

## **It's a New Dawn – A Moment of Pride, Purpose and Journey**

*Being speech delivered by the Provost, on the occasion of NAAC's Maiden Matriculation Ceremony, 2024/2025 Academic Year, on Wednesday, May 28, 2025*

### **Salutation**

The JAMB Registrar,  
The Principal Officers of the College,  
All Directors,  
Heads of Departments,  
Parents and Guardians,  
Gentlemen of the Press,  
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,  
The Greatest Nigerian Students

### **Introduction**

On behalf of the Chief Promoter and Visioner of Nubian American Advanced College (Dr. Azhinoto Ozodio Ikpah, PhD), the Governing Council, and the entire Management team, and with gratitude to the Almighty for a dream manifesting under my leadership, I wholeheartedly welcome you all to this maiden matriculation ceremony, implanting the feet of this citadel of learning in the sands of time. His tory is being made today and you are all part of this epochal event, especially those pioneering the studentship and faculty of the approved and accredited status of this institution.

I particularly welcome the Registrar of the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB), Professor Isaaq Oloyede, very ably represented by the Lagos State Coordinators of JAMB, Mrs. Mary Essien and Mrs. Grace Ojekwe

My very hearty congratulations go to the matriculants, whose names go into the annals of history as the pioneer students of the take-off programme of the college duly accredited by the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE), full-time and part-time; trainees opening the doors for certificates and certifications; their parents and guardians; and warmly welcome all guests to this auspicious occasion.

The establishment of this college is predicated upon the notion that education is functional when it serves to bridge the community/society with its economy/industries. This tripod being the hallmark of the American tertiary education model serves as our motivation to realign educational delivery from mere paper qualification to practical minds and hands reorientation. To this end, this administration places a premium on students as vital stakeholders in the revolutionary drive to take education to the point of progress and development of society through the industries and businesses thereof. It is our anticipation therefore that the students that will pass through this institution will not be mere paper carriers but champions that will conquer the world with massive innovations in technology, entrepreneurship, business remodeling, cultural rebirth, and educational confidence for lifelong learning. To actualize this

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vision, we have started out by deploying such technologies for teaching/learning, curriculum delivery, exploration and critical thinking, that open up the mind of our students and faculty to the suppressed past of ancient African (Nubian) knowledge base and to the vast possibilities of human endeavours. You are invited to visit our multifaceted and multifunctional Learning Resource Center and Digital Entrepreneurship Development Center.

The JAMB Registrar, Sir, very distinguished ladies and gentlemen, please permit me to point the torch on some of our foundational settings that assure of our building a firm and solid educational citadel that is beyond the ordinary to justify our choice of model to prove its efficacy.

### ***ACCREDITATION***

In choosing to mirror the American model of education, which itself metamorphosed from Germany, and having a great deal of ancient African wisdom, science and technology, upkeeping the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), we hope to be internationally accredited by an accrediting commission in the United States of America. To this end, we have established curriculum benchmarks and having sought and obtained requisite recognition by the Federal Ministry of Education and the ascent of the NBTE, we are poised to deliver on our promise to make students learning here in Nigeria to be excellently competitive and globally sound from the standpoint of our national curriculums. We are thankful to the honourable minister for education and the NBTE for their approval and accreditation, which give us the impetus to hold this matriculation ceremony. We do not despise our take-off accreditation and our day of little beginning, as we look forward to a big future.

### ***INNOVATIONS IN TECHNOLOGY***

It will interest you to know that although we are new to the sector, we have already taken leaps that have put us in the foreground of education delivery through massive deployment of revolutionary technologies. We pride ourselves in achieving the enviable status of being approved and licensed by Microsoft Corporation to enjoy its corporate social responsibility in education to revolutionize learning and teaching experiences in our college. In the same vein we enjoy the license of homegrown software giant, MRSoft of M-R International, whose Enterprise School Portal (ESP) drives our processes. Working with both providers and our developing website [www.naac.edu.ng](http://www.naac.edu.ng) has given us very robust leading edge learning platforms and learning management systems that we continue to explore and engage. Faculty members and students in tertiary institutions in this country have not had this good. Many thanks to you Microsoft and MRSoft. At NAAC we are digitalized and still improving our processes from application for admission through awesome learning to transcript generation and alumni activities in due course.

