



**UNIVERSITY  
OF GHANA**

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES  
**7TH (VIRTUAL) SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

# **ADDRESSING AFRICA'S CHALLENGES IN THE 21ST CENTURY**

Programme & Book of Abstracts

Date: Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th November, 2021

Time: 8.30 am each day



**CLICK HERE**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85974467477?pwd=ZzBLY2x1OUZkMXZsWik0STdlRlJ0dz09>

**MEETING ID:** 859 7446 7477

**PASSCODE:** 981532



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# PROGRAMME

**WEDNESDAY 3RD NOVEMBER, 2021**



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**8.00 am – 8:50am:**

**Slideshow & GDE Performance**

**8:50am – 9:00am**

**UG Anthem**

**9:00am – 10.30am**

**✿ 9:00am – 9:10am**

Welcome Address:

**Prof. George Owusu**

**Dean, School of Social Sciences**

**✿ 9:10am – 9:15am**

Introduction of Chairman:

**Dr. Margaret Amankwah-Poku**

**Senior Lecturer, Department of Psychology/Warden, Volta Hall**

**✿ 9:15am – 9:25am**

Chairman's Remarks:

**Prof. Daniel Ofori**

**Provost, College of Humanities**

**✿ 9:25am – 9:35am**

Vice Chancellor's Remarks:

**Prof. Nana Aba Appiah Amfo**

**Vice Chancellor, UG**

**✿ 9:35am – 9:40am**

Introduction of Keynote Speaker:

**Dr. Doris Akyere Boateng**

**Senior Lecturer, Department of Social Work**

**✿ 9:40am – 10:20am**

Keynote Address

**Prof. J. R. A Ayee**

**Professor, Department of Political Science**

**✿ 10:20am – 10:30am**

Presentation of School Awards

**Prof. George Owusu**

**Dean, School of Social Sciences**

**MC: Dr. Seidu Alidu**

# BREAKOUT SESSIONS

11am – 12.30pm

Session 1 Room 1	Session 2 Room 2	Session 3 Room 3	Session 4 Room 4
<b>Urbanisation, Housing and Slums</b>	<b>Leadership, Governance and Politics (1)</b>	<b>Environment and Climate (1)</b>	<b>Migration, Return and Reintegration</b>
<b>Chair: Prof. George Owusu</b>	<b>Chair: Prof. Ransford Gyampo</b>	<b>Chair: Prof. Kwadwo Owusu</b>	<b>Chair: Prof. Joseph Teye</b>
Fuel Service Stations Competing for Space with Other Land Users in the Ga East Municipality Of Ghana: Analysing The Contexts And Drivers  <b>Simon Bwakyillen-uo, Innocent Agbelie, Petronella Munemo, Eric Boakye-Danquah</b>	Curbing Corruption in Ghana: Is The Office of The Special Prosecutor The Answer?  <b>Arko Blay Augustine</b>	The Menace of Galamsey in The Ghanaian Society: The Case of Atiwa East District in The Eastern Region Of Ghana  <b>Seth Nyarko Asare</b>	The Un(Certainties) of Migration: Narratives of Independent Adolescent Migrant Residents in Ghana  <b>Mavis Dako-Gyeke, Richard Baffo Kodom &amp; Alhassan Sulemana</b>
Towards a Concrete Landscape: Assessment of Efficiency of Land Consumption in Greater Accra Region  <b>Adams Osman, David Oscar Yawson, Simon Mariwah, Emmanuel Abeshi Mensah</b>	Third Termism in Africa: View from The African Cultural Lenses  <b>Mathew Lobnibe Arah</b>	Indigenous Water Resource Conservation Practices in Contemporary Ghanaian Society  <b>Bismark Kwasi Osei</b>	To the East and Back: Return Migration of Young Ghanaian Medical Doctors and the Issues of Reintegration  <b>Ishmael Boampong Osei</b>



	Utilising Islamic Political System for Engendering Good Leadership and Governance in Nigeria  <b>Salahudeen Taofiq Oladimeji</b>	Corporate Governance and Environmental Reporting Among Mining Firms in Africa: An Empirical Analysis  <b>Emmanuel Antwi, Emmanuel Tetteh Asare &amp; King Carl Tornam Duho</b>	Viewing Migration in Africa from the Stage to the Screen: Sansankroma (The Vessel of Our Destiny)  <b>Daniel Appiah-Adjei</b>
	Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa: Knowledge Production and Sustainable Governance  <b>Susann Baller &amp; Charlotte Wrigley-Asante</b>	Environmental and Intergeneration Justice in Africa: Important Issues in Addressing Africa's Developmental Challenges in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century  <b>Stephen Nkansah Morgan</b>	Governing Migration through Integration Programs  <b>Gerda Heck</b>
	State Practice on the Right To Self-Determination in Africa: Evidence From the Cameroon and Nigeria  <b>Philip C. Aka</b>	Impacts of Industrial Activities on the Quality of Life in Sharada Industrial Estate, Kano State Nigeria  <b>Jamila Garba Abdullahi</b>	The Differential Roles of Social Support on Cross-Cultural Intelligence and Adjustment: A Conceptual Framework  <b>Yvonne Barnieh, Daniel Frimpong Ofori, Kwasi Dartey-Baah &amp; Kwesi Amponsah-Tawiah</b>

**12.30pm – 1.30pm: Slideshow & GDE Performance**

**1.30 pm– 3pm**

<b>Session 5</b> <b>Room 1</b>	<b>Session 6</b> <b>Room 2</b>	<b>Session 7</b> <b>Room 3</b>	<b>Session 8</b> <b>Room 4</b>
<b>Security and Social Vulnerabilities</b>	<b>Mental Health and Human Development</b>	<b>Microfinance and SMEs Development</b>	<b>Elections and Electoral Violence</b>
<b>Chair: Dr. Doris Akyere Boateng</b>	<b>Chair: Prof. Charity Akotia</b>	<b>Chair: Prof. Eric Osei-Assibey</b>	<b>Chair: Dr. Kwame Asah-Asante</b>
The Lived Experiences of Parenting among Young Mothers in the Slums of Ghana's Capital, Accra	Psychoactive Substance Use Among Young Adults in Small-Scale Communities: The Experiences of Parents in the Mpohor District of the Western Region	Social And Economic Determinants of Business Risk-Taking Propensity Among Entrepreneurs of Small and Medium Scale Enterprises in Akoko Region, Ondo State, Nigeria	Third Termism In Africa: View From The African Cultural Lenses
<b>Portia Nana Ama Brempong, Kingsley Saah-Tout Mort &amp; Eunice Abbey</b>	<b>Philip Asamoah, Kingsley Saa-Touh Mort &amp; Kwabena Frimpong-Manso</b>	<b>Samuel Ayodeji Omolawal</b>	<b>Mathew Lobnibe Arah</b>
Rising Inequality and Disproportionate Impact of Covid-19 On Women: A Closer Look At Africa	Self-Reported Suicidal Behaviours Among First-Year Undergraduates During the Covid-19 Pandemic in Ghana	Risks and Financial Performance of Microfinance Institutions	France In Post-Cold War Africa: Boko Haram, Visual Rumours, And Anti-French Sentiment in Cameroon
<b>Thelma Arko, Pedi Obani, Henry Ofosu &amp; Stella Kwami</b>	<b>Beatrice Dwumfour Williams, Emmanuel Nii-Boye Quarshie, Kwaku Oppong Asante &amp; Joseph Osafo</b>	<b>Barbara Ewurama Wartemberg, King Carl Tornam Duho &amp; Emmanuel Tetteh Asare</b>	<b>Rogers Orock</b>



<p>Ghana's Free Secondary Education Policy – A Swot Analysis</p> <p><b>Dr. Clement Adamba, Tong Sterling Ntawayina &amp; Daniel Hawkins Iddrisu</b></p>		<p>Personal Values and Tax Compliance among SMEs: The Mediating Role of Ethical Values</p> <p><b>Oliver Nyamekye &amp; Frank Somiah Quaw</b></p>	<p>Electoral Violence and Security Institutions in Africa: Focus on 2019 Presidential Election in Nigeria</p> <p><b>Eberchukwu Faith Obani</b></p>
<p>Young People's Attitudes Towards Wife-Beating: Analysis of the Ghana Demographic and Health Survey 2014</p> <p><b>Emmanuel Anongeba Anaba, Adom Manu, Deda Ogum Alangea, Emeffa Judith Modey, Adolphina Addo-Lartey &amp; Kwasi Torpey</b></p>		<p>The Role of Small Fish in Food and Nutritional Security in Ghana: An Analysis of the Discords Between Policy and Reality</p> <p><b>Austin Dziwornu Ablo</b> <b>Josph Awetori Yaro</b> <b>Joeri Scholtens</b></p>	<p>Comparative Analysis of Election Forensics: Empirical Evidence from the 2012 And 2020 Presidential Elections in Ghana</p> <p><b>Edmund Fosu-Agyemang, Ezekiel N. N. Nortey, Kwame Asah-Asante &amp; Richard Minkah</b></p>
<p>Violence against Persons with visual impairment in the Accra Metropolis</p> <p><b>Anthony Oduro, Efua Mantey Agyire-Tettey &amp; Augustina Naami</b></p>		<p>The Differential Roles of Social Support on Cross-Cultural Intelligence and Adjustment: A Conceptual Framework</p> <p><b>Yvonne Barnieh, Daniel Frimpong Ofori, Kwasi Dartey-Baah &amp; Kwesi Amponsah-Tawiah</b></p>	

