

**PROFESSOR ADEWALE BANDELE ADEGBITE, MNAL,
FESAN, FLiPAN, FNIM**



Prof. Adewale Bandele (Adetokunbo, Sulaiman) Adio Adegbite hails from Ibadan in Oyo State of Nigeria. He was born in Lagos on 15th May, 1956. He holds undergraduate and postgraduate degrees of the Obafemi Awolowo University and the University of Ibadan and a Postgraduate Diploma in Education.

He started his education at Christ Church School, Ilaro, Ogun State in 1962, moved to ICC Practising School, Oke-Bola, Ibadan in 1964 and completed his primary education in 1967 at Ilaro. He proceeded to Lagelu Grammar School, Ibadan in 1968 for his secondary education and passed the West African School Certificate Exam (WASCE) with Grade II in 1972.

Prof. Adegbite has had a blossoming career as a library staff (1973-75), a teacher (1980-82) and as an academic (1982 to 2026). He joined the services of Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife in 1982 as a Graduate Assistant and rose to the rank of Professor of English Language in the University in 2005. He has book publications in English for primary, secondary and tertiary education and over 100 academic publications in reputable journals and books. He has supervised more than 30 graduate students; M.A. (thesis with oral defence), M.Phil. and PhD.

Prof. Adegbite has travelled widely to attend seminars, workshops and conferences all over Nigeria, Africa, Asia, Europe and North America. Apart from serving as Visiting Professor/Visiting Researcher, External Examiner, External Assessor and Member of Accreditation Panels in several universities and other tertiary institutions in and outside Nigeria, he has been a member and executive committee member of many national and international academic and professional organisations. He was Director of Membership, Reading Association of Nigeria, 1999 to 2002; and Member, Intellectual Freedom Committee, International Reading Association (IRA), Newark, DE, USA, 2003 to 2005. He was Assistant Secretary, Nigeria English Studies Association (NESA), now English Scholars' Association of Nigeria (ESAN), 2004 to 2007; Editor, 2007 to 2012; and President, 2012 to 2017. He has been Chairman, Board of Trustees of the Pragmatics Association of Nigeria since 2017.

Prof. Wale Adegbite has helped organise, facilitated and coordinated various workshops on literacy, reading and teaching of English language, sponsored by various states, national and international agencies and organisations. He has also served as guest lecturer, lead paper presenter and keynote speaker at several academic and public fora. He has been reviewer, editor, editor in chief and member of editorial boards of many journals in and outside Nigeria.

He has many scholarships, research grants and awards to his credit, including the University of Ife Staff Development Grant, 1981-1982; Federal Government of Nigeria's Scholarship Award, 1982-83; Research

Grants by the Research Council of the Obafemi Awolowo University in 1990 and 1998; and the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND), 2017. His awards include the A. S. Hornby Educational Trust Award by the British Council in 1997, the Developing Countries Literacy Award by the International Reading Association (IRA), Newark, DE, USA in 2005 and the German DAAD Scholarship Award in 2010.

He was a Resident Scholar at Oxford University, England in 2008. He has awards of fellowship from academic and professional bodies such as Fellow of the English Scholars' Association of Nigeria (FESAN) in 2021, Fellow of the Literacy Promotion Association of Nigeria (FLiPAN), formerly Reading Association of Nigeria, in 2022 and Fellow of the Nigerian Institute of Management (FNIM) in 2014. Other awards include the Merit Award of *Akikanju Omo* Ibadan (Valiant Son of Ibadan) in 2006; the Award of Excellence for his contribution to the development of Fundamental Education, Obafemi Awolowo University Staff School, Ile-Ife in 2009; Distinguished Alumnus of Lagelu Grammar School, Ibadan at its 60th anniversary in 2018; and Award of Distinction for outstanding contribution to the development of Ibadan land and services to humanity by the Central Council of Ibadan Indigenes (CCII) in 2020.

As a staff of Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Prof. Wale Adegbite has served and received awards of merit as Staff Adviser of several students' associations and has been member and chairman of various committees and boards at departmental, faculty and university levels and outside the university. He was an executive member of the OAU (Ife) Staff Cooperative Society for four years and Vice-president of the society for four years. He had served on several PTA executive boards of primary and secondary schools in Osun State and as a member of the Governing Board (Senate Representative) of the Obafemi Awolowo University Staff School, Ile-Ife. He has served as both Collation and Returning Officer in Osun State in the general elections conducted by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), 2011 to 2019. He was Vice-Dean, Faculty of Arts 1997-1999 and Head, Department of English, 2008-2010. He also served as the Chairman, Anti-corruption and Transparency Unit, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, 2021-2024.

At Church, Prof. Wale Adegbite was President of the Ifelodun Christian Association, 2000-2004, a Patron of the Church of Tomorrow (Youth) Society and the Ekerin-Ijo of St Peter's Anglican Church, Ile-Ife, Osun State, Nigeria (since 2012). He is a member of the Synod of the Diocese

of Ife; former Editor, *Ile Ayo/Happy Home* Magazine (2001-2007); former Deputy Education Adviser (2001-2011) and Diocesan Youth Adviser (2011 to 2024). In addition, he is Chairman, Deceased Clergy's Family Welfare Committee; Member, Men's Fellowship Curriculum Drafting Committee; Bishop's Nominee to the Cathedral Greater Chapter (in 2018); and Chairman, Synod Planning Committee of the Diocese of Ife, 2019-2021. He is a Patron of the Choir at the St David's Church, Kudeti, Ibadan. Both he and his wife are Life Members of the Bible Society of Nigeria.

In terms of social responsibility, Prof. Wale Adegbite is a proud Alumnus of Lagelu Grammar School, Ibadan, for which he received the Distinguished Alumnus Award of the Old Boys' Association in commemoration of the diamond anniversary of his alma-mater and in recognition of his achievements in his chosen career in 2018. Prof. Wale Adegbite is a member of the Central Council of Ibadan Indigenes (CCII) for which he received an award of distinction for his outstanding contribution to the development of Ibadanland and service to humanity. He has been the President of the Ibadan Elite Club, Ile-Ife, affiliated to the CCII, since 2019. He had served as Vice-Chairman and currently serves as Chairman of the Landlords' Association, Parakin Zone 5, Parakin, Ile-Ife.

Prof. Adegbite is happily married to Mrs Taiwo Adegbite and their union is blessed with five children. His motto is "Serve God, Serve Humanity".