



BOWEN UNIVERSITY

(of the Nigerian Baptist Convention)
Iwo, Osun State

SENATE
BUILDING

INAUGURATION SERVICE

of

**Professor
Jonathan Oyebamiji
BABALOLA**

as

THE 5TH VICE-CHANCELLOR



Venue: University Worship Centre
Date: Wednesday, 1 November, 2023
Time: 10:30am

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Arise, O compatriots,
Nigeria's call obey
To serve our fatherland
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.

THE 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 her honour and glory
So help me, God.

BOWEN UNIVERSITY ANTHEM

*(Melody Adapted from Stetson
Alma mater song)*

1. Great Alma mater
Bowen University
Excellence and Godliness
Is our esteemed watchword
Though tongues may differ
In brotherhood we stand in Christ
Hail! Alma mater dear
2. Great Alma mater
Bowen University
On Christ foundation built
That cannot be shaken
Others may falter
Our conviction we hold so firm
Hail! Alma mater dear



Rev. Dr. Israel Adelani Akanji, FAR

B.Th., M.Th, Dip.Th (NBTS), Ph.D.(Scotland)
**President, Nigerian Baptist Convention and
Visitor to the University**



Rev. Yusuf Gwadah

C.Th., D.Cs, B.Th, M.Th

Chancellor



Deaconess Joan Olatoyosi Ayo, OON

B.A. (NSUKKA), PGDE (Ibadan)

Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Governing Council

**INAUGURATION SERVICE OF
PROF. JONATHAN O. BABALOLA
AS THE 5TH VICE-CHANCELLOR**



Prof. Jonathan O. Babalola, FAS, FRSC
B.Sc. (Ile-Ife), M.Sc., Ph.D. (Ibadan)
Vice-Chancellor

ORDER OF PROGRAMME

10:30 – 10:35 Praise Worship / Processional	- University Choir
10:35 – 10:40am Opening Prayer	- Osun Baptist Conference, President
10:40 – 10:45am Hymn of Adoration	- BH 41 (TO GOD BE THE GLORY)
10:45 – 10:55am The Pro-chancellor's Address	- Deaconess Joan Olatoyosi Ayo, OON
10:55 – 11:00am Introduction / Citation of the Vice-Chancellor-The Registrar	
11:00 – 11:15am Investiture of the Vice-Chancellor	- The Chancellor
11:15 – 11:20am Bible Reading	- The University Chaplain
11:20 – 11:30am Choir Rendition & Offering	- University Choir
11:30 – 11:50am Exhortation	- The Visitor & President, Nigerian Baptist Convention
11:50 – 11:55am Presentation of the Bible	-
11:55 – 12:05pm Special Prayer for the Vice-Chancellor	- The Vice President Ministerial NBC
12:05 – 12:10pm Hymn of God's Grace (BH 47)	- GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS
12:10 – 12:20pm Vice-Chancellor's Response	- Prof. Jonathan O. Babalola
12:20 – 12:30pm Introduction of Guests & Announcements	- The University Chaplain
12:30 – 12:35pm Closing Prayer & Benediction	- The Chancellor
12:35 – 12:40pm Recessional Hymn (BH 58)	- HE LEADETH ME! O BLESSED THO'T
Group Photograph	-

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

1. To God be the glory
Great things he hath done:
So loved He the world
That He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life gate that all may go in,

*Refrain: Praise the Lord, praise the lord
Let the earth hear His voice;
Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord,
Oh, come to the father, thro' Jesus the son,
And give him the glory, great things
He hath done*

2. Oh, perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To ev'ry believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.
3. Great things He hath taught us,
Great things He hath done;
And great our rejoicing thro' Jesus the son;
But puer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport when Jesus we see.
Amen

BH 47 – GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

1. Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changes! Not
Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

*Refrain: Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness,
Lord, unto me!*

2. Summer and winter, and spring time and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in mani-fold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.
3. Pardon for sin and peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Amen.

BH 58 – HE LEADETH ME! O BLESSED THO'T!

1. He leadeth me! O blessed tho'!
O words with heav'nly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me!

Refrain: *He Leadth me, He leadeth me
By His own hand He leadeth me:
His faithful foil 'wer I would be,
For by His hand He leadeth me*

2. Sometimes 'midscenes of deepest gloom
Sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
By water still, o'er troubles sea still 'tis His hand
That leadeth me!
3. Lord, I would clasp Thy hand in mine,
Nor ever murmur nor repine,
Content, whatever lot I see,
Since 'tis Thy hand that leadeth me.
4. And when my task on earth is done,
When, by Thy grace, the vict'ory's won,
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee.

