

June 25, 2012
Professor Sola FAJANA, FAMN, FCIPM
Vice-Chancellor
Joseph Ayo Babalola University

Ikeji-Arakeji, Osun State

NIGERIA

My dear brother,

COMMISERATION ON THE LOSS OF YOUR ESTEEMED CHANCELLOR

I apologize for my inability to attend the special event organized in honour of your departed Chancellor. I was a bit indisposed last week. But I was with you in spirit. Surely, Oba Oladele Olashore deserves all the honour that Nigeria has accorded him in life and death.

I represented Professor Tolu Odugbemi, FAS, OON, NNOM, the then Vice-Chancellor of the University of Lagos, Akoka-Yaba (UNILAG), at Kabiyesi's investiture as your pioneer Chancellor. I was in my second term as Dean of Arts. My boss had stressed that I must see Oba Olashore to deliver his personal regards and convey his deep regrets for his inability to attend the investiture. I was housed in Kabiyesi's Iloko hotel (a wonder in the woods) and duly delivered my VC's message in person. It was a privilege being the guest of the legendary moneyed monarch . What a pity that he had to leave us too soon.

Long before he became an *oba*, Kabiyesi was an illustrious captain of the private sector, who successfully straddled the divide between tradition and modernity. He even served the nation as a Minister of the Federal Republic in his area of expertise. It can be said that he put Iloko on the world map. Truly, very few people outside Ijesaland "knew" the place before his ascension to the throne of his forebears. He will be sorely missed.

Kindly convey the condolences of all of us at Caleb University - my Proprietor, Prince Oladega Adebogun, PhD; the Board of Trustees, Governing Council, Staff and Students - to the family and JABU.

God bless.

Sincerely,

Professor Ayodeji OLUKOJU
Fellow, Nigerian Academy of Letters
Vice-Chancellor