Obituaries

PROF. HENRY OLUSEGUN ADEWOYE, 1937-2010

MBBS (Lond), Dip Path (UK), FRC Path(UK) FWACP: FMCPath
Chemical Pathologist and Immunologist

Henry Olusegun Adewoye was born on 24th September, 1937 to Late Pa Daniel Towoju Adewoye of Obaloyan's Compound, Iba, Osun State. Lessons from a Cathechist in Anglican Communion Father included the love of God and family, the pursuit of excellence, generosity and charitable giving, community service and building a solid foundation for the next generation.

He attended Government College, Ibadan, Oyo State (1951 – 1957). He graduated with an MB, BS (London) in October 1963 from University College Hospital Ibadan. He completed his internship rotation (1963 – 1964) under Professor Monekoso, Drs. A. F. Olapade, and Buchanan; all of them gave him a solid academic and professional foundation.

He worked as a Medical Officer in the Ministry of Health (Western Region) between 1964 and 1966. His post-graduate education between 1966 – 1971 were in the following hospitals:

- (a) St. Thomas' Hospital, London (Louis Jenner Laboratories)
- (b) Lambeth Hospital, London
- (c) St. Charles' Hospital Laboratories, London
- (d) St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, London
- (e) Institute of Neurology, Queen's Square, London.

He sat and passed the qualifying examinations of the Royal Colleges in the UK; such as: Dip.Path London April 1969, M.R.C.Path UK November 1971 (Royal College of Pathologists). Appointed Fellow of the Colleges F.R.CPath (UK) in 1983. FRSM(Royal Society of Medicine UK 1977).

Upon returning to Nigeria in 1972, he joined the Department of Clinical Pathology under Professor A. E. Boyo at Lagos University Teaching Hospital, Idi-Araba. His research interest and focus was water and electrolyte metabolism.

In 1982 he was appointed a Professor of Chemical Pathology, and Consultant Chemical Pathologist, University of Ilorin/University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital. He developed a curriculum for medical undergraduates and postgraduates training in Chemical Pathology and Immunology at the University and Teaching Hospital. In May 1987, he was appointed chairman of the committee that organized the International Symposium in Ilorin on 'Medicina Alternativa'

The Department of Chemical Pathology he developed remains one of the best in the world. Some of his early trainees are: Prof. AB Okesina (current Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Osun State University), Prof. R. T. Erasmus (currently of the Department of Chemical Pathology, University of Stellenbosch, Republic of South Africa), Professor AO Olukoga (Lagos State University, College of Medicine).

He replicated these accomplishments as Consultant to hospitals in the Middle East; Chief Consultant Pathologist (Mutabaghani Health Company) at King Fahad Specialist Hospital, Buraidah, Saudi Arabia (Sept. 1988 – Sept. 1990), Taif Maternity Hospital, Taif, Saudi Arabia (Sept. 1990 – March 1991) and as Consultant "A" Pathologist to Fujairah Hospital Laboratories, Fujairah, United Arab Emirates (June 1992 – Sept. 1997).

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Upon returning to Nigeria finally in 1997, his drive to teach and to continue contributing to Medical Education in Nigeria led him to Ladoke Akintola University of Technology where he was appointed the Head of Department and Professor of Chemical Pathology and Chairman of the Division of Laboratory Medicine (1998 – 2000) and more recently, Professor of Chemical Pathology in the Department of Chemical Pathology, Lagos State University, College of Medicine in 2000 until his death early on in 2010.

First in the Life of Prof. H. O. Adewoye

- First physician in his community of Iba, Osun State.
- Honorary Physician-in-charge of Charity Clinic for Bishop Adelakun Howell's Memorial Church, Surulere, Lagos (1974 – 1984).
- Inauguration Secretary of the West African College of Physicians (Jan. 1975 Oct. 1976).
- Founder and Member, Association of Pathologists of Nigeria.
- Foundation Head, Department of Chemical Pathology and Immunology, Faculty of Health Services, University of Ilorin and University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital.
- Professor of Chemical Pathology, Chairman, Division of Laboratory Medicine and Head, Department of Chemical Pathology, Ladoke Akintola University of Technology.

These accomplishments regardless, Prof. Adewoye remained humble and accessible to his extended family, his church and members of his community. He was responsible for the education of a good number of individuals in his community and extended family. He was wont to regale his family with stories of his youth, growing up as a prince, the son of a catechist and of his humble beginnings.

Professor Adekunle Bashiru Okesina

Osun State University, Osogbo, Nigeria