

**CURRICULUM VITAE  
FOR  
MIRACLE AJAH**

- I. (a) Name: Ajah, Miracle  
(b) Date of Birth: 21<sup>st</sup> August 1964  
(c) Department: Religious Studies  
(d) Faculty: Arts
- II. (a) First Academic Appointment: 4<sup>th</sup> June 2012  
(b) Present Post (with Date): Associate Professor (1<sup>st</sup> January 2020)  
(c) Date of Last Promotion: 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020
- III. **UNIVERSITY EDUCATION (with dates)**  
(a) University of Nigeria, Nsukka 1991 – 1995  
(b) Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Texas, USA 1999 – 2001  
(c) University of Stellenbosch, South Africa 2004 – 2006  
(d) Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel Summer 2015
- IV. **ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS (with dates and granting Bodies)**  
(a) Bachelor of Arts (BA Religion - University of Nigeria, Nsukka) 1995  
(b) Master of Arts (MA Biblical Studies – Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Texas, USA) 2001  
(c) Doctor of Philosophy (PhD Old Testament – Stellenbosch University, South Africa) 2006  
(d) Proficiency Transcript on Biblical Hebrew Grammar (Hebrew University, Jerusalem) 2015
- V. **PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND DIPLOMAS (with dates)**  
Diploma in Theology (Dip. Theo - Trinity Theological College Umuahia) 1986
- VI. **SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIP AND PRIZES (with dates in respect of Undergraduate and Postgraduate work only)**

- (a) Full Scholarship for Bachelor of Arts in Religion at University of Nigeria Nsukka by the Presbyterian Church of Nigeria, 1990 – 1995.
- (b) Presidential Scholarship for Master of Arts Studies at Austin Presbyterian, Theological Seminary, Austin Texas, 1999 -2001, by the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, Geneva.
- (c) Full Scholarship for Doctoral Research at Stellenbosch University, South Africa by His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Abia State (1999 – 2007), Chief Dr. Orji Uzor Kalu, 2004 – 2006.
- (d) Travel/Research Grant for the paper: “Religious Education and Government Takeover/Return of Mission Schools in Nigeria”, RE21- Religious Education in Global-Local World, August 29-30, 2013, University College Cork (UCC), Ireland by the Department of Religions, University College Cork (UCC).
- (e) Travel/Study Grant for Summer Proficiency Course on Biblical Hebrew at Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel, June 18<sup>th</sup> – July 22<sup>nd</sup> 2015, by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Vincent Tenebe, National Open University of Nigeria.
- (f) Travel Grant for the paper: “Narratives of Violence in Numbers 25: Between Text and Reception”, Joint Conference of Old Testament Societies hosted by the Oudtestamentisch Werkgezelschap in Nederland en België (OTW) and Old Testament Society of South Africa (OTSSA), at the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Groningen, the Netherlands, 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> August 2018
- (g) Travel Grant for the paper: “Globalisation and Religious Fundamentalism in Nigeria: Problems and Prospects” authored by Akper, G. & Ajah, M. at the 15<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), December 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018 at King Fahd Hotel in Dakar, SENEGAL.
- (h) Travel Grant for the paper: “David Adamo and Communal Reading as an Interpretive Method in African Biblical Hermeneutics”, 2019 Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL), San Diego, CA, United States of America, November 23 – 26, 2019.

## **VII. HONOURS, DISTINCTIONS AND MEMBERSHIP OF LEARNED SOCIETIES**

### **(a) Honours and Distinctions**

1. Research Associate at Old and New Testament Discipline Group, Faculty of Theology, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa (2007 - date)

2. Best Graduating Student in Old Testament Studies from University of Nigeria Nsukka. 1995.
3. President of the Students Union (the Chief) at Trinity Union Theological College, Umuahia, 1985 - 1986.
4. Twenty five (25) years of Long Service Award in the Presbyterian Church of Nigeria by the General Assembly, PCN at Uyo, August 2012.
5. PCN Minister of the year 2004 by Hugh Goldie Lay/Theological Training Institution, Arochukwu, 2004.
6. Jerusalem Pilgrim (JP), By Emmanuel Tours, Jerusalem, 2002, 2003 & 2004.
7. Fifteen (15) years of Long Service Award by the General Assembly, The Presbyterian Church of Nigeria at Calabar, 2001.

