

PROFESSOR OLAJUMOKE ABIMBOLA MORENIKEJI

Prof. Olajumoke Abimbola Morenikeji read Zoology at the University of Ibadan. She obtained a Ph.D in 1998. She had a MIM/TDR postdoctoral fellowship for training at the Division of Parasitology, National Institute of Medical Research, London and a TWAS-DBT postdoctoral fellowship for training at the National Institute of Malaria Research Delhi, India. She got a Certificate in International Health Research Ethics at the Harvard School of Public Health, USA. She is a Professor in the Department of Zoology at the University of Ibadan and currently on sabbatical at the KolaDaisi University Ibadan where she is the Dean of the Faculty of Applied Sciences.

As an Academic, she has over 100 published papers and 4 books. She has gotten Scholarships, Fellowships and Grants from the University of Ibadan, Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND), The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), WHO Multilateral Initiative on Malaria and Tropical Diseases Research (MIM/TDR), Harvard School of Public Health, The Department of Biotechnology of the Ministry of Science and Technology in India - The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS-DBT), United States Government and Chicago Zoological Society.

She has attended and presented papers in several local and international conferences. She was the Keynote Speaker at the International Pangolin Symposium by the Chicago Zoological Society/Brookfield Zoo United States. She was University of Ibadan Delegate at the Executive Programme on Empowering Women in Higher Education by the NUC and the Oxford City Academy for Education and Development (OAED) at the Lady Margaret Hall, Northam Gardens, Oxford University UK. She has trained, mentored and graduated several BSc, MSc and Ph.D. students.

Prof. Morenikeji is passionate about the environment and biodiversity conservation. She was the Director of the University of Ibadan Zoological Garden from September 2010 to July 2016 bringing a first of its kind landmark transformation to the zoo since its inception in 1948. She received commendation from the University of Ibadan Management and several awards for her

works in the zoo. She has since extended her expertise to several other wildlife sanctuaries in Nigeria. She is an Alumnus of the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP), a Premier Professional Exchange Program by the U.S. Department of State (Our Planet - Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Program). She is Fellow of the Zoological Society of Nigeria (ZSN), Pioneer President of the Nigerian Association of Zoological Gardens and Wildlife Parks (NAZAP), Chairperson Olusegun Obasanjo Presidential Library Wildlife Park and Chair Pangolin Conservation Guild Nigeria (PCGN). She is a Member of the University of Ibadan Animal Care and Use Research Ethics Committee (ACUREC) and Regional Chair (West Africa) International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN SSC pangolin specialist group).

Her love for wildlife conservation birthed the Pangolin Conservation Guild Nigeria, a first of its kind initiative in the country. The group works mainly to ensure that pangolins are protected in Nigeria through awareness creation, scientific research, relevant collaborations, rescue, rehabilitation and release of pangolins to protected forest areas.

She was invited as a participant, partner and stakeholder at the drafting and high-level validation of the Nigeria National Strategy to combat Wildlife and Forest Crime 2022-2026 funded by the Federal Foreign Office of the Republic of Germany, and implemented by United Nations office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) through the Federal Ministry of Environment.

At KDU, she was,

Head, Department of Biological Sciences, KolaDaisi University Ibadan, March 2021- August, 2021

Chairperson, Faculty Disciplinary Committee, KolaDaisi University Ibadan, 2021 to date.

Chairperson. Prizes and Awards Committee, KolaDaisi University Ibadan, 2021 to date

Chairman, Business Committee of Senate, KolaDaisi University Ibadan, 2021 to date

Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences KolaDaisi University Ibadan, 2021 to date

Editor-in-Chief KolaDaisi Journal of Applied Science (KUJAS), 2022

Chairperson, Senate Committee on CCMAS 2022

Prof. Morenikeji is married with lovely children.