



**EXTERNAL
NEWSLETTER**

ATAFOM
UNIVERSITY

WWW.ATAFOM.UNIVERSITY

July 2022

Boutili PK 55
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Central African Republic;

ATAFOM University

External Newsletter

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ATAFOM University

Education for Integration

"ATAFOM University International" which is Atlantic African Oriental Multicultural University International was envisioned by our honourable President Dr. Sakir Yavuz in the year 2017. This vision became a reality with the support of multiple African leaders, especially His Excellency Faustin-Archanda Touadera, the president of Central African Republic.

ATAFOM University has been established in and is being operated from Bangui, Central African Republic, with the PILOT ACADEMIC SESSION in 2021-22.

The mission of ATAFOM University International is deeply entwined with the vision of Dr. Sakir Yavuz; Education for Integration, offering inclusive education for people worldwide and equal right to education irrespective of language, colour, ethnicity, gender or religion.

At ATAFOM University International, we intend to build a positive environment for our ATAFOM University students which fosters creativity, innovation and healthy competitiveness.



Students from

13

Countries

Courses Offered

Faculty of Arts,
Faculty of Economics,
Faculty of Information Technology, and
the ATAFOM Language Academy – ALA

**"Success of any action
begins in your head"
- Sakir Yavuz, President &
Founder**

We at ATAFOM University International aim to offer a mentoring-based education system that aims at not just learning through knowledge enhancement or skill development but also with positive attitude formation. We aim to meet the highest international standards and exceed all expectations and educational goals of our students when they choose ATAFOM University International as their educational institute.

Founder & President

ATAFOM University International

The Founder and President of ATAFOM University International is the visionary Dr. Sakir Yavuz. His motto,

"Success of any action begins in your head"

has helped him pave a way to create a University that offers integrative education. He believes that the children of this world with different cultural backgrounds and countries of origin as well as languages should have equal rights to education. He has made it his mission to provide the youth with access to university education, with the highest international levels of quality and equal opportunity with the belief that success requires permanent focus, strong motivation and extreme dedication.

Together with a team of experts from the fields of education, business, law, politics, media, and technology, the visionary worked on realizing his dream of founding an international university.



Rector



Prof. Dr. Michael Bauer

ATAFOM University International

Prof. Dr. Michael Bauer is the founding rector of ATAFOM University International. He has worked as a leader and technologist in various organizations.

He was also the Head of compliance at Perfect Timing Holding.

He has put a lot of research, planning and intensive preparations finding concepts, solutions and partners for sustainable contribution to the improvement of the educational offer in Africa and worldwide, which ATAFOM University International primarily aims at.

Vice Rectors



Prof. Dr. Theos M. B. Sijrier Vice Rector

Prof. Dr. Theos M. B. Sijrier is one of the two Vice Rectors of the ATAFOM University International. He also holds the position of Dean Faculty of Arts with the university.

An accomplished artist, Dr. Theos trained in the academy of the famous abstract expressionist Willem De Kooning. He also studied art at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Antwerp and the Art Academy of Dusseldorf. Since 2010, Dr. Theos has been doing art for charity and supporting home for disabled children.

Prof. Dr. Abdulbaki Turkoglu Vice Rector

Prof. Dr. Abdulbaki Turkoglu is the second of the two Vice Rectors of ATAFOM University International. He has worked as a Professor at Firat University Faculty School of Medicine, Department of Physiology, Turkey and has also been a Deputy in the Parliament of the Turkish Republic.



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Deans

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Let's meet our team members who are professional and have rich experiences.

Deans

**ATAFOM University
International**



Prof. Dr. Nevers Sekwila Mumba **Dean Faculty of Political Science**

Former Vice President Of The Republic Of Zambia And president Of The Movement For Multiparty Democracy Party, Rev. Dr. Nevers Sekwila Mumba is known as the pioneer of the Charismatic/ Evangelical Movement in Zambia. He is the founder and president of Zambia's leading evangelical organization, Victory Ministries International. Dr. Mumba holds Masters degree in Public Policy and degrees in theology from the USA. He also holds an honorary doctorate from Full Gospel Christian Theological Seminary in Flint, Michigan, USA. His experiences in public policy and politics bring immense value to the Faculty of Political Science of which he is the Dean, at the ATAFOM University.

Deans

**ATAFOM University
International**



Prof. Dr. David Thomas Nightingale Dean Faculty of Economics

Prof. Dr. Nightingale comes from a career covering finance, upstream and downstream in the Petrochemical, Oil, Gas, and Banking industry. He has been responsible for new areas of research which have revolutionized the multi dimensional modelling paradigms and machine learning in super computer MPP Geology analytical AI platforms. At ATAFOM University International, Prof. Dr. Nightingale is the Dean Faculty of Economics, translating his vast experience to bring value to the faculty he heads.



