

BIOSKETCH

DR. TAIWO LATEEF SHEIKH

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Dr. Taiwo Lateef is a Professor of Psychiatry at the Department of Psychiatry, College of Medical Sciences, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria, an Alumni of Harvard Global Mental Health Course of Harvard Medical School. He obtained MBBS degree from the Medical School of Ahmadu Bello University (A. B. U.), Zaria, Nigeria in 1985 and M.Sc. in Clinical Pharmacology from the same University in 1992. He is a Fellow of the West African College of Physicians (WACP), Faculty of Psychiatry.

He served as the head of department of Psychiatry, Ahmadu Bello University Zaria and Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital from 2005 to 2009. He was Medical Director/Chief Executive Officer of Federal Neuro-Psychiatric Hospital, Kaduna from 2010 to 2018.

He is a trainer and an Examiner at the Faculty of Psychiatry, WACP and Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons; He is a Faculty Member at Harvard Global Mental Health Course of Harvard Medical School and Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi Ghana. He participated as Examiner at the Royal College of Psychiatrists Membership examinations, presently he is involved in supervision of post-graduate students pursuing Masters and Doctorate degree programs, and Residency training in mental health and related fields at Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital Zaria, Harvard University Medical School, and the West African Post Graduate Medical College.

He was the Secretary, Faculty of Psychiatry Nigeria Chapter WACP from 2009 to 2012, Faculty Secretary from 2013-2016 and Chairman of Faculty of Psychiatry, WACP from 2017 to 2020. He served as President of Association of Psychiatrists in Nigeria (APN) 2018 to 2021, he is currently the National Secretary (Nigeria), WACP (from 2020 to date), President Biological Psychiatry Society of Nigeria (BPSN), President Psychosocial Relief Society of Nigeria (NGO) and Chairman of Psycho-trauma working group of the Association of Psychiatrists in Nigeria.

He is a member of the National Action Committee on Mental Health in Nigeria, where he participated in the revision of Mental Health Policy for Nigeria (2013). He is actively involved in the integration of Mental Health into Primary Health Care Service delivery in Nigeria. He is leading the group that is working on the Nigeria Mental Health Legislation (The Nigeria Mental Health Bill) that is currently in the legislative process of being passed into law by the Nigerian National Assembly. He has served in many policy working groups in the field of mental health and social services in Nigeria as well as Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), he has also served in various working groups of United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC) in Nigeria.

Professor Sheikh is actively involved in Mental Health Policy decisions in Nigeria and ECOWAS, training of Mental Health Professionals across West Africa, as well as mentoring young Mental Health Professionals in research and career development across West Africa. He founded a group working with internally displaced victims of violent conflicts in Northern Nigeria and is currently working on the Psychological impact of the insurgency in North Eastern Nigeria. He recently led the development of culturally sensitive “trauma informed mental health and psychosocial intervention training for Clinicians and Non-Clinicians” for victims of insurgency in North Eastern Nigeria. He also led the development of culturally sensitive “trauma informed mental health and psychosocial intervention guide for Clinicians and Non-Clinicians”. He is currently working on the genetics of depressive disorders among Africans across three countries (Nigeria, Ethiopia and Uganda) through a Wellcome Trust Grant.

Currently he is engaged in the training and supervision of Undergraduate and Postgraduate Students, and Resident Doctors in the field of mental health.

He has authored and co-authored many peer reviewed journal publications and monographs, has also participated in World Bank technical reports and presented papers at many international conferences.

He is a recipient of several awards and honors, among which is the Sir Ahmadu Bello Memorial Foundation Merit Award for Services to Humanity.

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