



BEING THE TEXT OF THE ADDRESS PRESENTED AT THE 2ND MATRICULATION CEREMONY OF THOMAS ADEWUMI UNIVERSITY BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROFESSOR FRANCISCA. O. OLADIPO ON SATURDAY AUGUST 20, 2022.

Let me begin by thanking the Almighty God, the giver of all good things for making today possible.

On behalf of the Management, Staff, and Students at Thomas Adewumi University, I warmly welcome Our Founder and Chancellor, the Co-Founder, the Chairman and Members of the Board of Trustees, the Pro-Chancellor and Members of the Governing Council, Members of Senate, Our distinguished Guest Speaker, Professor Sylvia Malomo, Friends of our University, and the families and friends of our Matriculating Students. I especially welcome our Royal Father, The Oloko of Oko, His Royal Highness, Oba Victor Olawuyi and thank him for his support.

My dear students, it is my privilege and pleasure to heartily congratulate all 103 of you for being those that have been found worthy and admitted to the various programmes run by this young and promising institution. Let me quickly add here that, we adhered strictly to the guidelines stipulated by JAMB in considering the candidates thereby ensuring the quality of the intakes. We pledge to give you a world-class education that is robust and competitive, to make you responsible and responsive citizens of the society. Our innovative curriculum combined with a delivery based on problem-solving, will train you to become enterprising and self-reliant at the end of your studies. This is a 21st Century University, you will be empowered to grow as digital citizens, and the delivery of your courses shall be supported by technology. In addition to your regular program, you shall be required to get a minimum of two industry-based certifications, to fully qualify for graduation. This we believe will give you an edge over others in a very competitive market.

It is also important to note that, TAU Degrees will be awarded to you not only for satisfying the conditions on learning but also on character because we consider these as essential ingredients for a successful future. I therefore encourage you to attend your classes and pass all the required courses, be conscientious, diligent and law abiding. Be always good and worthy ambassadors of Thomas Adewumi University, avoid bad companies within and outside, especially from outside the university to avoid disappointing all of us including your parents and sponsors who have invested so much in your training.

Additionally, in my inaugural speech on Monday, August 1, 2022 when I assumed office as the second substantive Vice-Chancellor of this noble institution, I affirmed that the university administration shall continue to put students first, by ensuring a student-centred learning environment, clean campus, introduction of innovative teaching styles, access to classes taught by international faculties, and above all to ensure interdisciplinary curriculum that focuses on problem-solving leading to efficiency, effectiveness, employability and entrepreneurship development and skills building. All these would be achieved as promised.

You all have dreams, and you are at the start of the journey of realising those dreams, by dint of hard work, the goals you have set for yourselves will be achieved. I encourage you to remain focused, committed and determined to realise the noble objective of your choice of Thomas Adewumi University as the place for your undergraduate training as all that is required to enhance success here in TAU have been put in place. We have a committed Founder, supported by an equally committed co-Founder, and a supportive Board of Trustees and Governing Council, as well as the blessings of nature. We have provided a beautiful and serene campus, with unrestricted access to modern learning facilities, a committed workforce, and a listening administration. I urge you, therefore, to avail yourself of this rare opportunity given to you by working extra hard to guard against any failure as there are no excuses not to perform beyond expectations.

It is gratifying to note that in the recently published 2022 edition of the Webometrics Ranking, Thomas Adewumi University has ranked 1st among the 20 new private universities that were licensed by the Federal Government of Nigeria in 2021, and 5th among the universities in Kwara State from the 8th position obtained in January 2022, we also ranked 173 from the previous 252 position in the country. Over 30,000 Higher Educational Institutions worldwide were ranked in this current edition. This is a confirmation that our university is fast growing into a formidable citadel of learning in Nigeria. Our vision is to provide excellent academic environment suitable for the development of ideas and knowledge for the benefit of mankind.

To the Parents and Guardians of the matriculating students, I congratulate you on this memorable occasion of the matriculation of your wards into Thomas Adewumi University. While we guarantee a world-class education here at TAU, their training should not be left to the staff and faculty alone, all hands must be on deck to ensure that students do not only graduate in record time but also successfully graduate with the desired knowledge and degrees. It is in this respect that we solicit your maximum cooperation in area of proper guardianship so that the students do not go astray. The entire university will play the noble role of training the students to be worthy not

only in learning but ensure that they are morally upright. We must all build on this happy beginning, to ensure the steady growth and development of the institution.

I would also like to use this opportunity to solicit for your partnership in the journey of developing our university. We would welcome supports in the forms of endowments, gifts, linkages, grants, joint projects, joint ventures and so on. We also solicit for your partnership in increasing our enrolment. As part of the 2022/2023 admissions drive efforts, the Chancellor has approved a range of admission rebates to be paid to anyone who brings a candidate for admissions into TAU. This rebate applies to everyone including parents, staff, students, and members of the public. Interested persons will be assigned **a unique referral code** to enable easy tracking of the referred candidates.

Additionally, the founder has approved the following discounts on tuition for members of our community:

1. Students coming from TAICO: 20%
2. Biological Child of Staff of TAU & TAICO: 20% per child
3. Relations of Staff of TAU & TAICO: 10%
4. Candidates from Oko-Irese: 10%
5. Candidates from LGA (Irepodun & Ifelodun, Kwara): 7.5%
6. Parents with more than one child: 10% on second and subsequent child.

We also accept payments in instalments of 50%, 30% and 20%.

Before, I conclude my address, I would like to thank all our guests for honouring our invitation, and specially appreciate the Guest Speaker Professor Sylvia Malomo, for honouring the University with her presence and the invaluable speech. I thank all the staff and students that has contributed in one way or the other in organizing this beautiful event.

Congratulation again, my dear matriculating students.

Professor Francisca O. Oladipo, FNCS, FASI, FPASRC
Vice-Chancellor