Prof. Dr. Theos M. B. Sijrier Dean Faculty of Arts

Prof. Dr. Theos M. B. Sijrier is the Dean Faculty of Arts with ATAFOM University International. An accomplished artist, Dr. Theos trained in the academy of the famous abstract expressionist Willem De Kooning. He also studied art at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Antwerp and the Art Academy of Dusseldorf. Since 2010, Dr. Theos has been doing art for charity and supporting home for disabled children.

Deans

**ATAFOM University
International**



Assoc. Prof. Can Katipzade
Director of Media and
Communications & Vice Dean
Faculty of Arts

Assoc. Prof. Can Katipzade is a media director, a film director, a producer and an award winning music composer. He also has academic background for teaching in Orlando, United States. Prof. Katipzade trained in Product Design and later in Recording Arts. He has been awarded “Golden Orange Film Festival, Best Music Award, Karbeyaz Film with Mircan Kaya (2010)”, “San Francisco Global Film Festival FOG Awards Music Icon (2015)” and “Oxford Collage Awards / Elixir Best Commercial Film (2018)”. His experience in media coupled with his academic background for teaching brings quality to the Faculty of Fine Arts where he is the Vice Dean and makes him the perfect fit for university's department of Media and Communications where he is the Director.

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Words of Wisdom

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Let's meet our team members who are professional and have rich experiences.

Words of Wisdom

“Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better”

- Maya Angelou

The motivational quote by Maya Angelou exhorts us to strive, learn and grow consistently. It means that we are constantly evolving, constantly learning. Do and give your best with all what you have and know now without thinking what if it goes wrong. That's what life is all about - To learn from your mistakes and turn them into experiences. Then, strive for better, and you will do better, even if a little better! And at ATAFOM University International we imbibe this spirit along with the vision of our President to impart an all round development of our students.



Article by Comfort Bulus

So why do people attend university? Some people want to boost their career vista or earn more. Others want the experience of going through a university. Those that want to start a business, end up in a university that will give them the required training and skills to run it. Other reasons for attending a university vary from learning transferable skills, making friends, acquiring knowledge about a loved subject, engaging in a hobby, becoming independent or garnering support when it is needed. Some university programs can vary from a couple of months to as long as six years depending on the nature of the program. At the end of a program, students are always excited to celebrate their completion, almost as much as they celebrated the day they started the program.



ONLINE EDUCATION – THE RISING TIDE

With the growth and spread of the internet worldwide, university education has experienced significant changes. Developing from distance learning programs which had previously operated via print-based correspondence and video conferencing, online education advanced rapidly as the internet's capabilities advanced. So history has developed from correspondence education (the receipt of lessons and experiences through the mail or some device and returning same upon completion) to the radio which began with educational broadcasting in the 1920s. Colleges and universities transmitted not only educational content but also social broadcasts of sporting events, concerts, dramas and college lectures (Kentnor, 2015). Radio became one of the most ideal instruments used to inform and educate the masses.

It was an inexpensive yet immediate medium whose content could be changed quickly to reach a large number of people. With the emergence of new technologies, after the radio, the ability to see an instructor on a television screen became a marvel for the public. The use of television and radio for education began to thrive from 1960 to the early 1970s. Their use has grown over the years till the internet redefined education. Online courses, via the internet, were experimented with in the early to mid-1990s. Online education was premised on the fact that it is possible to learn without face-to-face interaction between the student and the teacher. It changed the landscape of distance education and deeply impacted higher education as a whole across the world. Knowledge became more accessible to more than just a privileged few. According to Kentnor (2015), *just as financial aid and scholarships make education possible for those who are unable to afford the cost, distance education makes education attainable for those who are unable to sit in the traditional classroom.*

ONLINE EDUCATION – THE RISING TIDE

Online education has some features that give it an edge over the conventional classroom experience. Some of the features are:

1. It is less expensive than traditional teaching methods:
Online education is much more affordable compared to old-fashioned learning systems. In this system, parents are free from buying uniforms or spend on travel expenses to save money. Online education, unlike traditional, is inexpensive for economically weaker students who have the desire for a good education.
2. It offers an immense variety of courses:
Just like the internet offers a broad variety of skills and subjects, likewise online education avails different levels and disciplines to be learnt. A huge choice of online courses and subjects are readily available for students to choose from all year round.
3. Study groups allow for like minds across the world to share information and ideas:
Online education avails students from different locations and nationalities the ability to integrate and learn through study groups of unique and diverse minds. Students can learn from other societies and lifestyles while sharing their ideas and cultures.
4. The flexibility of the programs in terms of time, money and location:
For online education, students do not need to worry about commuting to class. They can sit and learn from the comfort of their homes. Attendance of classes is made easy from the comfort of the home. Therefore, students do not have to worry about absence from class. Online education allows students to study at any university located anywhere in the world without having to get a visa or bear travel costs.
5. A lot less infrastructure is required:
Students do not need to get campus accommodation or locate the library on campus. All needed books are made available through the online library. Learning is easy and comfortable from the student's abode.



