



LADI MEMORIAL FOUNDATION CAC No: 123865
CHATEKO VOCATIONAL INSTITUTE

...raising generations of skillful, impactful, talented, innovative and productive people...

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**KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT THE INAUGURAL GRADUATION OF 6-MONTHS GARMENT MAKING COURSE BY
THE CHAIRMAN, LADI MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, ARC. OLUSOLA B. OSIKOYA, ON FRIDAY MARCH 15, 2019,
AT ILEKE EMONOJA COMMUNITY OF OGUGU, OLAMABORO LGA**

Protocol

1. We give glory and praise to God Jehovah Adonai for His many gifts to us and the privilege and opportunity to witness this special and memorable occasion, the maiden graduation ceremony of Ladi Memorial Foundation (LMF) Chateko vocational institute to the Glory of God.
2. Indeed the journey of a thousand miles starts with a step. What we are witnessing today, the vision started with the idea conceived and taught by a woman of humble background, Late Mrs Ladi Ameh the mother of the Commissioner for Education, Science and Technology, who believed that everyone should have a functional vocational skill to be useful to self and society. Though her highest qualification was grade 7 certificate in the 1960s, she attained other on the job trainings in clerical job skills. Moreso, she devoted her life to imparting lives and emphasizing the need for support to her people, sacrificing her comfort also to support others. She was never able to learn how to sew though she assisted many with sewing machines and encouraged young women to have practical skills. She passed on to glory in February 2016, a little over 3 years ago, and the occasion of her burial brought us to realize the poor level of development of her home community and the motivation for her desire to uplift her people standard of living of her people. This earnest expectations gave rise to the LMF vision of raising generations of impactful, innovative, talented, productive & Skillful people in line with the popular saying that rather than give a fish to someone teach them how to fish.
3. That's why today gives me greater Joy to see the first set of trainees for the 6 months garment making course graduate successfully with practical skills. We are thankful for the opportunity to be of service to humanity, to help those who needed hope the most, and to be able to do so not because we the members of Ladi Memorial Foundation have too much, but because we care very much.
4. A total of 16 trainees of various under-privilege background and heart touching economic realities benefit full scholarship for the 6 months training. Competent paid instructors- both local within Ogugu(2) and from outside Olamaboro LGA (Abuja 1) and Lagos (1) facilitated the classes for both male and female garment making. As it is evident from the exhibition by the trainees, much learning took place and the trained have been taught how to fish.
5. The task of providing them with equipment, materials and much needed support is

a collective one and we encourage every well-meaning individual and group to give generously, willingly and sacrificially. It is important that we never forget our beginning... the starting point to a meaningful life is to give back to your community, building it together, improving and uplifting the life of people and environment.

6. We are humbled to note that the LMF facility is the only functional vocational skill centre in Olamaboro LGA. LMF in our 2019 workplan is thus focusing on scaling community support by:
 - a. Expanding existing facility to include 2 additional classrooms and instructor accommodation to accommodate the increased number of application we have received for the next class commencing April 2019 by the grace of God. It is not our desire to turn back any interested trainee. We sincerely appreciate the community members who have contributed blocks to the projects.
 - b. We have reviewed the training programme to align with the NABTEB curriculum and MNEC policy guideline for Mass literacy, adult and non-formal education. We are thankful to NABTEB for conducting modular examinations for the pioneer students. The next session will seek to provide literacy activities to all age bracket and additional vocational skills.
 - c. In view of the health challenges observed in the host community, the infant mortality and distance to health care facilities, we trust God to provide portable water to the communities.
 - d. We thank the Ileke Community members for agreeing to open up their homes to accommodate trainees from far distances who desire to acquire training at LMF Chateko Vocational Institute in Ileke.
 - e. To provide access to urban dwellers we are at the concluding stages of opening the Lokoja Study centre at 24 Agbaje close opposite Mamma Christian Academy, Lokogoma Phase 1.
7. Expertise requires continuous training and learning. We encourage the graduates today to never stop learning. The 6-months training has a specific time frame but learning is a life long activity. Develop yourself better than the level you have attained here which is the basic. Be humble to learn more. Always seek advice in any issues that seem not clear because you are going to meet various kinds of people with different matters and always keep to the time agreed and make sure you have an agreement before undertakings any design.
8. I wish to thank all the members of LMF Board of Trustees for their commitment in making sure the vision is attained through their contribution and sacrifice in various ways which has brought us this far. We sincerely appreciate all those who have given of their time, money, ideas, resources etc and keyed into the vision by supporting us through donations, morally and spiritually. I appreciate our partners- Government, communities, political class, traditional rulers, and all others too numerous to count, may God bless and repay your kindness in Jesus Name. may God grant us all Journey mercies back to our various destinations.

Once again, I congratulate all the graduates and commit them to the hands of God.

Thank you all.

