



Special Bulletin

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Professor Malumfashi Showcases Northern Nigerian Literary Scholarship at Global Conference



By: Hamza Musa Makarfi

A Professor of Nigerian Languages and Linguistics at Kaduna State University (KASU), Professor Ibrahim Malumfashi, has organised a major academic stream comprising 31 scholarly presentations for the 10th Annual Conference of the Lagos Studies Association (LSA), scheduled to hold from 16–20 June 2026.

The stream, titled “Literary Activism in Northern Nigeria: A Critical Examination of Historical Development and Contemporary Manifestations,” forms part of the Indigenous African Languages presentations at the international conference.

The stream consists of seven panels featuring 31 papers, with eight papers contributed by early and mid-career academics from Kaduna State University, in recognition of the university's growing influence in African literary and cultural scholarship.

According to the conference organisers, the 2026 edition marks a historic milestone as, for the first time, several papers will be delivered in an African language.

“Not one, not two, not three, not four. A dozen papers will

be presented entirely in Hausa,” the organisers announced.

Exploring Literary Activism in Northern Nigeria

The panel examines the pivotal role literary creatives have played in documenting, interpreting, and influencing socio-political developments in Northern Nigeria through oral traditions, poetry, performance, and written texts.

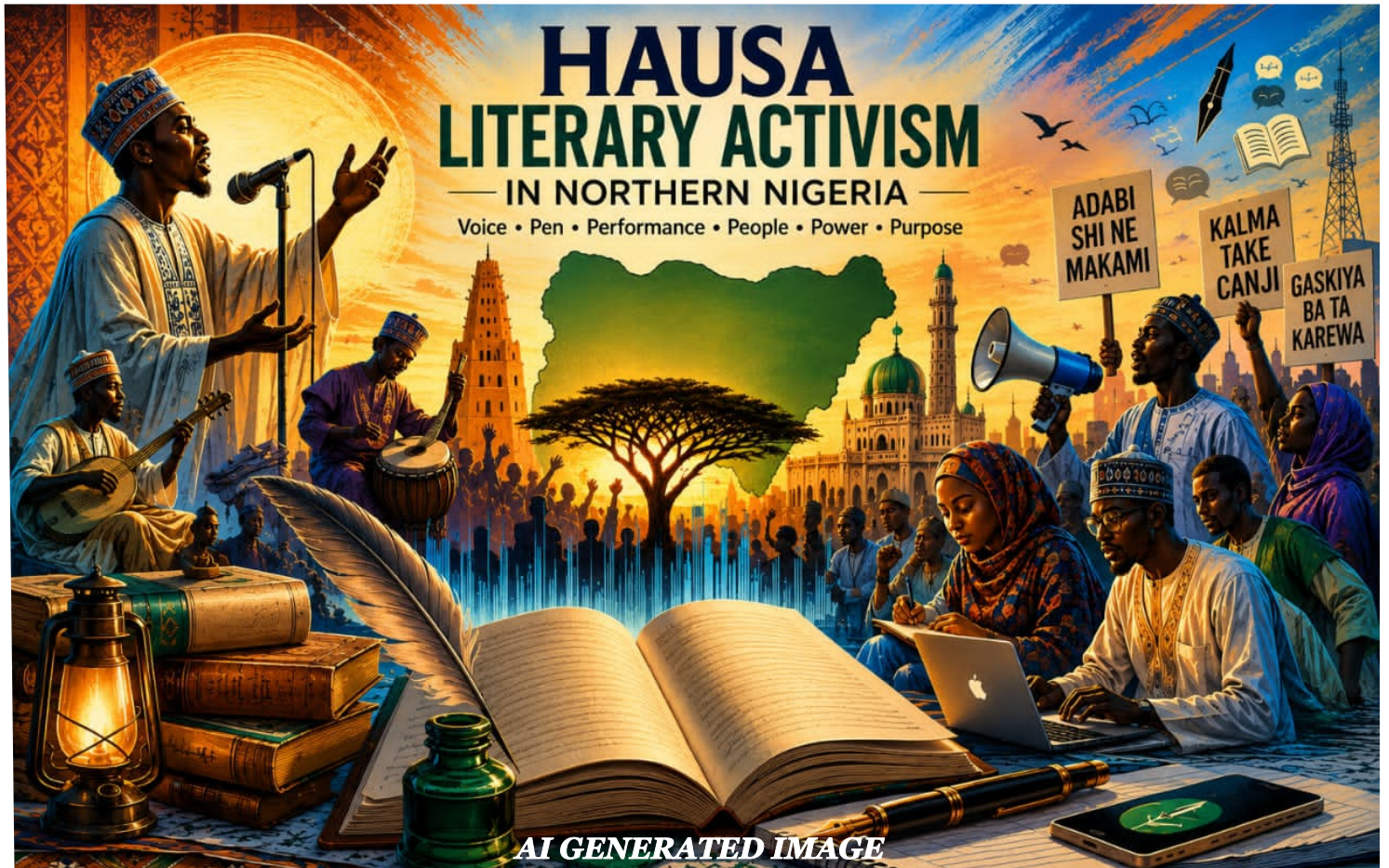
It is further noted that literary activism has historically served as a powerful instrument of social critique, challenging unjust power structures, interrogating colonial authority, and shaping public discourse on governance, identity, and social change.