ONLINE EDUCATION – THE RISING TIDE

Although online education can create a sense of isolation, be challenged with technical issues, requiring more screen-time and self-discipline there are a load of advantages associated with online education. Some of the advantages which are visibly present in the estimable ATAFOM University International are that:

1. It offers access to some of the best and most respected educators from different parts of the world. Access to top educators requires a lot of logistics and administrative bureaucracy. Online education at ATAFOM University International avails exposure to great minds at a minimal cost. The staff are drawn from different countries and different fields of knowledge with a deep wealth of experience.
2. For students who feel challenged when asked to speak in front of their classmates, online education offers smaller classes, and the opportunity for all students to effectively participate in class discussions which makes them feel more involved. Inclusivity, a central focus for ATAFOM University International, means that students can feel more involved.
3. It avails students the rare opportunity to create a global network by connecting with other students from all over the world. ATAFOM University International currently has students from 12 different countries (Saudi Arabia, Germany, Togo, Benin, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Turkey, Nigeria, Rwanda, Zambia, Burkina Faso and the Central African Republic). Opportunities are shared and knowledge is attained while they learn.
4. Course material is accessible to students at all times. If students get stuck with a topic they do not understand or need to revise notes given in a previous class, all they need to do is access the information and resources made available online. At ATAFOM, zoom classes are held and documents are shared through a personalized platform.
5. Skills are better developed while learning remotely. Students learn how to manage their time and motivate themselves which is an important skill for their future careers. (Veerendra, Jan. 17, 2022). Students in ATAFOM University International are highly motivated. As they learn from the comfort of their home they receive all the encouragement and support needed by their lecturers.

ONLINE EDUCATION – THE RISING TIDE

So online education, especially at ATAFOM University International is a sensible choice for students. It is a useful learning method that will sharpen proficiency in a difficult subject or learn a new skill. Although each student must assess their exceptional situations and decide based on their needs and goals, this alternative to traditional education is open to all and a convenient option with endless opportunities for anyone who chooses to take it up. ATAFOM University International keeps its doors wide open, driven by the slogans “education for integration” and “education without borders”. Elliot Masie states that we need to bring learning to people instead of people to learning. So, remember, online education is like a rising tide, it is going to lift all boats (by Anant Agarwal). ATAFOM University International is the ‘rising tide’ that is setting the pace for all ‘boats’ to ride high on.



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In the News



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ATAFOM University International - A Snapshot so far

ATAFOM University International A Snapshot

ATAFOM University International was founded in 2020 by the visionary President Sakir Yavuz and commenced academic activity with the **PILOT ACADEMIC YEAR** in 2021/22.

The following faculties were set up in this pilot year:

- Faculty of Arts
- Faculty of Economics
- Faculty of Information Technology and
- The ATAFOM Language Academy - ALA.

Students of ATAFOM Language Academy - ALA in the Bachelor's Programme and Bachelor's Students are being offered merit based scholarships to further encourage them.

There are plans to broaden the scope of study by introducing one more faculty and Diploma program in the **ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/23**. Faculty of Medicine and One-Year IT Diploma are planned in this broadened scope of study.



Academic Staff

ATAFOM University has Lecturers and Professors from different parts of the world. Right now, the University has Lecturers and Professors from 11 countries namely:

1. Turkey

2. England (UK)

3. Nigeria

4. Switzerland

5. Germany

6. India

7. Tunisia

8. Zambia

9. Indonesia

10. Central African Republic

11. Benin

ATAFOM Students

ATAFOM University has students from different parts of the world. Right now, the University has students from 12 countries namely:

1. Saudi Arabia

2. Germany

3. Togo

4. Benin

5. Ghana

6. Burkina Faso

7. Ivory Coast

8. Turkey

9. Nigeria

10. Rwanda

11. Zambia

12. Central African Republic

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ATAFOM Meeting

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ATAFOM University International - A Snapshot so far

**"Success of any action begins
in your head"**

**- Sakir Yavuz, President &
Founder**



The First ATAFOM University Administrative Meeting

ATAFOM University held its first administrative meeting at Istanbul, Turkey on the 31st of May, 2022 in the Miracle Hotel Asia.