### ***LIBRARY***

Understanding that a college is the mix of library/libraries and other structures, and the current state of affairs of the era, NAAC meets the needs of today's learners by deploying a digital e-library covering all spheres of human study. We are also stocking our physical book library not merely to satisfy accreditation requirements but to also meet the curiosity of library users. By the time we are done with the process of integration with libraries around the world, access will be available through our facilities to a rich harvest of knowledge across the globe and beyond boundaries. Accordingly, we are eagerly open to contributions and donations and hereby express our thanks in advance to contributors and donors.

***BURSARY SERVICES***

In line with trends in ease of doing business, NAAC is approved by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to receive electronic payments via our portal directly from our website. Tuition and other fees can thus be made from the comfort of one's place and time. Our system is being positioned to seamlessly run all financial transactions including donations, grants, and scholarships. Our enthusiasm to serve our students and give them the best call for the active involvement of partners, friends, and well-meaning individuals and organizations. We thus hereby solicit the joining of hands with us in this transforming journey.

***HEALTHCARE SERVICES***

In so far as we are open to receiving people in our facilities, we have made provisions for the care of health emergencies that may occur without warning. While we do not wish for any eventuality, our Sick Bay is established to serve this need, and serious cases will be referred to facilities outside the campus.

***SPORTS AND GAMES***

In recognition of the benefits of sports and games, we have mind developing indoor games in place while other more mobile and space-demanding activities can be availed outside the campus. The college plans to promote competitions and fiestas and hopes to be a place for the birth of champions. Athletes and various sectors of sportsmen and women within our students and staff cadres will be supported. In preparation for these aspirations, the Provost has provided trophies awaiting the commencement of the championships.

***CHARGE TO THE STUDENTS***

Having presented the visionary offerings and preparedness of the college to cater to the aspirations of our students and communities, it seems expedient for me to address our very dear students on gems to be held in mind in their sojourn at NAAC.

My very dear students, during your orientation you were introduced to several facets of college life, some of which seemed quite unfamiliar to you, especially the areas of technology. You nevertheless accepted our offer and chose to let us be your strong ally at this stage of your life. We have promised to guide you well in the fear of God and in the interest of your glorious future. Your teachers and other staff have been committed to your knowledge acquisition and general wellbeing while you are with us. You have also pledged to be of good conduct and to abide by the rules and regulations guiding your studentship. In this ceremony you have openly made such declaration to be obedient. Mutually the college and yourselves will hold each other to these vows. Be assured that on behalf of the college I promise you that we shall do our part. Your success, however, depends more on you applying yourself to the conditions and terms that take you to limelight. You are mounted on hilltops and cannot be hidden as society esteems the college, and industries expect you to meet their requirements upon completion of your studies at the college. I have no doubt that you shall be celebrated. Relent not!

***APPRECIATION & CLOSING***

The amiable JAMB Registrar, Sir, my depth of gratitude cannot be fully expressed for your unflinching support to our college since the NBTE notified you of our approval and accreditation status, and for honouring our invitation through your very able and equally supportive representative. We trust that you will continue to support us as we grow to fulfill our purpose. We wish you well as you return to your destination.

To you parents and guardians who have, in spite of our being new and relatively unknown, believed us to the point of allowing your children and or wards to be part of us, we thank you and pledge not to betray your confidence as we demonstrate commitment to excellence through this matriculation ceremony of which you are witnesses.

A special greeting and recognition must be made of the custodian of the tradition of the land, HRM, Oba Tijani Adetunji Akinloye, Sateru II, the Ojumu of Ajiran Land, who received and welcomed us with open arms to this community. In the same vein, I greet specially, the priest at Our Lady Star of the Sea the Catholic Church, who has proved to be a true friend of the college.

We acknowledge the enthusiasm and gifts from our friends upon learning of this event. Some of your insignia are on our photoshoot backdrop. Thank you.

On behalf of the Governing Council, Management, Staff, and Students of this promisingly great college, I congratulate the Chief Promoter, the Nubian Group, and all of us who have joined faith and forces with him to come this far. The journey is well underway!

As I make to resume my seat, I want to very warmly appreciate my fellow Principal Officers, Directors of Schools, Heads of Departments and Academic and other Services, the Academic Board and entire Staff (Teaching and Non-Teaching), without whose active support we would not have come this far.

To the Press and everyone here present, all our friends and sponsors, I say a big thank you and congratulations.

For your attention which I very much cherish, thank you and be blessed.

**Patrick Oyinkari, DBL**  
Professor of Business Management & Leadership  
Provost/CEO