



## **NUC Seeks to Revive Inter-University Center**

By: Umar Sanda & Musa Hamisu Musa



The National Universities Commission (NUC) has urged Inter-University Centres (IUCs) to revive the centres to meet up challenges of 21st century.

The Executive Secretary, Prof. Abubakar Rasheed, told directors and chairmen of IUCs Boards in his office that none of the centres had achieved half of what it should. Professor Rasheed noted that this was due to challenges associated with inconsistency in government's policies. He added that NUC would revive the centres.

He observed that the centres had been underutilised, saying they should redefine the centres' focus, vision and mission through amendment of the laws to enable them perform optimally. The NUC Chief said, the IUCs were more than departments, as there were enough departments of Arabic and French languages as well as Mathematics and Nigerian languages in universities.

He observed further that the centres were think-tanks for the government, industry and private sector to ensure growth and development of critical sectors, stressing that the need for research was crucial.

He therefore urged them to partner with universities and that the commission could only recognise them as degree-awarding institutions after amendment of laws to that effect. He said, the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) would thereafter provide interventions.

The Executive Secretary promised that the

commission would help them through Transnational Education (TNE) by bringing foreign universities to collaborate with the centres of French, Arabic and Mathematics with an exchange of lecturers and students. He thus directed each centre to articulate their challenges and promised to intimate the Minister of Education on their journey.

The Chairman of the Board of National Institute of Nigerian Languages (NINLAN), Prof. Francis Eghokhare, said, the centres were not properly integrated into the university system.

Eghokhare said, the centres were often treated as parastatals and not IUCs, urging the Executive Secretary to bring them at par with universities. Present at the occasion were the Director and Chief Executive Officer of Nigerian Arabic Language Village (NALV), Ngala, Borno State, Prof. Ibrahim Muhammad, the Chairman of Nigerian French Language Village (NFLV), Badagry, Prof. Oluremi Sonaiya; Director of Nigeria French Language Village, Prof. Lateef Babatunde Ayeleru, as well as the Executive Director of National Mathematical Centre (NMC), Prof. Promise Mebine, and the Director of NINLAN, Prof. Emejulu Obiajulu.

Others in attendance were NUC Visiting Prof. King Yawi, Acting Directors of Inspection and Monitoring, Mrs. Lydia Imorua, Public Affairs, Alhaji Haruna Ajo, representative of Directors of Executive Secretary's Office (DESO), Hassan Yakasai, and that of Directorate of Open, Distance and E-learning (DODEL) and Deputy Director, Open Distance and E-Learning, Hajia Hadiza Ramalan.

## Fountain University Osogbo, Conferred an Honorary Doctorate Degree to Prof. Babagana Umara Zulum *mni*, on its 12th Convocation Ceremony

By: Umar Sanda

The 12th Convocation Ceremony of Fountain University, Osogbo Osun State, held on Saturday, 14th January, 2023.

The FUO's 12th Convocation Ceremony witnessed the award of first and post graduate degrees, conferment of honorary degrees and prizes to some deserving individuals. During the colourful occasion, the Executive Governor of Borno State, Professor Babagana Umara Zulum *mni*, FNSE CON, GCON alongside the Chief of Air Staff, Air Marshal Oladayo Amoo and Vice Admiral Jubrila Ayinla (Rtd) are conferred with an Honorary Doctorate Degrees of Public Administration.

The University honoured Governor Zulum "in recognition of his leadership qualities as an academics as well as a Charismatic politician had with for his contributions to the development of good governance". The Governor was ably represented by his Deputy, His Excellency Umar Usman Kadafur.

The entourage of the Deputy Governor include the Vice Chancellors of University of Maiduguri and Borno State University, the Chief Executive Director of Nigeria Arabic Language Village, Ngala and other top government officials.

In his response, the Deputy Governor appreciated the Council and Management of Fountain University for recognizing the Borno State Governor, Professor Babagana Umara Zulum for the conferment of

the Honorary Degree. The Deputy Governor thanked the University Community, people and Government of Osun State for the honor.

In his speech, the Vice-Chancellor of Fountain University appreciated the effort of NALV Director, Professor Ibrahim Muhammad for supporting the University in many ways.