**(b) Membership of Learned Societies**

1. Member, The Nigerian Association for Biblical Studies (NABIS)
2. Member, Society for Biblical Literature (SBL)
3. Member, Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA)
4. Old Testament Society of South Africa (OTSSA)
5. Member, Biblical Research Forum of Nigeria (BRESFON)
6. Member, International Council on Distance Education (ICDE)

**VIII. DETAILS OF TEACHING/WORK EXPERIENCE**

- (a) Lecturer and Registrar at Trinity Union Theological College, Umuahia, in affiliation with University of Nigeria, Nsukka at First Degree Level (2000 – 2002)
- (b) Lecturer at Essien Ukpabio Presbyterian Theological Institution, Itu, in affiliation with University of Calabar at First Degree Level (2002 – 2004)
- (c) Lecturer at African Theological College, Khayelisha, South Africa (2005 – 2006)
- (d) Senior Lecturer at Hugh Goldie Lay/Theological Training Institution, Arochukwu, in affiliation with Abia State University, Uturu at BA and MA levels (2007 – 2012).

- (e) Senior Lecturer (Part-Time) at Abia State University at BA, MA, and PhD Level (2011 – 2012)
- (f) Rector at Hugh Goldie Lay/Theological Training Institution, Arochukwu, in affiliation with Abia State Univeristy (2010 – 2012)
- (g) Research Associate at Old and New Testament Discipline Group, Faculty of Theology, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa (2007 - date)
- (h) Lecturer I at National Open University of Nigeria, Department of Christian Theology (2012 - date)
- (i) Senior Lecturer at National Open University of Nigeria, Department of Christian Theology (2017- date)

#### **IX. COMPUTER SOFTWARE SKILLS**

- (a) Computer Appreciation Skill (MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc)
- (b) Use of Internet (Browsing for Research, Email, Social Media, etc)

#### **X. RESEARCH**

Project, Dissertation and Thesis: (Doctoral Dissertation 2006) *Theological Perspectives on Tithing in the Old Testament, and their implications for believing communities in Africa*, Stellenbosch: Stellenbosch University (<http://scholar.sun.ac.za/handle/10019.1/1366>)

## XI. PUBLICATIONS

### (a) Books already published

1. Ajah, M. (2016). *Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar*. Jos: African Christian Textbooks (ACTS). 171 pp. ISBN 978-978-905-278-3. (Nigeria)
2. Ajah, M (2014). *Effective Ministries*. Lagos: JONAI Press.
3. Ajah, M (2010). *Tithing in the Old Testament*. Ohafia: Onuoha Publishers.

### (b) Chapters in Books already published

4. Ajah M. (2022). “A Royal Priesthood: Identity, Assignment and Anointing - An Introduction”, in M. Ajah (Ed), *A Royal Priesthood: Identity, Assignment and Anointing*. Lagos: Green and Cherished Ltd. 15-25 pp. ISBN 978-978-59528-0-3.
5. Ajah M. (2016). “Examples of Women leaders in the Presbyterian Church of Nigeria”, in K. J. Hyun and D. C. Chemorion (Eds), *The Quest for Gender Equity in Leadership*. Eugene, Oregon: Wipf & Stock Publishers (Anchored by St. Paul’s University, Limuru, Kenya). 162 – 179 pp. ISBN 978-1-4982-9333-4 (USA)
6. Ajah M. (2017). “A Tradition Historical Analysis of Numbers 18 and its Implication for Stewardship in Africa”, in J. D. Gwamna, A. O. Dada & Hope Amolo (Eds), *The Present State and the Future of Biblical Studies in Africa: Essays in Honour of Samuel Oyinloye Abogunrin*. Ibadan: Nigerian Association for Biblical Studies (NABIS). 174 – 196 pp. ISBN 978-978-960-214-8.

## XII. Articles that have already appeared in Refereed Conference Proceedings

7. Ajah, M. (2015). “A Theological Reflection on the Book of Jonah in the Face of National Insecurity”, in J. K. Ayantayo and S. A. Fatokun (Eds), *Religious and Security Issues: Proceedings of 2013 Biennial International Religious Studies Conference*, Religious Studies Series, Vol 5. Ibadan: Department of Religious Studies, University of Ibadan; 232 – 247 pp (Nigeria)
8. Ajah, M. (2014). “Promoting Open Educational Resources(OER) for Theological/Religious Education in Nigeria”, *International Science Index*, Vol 8, No. 12, Proceedings of the XII International Conference on Open Learning and Distance Education (ICOLDE), 18-19 December 2014, Bangkok, Thailand, 3423 – 3426pp (Thailand) (Participation sponsored by National Open University of Nigeria).