3.15pm – 4.45 pm

Session 9 Room 1	Session 10 Room 2	Session 11 Room 3	Session 12 Room 4
<b>Psychological Health and Wellbeing</b>	<b>Attitudes, Behaviours and Institutional Changes</b>	<b>Sexuality, Culture and Religion</b>	<b>Science, Technology and Digitalization</b>
<b>Chair: Dr. Kwaku Oppong Asante</b>	<b>Chair: Dr. James Dzisah</b>	<b>Chair: Prof. Rose Mary Amenga-Etego</b>	<b>Chair: Dr. Rabi Asante</b>
Positive Psychological Interventions towards Self Esteem of Adolescents Living in Slums in Kampala District	Prison Programmes and Rehabilitation of Inmates in Agodi Correctional Centre	Perceptions of Sexual Risk/Sexual Safety and Influence of Awareness of Pre-Phylactic Prevention of HIV/AIDS among Young Persons in the Eastern Region of Ghana	Test N Grow Digital Scientific Labs for Smallholder Farmers In West Africa
<b>Masitula Namugenyi</b>	<b>Helen Ajibike Fatoye and Tola Nihiniola Rufus</b>	<b>Adobea Yaa Owusu</b>	<b>Prince Hasevi</b>
The Mediating Role of Duration of Disclosure in the Relationship Between Disclosure and Psychological Wellbeing among Children Living with HIV in Accra Ghana	Managing the Challenges of Multi-Ethnic Dissimilarities in Post-Colonial Africa: The Case of Ghana	What Emerging Adults Are Saying About Sexual and Reproductive Health Programs: Evidence from A Suburb in Accra, Ghana	Using Mobile Technology for Monitoring Tuberculosis Treatment among Women with Tuberculosis and Tuberculosis-HIV Co-Infection in Greater Accra Region, Ghana
<b>Delight Abla Klutsey, Margaret Amankwah-Poku &amp; Kwaku Oppong Asante</b>	<b>Afua Boatemaa Yakohene, &amp; Juliana Abena Appiah</b>	<b>Laud Sowah, Adriana Biney, D. Yaw Atiglo Delali Badasu &amp; Augustine Ankomah</b>	<b>Caroline Dinam Badzi, Agnes Kotoh, Philip Teg-Nefaah Tabong, Kwasi Torpey, Richard Adanu, Margaret Lartey &amp; Awewura Kwara</b>

<p>Power Status and Workplace Violence in Public Hospitals in Uganda: A Sociocultural Discourse of Nurses' Voiced Realities</p> <p><b>Patrick Mwase</b></p>	<p>Is Contemporary Christianity Building or Plunging Adolescents' Character? Evidence from a Neo-Prophetic Church in Ghana</p> <p><b>Joana Salifu Yendork</b></p>	<p>Covid-19, Relationships and Contraception: What Sexually Active Emerging Adults Were Doing During the Lockdown in Accra</p> <p><b>Adriana Biney, Esinam Kayi, D. Yaw Atiglo, Laud Sowah, Delali Badasu &amp; Augustine</b></p>	<p>Information Via Mobile Phones: A Question of Trust</p> <p><b>Yvette Ussher</b></p>
<p>From "Obi-Kyerε to Kyerε-Obi": The Establishment and Evolution of the Centre for Plant Medicine Research</p> <p><b>Diana Amoni Ntewusu</b></p>	<p>The African Refugee in Emancipated Eastern Europe, with Special Reference to the Russian Federation</p> <p><b>Albert Antwi Bosiako</b></p>		<p>Gig Work and Workplace Transformations: Debating the Issues of Quality and Non-Standardised</p> <p><b>Deborah Odu Obor</b></p>
<p>Effects of Access Barriers on the Psychological Wellbeing of Persons with Mobility Disabilities in Ghana</p> <p><b>Augustina Naami</b></p>			<p>Career Aspirations of Students Studying <b>Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics</b> (STEM) Courses in Ghana: A Gender Analysis</p> <p><b>Charles G. Ackah, Louis Frimpong &amp; Charlotte Wrigley-Asante</b></p>
<p>Complementary and Alternative Treatment for Breast Cancer: What are the Experiences of Ghanaian Women?</p> <p><b>Enoch Teye-Kwadjo</b></p>			<p>Accounting Profession: A Conceptual Paper on Application, Opportunities and Challenges</p> <p><b>Henry Duah</b></p>

**THURSDAY 4th NOVEMBER, 2021**

**8.30am – 9.00am : Slideshow & GDE Performance**



**CLICK HERE**

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**MEETING ID:** 859 7446 7477

**PASSCODE:** 981532

**9:00am – 10.30am**

✿ Welcome – **MC**

✿ **Topic:** *Agricultural Commercialization in Africa: Emerging Trends and Livelihood Implications*

- **Panelists:**

- o Dr. Kofi Asante, ISSER, University of Ghana
- o Prof. Joseph A. Yaro, Dept. of Geography & Resource Development, University of Ghana
- o Dr. Olajide O. Adeola, Dept. of Agricultural Economics, University of Ibadan, Nigeria.
- o Miss Fashakin, Oluwaseun., Dept. of Agricultural Economics, University of Ibadan, Nigeria.

✿ Moderator: **Dr. Steve Wiggins, IDS, University of Sussex. UK.**

**10.30am – 11am**

**Musical Interlude/Slide show**

# BREAKOUT SESSIONS

**11.00am – 12.30 pm**

Session 13 Room 1	Session 14 Room 2	Session 15 Room 3	Session 16 Room 4
<b>COVID-19, Innovations and Responses (1)</b>	<b>Media and Development</b>	<b>Growth, Poverty and Welfare</b>	<b>Corporate Finance and Firm Performance</b>
<b>Chair: Prof. Gordon Awandare</b>	<b>Chair: Prof. Audrey Gadzekpo</b>	<b>Chair: Prof. Bernardin Senadza</b>	<b>Chair: Prof. Ebo Turkson</b>
Navigating Crisis, Chaos, Care and Work: The Lived Experiences of University of Ghana Women Academics and Covid-19  <b>Mjiba Frehiwot, Deborah Atobrah &amp; Irene Appeaning</b>	Role of Social Media on Political Participation among Women in Urban Communities of Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria  <b>Onweazu Olufemi Okoji</b>	Inclusive Growth in Ecowas: The Implication on Poverty  <b>Ajayi Felix Odunayo, Anu Keshiro Toriola &amp; Emmanuel Oladapo George</b>	Corporate Governance, Earnings Management and Transfer Pricing among Multinational Companies: Evidence From Ghana  <b>Abraham Glover, Emmanuel Tetteh Asare &amp; King Carl Tornam Duho</b>
‘Fellow Ghanaians, The Enemy is the Virus, The Battle is the Lords’: The Spectre of Covid-19 Securitisation in Ghana  <b>Sulley Ibrahim</b>	Covid-19 and Suicidal Ideation among the Youth: The Mediating Roles of Loneliness and Social-Media Addiction  <b>Emmanuel Pedepo Mark &amp; Ajala Muniru Alimi</b>	Urbanization and Economic Growth Nexus in Sub-Saharan Africa  <b>Solomon Ahimah-Agyakwah, Edward Nketiah-Amponsah &amp; Frank Agyire-Tettey</b>	Financial Flexibility, Investment Efficiency, Investment Scale, Market Value and Performance of Listed Firms: Evidence from West Africa  <b>John Kwaku Ayine, King Carl Tornam Duho &amp; Emmanuel Tetteh</b>
Covid-19 Vaccine Hesitancy and Refusal Among Tanzanian University Students  <b>Simon Peter Ngalomba</b>	The Impact of Digitization on the Provision of Services by Public Library in Kano State, Nigeria  <b>Aliyu Haidar Abubakar</b>	Effect of Financial Inclusiveness on Tax Revenue in Sub-Saharan African Countries  <b>Abel Fumey</b>	Accounting Reforms in the Public Sector: Is Ghana Ready for IPSAS Accrual Accounting System?  <b>Gifty Mavis Lamptey</b>

Healthcare Facilities Challenges and Quality of Service Delivery: Evidence from Covid-19 Pandemic in Nigeria	“Soldier is Afraid of Corona”: A Qualitative Analysis of Covid-19 Health Communication through Music in Ghana	Ghana’s Free Secondary Education Policy – A SWOT Analysis	Sustainability Reporting Practices of Listed Firms in Ghana and its Determinants; A Content Analysis
<b>Mustapha Yusuf Ismaila &amp; Issa Binta Oziohu</b>	<b>Henneh Kwaku Kyereh, Paul Obeng, Jacob Owusu Sarfo &amp; Edward Wilson Ansah</b>	<b>Clement Adamba, Tong Sterling Ntowanyina &amp; Daniel Hawkins Iddrisu</b>	<b>Peter Duodu, Francis Aboagye-Otchere &amp; Teddy Ossei Kwakye</b>
	Identity Lost: The Paradox of Becoming Young Again	The Corporate Social Responsibility-Innovation Nexus: A Stakeholder Theory, Resource-Based Theory, and the Job-To-Be-Done Framework	The Impact of Corporate Social Responsibility on Innovation Performance of Firms from the Stakeholder and Resource-Based View: Customers and Shareholders as Mediating Variables
	<b>Daniel Appiah-Adjei</b>	<b>Kennedy Apaayire Amongya &amp; Stephen Kweku Ackon</b>	<b>Selina Attipoe &amp; Solomon Tanle</b>

**12.30pm – 1.30pm: Slideshow/GDE Performance**

**1.30 – 3pm**

<b>Session 17</b> <b>Room 1</b>	<b>Session 18</b> <b>Room 2</b>	<b>Session 19</b> <b>Room 3</b>
<b>Environment and Climate (2)</b>	<b>Leadership, Governance and Politics (2)</b>	<b>COVID 19, Innovation and Responses (2)</b>
<b>Chair: Dr. Austin Ablo</b>	<b>Chair: Prof. Ransford Gyampo</b>	<b>Chair: Prof. Gordon Awandare</b>
Adaptation Strategies to Climate Change in Rain-Fed Vegetable Production in West Africa: A Review  <b>Koko Namo Lawson Zankli1&amp; Simon Bawakyillenuo</b>	Nail in the Coffin? Realism, Rational Choice Theory and the 'United States of Africa'  <b>Isaac Nunoo</b>	Diagnostic Accuracy and Challenges of Using Chest Computed Tomography for Covid-19 Diagnosis  <b>Alberta Naa Afia Adjei &amp; Albert Dayor Piersson</b>
Smallholder Farmers' Adaptation Strategies to Changing Provisioning Ecosystem Services in the Sudan and Guinea Savannah Ecological Zones of Ghana  <b>Philip Aniah</b>	The Role of Civil Society Organizations in Promoting Good Governance in Africa's Democratization Process: The Nigerian Experience  <b>Abdullahi Bala Ado, Ibrahim Badiru &amp; Usman Mika'il Usman</b>	Covid-19 and its Effects on Academic Activities on Tertiary Students in Ghana  <b>Ismail Mohammed, Haw-la, Baku Yussif &amp; Najat Gabriella Anyagri</b>
Local Differentiation and Adapting to Climate Change in Coastal Ghana  <b>Victor Owusu</b>	Political Parties, Ideologies, and Social Policy in Ghana's Fourth Republic  <b>Rosina Foli</b>	Examining the Covid-19 and its Potential  Development of E-Commerce and Digital Economy in Ghana  <b>Mark Kwaku Mensah Obeng, Rabiu Kwaku Boakye, Yvette Ussher, Sylvia Easter Gyan &amp; Rosemond Akpene Hiadzi</b>
		Why I Did Not and Will Not Vaccinate against Covid-19:  The Case Of Respondents From Madina Market And The Accra Mall  <b>C. B. Wiafe-Akenteng</b>



