Distance Learning and Access to Education
Focus

✓ Introduction
✓ Education and Development
✓ State of the World
✓ The History of ODL World wide & Nigeria
✓ ODL and Access to Education
✓ Indices of Indispensability
✓ Uniqueness of ODL & Way Forward
✓ Conclusion
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Thanks to Dr Aminu Ladan Sharehu, the Mutawallin Zazzau, the Director DLC ABU for this invitation.

I recall addressing your 2019 Retreat held between 13 to 16, January at Yankari Game Reserve by Video conferencing while I was in the UK.

Glad that DLC has become an integral part of the growth and development of ABU. A Mark of Excellence.

As an Alumnus of ABU, it is really my pleasure and honour to be part of your Retreat.
Collateral Learning and the Eco-Cultural Paradigm in Science and Mathematics Education in Africa

1995

Olugbemiro Jegede
Dedication of this keynote Address
**Great Teacher and Advocate for Access to Education**

- In 1979, became the president of Nigeria and the only one in the second republic after more than 13 years of military rule.

- 1953-1958, he worked as a visiting teacher at Sokoto Province.

- President Shehu Shagari, signed the Open University of Nigeria Act of 1983 into Law on 22nd July, 1983

- Awarded D.Sc Honoris Causa by NOUN 2009

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Shehu Shagari, Nigeria's first Executive President
Great Thank You

Outgoing VC: Professor Ibrahim Garba

Former Director: Professor Adamu Zoaka Hassan
Hearty Congratulations
New VC 1 May, 2020

Dr Aminu Sharehu
Redemption Song
Bob Marley

- Old pirates, yes, they rob I,
  Sold I to the merchant ships
  Minutes after they took I
  From the bottomless pit

- But my 'and was made strong
  By the 'and of the Almighty
  We forward in this generation
  Triumphantly

- Won't you help to sing
  These songs of freedom?
  'Cause all I ever have
  Redemption songs
  Redemption songs

- Emancipate yourself from
  mental slavery
  None but our self can free our minds

- Have no fear for atomic energy
  'Cause none of them can stop the time

- How long shall they kill our prophets
  While we stand aside and look?
Nelson Mandela, an anti-apartheid revolutionary, former South Africa President, and Nobel Peace Prize awardee

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

“No country can really develop unless its citizens are educated.”

“There is nothing I fear more than waking up without a programme that will help me bring a little happiness to those with no resources, those who are poor, illiterate, and ridden with terminal disease.”
Global Dilemma

- 20th & C21st global changes
- Provide two contrasting aspects of humanity: development and doom
- Search for peace, cure for AIDS, life XX
- War, catastrophes, digital divide
- Education identified as solution
“EDUCATION DOES NOT CHANGE THE WORLD. EDUCATION CHANGES PEOPLE. PEOPLE CHANGE THE WORLD.”

PAULO FREIRE
SEPT. 19, 1921 – MAY 2, 1997
“education is the most important instrument of change in any society”. And that “any fundamental change in the intellectual and social outlook of any society has to be preceded by an educational revolution”
Commitment to Education

- 1948: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights article 26 ensures right to free elementary education for all children.
- 1990: the World Declaration on Education For All
- 2006: the UN Convention on Rights of People with Disabilities
- MDGs & SDGs Agenda 2030
- The 2015 United Nations Paris Climate Change Conference (Conference of Parties 21),
- Agenda 2063 (AUC/ENEC/NEPAD), and
- Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA 2016).
UN Declaration

- UN General Assembly in 1948 proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as the solution for educational problems in the world.

- Article 26 deals with the right to education:
  - Everyone has the right to education.
  - Education shall be directed to full development of the human personality.
  - Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

- The Agenda document considers the strategic importance of education in human development.
Education and Development

- clear relationship between a country’s institutional governance frameworks, economic progress and education offered its people.

