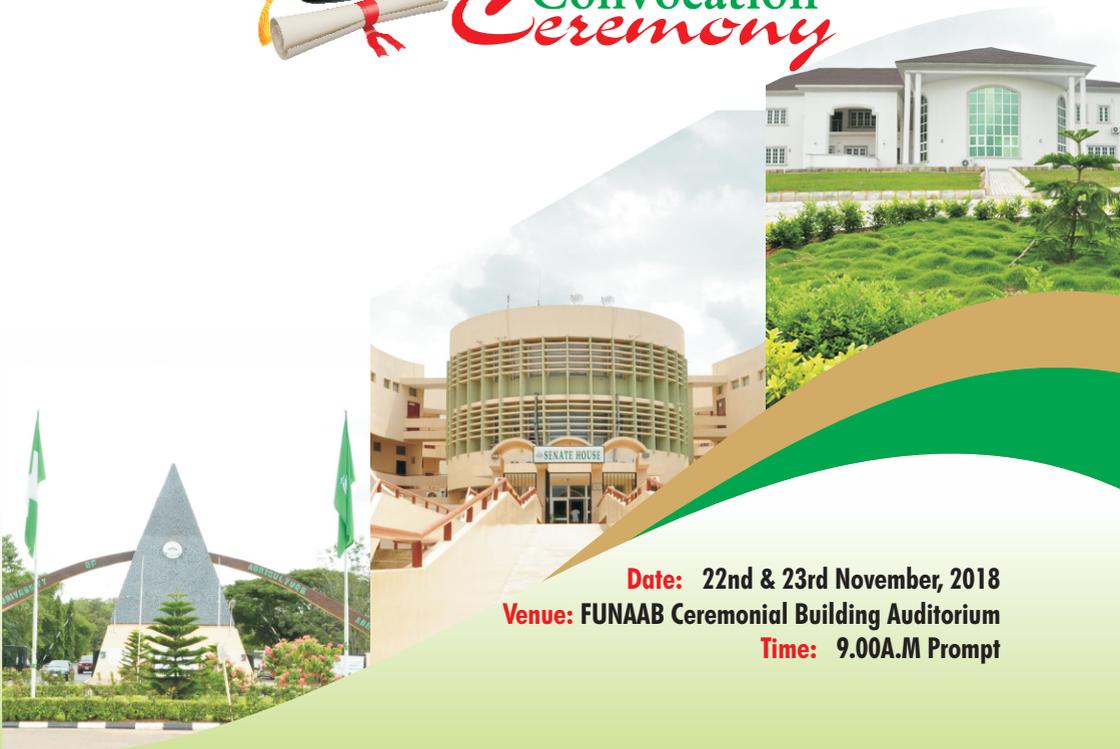


FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE
ABEOKUTA, NIGERIA

*Chancellor's
Address*



26th
Convocation
Ceremony



Date: 22nd & 23rd November, 2018

Venue: FUNAAB Ceremonial Building Auditorium

Time: 9.00A.M Prompt

AN ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE CHANCELLOR, HIS EMINENCE, EDIDEM EKPO OKON, ABASI-OUT V, OBONG OF CALABAR, NATURAL RULER, TREATY KING & GRAND PATRIARCH OF EFIK EBURUTU KINGDOM AT THE 26TH CONVOCATION CEREMONY OF THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE, ABEOKUTA ON THURSDAY, 22ND NOVEMBER, 2018

PROTOCOLS

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all to the 26th Convocation Ceremony of this great Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta. I wish to congratulate the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Felix Kolawole Salako for this epoch-making ceremony, being the first to be conducted by his administration as it also falls on the anniversary of his appointment as Vice-Chancellor.

I am particularly delighted that this is the first regular convocation to hold in the University after successive combined ceremonies of two and three sets of graduands at the last two convocation ceremonies. This was borne out of either disruption of academic sessions by strike actions or internal crises in the University. This ceremony thus signifies a return to normalcy and an indication of renewed commitment to peace and harmony among stakeholders in the University.

It therefore gives me much pleasure as I congratulate the Vice-Chancellor, his team of administrators and the entire University community for being able to stabilize and conduct a convocation of graduating students within the year Of graduation which is the normal practice the world over. My sincere hope is that this is sustained over the coming years.

Yours Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, our University has lived up to expectations in the last one year in different spheres. We have won laurels and confirmation from the right quarters that we are on track. The new Vice-Chancellor has done a lot of repositioning in the last one year. The choice of Senate and Council to confer the Honourary Degrees of the University on World Acclaimed Academic Giants, our own Noble Laureate, Professor Wole Soyinka - a man who needs no introduction throughout the world, is an eloquent testimony of our penchant to seek for excellence in our choices.

The Honour to be bestowed on Professor Toyin Falola, another Distinguished Professor of international repute is both commendable and received our approval. The mere fact that this two Giants accepted to be honoured by our University clearly confirms our acceptance as University of Excellence in the community of Academics.

At this juncture, let me reiterate our clarion call on the Visitor to magnanimously restore our courses in the College of Management Sciences that were delisted since three years ago. We would all recall that the establishment of the College was borne out of the call for diversification of academic programmes in specialized Universities with the assurance to retain Agriculture as the flagship in Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta. The purpose of this pronouncement on diversification was to allow greater access to higher education by an ever-increasing pool of eligible candidates who are unable to access higher education due to insufficiency in numbers of Federal Universities to cater for their admission capacities. It is therefore important that the College, which has enjoyed full accreditation status, should be allowed to continue its contributions in the academia towards a meaningful

national development.

I once again congratulate all stakeholders in the University, parents, well-wishers and especially the graduands. I wish you all success as you continue your life endeavours.

God bless you all.

**His Eminence, Edidem Ekpo Okon, Abasi Otu V,
Obong of Calabar,
Chancellor, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta**

November 2018