From the colonial era through Nigeria's post-independence political transitions, writers and performers have remained influential voices in debates surrounding power, ideology, and national development.

The stream also explores contemporary literary responses to insecurity, religious extremism, banditry, state fragility, and community resilience across Northern Nigeria.



Prof Ibrahim Malumfashi



Among the themes to be discussed are:

Historical manifestations of literary activism in Hausa and Northern Nigerian societies;

Literary responses to traditional politics, colonial authority, and postcolonial governance;

Intersections of literature, identity, culture, and power;

Popular literature and performance as vehicles for social commentary;

Literary engagements with insecurity, extremism, and state fragility;

The role of writers, poets, and performers in public discourse and ideological contestation; and

Archival, ethnographic, and discourse-analytic approaches to literary activism.

The stream seeks to deepen scholarly engagement with the evolving landscape of literary activism in Northern Nigeria while highlighting the enduring role of creative expression in shaping socio-political life.

Celebrating a Decade of Lagos Studies Association

As the Lagos Studies Association marks its 10th

anniversary, participants are expected to undertake a critical assessment of the state of African Studies in the 21st century.

The conference will reflect on emerging directions in the field and address major contemporary issues, including academic publishing, academic freedom, artificial intelligence, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and global political developments that continue to shape knowledge production, research, and the teaching of Africa.

Professor Malumfashi, the distinguished Professor of Hausa Literary History at Kaduna State University, has further demonstrated his growing international academic stature through the successful coordination of one of the largest scholarly streams at the 2026 Lagos Studies Association Conference.

The achievement adds to his recent international engagements in a major research project at SOAS University of London focused on translating the celebrated literary classic *Le Petit Prince* (The Little Prince) into Hausa and Kiswahili.

Distance Learning Institutes Strengthen Partnership to Expand Access to Education

By: Firdausi Kabir



The Distance Learning Institute (DLI) of Kaduna State University (KASU) has reaffirmed its commitment to adopting innovative approaches to distance education following a working visit to the Distance Learning Centre of Bayero University, Kano (BUK).

The visit, led by the Director of the KASU Distance Learning Institute, Dr. Fatima ShehuKabir was aimed at learning from BUK's experience in distance education, flexible learning delivery, digital learning management, and effective student support systems.

The engagement provided an opportunity for the KASU delegation to gain practical insights into the structures, systems, and best practices that underpin successful Open and Distance Learning (ODL) programmes.

Areas of focus included programme delivery and administration, academic operations, learner support services, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure, Learning Management System (LMS) operations, quality assurance mechanisms, and study centre management.

Speaking during the visit, Dr. Fatima ShehuKabir emphasized the institute's determination to strengthen its capacity by learning from



established institutions and adopting strategies that enhance access to quality education through technology-driven learning platforms.

Receiving the delegation, the Director of the Centre for Distance Learning, Bayero University, Kano, Professor Kabiru Bello Dungurawa, described the visit as a valuable platform for collaboration, knowledge sharing, and the exchange of ideas between the two institutions.

Professor Dungurawa stressed the importance of partnerships among distance learning centres, noting that sustained collaboration is essential for improving the quality, accessibility, and effectiveness of open and flexible learning across Nigerian universities.