- Level of development in Africa related to the level of education

- Illiteracy, poverty, low development indices have roots in Low level of Education
Goals of the C21st

- sustainable development
- highly educated, mobile and adaptable workforce
- multi-skilled and multi-tasked
- a knowledge and a learning society
- use of ecological and geographical conditions to a nation’s advantage
• Declaration for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2000
• Declaration on Education For All in 1990
• 72 million children out of school
• 759 million adults without basic education
• 18 million primary school teachers needed in 2015
• Global demand for higher education to hit 263 million by 2025
Sub-Saharan Africa

Obvious Characteristics
POPULATION
• Over 1.2 billion, 75% rural
• 3% population growth
• The world’s youngest region.
• Have 30% of the world’s poorest people.

EDUCATION
• 45% of the population are children under 15 years
• Higher Educ need 465,000 academics
• Weak STEM base
Demography

- Population **215.87 Million** in 2020, based on UN Worldometer. 1 in 43 persons is a Nigerian.

- Nigeria’s grows by 2.7 % annually, population will double by the year 2066.

- 110 million youth under the age of 25 years rising to over 200 million in 50 years’ time.

- 22.1 million out of 42.1 million in primary schools;

- 10.4 million out of 33.9 million Nigerians eligible for secondary education, are in school

- Has the highest rate of out-of-school children in the world.
‘human history becomes more and more a race between education and catastrophe’ (HG Wells)

‘human insecurity comes in many forms. The most basic and lethal are illiteracy and innumeracy’ (Amartya Sen)

‘only the well educated will be able to act effectively in the Information Society’ (Michael Barber)
Nigeria's 6-3-3-4 System of Education

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**HIGHER EDUCATION**
- Colleges of Education
- Universities
- Polytechnics

**BASIC EDUCATION**
- Technical colleges
- Senior secondary
- Junior secondary schools
- Primary schools
- Day care centres and pre-primary schools

- 6-3-3-4 system
- National Policy on Education
- 174 Universities
- 149 Colleges of Education
- 95 Polytechnics
- 10,000 secondary schools
- 56,000 primary schools
Illiteracy & its price
What is DL?

- Instruction by a mode other than the conventional face-to-face method
- Characterised by physical separation between the teacher and the learner, instruction delivered through a variety of media including print, and other information communication technologies to learners
Characteristics

- cost-effective system of instruction independent of time, location, pace and space
- used for a variety of learning situations: primary, secondary, tertiary, vocational and non-formal education
- thrives on economy of scale
- focused on QA, well designed instructional packages, student support
Open Learning - flexibility of and access to instruction in order to ensure broad availability of educational opportunities to all.

Openness disregard age, previous level of academic achievement, and other factors, creating artificial barriers to education as a life-long pursuit in a democratic environment.
History of ODL in Nigeria

- 1947 – Oxford University Extra mural studies at the UCI
- GCE of London and Cambridge as correspondence
- Rapid Results College and Wosley Hall as first set of organised distance learning programmes in Africa
- 1960 – English Radio Programme by NBC, ETP of NTV
- 1972 – ABU University of the Air
- 1974 – COSU, COSIT, DLI of UNILAG (first tertiary Dual mode Univ)
- 1978 – NTI
- 1983 – NOU (planning started in 1976)
- UI – 1988, UNIFE (OAU) - 2003
- 2002 – NOUN
- Other DLI/DLC – 30 DLCs
2 major philosophical principles and 5 main national goals

“education is the most important instrument of change in any society”. And that “any fundamental change in the intellectual and social outlook of any society has to be preceded by an educational revolution”
Government adopted:
“policies which were to be directed towards ensuring that there are equal and adequate educational opportunities at all levels”.
“make life-long education the basis for the nation’s education policy”
“after primary education an individual will be able to choose between full-time studies, combining work with studies...alternative mode of learning”
“the education system structured to develop the practice of self-learning”.
Open Access: a 21st Century Imperative
The Iron Triangle of Education

Stakeholders

GOVERNANCE
RELEVANCE
QUALITY
ACCESS
COST

The NIGAVEKAR pentagon
Indispensability

5 Indices of Indispensability
Index 1

Demographic Trends
Effective and efficient management of the dividend of Demography and access to higher education

Africa has over 1.2 billion inhabitants, half of this are under the age of 25 years.

Nigeria has 198 million people with only 25 per cent in higher institutions.