		<p>Factors Associated with Compliance to Covid-19 Safety</p> <p>Protocols among Healthcare Workers: Implications</p> <p>for Ghana's Healthcare System</p> <p><b>Nana Nimo Appiah-Agyekum, Esinam Afi Kayi, Doris Ottie-Boakye &amp; Gloria Akosua Ansa</b></p>
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# BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

1. **YOUNG PEOPLE'S ATTITUDES TOWARDS WIFE-BEATING: ANALYSIS OF THE GHANA DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY 2014**

Emmanuel Anongeba Anaba, Adom Manu, Deda Ogum Alangea, Emefa Judith Modey, Adolphina Addo-Lartey & Kwasi Torpey

*eeanaba002@st.ug.edu.gh*

Intimate Partner Violence is a global public health problem. Attitude towards wife-beating is a major determinant of both intimate partner violence perpetration and victimization. However, little is known about the attitudes of Ghanaian young people towards wife-beating. The objective of this study is to assess young people's attitudes towards wife-beating and identify salient factors influencing young people's acceptance of wife-beating. Data used in this study was obtained from the 2014 Ghana Demographic and Health Survey. The survey was nationally representative and provided estimates for population and health indicators across the former ten regions of Ghana, including rural and urban areas. The data was analyzed with Stata/SE version 16. We find that 32% of young women and 19% of young men accept wife-beating. Among young women, acceptance of wife-beating was significantly influenced by younger age, wealth index, low educational status, religion, the region of residence, ethnicity, frequency of reading newspaper and frequency of listening to the radio ( $p < 0.05$ ). Among young men, acceptance of wife-beating was significantly influenced by wealth index, the region of residence and frequency of reading newspapers ( $p < 0.05$ ). This study demonstrates that a substantial proportion of young people in Ghana accept wife-beating.

2. **CURBING CORRUPTION IN GHANA: IS THE OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL PROSECUTOR THE ANSWER?**

Arko Blay Augustine

*abarko@uew.edu.gh/abarko@gmail.com*

Successive governments in Ghana have established several anti-corruption agencies given them differing mandates and powers since the return to multi-party Democracy in 1993. Yet, corruption remains prevalent in administrative and political systems. In response to the growing culture of corruption and failed anti-corruption initiatives, after taking office in January 2017, President Nana Addo Akufo-Addo launched his anti-corruption campaign with the establishment of the Office of the Special Prosecutor (OSP) following the passage of Act 959 by Parliament. The OSP is to undertake proactive investigation and prosecution, recovery of assets proceeds and management, and take measures to prevent corruption. Many Ghanaians had hoped that the OSP would succeed in the fight against corruption. However, three years of its inception, it has not undertaken any major investigation and prosecution of any officials. Will the OSP succeed in its mandate, and under what conditions? The key question is whether the establishment of the Office

of the Special Prosecutor will show a form of success in the fight against corruption? If so, under what conditions will OSP make corruption a fact of life in contemporary Ghana? Which unique characteristics of OSP may contribute to controlling corruption? Moreover, is OSP getting support from corridors of power, adequate resources and internal control and accountability mechanisms to eliminate corruption in Ghana? Using a mixed qualitative method including expert interviews and document reviews, this paper investigates whether the OSP is the panacea to systemic corruption in Ghana.

### 3. **THIRD TERMISM IN AFRICA: A VIEW FROM THE AFRICAN CULTURAL LENSE**

Mathew Lobnibe Arah

*ogungbenromathew@gmail.com*

The failure of African leaders to hand over power when their mandatory term of office is over is becoming commonplace. This scenario has painted a bleak picture of the African Continent on the international scene especially in the Western World. Many reasons such as abuse of state resources and fear of prosecution, no strong opposition, lack of succession plan, deliberate refusal to step down because of despotic and kleptocratic tendencies, addiction to resources and power, amongst others, have been adduced in the existing literature to explain why the practice has become too often and prolonged. This paper argues that the complete transplantation of Western Democracy on Africans is a potential reason for this development. Democracy is the Culture of the West and therefore represents their way of life which cannot be purely implanted on Africans who have varied and unique cultures. I argue that Africa needs to redefine Democracy.

### 4. **PRISON PROGRAMMES AND REHABILITATION OF INMATES IN AGODI CORRECTIONAL CENTRE**

Helen Ajibike Fatoye and Tola Nihiniola Rufus

*ajibikefatoye@yahoo.com*

Rehabilitation programmes in correctional facilities are aimed at securing inmates' future and making them better personalities. There are limited studies on the assessment of the effectiveness of these programmes on inmates' rehabilitation. This study examines the impact of rehabilitation programmes on inmates in Agodi Correctional Centre, Ibadan, Nigeria. Rehabilitation programmes in the facility include educational and work packages, skill acquisition training and recreational activities. Using rehabilitation theory, the study adopted a descriptive, cross-sectional research design in administering three hundred questionnaires to purposively selected inmates in Agodi Correctional Centre, Ibadan. Data collected was analysed at univariate and bivariate levels using SPSS version 17. Findings suggest a significant relationship between skills acquisition programmes and rehabilitation of inmates. Government policies and programmes aimed at ensuring the welfare of inmates should focus on improving already existing rehabilitation programmes and developing new ones.

5. **UTILISING ISLAMIC POLITICAL SYSTEM FOR ENGENDERING GOOD LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE IN NIGERIA**

Salahudeen Taofiq Oladimeji

*staofiqoladimeji@gmail.com*

Islam is not only a religion but also a complete code of conduct. It is also a religion which Allah has given mankind to enable people to live a successful life. In Islam, religious and secular spheres of human life are harmoniously and inextricably linked. The thrust of this paper is to examine some features of the Islamic Political System to illuminate the extent to which they guarantee good leadership and engender good governance.

6. **NAVIGATING CRISIS, CHAOS, CARE AND WORK: THE LIVED EXPERIENCES OF UNIVERSITY OF GHANA WOMEN ACADEMICS AND COVID-19**

Mjiba Frehiwot, Deborah Atobrah & Irene Appeaning

*mfrehiwot@ug.edu.gh*

This presentation examines the lived experiences of women academics at the University of Ghana (UG) during the COVID-19 pandemic between March 2020 and March 2021. It further interrogates how these women navigated through the state and UG's responses to the pandemic. In our analyses of primary data collected through in-depth interviews and Focus Group Discussions (FGD), we explore the interactions between female academics' expression of their gender roles, particularly motherhood (be it biological or symbolic), and the expression of their agency in a global crisis. We find that UG Women academics working from home reported to have done so under intense stress and strain to meet their family care obligations and the demands of their jobs. Still, self-reported productivity levels dropped drastically for most female academics as demands for care increased, and some women found respite in institutional level networks.

7. **ROLE OF SOCIAL MEDIA ON POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AMONG WOMEN IN URBAN COMMUNITIES OF ILORIN, KWARA STATE, NIGERIA**

Onweazu Olufemi Okoji

*okoji.oo@unilorin.edu.ng*

This study examines the role of social media on political activism among women in Ilorin, Nigeria. The population for this study comprised all women leaders/political activists in Ilorin, Nigeria. Two hundred (200) women leaders/political activists were sampled using a clustered sampling technique. A researcher's developed questionnaire with the reliability coefficient of 0.72 was used for data collection while the data collected was analysed using descriptive statistics of percentage to answer the research questions while inferential statistics of Pearson's Chi-square via a contingency table to test the hypothesis postulated for this study. Findings of the study revealed that social media played significant roles in women political involvement as women

were found to utilize social media as a platform for online political meetings, political awareness and sensitization among members, expression of opinions in addressing political matters etc. Women should always harness the benefits of social media to foster their political activism among women for the betterment of Democracy and national development.

8. **COVID-19 AND SUICIDAL IDEATION AMONG THE YOUTH: THE MEDIATING ROLES OF LONELINESS AND SOCIAL-MEDIA ADDICTION**

Emmanuel Pedepo Mark & Ajala Muniru Alimi

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The COVID-19 pandemic has caused unprecedented changes and ushered in a state of emotional suffering and incredible demands on the daily lives of people, especially the youth. Many young people now contemplate or think about suicide. This study examines the COVID-19 pandemic, and suicidal ideation among youths. The study investigates the extent to which loneliness due to social distancing during the pandemic and the increased usage of social media applications could predict suicidal ideation experienced by the youth. Using a correlational research design and a mediation model, four hundred (400) youths were selected with a quota sampling technique from Lagos State University and University of Lagos, Nigeria, and a questionnaire with standardized scales for data collection was drawn. We hypothesized that (1) COVID-19 pandemic will increase loneliness and susceptibility to suicidal ideation, and (2) COVID-19 pandemic will increase social media addiction and susceptibility to suicidal ideation among youths.

