BIO OF HIS HIGHNESS MUHAMMAD SANUSI II, CON (14th Emir of Kano)

His Highness (HH) Muhammad Sanusi II is the Khalifa of the Tijjaniya group in Nigeria and the 14th Emir of Kano. Prior to ascending the throne, HH was the Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria. He was also at a time the Chief Risk Officer and Group CEO of First Bank of Nigeria Plc. He was awarded Central Bank Governor of the year in 2011 due to his laudable anti-corruption campaign which salvaged and reformed the crumbling financial sector.

HH Muhammad Sanusi II started his career as a Lecturer of Economics at the Ahmadu Bello University but began his banking career in 1985 at ICON Ltd. Merchant Bankers, a subsidiary of Morgan Guaranty Trust and Baring Brothers and then joined United Bank for Africa, running its credit and risk management division and then rising to the position of general manager.

His Highness is passionate about the welfare of the girl-child, quality education, women empowerment, economic growth and good governance. He was appointed by the UN Secretary General as one of the 17 SDG Advocates in 2019 and has been focused on advancing the global goals with a focus on SDG 4, 5 & 8 (Quality Education, Gender Equality, Decent Work & Economic Growth). He also serves as the Chairman, Advisory Board of 1 Million Teachers (a Canada based social enterprise that provides access to high quality teacher education to underserved communities around the world). In 2020, His Highness launched the Muhammad Sanusi (MSII) SDG Initiative which focuses on empowering teachers in Sub-Saharan Africa to generate innovative and inclusive grass-root solutions to improve education for all – particularly the girl child.

His Highness has been awarded various honorary doctorate degrees from reputable Universities across the world and is a recipient of numerous global awards. He currently serves as Chairman and member on various national and international boards which include, Babban Gona (an agricultural social enterprise), The MTN Group, Black Rhino Group to mention a few.

His Highness holds a degree in Islamic studies from the Africa International University in Khartoum, Sudan and currently holds Islamic lectures every Sunday. He is currently a research fellow at the African Study Centre and an academic visitor at St. Antony’s College in the prestigious Oxford University in the United Kingdom for the 2020-2021 academic year.

His Highness was awarded various doctorate degrees by the following Universities:

- University of Nsukka
- Bayero University Kano
- University of Jos
- University of Benin
- University of Maiduguri
- Benue State University
- University of Abuja

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In the course of his carrier as banker, His Highness received various awards including:

- Central Bank of Nigeria Governor of the year for Sub-Saharan Africa by the Emerging Market Magazine for the years 2010, 2011 and 2013
- Central Bank Governor of Africa 2013 by the African Banker Magazine
- African Central Bank Governor of the year 2011 by Banker Magazine
- Global Central Bank Governor of the year 2011 by Financial Times of London
- His Highness was also made Man of the Year by various magazines and newspapers 2010, 2011 and 2013
- His Highness was also awarded the National honour of the Commander of the Order of the Niger (CON)

The publication of His Highness including the following:

8. “Interpretive Communities and Religious Tolerance in Islam: Contextualizing the Construction of Extremist Identities” Paper, International Conference on Religion and Conflict, organized by the University of Notre-Dame at Jinja, Uganda, April, 2004

Dozens of other articles academic papers on politics, the national question, religion, and the economy have been published in various Nigerian newspapers, many of which are available on the internet. In August, 2021, HH launched a book “For the Good of the Nation”; this book is a selection of articles published between 1998 and 2005 on subjects relevant to national unity, progress and development of Nigeria.