Africa must take advantage of its enormous demography to ensure unfettered access to higher education.

A new paradigm for mass education must be explored.
World’s Biggest Cities

Millions

- **Tokyo**: 28.9 (2025)
- **Lagos**: 24.6 (2025)
- **Mumbai**: 26.2 (2025)
- **Sao Paulo**: 16.5 (1995)
- **Mexico City**: 16.6 (2025)
- **Tokyo**: 27 (2025)
- **New York**: 14.2 (2025)
- **London**: 9.1 (2025)
- **New York**: 11 (1995)
Index 2

Rising Enrolments
JAMB UTME

2014: 1.3M
2015: 1.4M
2016: 1.5M
2017: 1.6M
2018: 1.7M
2019: 1.9M
2020: 2M
ADMISSIONS

2014 12.9%
2015 14.1%
2016 11.1%
2017 15.4%
2018 15.7%
2019 16.5%
Average 17.5%
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<tr>
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<td>56,000</td>
<td>42.1 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>33.9 million</td>
<td>23.5 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voc &amp; Tech</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>4.5 million</td>
<td>2.7 million</td>
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<tr>
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<td>138</td>
<td>650,000</td>
<td>3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; Polytechnics</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>450,000</td>
<td>2 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>1,996,312</td>
<td>6 million</td>
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Lifelong & Life-wide Learning
Lifelong Learning

- making learning a continuous lifelong activity
- learning through a flexible, easily accessible mode
- development of a ‘Learning’ or ‘Knowledge Society
- global movement towards ODL
Dimensions

Temporal

Adult

Formal
Informal

Non formal

Learning Society

Varied learning styles

Sharing with others

Self-directed learning

Flexibility in time, space, content

Spatial

Home School Work Retire
Globalisation
The transition from the Industrial to the Information Age was encapsulated by Dolence and Norris (1995), who argued that to survive organisations would need to change from rigid, formula driven entities to organisations that were “fast, flexible and fluid”
Knowledge as a Commodity
What is knowledge?

Context independence

Data

Information

Understanding

Knowledge

Wisdom

Understanding relations

Understanding patterns

Understanding principles

[Adapted from Bellinger 1999]

What is knowledge?
Lay a solid foundation for education in the new century

Seek a cost-effective, efficient, robust, and flexible mode to educate all

Be part of the global economy and use of ICT for all aspects of our national and individual activities
Mass Education

Open and Distance Learning:
- weapon of mass instruction
- democratizes and liberalizes education
- flexible and life long
- quality assured and includes all
- allows individualised learning and at own pace
Conclusion
“Where there is no vision, the people perish.”
Major Threats

- gulf between intent and action
- lack of capacity and capability
- political expediency driving needs
- inequity & economic/political/digital divide
- absence of a strong and effective coordinating and monitoring unit
- lack of co-operation among units within the institution
October 2002 in Guatemala City, Guatemala Prophecy:

‘There is going to be a revival in Nigerian Universities and this revival will be of a large magnitude. That the revival in the universities will affect the secondary schools and primary schools. And God will change Nigeria to the next generation.’
Three Little Birds
Bob Marley

- Don't worry about a thing 'Cause every little thing gonna be alright
  Singing' don't worry about a thing 'Cause every little thing gonna be alright

- Rise up this mornin'
  Smiled with the risin' sun
  Three little birds
  Pitch by my doorstep
  Singin' sweet songs
  Of melodies pure and true
  Sayin', this is my message to you

- Singin' don't worry 'bout a thing
  'Cause every little thing gonna be alright
  Singin' don't worry (don't worry)
  'bout a thing
  'Cause every little thing gonna be alright

- Singin' don't worry about a thing
  Every little thing gonna be alright, don't worry
  Singin' don't worry about a thing, I won't worry
  "'Cause every little thing gonna be alright

- Singin' don't worry about a thing
  'Cause every little thing gonna be alright, I won't worry
  Singin', don't worry about a thing
  'Cause every little thing gonna be alright
  Singin' don't worry about a thing, oh no
  'Cause every little thing gonna be alright
Thank you

Enjoy the rest of the Management Retreat