9. Ajah, M. (2013). "The role of religion in fostering social justice through distance education in Nigeria", in UNED-ICDE (*Universidad Nacional de Education a Distancia & International Council for Open and Distance Education*), *Mobilizing Distance Education for Social Justice and Innovation: Proceedings of the International Conference*, 7-9 March 2013. Madrid, Spain: UNED-ICDE. 278-291pp (Spain).
10. Ajah, M (2018). "The Critical Role of Religion in Nigeria Elections in the Light of 1 Kings 22", in 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Nigerian Association for Biblical Studies, held at Benue State University, Makurdi, Benue State, 4-7 July 2017 (Ibadan: Nigerian Association for Biblical Studies), 201-214pp.
11. Ajah, M & Akper, G (2018). "Globalisation and Religious Fundamentalism in Nigeria: Problems and Prospects", Dakar, Senegal: 15<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), 17 – 21 December 2018 at King Fahd Hotel in Dakar, SENEGAL. <https://codesria.org/generalassembly15/ga-full-papers/>.
12. Ajah, M (2019). "David Adamo and Communal Reading as an Interpretive Method in African Biblical Hermeneutics", in the Annual Meeting of the Society for Biblical Literature (SBL), 23 – 26 November 2019 at the International Convention Centre, San Diego, California, USA. <https://www.sblcentral.org/conferencePaperDetails/52576>

**(a) Articles that have already appeared in Learned Journals**

13. Ajah, M. (2006). "Tithing in Ugarit and the Pentateuch – Possible implications for Africa". *Scriptura*, Vol. 91, pp. 31-42. (Department of Old & New Testament, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa).
14. Ajah, M. (2011). "An Assessment of the Priestly Emolument in Numbers 18: 8-32". *Scriptura* 103, 107-125. (Department of Old & New Testament, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa).
15. Ajah, M. (2012). "The Purpose for Tithe in the Old Testament". *International Journal of Theology and Reformed Tradition*, Vol. 4, pp. 24-32. (University of Nigeria, Nsukka).

16. Ajah, M. (2012). "Religious Groups and Distance education in Nigeria". *Prof. Bassey Andah Journal of Cultural Studies*, Vol. 5, pp. 67- 80. (University of Calabar).
17. Ajah, M. (2013). "The Significance of Pentateuchal Tithing as a Legal Instruction for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Reader". *The Asbury Journal*, Vol. 68: No. 2: 106-119. (Graduate School of Theology, Asbury, USA).
18. Ajah, M. (2014). "Reprisal Attacks: A Theological Reflection of Genesis 34 on Reactions to Evil and Human Wickedness in Nigeria". *Scriptura Journal for Contextual hermeneutics in Southern Africa*, Vol. 113, No. 1: 1-13. (University of Stellenbosch, South Africa).
19. Ajah, M. (2015). "Love for the stranger in Deuteronomy 10:19 and its socio-cultural implications for economic development in Nigeria". *Africa Journal of Biblical Research*, Vol. 2, Nos. 1 & 2: 97-111. (Biblical Research Forum of Nigeria, BRESFON).
20. Ajah, M. (2015) "Religious Education and Nation Building in Nigeria", Stellenbosch Theology Journal (STJ), Vol. 1, No. 2: 263-282 (University of Stellenbosch, South Africa). <http://ojs.reformedjournals.co.za/index.php/stj/article/view/1260>
21. Ajah, M. (2019) "Cancellation or Suspension of Debts in Deuteronomy 15 – A Literary Assessment of שְׁמִטָּה (*shemittah*)", *African Journal of Local Societies Initiative (LOSI)*, Vol.8, No. 1, 1-15 (Makurdi: Benue State University).
22. Ajah, M. (2018) "Reverse Mentoring in Biblical Scholarship in the light of 1 Kings 5:1-14", *African Journal of Biblical Research Vol. 5. 141-174*, (Biblical Research Forum of Nigeria, BRESFON).
23. Ajah, M. (2018) "Deuteronomic Tithe Laws and their Humanitarian Implications for Christian Communities in Africa", *Stellenbosch Theological Journal*, Vol. 4, No 2, 335–358. (University of Stellenbosch, South Africa). DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.17570/stj.2018.v4n2.a16>. Online ISSN 2413-9467 | Print ISSN 2413-9459.

24. Ajah, M. (2018). "The Land as a Grant in Deuteronomy and Its Economic Implications for Africa", *African Journal of Local Societies Initiative (LOSI)*, Vol.7, No. 1, 48-73 (Makurdi: Benue State University).

25. Ajah, M. (2019) "Narratives of Violence in Numbers 25: Between Text and Reception", *Insight: Journal of Religious Studies*, Vol. 15, 17-31 (Babcock University, Ilishan-Remo, Ogun State).

26. Ajah M (2020). "Socio-Political Readings for Cult Centralization in Deuteronomy: Lessons for Africa", *African Journal of Biblical Studies (AJBS)*, A Journal of Nigeria Association of Biblical Studies; c/o: Department of Religious Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria.