In his good will message, the Nigeria Arabic Language Village Director Chief Executive Officer, Prof. Ibrahim Muhammad also thanked the Management of Fountain University for finding Governor Zulum worthy to be honored with an Honorary degree. He said; "it is an honor to all Borno citizens".



High point of the occasion was the award of first and postgraduate Degrees, conferment of Honorary Degrees and prizes to some deserving individuals.

## NALV Director/CEO Visits Qatar Foundation



The NALV Management led by the Director Chief Executive Officer, Professor Ibrahim Muhammad visited Qatar Charity foundation in Abuja where he met with the Country's Director, Sheikh Hamdi Elsayed and other officials of the foundation.

The visit of the Director and his entourage to the foundation was aimed at introducing the village to the QCF and to further discuss some areas of collaboration between the foundation and Nigeria Arabic Language Village Ngala.

In his presentation Professor Ibrahim Muhammad made a brief introduction of the village and its mandate to the foundation. He also used the avenue to inform the country's director of the effort of the Federal

government of Nigeria in teaching foreign languages, particularly Arabic language. He said, the Federal Government established centres of excellence and inter University centres for teaching of foreign languages.

Other issues discussed in the meeting were the collaboration and partnership with the foundation, particularly in the area of teaching of Arabic language which he said is the core mandate of the village. Professor Ibrahim Muhammad thanked the country's Director Sheikh Hamdi for the well reception accorded to him and his entourage.

In his response Sheikh Hamdi said, it was his first time to know the Nigeria Arabic Language Village, Ngala. He said the foundation is very happy to deal with government agencies and organizations. Sheikh Hamid promised to see into ways of assisting the village in delivering its mandate and achieving its goals.

He also appreciated the efforts of the Director CEO Professor Ibrahim Muhammad for finding time to visit the Qatar Charity Foundation in Abuja. During the visit the Director was accompanied by the Bursar Rawa Mallam Mustapha and Arc. Mohammad Yusuf Mohammed Coordinator Works and Physical Planning Department (W&PPD)

## Acculturation Program Commences at Federal College of Education (Technical) Bichi

By: Dr. Muhammad Abubakar Usman

The Acculturation programme of Nigeria Arabic language Village Ngala has today being 30th January, 2023 commenced in Kano outreach centre at Federal College of Education (Technical) Bichi, Kano state.

The official commencement of the programme was attended by Dr. Muhammad Abubakar Usman (Coordinator North West Zone) Dr. Yunus Bukar Abdullahi HOD Acculturation Programme, Mal. Aliyu Muhammad Usman and Babagana Babakura (Revenue and special duties).

The HOD Arabic language of Federal College of Education Bichi, Dr. Amina Mohammed and Mrs Pina the Dean of the College have also attended the commencement of the Acculturation programme in the College. The programme is mandatory for all students of Arabic language in colleges of education public/private across Nigeria.

The village being the only institution mandated by law to conduct the programme to these categories of students is out there to ensure that, the programme is



conducted as prescribed by law.

As at the time of filing this report over 60 students have so far registered for the programme and the registration continues. It's expected that, the programme will last for forty-five days.

The Director CEO Professor Ibrahim Muhammad has sent in his good will message to the management of Federal College of Education (Technical) Bichi for hosting the programme and commended them for putting in place facilities for the successful conduct of the programme. He further called on the students to focus on their studies and wished them success.

By: Ibrahim Addai Hamid

## ICESCO Workshop

The Nigeria Arabic Language Village, Ngala an Inter University Centre for Arabic Studies, had in 2022 been confirmed as HUB for Training of Arabic Language in Nigeria by ICESCO.

The workshop is the fifth in the series of training workshop since the establishment of NALV ICESCO Unit in the Village. The workshop focused on 'Listening and Reading Skills'. 20 participants from Arabic Village have participated in today's zoom workshop. Participants from various countries such as Benin Republic, Tchad, Cameroon, Uganda, and Niger participated in the workshop.

The 8 hours' workshop is facilitated by Dr. Rida Arajimi from the Headhunters of ICESCO in Rabat, Morocco. NALV participants were commended by the facilitator for their level of contributions in the workshop.

