ILE-IFE BRANCH: 2024 ANNUAL REPORT SOME EVENTS OF THE IFE BRANCH, 2023/2024

- 1. The Branch had a General Meeting preceding the hosting of the ABM with a Scientific talk Titled: "Assessing the Zoonotic Risk of Lassa Virus and its Rodent Hosts within Nigeria: 2011 to date"; on Thursday, 19th October, 2023 at the Natural History Museum, O.A.U., Ile-Ife, Lecture Room. The Lecturer was: Dr. A. O. Olayemi (Ag. Director, Natural History Museum, O.A.U., Ile-Ife). Members attended the event both physically and online. After the lecture, a brief General meeting was held and the various Committees for the hosting of the 2023 ABM were set up.
- 2. In preparation for the ABM, the Branch scheduled a visit to His Royal Majesty: Oba Joseph Olubiyi Toriola (The Ogunsua of Modakeke) on Monday, 6th November, 2023 at His Palace in Modakeke, Ile-Ife, to felicitate with him on his ascending the throne and the award of Honorary degree by the University of Ibadan as well as officially informing and inviting him to grace the ABM. Six members of the Society were in attendance for the visit namely: (Prof. Augustine O. ISICHEI, Prof. Adisa B. OGUNFOLAKAN, Dr. Constance C. NWOKEOCHA, Dr. Yemi J. OYELADE, Dr. Abayomi T. OYEWALE and Dr. Adedeji I. ADUWO). The King and the Queen gave members a very warm welcome and he promised to grace the occasion of the ABM if he is not tightly engaged during the period.
- 3. Also, prior to the ABM, the Branch also organized a Quiz Competition for Secondary Schools in Ile-Ife where Plaques and cash rewards were presented for Quiz Competition's 1st, 2nd and 3rd positions.
- 4. The branch hosted the ABM on Saturday, November 25, 2023 by 10:00 a.m. with members from Ile-Ife and Ibadan Branches attending physically while some others joined online. The ABM climaxed with a Lecture titled "Documenting the Endemic species of Nigeria" by Dr. (Mrs.) Y. F. TAIWO (Natural History Museum, O.A.U., Ile-Ife) at the Natural History Museum, O.A.U., Ile-Ife, Lecture Room. Members attended the event both physically and online. Thereafter, a tour of the Natural History Museum, O.A.U., Ile-Ife was undertaken. After these events, an excursion was later taken to the Ile-Ife Scrap-Art Museum, where we were warmly welcomed and hosted by the Resident Artist there (Mr. Jonathan IMAFIDOR).

- 5. The Branch also had a General Meeting and organized a Lecture Titled: "Indigenous vegetables of Southwestern Nigeria: Our exploits so far"; on Thursday, 22nd August, 2024 at the Natural History Museum, O.A.U., Ile-Ife, Lecture Room by 4:00 p.m. The Lecturer was: Professor Duro J. OYEDELE (Department of Soil Sciences and Land Resources Management, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria). Members attended the event both physically and online.
- 6. The Branch also had a General Meeting and organized a Lecture Titled: "Architectural Conservation: "New Wine" in "Old Wineskins" Wisdom or Folly?"; on Thursday, 28th November, 2024 at the Natural History Museum, O.A.U., Ile-Ife, Lecture Room by 4:00 p.m. The Lecturer was: Professor (Mrs.) C. O. OSASONA (Department of Architecture, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria). 62 Members attended the event physically while some others joined online.