9. **SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DETERMINANTS OF BUSINESS RISK-TAKING PROPENSITY AMONG ENTREPRENEURS OF SMALL AND MEDIUM SCALE ENTERPRISES IN AKOKO REGION, ONDO STATE, NIGERIA**

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This study investigated social determinants of business risk-taking propensity among Entrepreneurs of Small and Medium scale Enterprises (SMEs) in Akoko Region, Ondo State. It was anchored on Rational Choice Theory and utilised descriptive research design. The study population comprised SMEs entrepreneurs in the four local governments making up the study location. Collection of primary data was done using Questionnaire administered on randomly selected 241 respondents and 8 in-depth interviews. Quantitative data were analysed with descriptive statistics involving T-test of independent measures while qualitative data were content analysed. Younger entrepreneurs expressed higher levels of risk-taking propensity than their older counterparts [ $t(241) = 4.47$ ;  $p < .05$ ]; Male entrepreneurs expressed a higher degree of risk-taking propensity than their female counterparts [ $t(241) = 1.577$ ;  $p < .05$ ]; highly experienced entrepreneurs expressed a lower level of risk-taking propensity than their less experienced counterparts [ $t(241) = 3.02$ ;  $p < .05$ ]. However, there was no significant influence of education [ $t(241) = 1.099$ ;  $p < .05$ ]; and religious leaning [ $t(241) = 1.062$ ;  $p < .05$ ] on risk-taking propensity among entrepreneurs. Also, financial capital [ $\beta = .091$ ,  $t = 1.385$ ], stability of electricity [ $\beta = .020$ ,  $t = .329$ ], business location [ $\beta = .191$ ,  $t = 2.418$ ], customer base [ $\beta = .041$ ;  $t = .642$ ], and market competition [ $\beta$

= -.146], were significant predictors of risk-taking propensity. SMEs entrepreneurs are enjoined to master their entrepreneurial domain, the knowledge of which will enhance their risk-taking propensity.

10. **INCLUSIVE GROWTH IN ECOWAS: THE IMPLICATION ON POVERTY**

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We investigate the relationship between sustainable development and poverty in Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). We also looked at the impact of income inequality, as well as the impact of education and health outcomes on poverty. The study used a panel dataset of six (6) ECOWAS countries sourced from the World Bank Development Index (WDI) from 1980 to 2018. According to the results of the difference GMM estimate used in the estimation, inclusive growth has a negative impact on poverty. Also, inequality has a significant positive impact on poverty, while health outcomes show a significant negative impact on poverty. We submit that sustainable growth has a significant negative impact on poverty in ECOWAS. We argue that a progressive tax structure is necessary to reduce inequality because the widening gap between the rich and the poor is a setback to the region's poverty reduction efforts.

11. **TOWARDS A CONCRETE LANDSCAPE: ASSESSMENT OF EFFICIENCY OF LAND CONSUMPTION IN GREATER ACCRA REGION**

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Existing studies on land consumption have used a reactive approach to assess land consumption, but for informed policies, a more initiative-taking forecast is proper. This study assesses current trends of land consumption, its efficiency and predicts future trends of consumption in a “business as usual scenario” in the Greater Accra Region. Results show that artificial surfaces increased from 4.2 to 33.1%, with an annual growth rate of 22.1% in 30 years. Land consumption was highly inefficient as only 4.2% of the region had a good proportion of the population and land area. The factors which influenced artificial surface growth were population, distance from water bodies, poverty index, distance from sacred groves, the proportion of agriculture population with a small margin of influence from soil and geology type. Landscape prediction shows artificial surfaces will increase to 92.6% of the region, making it a concrete landscape. High rate of land inefficiency demands provides re-zoning of most of the built area by the Land Use and Spatial Planning Authority of Ghana to accommodate the growing population, while land development restrictions are imposed to curtail the trajectory of concrete landscape in the region. Forestry Commission needs to enforce green belt zone regulation to safeguard remaining natural landscapes.

12. **TEST N GROW" DIGITAL SCIENTIFIC LABS FOR SMALLHOLDER FARMERS IN WEST AFRICA**

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Agricultural sustainability and productivity have become a formidable part of the livelihood of sub-Saharan Africa due to the high dependency on natural resources, which currently faces great threats of climate change and low application of technology. The sector forms the lifeline of exponential population growth with corresponding unprecedented unemployment of youths. Africa's youth accounts for 60% of the unemployed, and the number is expected to grow to 2.5 billion by 2050. As a result of unsustainable farming activities, land degradation, water quality depletion and other environmental and health issues and low application of technology. A World Bank report shows that family farming will be the main source of employment in the next decades to come, and the youths are largely dependents on it.

"Test N Grow" initiative seeks to use decentralized scientific labs which will be mobile or established close to District Agriculture offices or clusters of smallholder farmers with well-furnished scientific equipment to regularly conduct research on soil pH, soil chemistry, soil health, crop and livestock pests and diseases, water storage for irrigation and domestic consumption, chemical residues in crops, rivers and food produce, sewage, or general environmental and health issues.

13. **FRANCE IN POST-COLD WAR AFRICA: BOKO HARAM, VISUAL RUMOURS, AND ANTI-FRENCH SENTIMENT IN CAMEROON**

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This paper focuses on rumours on Boko Haram in Cameroon and the emergence of populist, anti-colonial narratives against France for its alleged support for the Islamist fundamentalist group. Specifically, the paper analyses the role of visual materials (photographs and online videos) to situate and discuss the role of the media in the production and circulation of images that animate rumours and conspiracy theories on French-Cameroon relations. Images on France's relationship to Boko Haram define a populist response from below in Cameroon in a context infused with broader discussions about the meanings of terms like "post-truth" and "Fake News." In our current visual age, the images on France's role in Cameroon's war against Boko Haram, whether "authentic" or not, constitute populist narratives based on rumours. In turn, these rumours build up into conspiracy theories that define in some measure the responses (actions and reactions) of national and international actors to events and struggles related to this local war on terror in the Chad Basin.



14. **THE UN(CERTAINTIES) OF MIGRATION: NARRATIVES OF INDEPENDENT ADOLESCENT MIGRANT RESIDENTS IN GHANA**

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While adolescent migrants are sturdily represented in migration, the phenomenon seems to be overlooked in social science research. Guided by the ecological systems and coping theories, this study explores the experiences of independent adolescent migrants from selected West African countries who are resident in Ghana. The objectives of the study are to explore the (a) opportunities available to independent adolescent migrants; (b) challenges encountered by independent adolescent migrants, and (c) coping strategies adopted by independent adolescent migrants. Using both purposive and snowball sampling techniques, 41 adolescents were recruited as participants for the study. A semi-structured interview guide, focus group discussions, and in-depth interviews were conducted. The focus group discussion and interviews were audio-recorded, transcribed and analyzed to identify emerging themes that addressed the objectives of the study. The findings indicate that even though the independent adolescent migrants experience improvement in their lives, they encounter challenges as well. Furthermore, the findings show that the independent adolescent migrants use both problem-focused and emotion-focused coping strategies to deal with the challenges they face.

15. **‘FELLOW GHANAIS, THE ENEMY IS THE VIRUS, THE BATTLE IS THE LORDS’: THE SPECTRE OF COVID-19 SECURITISATION IN GHANA**

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Critical studies of security response to public compliance with the lifesaving protocols against the COVID-19 pandemic in Africa are replete with cases of police brutalities and violations of fundamental rights. Little is, however, known about how governments’ securitisation of the pandemic has provided the impetus for these draconian police practices. Yet, one of the outstanding ways governments have responded to the pandemic has been the way presidents securitised the virus in their periodic national updates. Presidents used these updates to construct the shifting medical and social identity of the virus as an existential threat, requiring them to invoke and deploy extra-ordinary powers of the state to save lives and protect livelihoods and lifestyles. This paper uses securitization as a guiding concept to identify and analyse the securitised environment President Akufo-Addo constructed to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic in Ghana. It uses the thematic analysis method and the NVivo software to critically analyse 26 COVID-19 Updates the president made between March 2020 and July 2021. Findings show terrifying characterisations of the virus, which, however, enabled mobilisation of state and private resources to contain the pandemic. State-led failures to penalise elite abuses of some of the lifesaving protocols also weakened their legitimacy among the less privileged. This has contributed to increase in mass violations, resulting in occasional flares in infection, hospitalisation and mortality loads.

16. **COVID-19 VACCINE HESITANCY AND REFUSAL AMONG TANZANIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS**

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The anti-vaccination movement has been in existence for centuries; however, its mode of operation has evolved over time due to technological advancement across the globe. Since the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) was pronounced as a pandemic, several myths and conspiracy theories on COVID-19 containment measures and subsequently vaccines have been witnessed across the globe, including in developing countries like Tanzania. Such acts have negative consequences on vaccination rates and containment measures of COVID-19. The objective of this study is to investigate, the level of COVID-19 vaccine acceptance, hesitancy, and refusal among university students. Data was collected through online survey to examine vaccination behavior of Tanzanian university students from different academic disciplines or specialities. The convenience sampling includes 823 students. Findings reveal that vaccination behaviour of university students differ considerably based on students' specialization. Vaccination awareness among non-science students was relatively poor compared to their science counterparts.

17. **HEALTHCARE FACILITIES CHALLENGES AND QUALITY OF SERVICE DELIVERY: EVIDENCE FROM COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN NIGERIA**

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The Nigerian healthcare sector has been confronted by a myriad of challenges in different areas, especially poor healthcare infrastructural facilities, and the challenges have been further compounded with the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. This paper examines healthcare facilities challenges and quality service delivery during the COVID-19 pandemic in Nigeria with aims to develop a conceptual framework that will ensure provision and management of care facilities, the establishment of test facility centres and quality of service delivery across health institutions and COVID-19 isolation centres. We suggest a conceptual framework to aid understanding of the connection between health care facilities and quality service delivery. We provide a useful guide to policy formulation in the healthcare sector by exploring the possible capability of the SERVQUAL model as a pertinent tool for mitigating healthcare facilities challenges and quality service delivery in the country.

18. **TO THE EAST AND BACK: RETURN MIGRATION OF YOUNG GHANAIAN MEDICAL DOCTORS AND THE ISSUES OF REINTEGRATION**

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The challenges faced by young Ghanaian medical doctors who train in Far East countries such as Russia, Ukraine, and China with respect to their reintegration and career development are well documented by mainstream media. Scholarly works on the return migration of skilled Ghanaian health care professionals mainly focus on those who train in the West and those who in their retirement years decide to return to their countries of origin after spending some years abroad. In this paper, I extend the academic discussion on the return migration of young Ghanaian medical doctors who train in the Far East. Through in-depth interviews of 12 respondents and analysis of related reports, I find that, unlike their counterparts who migrate to the West after Bachelor's degree in Ghana, these young doctors migrate for social and economic reasons that make the Far East the expedient choice in terms of place of training. Furthermore, although practising in their host countries presents a better opportunity in terms of monetary gains, career advancements, and social status—a situation similar to those who move to the West—the decision to return home immediately after graduation is due to conditions in the host countries which make their continuous stay unfavourable. The reintegration issues identified in the study are those related to the Ghana Medical and Dental Council (GMDC) examinations which consequently affect their posting, thereby stalling their career progress.

