

CITATION OF PROFESSOR SAMSON OLAJIDE OKE

Professor Samson Olajide Oke was born on 13th March, 1956 in Ile-Ife. He hails from Ilase-Ijesa in Obokun Local Government, Osun State, Nigeria. He attended St Paul's Anglican Pry School, Ilase-Ijesa (1963-1968) and later attended Ilesa Grammar School (1969-1973; WASCE) and 1973-1975 (HSC). He attended University of Ife where he obtained B.Sc. Botany (1978-1982). He completed his first-degree programme in seven semesters instead of the normal eight semesters, first of its kind in the history of this University. He obtained M.Sc. degree (Ife) in 1985 and Ph.D. Degree (Botany) of the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife in 1993.

Professor S. Olajide Oke joined the services of Obafemi Awolowo University September 1983 as a Graduate Assistant and rose through the rank to become a Professor in October 2012.

Professor S. Olajide Oke has served as member and Chairman of various Committees and Boards at the Departmental, Faculty and University levels. He was an elected member of Senate (1995-1997) and (1998-2000). He was Assistant Secretary of ASUU-OAU for two years (2004 – 2006) and General Secretary of the Union for four years (2006 – 2011). He was the Acting Head of Department of Botany from 2009 – 2011. He has been a member of several Investigating Panels. He has served for two terms as an elected member of University Governing Council, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife (2011- 2015). He has also served as Director, Institute for Entrepreneurship and Development Studies (IFEDS) from 2014 - 2016. He served as Dean, Faculty of Natural and Applied Science, First Technical University, Ibadan, Oyo, State, Nigeria from 2019 – 2021.

Professor Oke has supervised the thesis of two Ph.D. and 18 M.Sc. degree students. He has coordinated and supervised many Entrepreneurship and Management Training Programmes packaged by The Institute for Entrepreneurship and Development Studies (IFEDS), Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife. He has served as Internal Examiner in several Departments in the University. He has published more than forty-five journal articles in reputable national and international journals.

He was part of the team that started the Predegree Programme by the Center for Distance Learning (CDL) in 2003 under the Leadership of the pioneer Director, Professor Oladipo Aina and he served as the Coordinator of Biology for 13 years (2003- 2016). He has made significant contributions in the area of mentoring of staff and students and capacity building at different fora. He has been a part of the team that strengthened undergraduate and postgraduate training in Foundation Courses, Plant Ecology, Biostatistics, and Field Work in the Department of Botany.

Professor S. Olajide Oke has travelled widely to attend seminars, workshops and conferences locally and internationally. He has served as a Visiting Lecturer/Professor and External Examiner to several Universities. He has served as Assessors of many Professorial candidates

in many Universities. He is a reviewer to many national and international scientific journals. He belongs to many academic and professional organizations including Nigerian Field Society, Botanical Society of Nigeria (BOSON), Ecological Society of Nigeria, Indigenous Systems Association, Nigerian Society for Environmental Management, South African Association of Botanists and American Ecological Engineering Association. He has served as Council Member, Botanical Society of Nigeria (BOSON) from 2006 to 2011. He is currently a member, Board of Trustees, Ecological Society of Nigeria (ECOSON).

He is a consultant to many environmental management companies especially in the areas of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Environmental Auditings (EAs) and Baseline Studies. He has to his credit many technical reports in environmental aspects of tropical environment.

Professor S. Olajide Oke has served various Dioceses in Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) in many capacities. He is currently a Supervising National Director of Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship -Nigeria. Professor S. Olajide Oke is married to a female wife, Mrs E. Olanike Oke and the marriage is blessed with three children and seven grandchildren.