

CONVOCATION ADDRESS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, SUMMIT UNIVERSITY, OFFA, AT THE 5TH AND 6TH COMBINED CONVOCATION CEREMONIES, HELD AT THE ADIAT ABEGBE MAKAJUOLA HALL ON SATURDAY, 6TH DECEMBER, 2025

PROTOCOL

A. WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

1. The Visitor to the University, Distinguished Chancellor, esteemed members of the Board of Trustees, the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, honoured guests, parents and guardians, ladies and gentlemen, and our dearly beloved graduands—today is a day of joy, fulfilment and profound reflection. It is my privilege to welcome you warmly to Summit University, Offa, the University where we shine like the sun.
2. This Convocation marks a defining moment in the life of our University. It signifies growth, renewed confidence and the strengthening of our institutional identity. Since our maiden convocation, Summit University has continued to advance steadily on all fronts, guided by our commitment to academic excellence, moral discipline and innovation-driven service.
3. I am humbled by the presence of the many high-profile personalities gathered here today to celebrate this historic and auspicious occasion.
4. I particularly acknowledge the presence of the Proprietor of the University, the Ansar-Ud-Deen Society of Nigeria, under the leadership of its President, Prince Mosediq Adeniji Kazeem, SAN, whose support has been tremendous.
5. I express appreciation to members of the Governing Council for their inspirational support and quality leadership. Members of the Board of Trustees are equally recognised and appreciated.
6. I salute our royal fathers for their unwavering and constant support to the University.
7. I extend heartfelt thanks to all guests, parents, guardians and friends of Summit University, Offa, who have travelled from far and near to celebrate with us today.

8. I acknowledge with deep appreciation the great work of the pioneer Vice-Chancellor, Professor Husayn O. B. Oloyede. I also commend Professor M. L. Nassar, who acted briefly as Vice-Chancellor and ensured continuity of progress.
9. I appreciate the array of Vice-Chancellors here present today from far and near. I also specially recognise the leadership of Professor Wahab Egbewole, the Chairman of the KU8+ Consortium, and other distinguished Vice-Chancellors for their continued support and collaboration.
10. I appreciate the historic contributions of several individuals and groups to the take-off projects of this institution—the past and present national presidents of the Ansar-Ud-Deen Society, the Board of Trustees and the Governing Council. Their contributions shall forever remain reference points in our history.
11. I appreciate all benefactors who have generously donated buildings, equipment, computers, mowers and other essential resources that supported the smooth running of the University.
12. I extend deep gratitude to our beloved parents for their unwavering support and understanding, even in the face of prevailing economic realities.
13. I specially recognise and appreciate Alhaji (Dr.) Sulaiman Adebola Adegunwa, OFR, for offering his experience and support as the Chancellor of this University. May Almighty Allah strengthen him and bless him abundantly in his continuing service.
14. I express sincere appreciation to our highly respected Convocation Lecturer, Dr Ts'gye Rachel Titilayo Leslie, for honouring us with her presence and for her impactful presentation delivered today.
15. A few hours ago, we honoured individuals whose lives reflect excellence, service and dedication to humanity. The University conferred honorary doctorate degrees on deserving personalities, including Mr Aderemi Makanjuola, OON, and recognised the exceptional legacies of Alhaji T. A. Olatinwo (posthumously) and Mrs Latifat Bajabiamila.

C. INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ACADEMIC ADVANCEMENT

16. The University has continued to reinforce its academic capacity since the maiden convocation ceremonies two years ago. The National Universities Commission granted full operational approval to eight new bachelor's degree programmes across two new colleges, significantly expanding our academic offerings. Students admitted into these programmes have now successfully progressed to 200 level, marking two years of stable academic implementation.
17. We also commenced four new postgraduate programmes, nurturing the next generation of researchers and professionals who will contribute meaningfully to national development.
18. Preparations for full academic programmes in Health Sciences and Law are at an advanced stage. These additions will further position Summit University as a comprehensive centre of excellence capable of responding to Nigeria's evolving manpower needs.

D. STUDENT ENROLMENT, SCHOLARSHIPS AND INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT

19. Student enrolment has improved significantly. The scholarship initiative introduced by the University attracted applicants from across the nation, demonstrating public confidence in our value proposition.
20. I also use this opportunity to thank those who have been funding the scholarship initiative to date. We deeply appreciate all donors for their generosity and impact.
21. Through targeted engagement, many of these scholarship applicants transitioned into fully enrolled students. This has strengthened our learning community and broadened our national footprint.
22. During the last Convocation Ceremony, we conducted the soil-turning for four different structures. I am pleased to report that we have recorded almost 100 per cent success: one has been commissioned, two are at advanced stages of completion and the fourth is progressing well.
23. In addition, we have witnessed the commissioning of a new faculty building generously donated to the University, which is now fully in use. We have also

commissioned the IFF Accounting Laboratory, the NITDA Laboratory and several other facilities within the last twelve months.

E. RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

24. Our research and innovation profile continues to rise. Summit University now anchors national initiatives in Emerging Technology for Women and Girls, environmental literacy project, clean energy innovation, aquaculture, agriculture, cashew value-chain development and smart classroom technologies.
25. These endeavours enhance our visibility and deepen our institutional relevance. Through strong partnerships with national and international funders, we are expanding staff capacity, upgrading infrastructure and increasing global collaboration.
26. Another milestone achieved this year is the granting of an interim licence for Summit University FM Radio. This station will support communication, media training, community service and youth development.
27. The station will also serve as a platform for educational programming, responsible journalism and hands-on learning for our Mass Communication students.
28. We continue to upgrade classrooms, laboratories, studios and support facilities, creating a technology-enabled and conducive learning environment.
29. Our service to the host community remains a priority. Through peacebuilding efforts, leadership development, outreach programmes and environmental initiatives, we continue to nurture well-rounded graduates who embody integrity and purposeful leadership.

F. ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AND PRESENTATION OF GRADUANDS

30. Today, we gather to celebrate excellence, award degrees and honour distinguished personalities. This Convocation reflects our journey towards building a world-class institution.
31. A total of 319 graduands will receive their degrees today across the following classifications:

- i. First Class Honours – 26 (8.2%)
- ii. Second Class Upper Division – 164 (49.8%)
- iii. Second Class Lower Division – 108 (33.9%)
- iv. Third Class – 25 (7.8%)
- v. Pass – 1 (0.3%)

32. This distribution shows a commendable level of achievement, with more than half of the graduands placed in the top two classifications. These graduands represent the 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 academic sessions.

G. OUR NEXT PLAN

33. With the support of the Proprietor, Board of Trustees and Governing Council, we are set to create more Colleges and programmes, including the commencement of an additional four postgraduate programmes.
34. Our priority in the coming months is the commencement of health-related and law programmes at the undergraduate level, as well as four new postgraduate programmes.
35. Furthermore, in expanding academic access, we shall intensify support for research, academic growth and improved student enrolment. Two new faculties will be introduced in alignment with the demands of the digital age.
36. The University will commence broadcasting on the campus radio station and integrate practical media training into the timetable of Mass Communication students.
37. The University is committed to becoming self-sustaining by transforming academic knowledge into business-driven innovations that positively impact our community.
38. We shall deepen the democratisation of Drone Technology and the seven essential skills integrated into our curriculum: Financial Literacy, Clean and Renewable Energy, History, Heritage and Storytelling, Artificial Intelligence, Islam and Global Citizenship, Family and Leadership Skills, and Acadopreneurship.

39. Our dream of achieving 100 per cent campus residency remains alive, and we invite investors, donors and well-wishers to support our student accommodation projects.

H. APPRECIATION AND CLOSING REMARKS

40. We extend heartfelt appreciation to our Proprietor, the Ansar-Ud-Deen Society of Nigeria, for unwavering support in nurturing this institution.
41. We recognise the Board of Trustees, Governing Council, Management, Senate and staff for their steadfast leadership and commitment.
42. We thank parents and guardians for entrusting us with the education and moral upbringing of their wards. Our appreciation also goes to our host community and all stakeholders for their collaboration.
43. I express heartfelt gratitude to all donors who have assisted the University in reaching this lofty height. Though too many to list individually, we acknowledge your collective generosity and impact.
44. To our distinguished graduands—today is your day. You have worked diligently and earned the honour being bestowed upon you. As you leave this University, carry with you the values of integrity, knowledge, innovation and service.
45. I congratulate all graduates on the successful completion of their programmes. You came, you saw and you conquered. May this success be the beginning of greater accomplishments.
46. I encourage you to remain worthy ambassadors of Summit University, Offa. With the knowledge and training you have received, you will excel wherever you may find yourselves.
47. I thank my dynamic Management Team, members of Senate and all staff for their sacrifices, loyalty and support. I congratulate our proud parents on this joyous occasion.
48. Summit University, Offa, is on a firm trajectory towards becoming a leading institution in innovation, research and development.

49. We appreciate our corporate friends and partner organisations for their generous contributions towards achieving our goals.
50. We acknowledge the gentlemen of the press for being part of this historic event.
51. We thank Almighty Allah for His mercies and protection over us. To our distinguished guests, thank you for coming. We wish you a safe journey back to your various destinations.

Congratulations to the Class of 2025.

Thank you, and God bless.