19. **URBANIZATION AND ECONOMIC GROWTH NEXUS IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA**

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The extant literature widely supports the idea of a positive relationship between urbanization and economic growth. At the core of scholars' debates, however, is the direction of causation between the two. This study examines the causal nexus between urbanization and economic growth from the two dominant viewpoints in the literature, namely urbanization as an engine of economic growth (urbanization-led growth) and urbanization as a product of economic growth (growth-led urbanization) for a balanced panel of 30 countries in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) from 1970-2019. The one-step system generalized methods of moments is employed to estimate the two main elasticities namely urbanization elasticity of growth and growth elasticity of urbanization in the dynamic models. Also, the Dumitrescu and Hurlin (2012) procedure for Granger (1969) non-causality test in the heterogeneous panel was employed as an alternative method. The results from both econometric methods show bi-directional causation between urbanization and economic growth in the short-run and the long-run. This feedback relationship supports both the urbanization-led growth and growth-led urbanization literature. However, to fully reap its economic growth promotion potential, urbanization in SSA must be fully embraced and effectively managed. This calls for the development of institutional capacity and substantial investment in urban infrastructure.

20. **THE DIFFERENTIAL ROLES OF SOCIAL SUPPORT ON CROSS-CULTURAL INTELLIGENCE AND ADJUSTMENT: A CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK**

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This study seeks to examine the differential roles of social support on expatriate cross-cultural intelligence and adjustment. We review the literature on social support, cross-cultural intelligence and adjustment, and draw on the social support and social identity theories. We find that (1) greater cross-cultural awareness is related to greater interactional adjustment and work adjustment, and (2) social support from both non-work and work domains differentially moderate the relationship between cross-cultural awareness and different facets of expatriate adjustment. Specifically, work-related social support enhances the influence of cross-cultural awareness on work-related adjustment of expatriates while non-work related social support strengthens the positive relationship between cross-cultural awareness and non-work related (interactional) expatriate adjustment. The results imply that multinational corporations should select expatriates with high cross-cultural awareness for international assignments as well as pay attention to the level of social support from both non-work and work domains provided to expatriates. We propose a conceptual framework of social support, expatriate cross-cultural awareness and adjustment for future expatriate management research.

21. **USING MOBILE TECHNOLOGY FOR MONITORING TUBERCULOSIS TREATMENT AMONG WOMEN WITH TUBERCULOSIS AND TUBERCULOSIS-HIV CO-INFECTION IN GREATER ACCRA REGION, GHANA**

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Poor adherence to treatment for tuberculosis (TB), despite its availability, among diagnosed persons has resulted in strains difficult to treat. HIV further worsens this by increasing complications among persons with TB, especially in women. This study uses mobile phones to monitor TB treatment adherence among women with TB and TB-HIV co-infection in Greater Accra Region. Using quasi-experimental design, Short Message Service (SMS) reminders and a video application were developed for participants' acceptability. A total of 105 participants were recruited for the SMS intervention and 125 for the control. Data on participants' characteristics and measurement of baseline adherence rate was collected and thereafter, SMS intervention was implemented. End line adherence rate, acceptance of the SMS intervention and feasibility of Video Directly Observed Therapy (VDOT) intervention were collected. Bivariable and multivariable logistic analyses were done with a p-value of  $<0.05$  considered statistically significant. Qualitative data was analyzed using Nvivo 12 software. SMS reminder messages had a positive effect on the adherence of participants (OR=3.93, 95% CI=1.1745, 3.1789). The majority 196 (86%) of the participants had their

personal mobile phones. Most (79%) from the control group were willing to accept the SMS, with (86%) from the intervention group willing to recommend it to others. About half (49%) agreed VDOT could be used to monitor TB treatment, but only (32%) was willing to submit videos of themselves, citing mistrust for using the internet as reason. SMS is feasible for monitoring TB treatment, but VDOT needs further investigation in this context.

22. **EFFECT OF FINANCIAL INCLUSIVENESS ON TAX REVENUE IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN COUNTRIES**

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Making formal financial services accessible to “hard-to-reach” individuals and businesses has received significant global attention since the early 2000s because of its importance in driving economic development. However, the effect of this financial inclusiveness drive on tax revenue generation has not received adequate attention from researchers, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). This study therefore examines the effect of financial inclusiveness on tax revenue using measures from the World Bank’s Global Financial Inclusion database (Global Findex) such as payment services, savings accounts, loans and insurance for a sample of sub-Saharan African countries for 2011, 2014 and 2017 where data exist. The Fixed Effect (FE) panel data analysis is used as the estimation technique. The study finds evidence to suggest that financial inclusion strongly affect tax revenue in SSA. Specifically, the empirical results show that financial inclusiveness measured as bank account (% of age +15) holders and credit card ownership (% of age +15) has positive and significant effect on tax revenue measures. This suggests that as the society becomes more financially inclusive and income levels increase over time, tax contributions to the public purse will improve. The robustness of the result using different tax handles indicates that higher financial inclusiveness is associated with more tax revenue. Therefore, government and policy makers should take more interest in measures leading to financial inclusion.

23. **THE IMPACT OF DIGITAL ERA ON THE PROVISION OF SERVICES BY PUBLIC LIBRARY IN KANO STATE, NIGERIA**

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Library information services are essential to libraries. They have played an invaluable role in the transformation of societies. The emergence of digitization has led to the current transformation of the perception of public library users on how and when library services are rendered to meet their needs. Service delivery provision by public libraries have been affected by digitization since a substantial number of services have become obsolete, hence, necessitating the investigation undertaken in this study. This study is driven by the need to investigate public libraries’ staff perception of digitization with regard to their service delivery. Using oral interviews and open-ended questions, and critical analysis of the data, I found that public libraries are becoming less important. I recommend that digitization should provide technological opportunities that could be used by librarians towards provision of information services.

24. **DIAGNOSTIC ACCURACY AND CHALLENGES OF USING CHEST COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY FOR COVID-19 DIAGNOSIS**

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To determine the diagnostic accuracy and challenges associated with the use of chest Computed Tomography (CT) for the diagnosis of COVID-19, the PRISMA guideline was used to search the PubMed engine for relevant articles from July 1, 2020 to June 31, 2021. The keywords used for the search were: COVID-19, Computed Tomography, Limitation and Diagnostic Accuracy. The initial search identified 2,427 articles based on the titles. After screening the abstracts, 1,930 articles were selected. After screening the full texts, 50 articles were selected then further reading was done and 22 articles met the inclusive criteria. A total of 22 articles met the inclusive criteria which involve 23,968 patients. The accuracy of CT scan in detecting COVID-19 ranges between 71-98% with a sensitivity of 75-97% and specificity 28-80%. Positive Predictive Value and Negative Predictive Value of CT in suggesting COVID-19 were 36-76% and 30-94.1% respectively. The most common feature that is suggestive of the COVID -19 was the ground glass opacities. CT shows an appreciable sensitivity for COVID-19 diagnosis with improved application using teleradiology services. In addition, CT does not only detect COVID-19 but also it demonstrates the status and severity of the disease. However, there were a few challenges raised which include: insufficient radiologist, duration of getting CT results, heavy workload for radiographers, high cost to purchase personal protective equipment for staff, fear and anxiety, differential diagnosis. Health institutions should prepare for future pandemics in all aspect like staffing, hospital beds and supplies.

25. **ELECTORAL VIOLENCE AND SECURITY INSTITUTIONS IN AFRICA: FOCUS ON 2019 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN NIGERIA**

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Election constitutes an important element of democracy and a viable means of ensuring the orderly process of leadership succession. Since the return of democratic governance in Africa, elections are still controversial and involve high levels of violence. Nigeria is not an exception. Despite twenty years of democratic processes, every election conducted in Nigeria is confronted with electoral violence. This paper examines electoral violence and security institution in the 2019 Presidential Election in Nigeria. The paper is based on a qualitative research, which relied on both primary and secondary sources of data collection. I found that (1) electoral violence is a product of a complex set of interactive factors characterising various stages of the election process in Nigeria, and (2) security institutions were stretched to their limits in order to secure conditions for free and fair elections.



26. **THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS IN PROMOTING GOOD GOVERNANCE IN AFRICA'S DEMOCRATIZATION PROCESS: THE NIGERIAN EXPERIENCE**

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Nigeria's democratic system has been battling with myriads of challenges since the return to civilian regime in 1999. This paper examines the contribution of civil society organizations to the promotion of good governance in Nigeria's democratization process. Using Dahl's Group Equilibrium Theory to explain how the practice of governance affect the democratic system of Nigeria, we conclude that the promotion and sustenance of good governance in Nigeria's democratic system requires the existence of robust civil society organizations.

27. **THE LIVED EXPERIENCES OF PARENTING AMONG YOUNG MOTHERS IN THE SLUMS OF GHANA'S CAPITAL, ACCRA**

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This study examines the experiences of young mothers raising their children in the slums of Old Fadama and African Eleven in Accra. Slums serve as homes to a billion people and this figure is expected to rise exponentially as most third world countries continue to urbanize. An estimated 4.8 million people live in slums in Ghana. Given the unavailability of basic amenities in slum areas, raising children by young mothers in such environments become even more challenging. This study explored the lived experiences of parenting among young mothers in the slums. Using a purposively selected sample of twenty (20), we find that the mostly challenging experiences of the young mothers were mainly in the areas of self-care strategies, accommodation and sleeping arrangements, discipline and behaviour control of their children.