The Istanbul ATAFOM Meeting was attended by Mr. Sakir Yavuz (Founder & President, ATAFOM University International), Prof. Dr. Michael Bauer (Rector, ATAFOM University International), Members of the Presidium, senior members of the academic and administrative staff and other important members of the ATAFOM University.

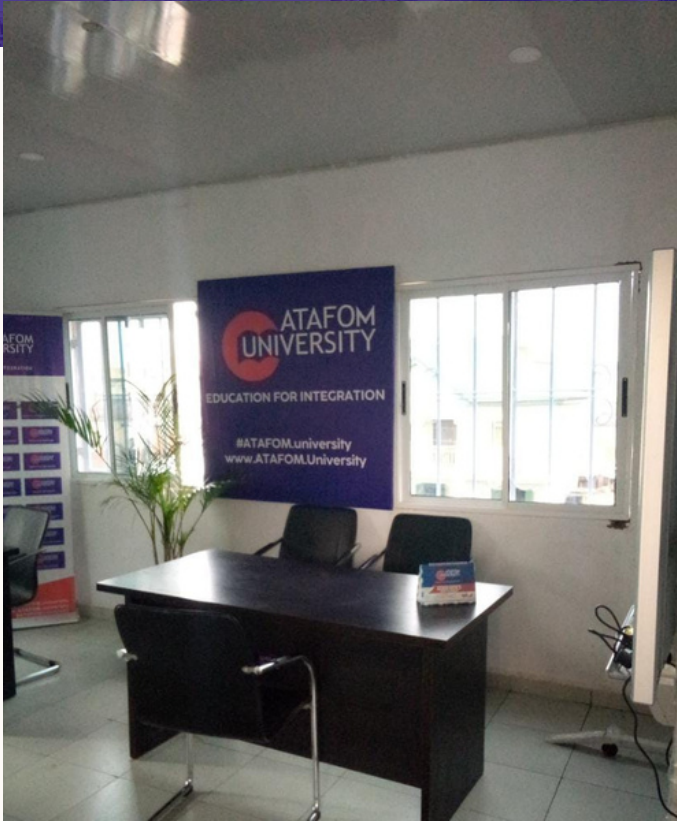
The welcome message was delivered by Prof. Dr. Michael Bauer where he informed the members about the driving force behind setting up the university.

An overview of the students enrolled in the online study in the PILOT ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/22, academic and administrative staff, scholarships offered was also provided by Prof. Dr. Bauer.

The Head of IT Administration, Mr. Anas Jawed presented the ATAFOM Online Campus, reported on the peculiarities of ATAFOM Online Studies and presented the ATAFOM IT Landscape, which resembles a real city with all its infrastructures and the main arteries and vital vibrant IT life crossroads.

It was announced that the ATAFOM University Campus is being planned to be setup on a 707 hectares of land at Bangui, Central African Republic.

The groundbreaking ceremony was presided over by the President of Central African Republic His Excellency Prof. Faustin-Archange Touadéra and with the ATAFOM Founder and President Sakir Yavuz.



A detailed plan of the upcoming **ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/23**, IT structure, usage and incorporation of latest technology and new courses was presented.

The ATAFOM Founder and President Sakir Yavuz, concluded the meeting by appreciating the efforts put in so far and encouraging the attendees to take up the challenge to do more.

Information about the ATAFOM Info Office Nigeria in Jos was provided during the meeting. This office exists as a contact point for students interested in learning and parents who want to know more about ATAFOM University International and is equipped with computers, meeting rooms and excellent WiFi connectivity.



Sneak Peek

ATAFOM University held its first administrative meeting at Istanbul, Turkey on the 31st of May, 2022 in the Miracle Hotel Asia.



Photo 1

PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER SAKIR YAVUZ WITH RECTOR PROF. DR. MICHAEL BAUER



Photo 2

PROF. DR. NEVERS MUMBA INFORMING THE ATTENDEES ABOUT ATAFOM OFFICE ZAMBIA



Photo 3

HEAD OF IT, ANAS JAWED INFORMING THE ATTENDEES ABOUT ONLINE COURSES AND ATAFOM ONLINE CAMPUS



Photo 4

PROF. BRUNO CIROUSSEL INFORMING THE ATTENDEES ABOUT THE PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT ATAFOM WITH ENKIAI



Photo 5

FROM LEFT: DR. METIN KIMILDAR, RAZI SAFAROV, MR. CAN KATIPZADE AND PROF. DR. ABDULBAKI TÜRKOĞLU INFORMING ABOUT ATAFOM UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF MEDICINE