The head of NALV ICESCO, Ibrahim Adai Hamid has expressed appreciation to Dr. Rida Arajimi who facilitated the workshop and taking them through the theme of the workshop for 8 hours. It could be recalled that Mal. Ibrahim Addai Hamid was recently appointed to head the NALV-ICESCO unit. And the fifth meeting of ICESCO was his first meeting since he was appointed as head of ICESCO.

The leader of ICESCO has acknowledged the effort of the Director/CEO, professor Ibrahim

Muhammad for supporting the ICESCO. He said, Professor Ibrahim Muhammad has created an enabling environment for the Village ICESCO unit to operate. Ibrahim Addai said, the Director has provided all the facilities required for the success of the ICESCO unit. He installs some of the facilities such as state of out Camera and Accessories and also the Director is always there to support the programme. He thanked the Director for his unrelenting effort in making the success of the ICESCO programme. He and all his team members have promised to justify their appointments.



## FCE Katsina Host NALV Acculturation Program

By: Mal. Hadi Ja'e

Nigeria Arabic Language Village Ngala, is an Inter University Centre for Arabic Studies, established in 1992 by the Federal Government of Nigeria to cater for Language Immersion Programme to all students offering Arabic language in Nigerian Universities and Acculturation programme to students of Colleges of Education across Nigeria. The Village is the only institution mandated by law to conduct 'Acculturation programme' in Nigeria.

The Boko Haram insurgency has pushed the Arabic Village to relocate to Maiduguri since 2013 and since then, the Village is operating from outreach centres across Nigeria. Federal College of Education Katsina is one of the centres where the outreach programmes are being conducted.

The Coordinator of the Acculturation programme, Mal. Hadi Ja'e has expressed his happiness for the war reception accorded to him by the Management of FCE Katsina. He appreciated the level of cooperation, they have extended to him, which makes it easy for him to coordinate the programme.

The Acculturation programme commenced at Federal College of Education, Katsina Outreach Centre on Monday 9th January, 2023. The NALV Coordinator of the Programme, Mal. Hadi Abdulkadir Ja'e, was at the center for the programme. Meanwhile, the official commencement of the programme was attended by the Deputy Provost, Dr. Ahmed Tunani, Dean School of Languages, Dr. Ilori Emanuel, HOD Arabic, Mal. Murtala Abdullahi, former HOD of

Arabic, Dr. Taki Isa Alhaji, the College Librarian, Alhaji Abidina, and the College Examination Officer among others.

About 100 students are expected to participate in the programme. However, as at the time of writing this report, about 30 students have so far registered.

The NALV Director/CEO, Professor Ibrahim Muhammad has sent in his good will message to the Management of hosting institution, FCE, Katsina. Prof. Ibrahim also appreciated and thanked them for providing an enabling facility for hosting the programme at the center.

Equally, the Director has also sent his best wishes to all students participating in the programme and wished them successful Acculturation programme.



## NALV Committee on Curriculum Designing for Diploma in Arabic for Tsangaya Teachers Holds its Inaugural Meeting.

The need to integrating and streamlining the Sangaya Teachers into the mainstream system of education had informed the formation of the committee by the management of Nigeria Arabic language Village Ngala.

The committee which was chaired by the Deputy Director Dr. Zakir Alhaji Sheriff had its inaugural meeting on 4 January, 2022. The chairman of the committee had called on all members to work as a team in order to produce a document that can stand the test of time. He said this is the first time the Village is venturing into this type of programme, which he said, would go a long way in addressing the problems of non-recognition of Sangaya Teachers in the mainstream civil service and for admission to further their studies.

Dr. Zakir A. Sheriff has also emphasized on the significance of the programme especially with the recent recognition of Nigeria Arabic Language Village as a training hub by ICESCO.

The Village has in the recent time taken a bold step in expanding its scope of activities in line with its mandate of teaching Arabic language to all Nigerians in both Public and Private sectors. Considering the contemporary realities, the need to introducing the diploma programme specifically for Teachers of Sangaya need not to be overemphasized.

The ultimate goal could be that, such Teachers of Sangaya at the end of the programme it's expected that, the sangaya Teachers could be conversant in Arabic language as well as become employable.

