

## **Statement of qualifications**

### **Personal**

Date and place of birth: 10 December 1938 at Idanre, Ondo State, Nigeria  
Marital status: Married, four children

### **Educational institutions attended**

1944 - 1947	St. Matthew's Primary School, Owena
1947 - 1951	St. Paul's Primary School, Idanre
1952 - 1957	Victory College, Ikare
1960 - 1963	University of London (Holborn College of Law)
1960 - February 1964	Lincoln's Inn
April - June 1964	Nigerian Law School
1966 - 1967	University of London (as an external student)
1970 - 1973	University of Lagos
June - October 1971	Hague Academy of International Law & Research, The Hague, The Netherlands (Doctoral Scholar)
1977	Southwestern Legal Foundation, University of Texas, Dallas, United States of America

### **Degrees, honours and qualifications**

1951	First School Leaving Certificate
December 1957	West African School Certificate
May 1960	GCE Advance Level (University of London)
June 1963	LL.B. (University of London)
1973	L.L.M. (University of London)
1973	Ph.D. (University of Lagos)
4 February 1964	Call to English Bar at Lincoln's Inn (London)
3 July 1964	Call to Nigerian Bar
20 December 2005	Conferred with National Honour of Commander of the Order of Niger (CON)

## **Employment**

1958 - February 1960	Accounts Clerk, Department of Marketing and Exports, Lagos
20 July 1964	Pupil State Counsel, Federal Ministry of Justice Completed the various grades of State Counsel Grade I Senior State Counsel II Senior State Counsel I Principal State Counsel and Legal Adviser in the Federal Ministry of Justice.

### Postings within the Federal Ministry of Justice include:

July 1964 - March 1967	State Counsel in the Federal the Department of Public Prosecutions
March 1967 - December 1968	Attached to the International Law Division of the Solicitor - General's Department
December 1968 - December 1969	Posted to Kano as The Federal State Counsel in charge of Federal Litigations in North Nigeria
1970 - 1971	Senior State Counsel in the Constitutional, Administrative and Civil Litigation Division of the Solicitor-General's Department
1971 - September 1973	Deputy Legal Adviser to the Board of Customs and Excise, Lagos
September 1973 - February 1976	Registrar of Companies and Head of the Commercial Law Division, Federal Ministry of Trade, Lagos
February 1976 - March 1978	Legal Adviser to Federal Board of Inland Revenue and the Joint Tax Board
6 March 1978	Appointed Judge of High Court of Justice, Ondo State

### Assignments and postings on becoming a High Court Judge

- 6 March 1978 - August 1980 – Judge, Akure Judicial Division
- August 1980 - April 1984 – Judge, Owo Judicial Division
- Member of the 1979 and 1983 Election Tribunals for Ondo State
- Chairman, Commission of Inquiry into the possibility of creating more local Governments in Ondo State, held in 1981
- August 1984 - April 1986 – Chairman Ondo State Armed Robbery & Firearms Tribunal
- April 1986 - December 1991 – Judge, Ado-Ekiti Judicial Division

- Appointed Justice, Court of Appeal on 31 October 1991 and sworn in on 3 December 1991
- Appointed Justice of the Supreme Court and sworn in on 19 May 2004

#### Postings while Justice, Court of Appeal

- Served in Enugu Division from December 1991 to July 1995
- Served in Benin Division from July 1995 to December 1998
- Served as Presiding Justice, Port Harcourt Division from December 1998 to May 1999
- Presiding Justice, Benin Division from May 1999 to September 2000
- Presiding Justice, Ibadan Division from September 2000 to December 2001
- Presiding Justice, Port Harcourt Division from January 2002 to 18 May 2004
- Appointed Justice, Supreme Court of Nigeria from 19 May 2004 till to date.
- Awarded National Honour of Commander of the Order of Niger (CON) and decorated by the President of Nigeria on 20 December 2005

#### **Membership of associations**

- Member of Nigerian Institute of International Affairs
- Member of Nigerian Society of International Law
- Member, International Bar Association
- Chancellor, Akure Diocese Anglican Communion

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