

PRESS RELEASE

PRESIDENT YAR' ADUA APPROVES THREE NOMINEES FOR THE NIGERIAN NATIONAL ORDER OF MERIT (NNOM) AWARD

The President and Commander –in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Umaru Musa Yar'Adua, GCFR, has approved the conferment of the prestigious Nigerian National Order of Merit (NNOM) Award on three distinguished Nigerians. The winners of the Award for 2008 are:

- (i) Prof. Wole A. Soyinka – Humanities

Prof. Soyinka is a distinguished academic, novelist, poet, essayist, playwright and naturalist. He is an adamant advocate of democracy and an insuppressible social critic. He has elevated the status of African literature to become part of the world cultural heritage.

- (ii) Prof. Vincent Chukwuemeke Ike -- Humanities

A distinguished University Administrator, novelist, scholar, humanist and patriot. He left a foot print on the turfs of University Administration in Nigeria. He has profound concern for literacy and the promotion of the written word and moral integrity.

- (iii) Prof. Oyewusi Gureje -- Medicine

An accomplished and renowned researcher and scholar whose numerous quality publications in national and international, peer-reviewed Journals and books have established him as a Neuropsychiatrist of international repute. His diagnosis and

classification of mental disorders have been accepted and adopted as international standard.

His Excellency, the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Umaru Musa Yar'Adua, GCFR, will confer the Award on these distinguished Nigerians at an impressive Investiture Ceremony to be held at the Aso Rock Villa on:

Date: Tuesday, 16th December, 2008.

Time: 9.00 a.m

Venue: Council Chambers, Presidential Villa, Abuja.

On behalf of the Governing Board of the NNMA I congratulate these distinguished Nigerians for their unique achievements.

**Prof. Oluwafeyisola S. Adegoke, Ph.D, D.Sc., FAS, FNAPE FNMGS, NNOM
Chairman, Governing Board, NNMA**