The committee has the following members; Dr. Idris Ahmed Yunus, Dr. Kasim Alkali, Dr. Ababa Abbagoni, Dr. Muhammad Saleh Kabir, Dr. Yunus Bukar Abdullahi and Mal. Muhammad Ibn Umar.

The committee is expected to complete its assignment within the stipulated time with a view to commencing the programme proper "Diploma in Arabic for Sangaya Teachers".

## United Nations World Food Program (UNWFP) Officials Visits Arabic Village

By: Umar Sanda

Nigeria Arabic language Village Ngala, an Education and Out of school children programmes of Inter-University Centre for Arabic Studies the Village are taking place. has today being 11 January, 2023 received officials from United Nation World food programme.

The United Nation World Food Program (UNWFP) delegation from Abuja office led by Mrs Udoku Ekpo and Mrs Laila Karumi were received by the Registrar, the Head of Sangaya and out of school children and other top Management staff of the village.

The Head of Sangaya and Out of School Children of the Village Dr. Kasim Alkali has introduced the official to the Management. He said, the UNWFP Officials were attracted by programme of the Village in preparing Out of School Children to join the formal education as well as the training of Sangaya teachers.

After a brief discussion with the Management the delegation visited Zulum Campus of the Village Opp. University of Maiduguri and other centres where Girl Child



### NIGERIA ARABIC LANGUAGE VILLAGE, NGALA INTER UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR ARABIC STUDIES

#### Proposed Posting of Deputy Registrars

| S/N | NAME                      | SCHEDULE AND RESPONSIBILITY             | REMARKS |
|-----|---------------------------|---|---------|
| 1   | Abba Sidi                 | DR Senior Establishment                 |         |
| 2   | Abdulhamid M. Abdullahi   | DR Junior Establishment                 |         |
| 3   | Daud A. Musa              | DR Admission                            |         |
| 4   | Barr. Ahmed Abdulkadir    | DR Legal Affairs                        |         |
| 5   | Babani Tahir              | DR Special Duties                       |         |
| 6   | Ibrahim Mohammed          | DR Deputy Registrar Council Affairs     |         |
| 7   | Baba Gana Ali Mala        | DR Deputy Registrar Security Management |         |
| 8   | Muhammad Ibn Umar         | DR Academic Affairs                     |         |
| 9   | Umar Sanda Mohammed       | DR Information Media and Publicity      |         |
| 10  | Algoni Mustapha Abdullahi | DR Examination and records              |         |
| 11  | Mohammed Ali Marshal      | DR Servicom                             |         |
| 12  | Baba Mai Ali              | DR Student Affairs                      |         |
| 13  | Meremi Bukar              | DR Human Resources                      |         |
| 14  | Baba mala Yahaya          | DR Library                              |         |

## NALV Acculturation Program Commences at Shehu Shagari College of Education

By: Nazifi Balarabe

The Acculturation programme of Nigeria Arabic Language Village, Ngala is a mandatory course for all students of Colleges of Education offering Arabic Language. It is one of the core mandate of the Village after the Immersion Programme, which is specifically designed for students of University offering Arabic language in Nigerian Universities.

At Shehu Shagari College of Education, Sokoto, the Acculturation programme has commenced on 4th January, 2023. The coordinator from Sokoto axis, Mal. Nazifi Balarabe has reported that, the Acculturation programme has officially commenced at the centre.

The HOD Arabic, Dr. Yawa Mohammed and other top Management Staff of the College have personally attended the official commencement of the programme. Adamu Augie College of Education, Argungu have also joined the programme at Shehu Shagari College of Education.

The HOD of Arabic of Shehu Shagari College of Education, Dr. Yawa Mohammed had during the commencement of the programme expressed his appreciation to the management of Nigeria Arabic Language Village, Ngala for approving the hosting to the College. He also acknowledged the effort of the Director of the Village, Prof. Ibrahim Muhammad in restoring the glories of Arabic Language and Arabic Village in particular for ensuring that despite the

security challenges, he makes sure that the Village has maintain its mandate. He added that, with the recent improvement in security situation in the North-East and Borno in particular, they would soon start sending their students to Arabic Village for the acculturation programmes in Borno State.