28. **POLITICAL PARTIES, IDEOLOGIES, AND SOCIAL POLICY IN GHANA'S FOURTH REPUBLIC**

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In Ghana's fourth republic, political power has alternated between two main political parties – the New Patriotic Party (NPP) and the National Democratic Congress (NDC). On the ideological spectrum, these parties claim allegiance to liberal conservatism and social democracy respectively. Notwithstanding these ideological positions, the policy preferences of the two parties have painted a different picture, necessitating the question ‘...who is pro-poor – NDC or NPP?’ The aim of this paper, therefore, is to interrogate the ideologies of the two major political parties in Ghana considering the social policies implemented under the government of the two parties using ideational analysis. Do ideologies matter in the policy development process? Based on elite interviews, political party manifestos, government records and other secondary sources, I found that while ideas matter in policymaking in Ghana, political parties have often moved



away from their allegiance to particular ideologies for political expediency, as a result of external pressure from the Bretton Woods Institutions, and/or for purposes of aligning with particular transnational policy ideas.

29. **THE MENACE OF GALAMSEY IN THE GHANAIAN SOCIETY: THE CASE OF ATIWA EAST DISTRICT IN THE EASTERN REGION OF GHANA**

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One of the issues that has garnered considerable public attention in Ghana in recent years is galamsey (illegal mining). This paper examines the operations of galamsey operators in relation to humanity's role as stewards of the creation of nature who are created in the image of God. Using the teachings of selected Christian churches on environmental care group as well as individual interviews from two towns and four congregations of purposively selected dominant Christian churches in the Atiwa East District, the paper assesses the views and attitudes of their members on environmental care. Despite the abundant, rich resources and teachings of the churches to foster proper knowledge about the environment, very little awareness of the church's ethics can be found in the local churches.

30. **INFORMATION VIA MOBILE PHONES: A QUESTION OF TRUST**

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Research on the impact of mobile phones on micro trading activities have highlighted the instrumental role of mobile phones in trust building. However, such studies tend to gloss over the kinds of information accessed via mobile phone in market activities and the extent of trust embedded in such information. Using a homogeneous purposive and snowballing sampling, this paper assesses the place of trust in information via phones among women sole proprietors in four major markets in Accra. Findings show that mobile phones enable women sole proprietors easier access to market information, particularly prices, for smooth running of their activities. All market information received via mobile phone is trustworthy except in the case of location where trust weakens.

31. **COVID-19 AND ITS EFFECTS ON ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES OF TERTIARY STUDENTS IN GHANA**

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The COVID-19 pandemic has influenced various sectors of life and economies. It has impaired healthcare systems as well as the educational systems of nations globally. To reduce the spread of COVID-19, most countries around the world have decided to temporarily close educational institutions. However, learning has not stopped; it is taking place online. Using evidence from recent articles, reports, and publications, this study attempts to gain a better understanding of how the COVID-19 pandemic affects students' academic activities. We found that student academic activities have been hindered by COVID-19.

32. **GIG WORK AND WORKPLACE TRANSFORMATIONS: DEBATING THE ISSUES OF QUALITY AND NON-STANDARDISED**

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Climate change and technological advancement have changed the way businesses are designed, created, and implemented. The creation of ICT had led to the emergence of GIG employees and had equally influenced workplace behavior through digital transformation. The gig work is one of the new transformational behaviour in the world of work. These transformations had open opportunities for employees to work remotely and independently on instructional bases of company (ies) employed, that is working without physical workplace or space. The behavior will hitherto lead to "atypical" employments. Hence due to employment relationships with workplace there is a need to fill the gap between employee and employer's knowledge of working environment. The study adopts a critical realist approach with immanent critic to the body of literature. Attention of the study focus of critical review of relevant literature to understudy the debate on the gig workers and workplace digital transformation impacts on quality. The study reveals that reorganisation and restructuring of the workplaces, had offered a new form of employment such as (solo self-employment, hybrid employment), challenging the conventional employment. It also suggested that there is possibility of decline of the standard employment relations and dramatic increase in non-standarised work, low wage, lack of collective representation by unions, and little or no job security.

33. **INDIGENOUS WATER RESOURCE CONSERVATION PRACTICES IN CONTEMPORARY GHANAIAI SOCIETY**

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Pollution of water bodies because of indiscriminate human activities has emerged as one of the major environmental crises in Ghana. Some have argued that non-recognition of indigenous knowledge in the management of water resources has been a reason for the problem/crisis. Studies show that prior to the establishment of formal institutions on biodiversity by government, conservation of water resources was enforced through traditional religiously governed norms. Using Akwamu traditional area in Ghana as a case, this study examines how indigenous people managed water bodies and explores the possibility of incorporating indigenous knowledge practices and modern methods to address the current water resource problems in Ghana.

34. **RISING INEQUALITY AND DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON WOMEN: A CLOSER LOOK AT AFRICA**

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The COVID-19 pandemic has increased gender and social inequalities with disproportionate negative impacts on women and girls. Despite this reality, women voices in making critical decisions about addressing the pandemic have been low. Based on the analyses of the latest available data shared on official government websites and documents, media coverage, UNDP's COVID-19 Global Gender Response Tracker data, high-frequency phone surveys of the World Bank, and decibel.com, this paper discusses the impact of COVID-19 on women in Africa, and proposes measures that governments could take to build a more resilient and equitable society.

35. **POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS TOWARDS SELF ESTEEM OF ADOLESCENTS LIVING IN SLUMS IN KAMPALA DISTRICT**

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The objective of the study is to explore the role of Positive Psychological Interventions towards enhancing the self-esteem of adolescents in Kampala Slums based on a social cultural theory. Humanities and Humanistic social science intellectuals have the inevitable task of organizing essential tools and methods to deal with challenges such as mental health problems, climate change, terrorism, mass migration, suicide ideation, technological development, inequality, governance, migration, poverty, environmental degradation and pandemics, among others. Adolescents' mental health is clearly under threat due to their family environment. To address such challenges, individuals, government, psychologists, medical practioners, parents need to adopt a humanistic approach (Positive psychological interventions) so that they can help

adolescents in slums to enhance their self-esteem. Positive psychological interventions based on a social cultural theory may humanistically play a role of restoring hope which may translate into self-esteem amongst adolescents from slums.

36. **HOW DID YOUR GOVERNMENT PERFORM? POPULAR PERCEPTION OF INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN GHANA**

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The quality of leadership is often tested during times of adversity, and COVID-19 has brought leadership challenges to the forefront. The pandemic has placed enormous pressure on governments to act swiftly to contain the spread of the disease. A country's performance in combating COVID-19 is inextricably linked to leadership decisions. While governments score themselves highly for fighting the pandemic, such an assessment must also consider the public's opinion. In this paper, we examine popular perception of Ghana government's response strategies, as well as those of major state institutions. Data was gathered from 12,014 respondents from all 275 constituencies, and analyzed using simple descriptive statistics. Secondary data was also gathered to identify the various strategies adopted. We found that (1) the president is the most trusted source of COVID-19 information; (2) the Metropolitan, Municipal, and District Chief Executives are the least trusted, and (3) while respondents were satisfied with the government's overall performance, they had mixed feelings about the various response strategies and the performance of specific institutions.

37. **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE, EARNINGS MANAGEMENT AND TRANSFER PRICING AMONG MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES: EVIDENCE FROM GHANA**

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This study examines the prevalence of transfer pricing and earnings management activities amongst Ghanaian multinational firms and its relationship with corporate governance factors. Agency theory underpins how management opportunistic behaviour impacts transfer pricing and earnings management activities. Using data from 2008 to 2020 on 16 multinationals companies listed on the Ghana Stock Exchange and regression analysis, we find that (1) corporate governance factors do not significantly affect earnings management activities; (2) board independence negatively affects transfer pricing (3) board size does not exhibit similar behaviour; (4) there is a positive relationship between accruals earnings management and transfer pricing aggressiveness as well as between transfer pricing and real earnings management amongst financial firms, and (5) factors such as age, asset tangibility, profitability and firm size have dynamic significant effects on transfer pricing and earnings management activities.

38. **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING AMONG MINING FIRMS  
IN AFRICA: AN EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS**

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This paper examines the extent of environmental disclosures among mining firms in Africa and the corporate governance factors that drive these environmental disclosures. We used a quantitative method to evaluate the results obtained from assessing the annual reports of an unbalanced panel of 21 mining firms across the African continent spanning from 2006 to 2019, and employed the linear regression model to determine the nexus between environmental reporting and corporate governance factors such as board size, board diversity. We find low levels of environmental disclosure among mining firms in Africa. Factors that influence environmental disclosures include board size, board diversity, firm size, the cross-listing status of firms, the multinational status of firms, membership to the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC).

39. **RISKS AND FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF MICROFINANCE INSTITUTIONS**

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This study assesses the risk profile of microfinance institutions (MFIs) in Ghana, the effect of various financial risks on their financial performance and explores risk management strategies. Based on a sample size of 255 firms with 3069 observations, from the first quarter of 2016 to the last quarter of 2018, we use compute the pooled ordinary least squares regression and yearly- and quarterly-based regression analyses. The results show that (1) loan loss provision has a negative impact on profitability; (2) market risk and capital risk have a positive relationship with profitability; (3) high capital risk is favourable for MFIs as this indicates there are enough funds to repay creditors should they request their monies, and (4) firm size shows a direct relationship with profitability suggesting that larger MFIs are more profitable.

40. **URBANIZATION & URBAN PLANNING: ADDRESSING PLANNERS CHALLENGES IN 21<sup>ST</sup>  
CENTURY AFRICA**

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The “Just City” as conceived by Susan S. Fainstein (2010) encourages planners and policy makers to embrace urban planning strategies that combine progressive planners’ focus on equity and material well-being with current concerns about diversity, inclusion, participation, and sustainability, to establish a better quality of human and urban life within the context of a globalized capitalist political economy. Our goal is to critically examine whether the principles of the new globalized “Just City” that is based on principles of equity, diversity, inclusion, participation, material well-

being, and sustainability can guide future planners to make Africa's cities a better place to live considering the continent's myriad social and urban challenges in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**41. FINANCIAL FLEXIBILITY, INVESTMENT EFFICIENCY, INVESTMENT SCALE, MARKET VALUE AND PERFORMANCE OF LISTED FIRMS: EVIDENCE FROM WEST AFRICA**

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This study examines the effect of investment efficiency and investment scale on the performance of listed firms in West Africa in the presence of financial flexibility. The study uses a panel data model to investigate and analyze the effect of investment efficiency and investment scale on the performance of listed firms in West Africa. Using a sample of 62 listed non-financial firms from Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire and Nigeria with data from financial statements and macroeconomic indicators, we find that there is a significant level of effect of investment scale on the performance of the listed firms but the effect of investment efficiency is not significant. We further find that financially flexible firms tend to invest more in expansion which consequently has a positive effect on the firms' performance.