Photo 6

FROM LEFT: MR. CAN KATIPZADE, PROF. ANDREAS MAASS, MR. ANDREAS GLEISENSTEIN, PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER MR. SAKIR YAVUZ AND PROF. DR. THEOS M. B. SIJRIER

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Ground-breaking Ceremony for ATAFOM University Campus

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ATAFOM University International - A Snapshot so far

**"Success of any action begins
in your head"**

**- Sakir Yavuz, President &
Founder**

Sneak Peek: Ground-breaking Ceremony for ATAFOM University Campus



REPORT

The President of the ATAFOM University, Mr. Sakir Yavuz visited Bangui, Central African Republic to attend the Ground Breaking Ceremony of the proposed ATAFOM University International campus.

Bangui, the capital of Central African Republic, is the Headquarters of ATAFOM University International.

Ground-breaking Ceremony for ATAFOM University Campus

Bangui, June 2022. It was a moment of excitement, joy, and praise for the people of Bangui in the Central African Republic when the President and Founder of ATAFOM University Campus, Sakir Yavuz performed the groundbreaking ceremony for the building of the university campus located at Boutili PK 55, Route de Boali, Bangui, on a land mass of 707 hectares.

The ground-breaking ceremony of the new campus of ATAFOM University was part of the President's activity and purpose for visiting the Central African Republic in June 2022 where the project has received tremendous support from all stakeholders – the government, the locals, parents, and prospective students alike.



During the ceremony which was witnessed by government representatives, the ATAFOM University team, and residents in the area, President and Founder Sakir Yavuz reaffirmed the universities commitment to its vision and philosophy of “Education for Integration” and “without borders” where access to learning is not restricted to social status, race, background, religion, race or geographical distance.

As part of his visit, Mr. Sakir Yavuz met with the President of the Central African Republic, H.E. Prof. Faustin A. Touadera in Bangui to discuss practical ways of achieving the goals and philosophy of the university through effective partnership. Chief among the issues discussed included: evaluation of the **PILOT ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/22**; preparation of the standard operation of ATAFOM University for the **ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/23**; and the groundbreaking ceremony of the new campus of ATAFOM University in Bangui, the capital of the Central African Republic.

Similarly, while engaging with the Lord Mayor of Bangui, Emile Gros Raymond Nakombo, on the creation of technical support as part of measures to improve the online participation of ATAFOM students in Bangui, it was agreed that another ATAFOM Info Office in Bangui would be set up.



ATAFOM University International was founded in 2020 by the visionary President and Founder Sakir Yavuz and commenced academic activity with the **PILOT ACADEMIC YEAR** in 2021/2022. The following faculties were set up in this **PILOT ACADEMIC YEAR**:

- Faculty of Arts,
- Faculty of Economics,
- Faculty of Information Technology, and
- the ATAFOM Language Academy – ALA

There are plans to broaden the scope of the study by introducing more faculties and programs in the **ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/23**.

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ATAFOM Information Offices in Nigeria & Zambia

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ATAFOM University International - A Snapshot so far

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**- Sakir Yavuz, President &
Founder**



ATAFOM Info Office Nigeria in Jos

- ATAFOM University International opened its new Information Office in Nigeria.
- Located at No. 83/16, Yandoka Street in Jos, Plateau State, the ATAFOM office in Nigeria is located in a central area for easy access to all.
- Nigeria holds great potential for ATAFOM since it is the most populous country in Africa, also known as the giant of Africa.
- The office is equipped with computers and excellent WiFi and is very suitable for classes and staff meetings. This office exists as a contact point for students interested in learning and parents who want to know more about ATAFOM University.
- Mrs. Jamila Abubakar has been appointed as the Head of the ATAFOM Info Office Nigeria.

ATAFOM Info Office Zambia in Lusaka

- A new ATAFOM Info Office Zambia in Lusaka is planned on August 1st, 2022.
- The office is planned to be setup on similar lines as the ATAFOM Info Office Nigeria in Jos.
- Mr. Nevers Shumo-el Mumba is the guiding force for this new office.
- He will be leading the ATAFOM Info Office Zambia and will act as Head of ATAFOM in Zambia.

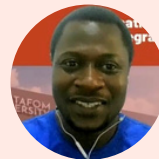


About ATAFOM University Newsletter Team

Organization and Management



Amna Mujahid
Head of Content
& Newsletter



Mabas Akila
Assistant
Manager - Digital
Presence



Comfort Bulus
Content Writer



Amjad Mohd
Graphic Designer

Let's meet our team members who are professional and have rich experiences.

Thank You!

For inquiries, contact us.



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