A special prayer was also offered for the



restoration of permanent peace in the North-East and Borno State in particular.

The NALV Director/CEO, Professor Ibrahim Muhammad has sent in his good will message to the Management of Shehu Shagari College of Education and to all participating students from SSCE and wished them a hitch free and successful Acculturation programme.

## Former NALV Director Pays Visit to the Liaison Office Maiduguri

By: Umar Sanda

Professor Muhammad Muazu Nguru, former Director/CEO of the Nigeria Arabic Language Village Ngala, had on 25th January, 2023 paid a courtesy visit to the present Director/Chief Executive Officer, Professor Ibrahim Muhammad in his office along Lagos Street, Maiduguri.

The former Director, Professor Muhammad Muazu Nguru was warmly received at the Liaison Office by the incumbent Director, Prof. Ibrahim Muhammad. Such a visit by former Director to the incumbent one is first of its kind, it has never happened before. While, welcoming Professor Muhammad Mu'azu Nguru, the Director of the Village, Professor Ibrahim Muhammad has expressed his happiness for the visit. He said Professor Nguru has done a lot for the growth and development of Arabic Village and for the development of Arabic Language in Nigeria and Africa in general.

Prof. Ibrahim Muhammad also added that the visit of the former Director to the Village has opened a new chapter in the history of the Village. He further said the Village would continue to consult him whenever the need arises.

In his response, the former Director expressed his happiness on the level of infrastructural development he saw in the Village. He said, Prof. Ibrahim Muhammad

knows what he can do in terms of transforming the Village. He further said the incumbent Director is a man who loves whatever he is doing, a goal getter and result oriented Chief Executive. Therefore, he called on all staff of the Village to rally round the Director so that he can transform the institution to a greater height.

During the visit, Prof. Muhammad Muazu Nguru inspected some facilities at the Liaison Office. Amongst the Facilities inspected were 500 Seater Zulum Hall, 100 bed space female hostel etc. After the inspection, Prof. Nguru expressed happiness over the development.



## NALV Team Visits Niger, Nasarawa, FCT Abuja and Kontogora for Acculturation Programs

By: Babagana Babakura

The NALV team led by the Zonal Coordinator, Muhammad Ramadan Yunus and Head of Revenue and Special Duties, Babagana, were at Niger State College of Education, Minna, where the team met and deliberated with Management of the State College of Education. Their discussions centered on the mandatory Acculturation programme for Arabic students.

In a related development, the team had also visited College of Education Akwanga, Nasarawa State where they were received by the HOD Arabic, Dr. Abdullahi Yerima. The HOD, along with his team had shown interest in enrolling their students to participate in the Acculturation programme of the Village. Other Colleges of Education visited by the NALV delegation are; the College of Education FCT, Zuba-Abuja and the Federal College of Education Kontogora.

In all the places visited, the team had had robust discussions on issues bordering on the students' participation in acculturation programme of the Village. It is interesting to note that the Management of all the Colleges visited promised to enroll their Arabic students in the acculturation programme of the Village.

The acculturation programme of the Village is a compulsory programme for all students offering Arabic language at Colleges of Education across Nigeria. It is by law, mandatory for the Colleges of Education students to come to Arabic Village in Borno State for the programme.



However, due to the insecurity, which engulfed the North-East and Borno State in particular, the Colleges of Education have stopped coming to the programme in Borno State. With the recent improvement in security situation in Borno State, the Village would soon start hosting the students for acculturation programmes in Borno State.

The team were there with the sole aim of discussing the issue and stressing the mandate of the Village as far as the conduct of Acculturation programme is concerned.

## NALV Delegation attends Valedictory Court Session in Honor of Hon. Khadi Abubakar Imam Rtd

By: Umar Sanda



A delegation led by NALV Deputy Director, Dr. Zakir Alhaji Sheriff had on 5th January, 2023 attended a valedictory Court session in honour of Hon. Kadi Abubakar Imam. The occasion took place at the Sharia Court of Appeal Complex, Maiduguri.

The Valedictory Court session was supervised by the Chief Judge of Borno State, Hon. Justice Kashim Zannah OFR. Other judges in attendance were; Hon.