CITATION OF PROFESSOR JONATHAN O. BABALOLA VICE-CHANCELLOR

Professor Jonathan Oyebamiji BABALOLA was born on Wednesday, 14 February 1968 into the dynasty of Baale Sepeteri of Saki by the late Pa Moses Oyetunde Babalola and late Mama Elizabeth Ayoade Babalola of Ile Edidi, Isale-Taba, Saki. He attended the Local Authority Primary School, Isale-Taba, Saki from 1973 to 1979 and Baptist High School, Idi-Araba, Saki from 1979 to 1984, for his primary and secondary education, respectively. He proceeded to the University of Ife in December 1984 for his first degree in Chemistry. After his graduation from Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, he taught Mathematics/Chemistry during the mandatory National Youth Service Corp at Iwo Comprehensive High School, Iwo-Isin, Kwara State in the 1989/1990 service year. He then proceeded to the University of Ibadan where he obtained his MSc and PhD degrees in 1993 and 1999, respectively. He had his Postdoctoral studies at the Physics Section of the Public Health Department, Faculty of Medicine, University of Parma, Italy (2003-2004) and at the Kekule Institute for Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Bonn, Germany (2004-2005).

Professor Babalola started his teaching career at the university level as an Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Pure and Applied Chemistry at the Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomoso in 1995. He later moved to the University of Ibadan on 15 January 1997 as an Assistant Lecturer. He was upgraded to Lecturer Grade II in April 1999. He rose through the rank and was promoted to Lecturer Grade I in 2002, Senior Lecturer in 2005, Reader in 2008 and then Professor on 1 October 2011. Within the University, he has served on several Boards and Committees. He was Sub-Dean (Physical) of the Faculty of Science (1999-2001). He was Course Supervisor for GES 104 (Science and Mankind) between 2001 and 2003, during which he acted briefly as Director of the General Studies Centre. He served as Head of the Physical Chemistry Unit in the Department of Chemistry from January 2008 till December 2010. During the same period, he was Sub-Dean (Postgraduate) of the Faculty of Science from 2008 to 2010. He later became the first Sub-Dean (Sciences) of the Postgraduate School from 2010 to 2014. He was Examination Officer for

the Department of Chemistry from January to December 2011. He took over as the last Dean of the Postgraduate School in March 2017, this was the position he held until October 2018 when the Postgraduate School transmuted to the Postgraduate College. He served as the Pioneer Provost of the Postgraduate College from October 2018 to July 2022.

Outside the University of Ibadan system, Professor Babalola represented the Senate of University of Ibadan on the Governing Board of Osun State College of Education, Ila-Orangun, Osun State, Nigeria between 2011 and 2013. He was the Vice-Chairman of the Committee of Deans of Postgraduate Schools of Nigerian Universities between 2018 and 2019, and later, Chairman of the Committee of Provosts, Deans of Postgraduate Colleges and Schools (CPDPGCS) of Nigerian Universities from 2019 to 2021. He is, at present, the Ex-Officio of CPDPGCS, and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Doctoral Academy of Nigeria of CPDPGCS. He participated in the DIES International Deans' Course on Modern Higher Education Management and Leadership in Germany, Ghana and Ethiopia from 2013 to 2014.

Prof. Babalola has made significant contributions to knowledge in hemoglobin reactivities, lipid transfer and membrane fusion, lipid nanodiscs, electrochemistry, electrocatalysis and adsorption chemistry. He devised a number of ingenious ways of doing science in the absence of state-of-the-art equipment. Professor Babalola has 136 publications (111 journal articles, 15 edited books, 4 book chapters, 4 conference proceedings and 2 technical reports). He has supervised a total of 17 PhD theses (all successfully completed), in addition to many MSc research projects. He is currently supervising 5 PhD students. He has benefited from many research fellowships and grants, such as the Associate Fellowship of The Third World Academy of Science (TWAS-UNESCO), 2001 – 2004 for research visits to the International Institute for Theoretical and Applied Physical Chemistry, La Plata, Argentina and the Committee on Science and Technology in Developing Countries (COSTED) of the International Council of Scientific Union (ICSU) for a research visit to the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advance Scientific Research (JNCASR), Bangalore, India in 2002. He used the fellowship of the Training and Research in Italian Laboratories (TRIL) of the Abdus Salam International



Centre for Theoretical Physics, Trieste, Italy at the University of Parma, Italy between 2003 and 2004. He was a recipient of the Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship, Germany, utilized at University of Bonn (2004-2005) and Return Fellowships utilized at the University of the Bonn and Technical University of Kaiserslautern, Germany. He also benefitted from the German Academic Exchange Programme (DAAD) scholarships. He was a Regular Associate of The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics, Trieste, Italy (2004 – 2011) and has been a Senior Associate of the same centre since 2017 till date.

Professor Babalola is a member of many professional and academic bodies. He has participated in many national and international conferences and workshops. He is a Fellow of the Nigeria Academy of Science and the Public Affairs Secretary of the Academy. He is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry (UK) and a Fellow of the Chemical Society of Nigeria. He is also a Fellow of the Safety Training Programme of the Committee on Chemical Industry of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC). He is a Pilot Associate of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapon, The Hague, The Netherlands and a Justice of the Peace of Oyo State, Nigeria. He is happily married to Mrs. Olufunmilayo Ayobami Babalola (Nee Ojeleye) and the marriage is blessed with four children, two boys and two girls.