**42. THE MEDIATING ROLE OF DURATION OF DISCLOSURE IN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DISCLOSURE AND PSYCHOLOGICAL WELLBEING AMONG CHILDREN LIVING WITH HIV IN ACCRA GHANA**

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A critical concern in paediatric HIV is the issue of status disclosure. Many caregivers of children living with HIV/AIDS refrain from disclosure because of fear of psychological and emotional harm. This study explores the mediating role of disclosure length on the relationship between disclosure and psychological health. A cross-sectional survey was carried out among children living with HIV (N = 155; Age range = 6-15years; M = 9.55; SD = 2.72) and their caregivers (N= 155, the age range is 22-82years, M = 41.60; SD = 10.38) who were purposively sampled and administered caregiver-child dyads from four major health facilities giving antiretroviral care in the Greater Accra Region. We find that length of disclosure has a positive relationship with psychological wellbeing ( $r = .58, p < 0.01$ ), and a negative relationship between disclosure and psychological wellbeing ( $r = -.63, p < 0.01$ ) and length of disclosure ( $r = -.76, p < 0.01$ ). The duration of disclosure mediates the relationship between disclosure and psychological wellbeing ( $\beta = .14, p = .01$ ). The mediational analysis using PROCESS Macro indicates that the duration of disclosure is predicted by disclosure of status ( $B = -19.03, p < .001$ ). Disclosure of status ( $B = -6.63, p = .001$ ) and duration of disclosure ( $B = .14, p = .01$ ) significantly predict psychological wellbeing. Also, psychological wellbeing is significantly influenced by disclosure of status ( $B = -9.39, p < .001$ ) and the indirect effect in the relationship between disclosure of status and psychological wellbeing as mediated by the duration of disclosure is statistically significant with the estimated confidence interval below zero (95% CI: -5.05 to -.41). Therefore, disclosure does not adversely affect the wellbeing of children living with HIV because the relationship is mediated by how long the child has been aware of his or her status.

**43. “SOLDIER IS AFRAID OF CORONA”: A QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS OF COVID-19 HEALTH COMMUNICATION THROUGH MUSIC IN GHANA**

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From folk songs to contemporary songs, music has played significant roles in public health campaigns in Ghana. Folk songs have been used to teach young girls about menstrual hygiene as well as housekeeping practices in Ghana. In postcolonial Ghana, music has been used as a health education tool in collaboration with health professionals to raise awareness about malaria, cholera, condom use, HIV prevention, Tuberculosis, handwashing practices, and others. Various Ghanaian artists have composed songs infused with public health messages in different genres and languages since the first recorded case of COVID-19 in Ghana. A qualitative analysis of the songs shows that music artists stress the symptoms, pathophysiology, and prevention protocols for COVID-19. The use of fear messages and cultural values for unity are common themes in these songs. Findings from our study have implications for health promotion interventions, education, policy, and research.

**44. PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCE USE AMONG YOUNG ADULTS IN SMALL-SCALE COMMUNITIES: THE EXPERIENCES OF PARENTS IN THE MPOHOR DISTRICT OF THE WESTERN REGION**

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This paper presents the findings of psychoactive substance use among young adults in the Western region of Ghana, which is home to many small-scale mining activities in the Mpochor District. The study explores parents' views of their young adults who are acute psychoactive substance users and going through rehabilitation at the Adum Bansa Health Centre's psychiatry unit. Using phenomenology as the method of inquiry, we conducted in-depth interviews of twelve (12) purposively selected parents at the Adum-Bansa Health Centre. The findings show that the social circles of young adults in small-scale mining communities directly encourage substance use, particularly the use of alcohol, tobacco, and cannabis. Parents experience community stigma, emotional and psychological hurdles, financial constraints, family turbulences, because their wards are acute psychoactive substance users. These findings will provide social workers better appreciation of the enormous challenges that parents of young adult users of psychoactive substances face. It will also enable stakeholders, such as the Mental Health Authority, to be better positioned to provide psychosocial interventions to users of psychoactive substances.



**45. POWER STATUS AND WORKPLACE VIOLENCE IN PUBLIC HOSPITALS IN UGANDA: A SOCIOCULTURAL DISCOURSE OF NURSES' VOICED REALITIES**

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The hospital workplace is an arena established with power differentials that are at the core of many forms of abusive behavior (Walker & Zelditch 1993). Workplace violence (WPV) is characterized by disrespect and hostility intended to harm the target encompassing behaviors such as belittling statements, ridicule, and threats of physical violence. Largely, violence emerges out of the hierarchical power relations in hospitals and has made nurses to occupy structurally low status positions. Moreso, a negative stereotypical image of nurses in society has remained. Consequently, nurses are considered to assume a lesser status and are subordinate to the medical profession which makes them susceptible to victimization. WPV is considered as an organic outgrowth of hierarchical power structure exhibited in hospitals. This study uses interpretive phenomenology to explore WPV from a discourse of nurses' voiced power realities. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with nurses who experienced violence. I find that lesser power status and relegation are core determinants of WPV against nurses. It is necessary for stakeholders to help change the negative stereotyping of nursing.

**46. TAX EVASION; A CONCEPTUAL APPLICATION OF THE SCORE MODEL**

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Tax evasion is a global problem that poses a challenge to all governments, especially African governments. Our goal is to present a model for understanding the elements that influence individuals to engage in tax evasion. Our model is based on a review of tax evasion literature from the fraud theory perspective, notably the Fraud SCORE Model. We highlight five important predictors of individuals' intention to engage in tax evasion. Our variables include stimulus, capacity, opportunity, rationalization, and ego. This study is one of the first to discuss the SCORE model's applicability in the tax evasion literature.

**47. MANAGING THE CHALLENGES OF MULTI-ETHNIC DISSIMILARITIES IN POST-COLONIAL AFRICA: THE CASE OF GHANA**

Afua Boatemaa Yakohene, & Juliana Abena Appiah

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The birthing of many post-colonial states in Africa was problematic. It began with difficult labour pains, which went into post-birth teething pains and which Africa still suffers from as a result of unusual growth challenges. European colonialism resulted in the creation of nation-states that

were largely multi-ethnic, multi-lingual, multi-cultural, and multi-religion from the onset. Many African states have struggled to blend and unify their multi-ethnic differences after independence, which has led to tension, inequality, deep-seated anger and hatred and violent conflicts in some states. Ghana appears to have managed her challenges better with socio-political policies and strategies prior to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This paper examines how the boarding house system, the appointment to leadership positions, the National Service Scheme and inter-ethnic marriages, among others, have helped to manage multi-ethnic dissimilarities in Ghana.

**48. SELF-REPORTED SUICIDAL BEHAVIOURS AMONG FIRST-YEAR UNDERGRADUATES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN GHANA**

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Suicidal behaviours (ideations and attempts) continue to be widely studied across cultures and populations; it is reported to be the fourth leading cause of mortality among young people globally. However, research on suicidal behaviours remains limited among first-year undergraduates in Africa, particularly, during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our goal is to estimate the 12-month suicidal ideations and attempts and describe their associated factors among first-year undergraduate students enrolled at the University of Ghana during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. We conducted a cross-sectional survey involving self-administered structured anonymous questionnaires, and of the 834 analytical sample, 13.4% (95% confidence interval [CI]: 11.01%–15.64%) reported suicidal ideation ( $F = 12.2\%$ ;  $M = 13.9\%$ ) and 6.4% (95%CI: 4.8%–8.23%) reported attempted suicide ( $F = 4.6\%$ ;  $M = 7.1\%$ ). The final adjusted logistic models suggested that subjective meaningfulness of life, conflict with parents, and lower satisfaction with living spaces and lack of access to health services were associated with increased odds of suicidal ideation. However, depression, cyber bullying, breakup, perceived poor academic performance were associated with increased odds of attempted suicide. Notably, no statistically significant association was observed between fear of COVID-19 and suicidal behaviours. While the prevalence estimates are comparable to recent evidence, the observed multi-layered nature of the associated factors points to the need for multilevel, multisectoral intervention and prevention approaches to mitigate the onset of ideation and transition to attempt and potential suicide among this young population.

**49. FROM “OBI-KYERƐ TO KYERƐ-OBI”: THE ESTABLISHMENT AND EVOLUTION OF THE CENTRE FOR PLANT MEDICINE RESEARCH**

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The Centre for Plant Medicine Research at Mampong, Akuapem, was founded on the philosophy of ‘Obi-Kyer ’ in Akan, which literally translates as ‘someone teaches’. The founder, Dr. Oku Ampofo, an allopathic medical practitioner, relied on traditional healers for knowledge in order to practice herbal medicine. We use interviews and focus group discussions with participants from the management and staff of the Centre, community members and traditional healers, to assess the origin and evolution of the Centre. We find that the relationship between the Centre

and traditional healers has changed overtime because of the Centre's commitment to scientific processes and procedures in its operations. The relationship between the Centre and Traditional Healers is now limited to collaborations in training programmes at the Centre. This current relationship helps the Centre to fulfil its mandate of encouraging the use of herbal medicine, while the herbalists learn to prepare their products in more 'acceptable' and 'appropriate' way as the infusion of western science in the production of herbal drugs has gained prominence.

**50. PERCEPTIONS OF SEXUAL RISK/SEXUAL SAFETY AND INFLUENCE OF AWARENESS OF PRE-PROPHYLACTIC PREVENTION OF HIV/AIDS AMONG YOUNG PERSONS IN THE EASTERN REGION OF GHANA**

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Nearly 75% of new HIV/AIDS infections in Africa are contracted by young persons, who comprise 60% of the population. HIV/AIDS infection in Africa is mostly contracted through sexual intercourse. Young persons are more likely to take sexual risks. This study uses a survey to examine the correlation between awareness of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV/AIDS, knowing someone with HIV/AIDS or someone who has died of it, and testing for HIV status, and sexual risk/safety behaviors amongst young persons in the Lower Manya Krobo Municipality in the Eastern Region of Ghana. Nine post-basic schools were studied using combined purposive and random sampling techniques. The median age of Respondents (both male and female), was 20 years. Respondents had high risk sexual behaviours. STATA software version 14.0 was used for data analysis. The probit model was used for the analysis.

