

**BOWEN UNIVERSITY
(OF THE NIGERIAN BAPTIST CONVENTION)
IWO, OSUN STATE
COLLEGE OF LAW**

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION, 2024/2025

**COURSE CODE: PCL 514: COURSE TITLE: LAW OF SUCCESSION AND
ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATES II**

**ATTEMPT FOUR QUESTIONS IN ALL EACH QUESTION CARRIES 17^{1/2} MARKS
TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS**

1. In 2023, Mr. Bello died intestate in Lagos, leaving behind his wife, three children, and a large estate. His brother applied for Letters of Administration, claiming he had a closer connection to the deceased than members of the deceased's immediate. The widow objected, arguing that she and her children should be appointed administrators. **Advise the court on who should be granted Letters of Administration under Nigerian law.**
2. Upon obtaining probate of her late husband's Will, Mrs. Ojo, the executrix, failed to distribute the estate six years later. Beneficiaries claim they have received nothing, and accuse her of mismanagement. **Discuss the duties of a personal representative under Nigerian law, and the remedies available to the beneficiaries.**
3. Chinyere obtained Letters of Administration in respect of her father's estate. Months later, it was discovered that her father had in fact made a valid Will which appointed different executor than Chinyere and gave property to others. **Advise on the legal consequences and the process for revoking the Letters of Administration.**
4. In his Will, Chief Eze appointed his two sons as executors. However, one of them died before the testator. The other son attempted to act alone without applying for probate. A beneficiary has challenged his authority. **Advise on the powers of executors and the necessity of probate under Nigerian law.**
5. Bola executed a handwritten Will at home without any witnesses. After his death, disputes arose about its validity. His cousin, who was present at the time, claims Bola gave him the house orally. **Advise on the validity of Bola's Will and the effect of any oral declarations.**
6. In 2022, Mr. Okoro, a Nigerian citizen domiciled in the United Kingdom, died in London, leaving behind a duly executed Will. The Will was admitted to probate by the High Court in London in early 2023, and his son, James, was granted probate as executor under UK law. Mr. Okoro owned several properties in Lagos and Enugu, as well as a significant bank account in Abuja. James, who now resides in the UK, intends to administer the Nigerian assets in accordance with the Will, and has approached a lawyer in Nigeria for guidance. Some family members in Nigeria have challenged James' authority, arguing that the UK grant of probate has no legal effect in Nigeria unless it has been revalidated. James insists that since the probate was already granted in the UK, he is free to administer the estate. **Advise James on the legal process for sealing a foreign grant of probate in Nigeria, the requirements for doing so, and the legal effect of such sealing.**