### **XIII. Articles that have already been accepted for publication**

27. Ajah M and Nwoko M (2022). "Religion as Freedom, Unity and Ideology in National Development n Nigeria". NOUN Scholar, Faculty of Arts Journal, National Open University of Nigeria, Abuja.

### **XIV. MAJOR CONFERENCES ATTENDED WITH PAPERS READ**

(a) Ajah, M (2020). "The Concept of Cult Centralization in Deuteronomy and its Socio-Political Implications for Africa Today", Deuteronomy-Today e-Conference, South African Theological Conference, 2-3 April 2020.

(b) Ajah, M (2019). "David Adamo and Communal Reading as an Interpretive Method in African Biblical Hermeneutics", 2019 Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Convention Centre, San Diego, CA, United States of America, November 23 – 26, 2019.

(a) Ajah, M (2018). "Narratives of Violence in Numbers 25: Between Text and Reception", Joint Conference of Old Testament Societies hosted by the Oudtestamentisch Werkgezelschap in Nederland en België (OTW) and Old Testament Society of South Africa (OTSSA), at the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Groningen, the Netherlands, 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> August 2018

(b) Ajah, M (2018). "Globalisation and Religious Fundamentalism in Nigeria: Problems and Prospects" authored by Akper, G. & Ajah, M. at the 15<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Council for



the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), December 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018 at King Fahd Hotel in Dakar, SENEGAL.

- (c) Ajah, M (2016). “Conflicting Prophecies in 1 Kings 22 and 2015 Nigeria Election”, Annual Conference of Biblical Research Forum of Nigeria (BRESFON), held at Methodist Theological Institute, Umuahia, 1-3 November 2016 (Sponsored by NOUN).
- (d) Ajah, M (2016). “Reverse Mentoring in Biblical Scholarship in the light of 1 Kings 5:1-14”, Triennial Congress of International Organization for the Study of Old Testament (IOSOT), Stellenbosch University, 4-9 September, 2016 (Sponsored by Stellenbosch University, South Africa).
- (e) Ajah, M& Okoronkwo, M. E. (2015). “Christian Theology Curriculum in National Open University of Nigeria: Issues of Pedagogy and Assessment”, The 26<sup>th</sup> ICDE World Conference, (UNISA 2015), University of South Africa, Sun-City, 14-16 October, 2015 (Self Registration).
- (f) Ajah, M (2014). “Promoting Open Educational Resources(OER) forTheological/Religious Education in Nigeria”, 2nd International Conference on Open and Distance e-Learning (ICOLDE 2014), 18-19 December, 2014 at Bangkok, Thailand (Sponsored by NOUN).
- (g) Ajah, M (2013). “Religious Education and Government Takeover/Return of Mission Schools in Nigeria”, RE21- Religious Education in Global-Local World, University College Cork (UCC), Ireland, 29-30 August, 2013 (Sponsored by University College Cork, Ireland).
- (h) Ajah, M (2013). “Love for the Stranger in Deuteronomy 10: 19 and It’s Socio-Cultural Implications for Development in Nigeria”, Second Annual International Conference on: Challenges of Development in Africa, Catholic University of Eastern Africa,Nairobi Kenya, 25-29 June, 2013 (Sponsored by NOUN).
- (i) Ajah, M (2013). “A Theological Interpretation of Land as a Grant in Deuteronomy and its Implications for Stewardship in Nigeria”, OTSSA Conference, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, SA, 11-13 September, 2013 (Sponsored by Stellenbosch University, South Africa).
- (j) Ajah, M (2013). “*Mi Yodea*: A Theological Reflection on the Book of Jonah in the Face of National Insecurity”, Bi-Annual International Religious Studies, Conference, University Of Ibadan, 14-17 April, 2013 Self sponsorship).
- (k) Ajah, M (2013). “Theological Interpretations Of Social Justice in the Book Of Deuteronomy And their Implications For Nigeria”, 26th Conference of Nigerian Association of Biblical

Studies (NABIS), Life Theological Seminary, Ikorodu Lagos, 16-19 July, 2013 (Self sponsorship).

- (l) Ajah, M (2013). “The role of religion in fostering social justice through distance education in Nigeria”, UNED-ICDE (Universidad Nacional de Education a Distancia & International Council for Open and Distance Education) International Conference, 7-9 March, 2013 (Self Registration).

## **XV. REFEREES**

### **1. Prof. Godwin Akper**

Department of Religious Studies  
National Open University of Nigeria, Abuja

### **2. Prof. Emele Mba Uka**

Department of Religious Studies  
University of Calabar

### **3. Prof. Hendrik L. Bosman**

Department Old and New Testament  
Faculty of Theology, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

## **XVI. SIGNATURE AND DATE**

Signature: 

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022