Kadi Umar Ramat Mukaila, the Grand Kadi of Borno State, Hon. Kadi Ahmed Goni Kur, Hon. Kadi Ahmad Abba Muhammad, Hon. Kadi Mohammad Gambo Abubakar and Hon. Kadi Usman Salihu Sakwa. Other notable figures that graced the occasion include the Chief Registrar, Sharia Court of Appeal, Idris Ali Ismail and the Chief Registrar, High Court, Mustapha Aljali.

The Deputy Director, Dr. Zakir Alhaji Sheriff has on behalf of the Director/CEO, Professor Ibrahim Muhammad congratulated Hon. Kadi Abubakar Imam rtd, for meritoriously serving the State as Kadi of the Sharia Court of Appeal leading to the retirement age. He wished him a happy retirement years ahead.

Members of NALV delegation who attended occasion include the Registrar, Ali Abdullahi Ali, the Bursar, Rawa M. Mustapha, Dr. Idris Ahmad Yunus, Dr. Kasim Alkali, Dr. Ahmad Al-Amin Al-Bashir, Barr. Ahmed Muhammad Abdulkadir and Arc. Mohammed Yusuf Mohammed.

# District Head of Ngala Visits Arabic Village Liaison Office Maiduguri

By: Muhammad Suleiman (Baffa)

The District Head of Ngala Alhaji Abba Kura Usman Sandabe had on Monday 30th January, 2023 paid a courtesy visit to the Liaison office of the Arabic Village in Maiduguri.

On arrival he was received by the Registrar Alhaji Ali Abdullahi Ali. The new District Head of Ngala succeeded his late father Alhaji Usman Sandabe.

In his brief remarks the District Head has said that, since his turbarning as District Head this is his first time of visiting the liaison office of the village in Maiduguri. Adding that he has been following the activities of the village and has expressed his satisfaction with the effort of the Management of the village under the leadership of Professor Ibrahim Mohammed especially in the area of maintaining the mandate of the village.

The Registrar thanked the District Head and expressed his profound appreciation to him on behalf of the Management and described the visit as historic one. He also informed him that, the Village Management had constituted a committee on Relocation of the service of



the village to its permanent site in Ngala.

The Registrar has informed the District Head that, the committee has visited his Royal Highness the Shehu of Dikwa Shehu Ibrahim Ibn Ibrahim Elkanemi and some stakeholders of Ngala local government. Alhaji Ali Abdullahi Ali said, the management is waiting to receive the report and recommendations of the committee for further action.

## NALV Representatives attend the 8th Qur'anic Memorization Graduation Ceremony at Maahad Fatima Zahra Islamiyya

By: Muhammad Suleiman (Baffa)

On the 29th of January 2023, the representative of Nigeria Arabic Language Village under the leadership of Dr, Kasim Alkali had attend the Qur'anic memorization of Maahad Fatima Zahra Islamiyya at Gwange 1, Sheik Sheriff Ibrahim Saleh Mosques in Maiduguri.

Dr. Kasim Alkali who represent the NALV Director/CEO, Prof. Ibrahim Muhammad describe the gathering as a great one and urged the graduating student to keep it up with the good performance and congratulate them for being worthy in character and learning the Holy book of Qur'an. He added that they had huge responsibility ahead to impact on the society. Dr. Kasim also advised the teachers of Maahad Fatima Zahra Islamiyya to join the ongoing program called train the trainee organized by the Nigeria Arabic Language Village, Ngala which will enable them to acquire modern techniques of teaching that will help them in class room interaction. He added that Nigeria Arabic Language Village is ever ready to support their activities so that the relationship remains mutual.

The Chairman of the occasion, Dr Falmata Umara Zulum who was represented by the Commissioner of woman affairs Hajiya Zuwaira Gambo expressed pleasure with the graduating student. She said she was proud with their modest achievement, hoping that the knowledge acquired will be impact to the

society. In his response, the Head master of the islamiyya thanked the NALV Director Chief Executive Officer, Prof. Ibrahim Muhammad for the support he has been rendering to Islamiyya Schools across the State not only Maahad Fatima Zahra alone. In the same vein he also appreciated the Commissioner of Woman affairs for attending the occasion. He described her presents as an added value to the school.



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