We find that awareness of PrEP did not influence sexual safety; however, students who had tested for HIV/AIDS were more likely to be sexual risk averse.

**51. ACCOUNTING REFORMS IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR: IS GHANA READY FOR IPSAS ACCRUAL ACCOUNTING SYSTEM?**

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The increasing cases of corruption and misappropriation of funds in the public sector in developing economies have put into question the effectiveness of accounting systems in delivering accountability and good governance. As a result, many reforms have been initiated in the public sector with the aim of promoting efficiency, effectiveness, accountability, transparency, and comprehensive financial reporting. One of such reforms is the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS). While advanced economies have the space to systematically implement such a reform, developing economies like Ghana are pressured by Western donor nations and international agencies to adopt such reforms. Research has shown that the successful implementation of IPSAS goes beyond economic factors to cover neo-colonialism influence, neo-patrimonial governance, institutional capacity, accountability mechanisms, cultural factors, state-profession interaction, interagency interaction, political will, and commitment. These socio-political factors may be hindering the successful implementation of the adoption of accrual IPSAS in Ghana

**52. PERSONAL VALUES AND TAX COMPLIANCE AMONG SMES: THE MEDIATING ROLE OF ETHICAL VALUES**

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This paper reviewed literature on Tax compliance and Personal Values among Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) with ethical values being mediating factor. Specifically, the study explored the literature on the relationship between personal values and tax compliance among SMEs in the context of Ghana. Additionally, the paper examined the extant literature on how ethical values mediate the relationship between personal values and tax compliance. The paper used literature gathered from 100 Articles. The relevant journals include: Journal of Advanced Taxation, Advances in Accounting Behavioral Research, Journal of Financial Crime, to mention a few. In order to benefit from multiple sources of evidences, 3 books and other online information which are related to researchers' key words such as personal values, ethical values, tax compliance and SMEs were used. The theory of Planned Behaviour and Economic Deterrence theory underpinned this study. The finding from the review indicates that, the relationship between personal values and ethical values; and ethical values and tax compliance have been researched and documented. However, evidences have yielded mixed, fragmented and inconclusive findings. Moreover, there is little or perhaps dearth of research evidence of mediating role of ethical value on the relationship between personal value and tax compliance. Based on the findings, the researchers were able to report evidence suggesting that additional research efforts may illuminate the unresolved issues in tax compliance.

**53. SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING PRACTICES OF LISTED FIRMS IN GHANA AND ITS DETERMINANTS: A CONTENT ANALYSIS**

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The purpose of this study is to use the Triple-Bottom-Line (TBL) approach to examine the sustainability reporting practices of firms listed on the Ghana Stock Exchange (GSE) and the factors that influence such practices. To investigate the trends in reporting we perform a quantitative content analysis of 129 firm-year reports. We find that not only is overall reporting low, listed firms in Ghana report more on economic sustainability issues than environmental and social issues. Surprisingly, some environmentally and socially exposed firms were found to produce no information on their environmental and social impacts. Regression analysis show that (1) governance mechanisms, firm size, liquidity, and industry affiliation are the most predictive factors of sustainability reporting practices, and (2) financial performance has a significant negative relationship with sustainability reporting practices when the market-base metric (Tobin's Q) is used and insignificant when ROA is used.

**54. VIEWING MIGRATION IN AFRICA FROM THE STAGE TO THE SCREEN: SANSANKROMA  
(THE VESSEL OF OUR DESTINY)**

Daniel Appiah-Adjei

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This presentation seeks to showcase a 20-minute video recording of a play entitled Sansankroma, (The Vessel of Our Destiny) written and directed by Daniel Appiah-Adjei for Conference Participants. The playwright interrogates why many Africans become “hysterical” by the mere mention of travelling abroad, and why some go to the extent of selling their valuable acquisitions to acquire three months visas for other countries. The play deals with the migration phenomenon and looks at the causes, effects, and their impact on the socioeconomic development of African nations. The video recording of the play was done by students and staff of the School of Performing Arts, University of Ghana, Legon, at the Efua Sutherland Drama studio.

**55. IDENTITY LOST: THE PARADOX OF BECOMING YOUNG AGAIN**

Daniel Appiah-Adjei

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Using the parallel analysis concept, this paper utilises themes identified from Gabriel Okara’s poem entitled “The call of the River Nun” as the reference point and relates the meanings to the philosophical underpinnings of growth, aging and dying of human beings. The paper examines life’s transition - childhood and ageism, the behavioural growth of a human being from adolescence and adulthood to the middle age and old age and compares it with the flow pattern of a river from its upper course, middle course and lower course to join the sea, respectively. Generally, one wonders whether a flowing river can pause and return to its source for fear of losing its identity when it joins the Sea; can a human being reverse his/her growth process, knowing very well of the “loss of identity” ahead of him/her due to inevitable aging and death? Findings highlight the wonders and ingenuities of African poets, artists, playwrights, and their profound observations in life.

**56. IS CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIANITY BUILDING OR PLUNGING ADOLESCENT  
CHARACTER? EVIDENCE FROM A NEO-PROPHETIC CHURCH IN GHANA**

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Ghana’s Neo-Prophetic churches are the fastest growing churches in Ghana. While they are able to meet the spiritual, economic, psychological, social and existential needs of some Ghanaians, they have been noted to attract the most criticisms leading some authors to predict a bleak future for such churches as they are predicted to raise “fake Christians”. Despite these criticism, little empirical work has been conducted on them and little is known about how they teach

Christianity to adolescents who are at the stage of developing ideologies and purpose, making meaning, and exploring spirituality. The aim of this study is to explore the nature of teachings in a neo-prophetic and the impact of such teachings on adolescents' character development and wellbeing. Twenty adolescents, aged between 13 and 19 years, in a neo-prophetic church in Accra participated in a semi-structured interview after which a thematic analysis was done. I find that although neo-prophetic church teachings have positive content that equip adolescents with survival and leadership skills, career choices and virtues, there are negative elements that lead adolescents to be less discerning and unable to develop necessary survival skills.

**57. COMPLEMENTARY AND ALTERNATIVE TREATMENT FOR BREAST CANCER: WHAT ARE THE EXPERIENCES OF GHANAIAI WOMEN?**

Enoch Teye-Kwadjo

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Complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) is widely used by patients with breast cancer. Growing research has shown that most Ghanaian women with breast cancer consult providers of CAM before seeking conventional treatment. However, much less research has been aimed at understanding patients' experiences of CAM use, which experiences compel them to seek conventional treatment. This study explores the experiences of CAM use among women with breast cancer. Using exploratory qualitative design, 12 women participated in individual in-depth interviews. Data was analysed using reflexive thematic analysis anchored in the social constructivist paradigm. Findings show that CAM use for breast cancer is ineffective success.

**58. MERIAN INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES IN AFRICA: KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION AND SUSTAINABLE GOVERNANCE**

Susann Baller & Charlotte Wrigley-Asante

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The Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa (MIASA) develops intellectual agenda and research programmes to contribute towards making African-based knowledge more relevant in the global academic world as well as in policymaking. The research programmes of MIASA explore the issue of 'sustainable governance' in an interdisciplinary perspective, which is divided into three thematic areas: (1) democratic governance, (2) peace & conflict, and (3) sustainable environment. The guiding question bears on how the practice of historically grounded social sciences and humanities in Africa can address sustainable governance as a theoretical and conceptual challenge likely to yield new answers to key societal problems. While the United Nations policy of pursuing global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has put the concept of sustainability on the agenda, MIASA goes beyond the rather policy-driven agendas and argues that research on sustainable governance need critical reflection, which incorporates original approaches from all fields of the social sciences and humanities. In this presentation, we highlight MIASA's key research interests and main thematic areas, fellowship programmes and other opportunities available to researchers who work within the fields of social science and humanities.



**59. CAREER ASPIRATIONS OF STEM STUDENTS IN GHANA: A GENDER ANALYSIS**

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The ideal situation for tertiary students offering natural and physical science programmes is to pursue a career in Science, Technical, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). Several factors often influence students' choice of a career in STEM, including gender. This study examines the underlying factors influencing the career options for males and females pursuing STEM courses and their relationship with social and gender norms. Differences in career aspiration between males and females are tested using chi-square test of independence, and binary logistic regression is used to assess the effect of the independent variables on career aspirations in STEM. The results show no statistically significant difference in the career aspirations of male and female students, but there are gender differences in the factors that influence their career choices. While economic consideration are major factors for males' interest in pursuing a career in STEM, females are influenced by external motivation factors such as encouragement by role models particularly mothers; a situation which is contrary to what the literature highlights as de-motivating factors for females in pursuing STEM programs.

**60. EFFECTS OF ACCESS BARRIERS ON THE PSYCHOLOGICAL  
WELLBEING OF PERSONS WITH MOBILITY DISABILITIES IN GHANA**

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Individuals with disabilities in Ghana face built environment, transportation, information, and social barriers, despite local and international laws to promote the enjoyment of their human rights and freedoms. Barriers negatively impact the education, employment, health care, safety, security, and social life of persons with disabilities; yet, little attention is given to how they affect their dignity and self-determination. Guided by the constructivist theory and photovoice methodology, this study seeks to fill the gap. Purposive and snowball sampling technique was used to recruit ten persons with mobility disabilities. I find that (1) self-determination is an issue for the participants because they either do not have (or have limited) opportunities to decide and choose independently because of the restrictions posed by the environment.



**61. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF ELECTION FORENSICS: EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE FROM THE 2012 AND 2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN GHANA**

Edmund Fosu-Agyemang, Ezekiel N. N. Nortey, Kwame Asah-Asante & Richard Minkah

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Most opposition leaders in Africa indict the electoral process when they lose presidential elections and call for election forensic techniques to statistically validate the certified election results. This paper uses Benford's second order test of conformity and Hartigan's dip test of unimodality to comparatively examine the 2012 and 2020 presidential elections held in Ghana. We find contradictory results from the Benford's second order test of conformity and Hartigan's dip test of unimodality; thus, we suspect possible irregularities and anomalies in the presidential election results and call for further investigations.

**62. STATE PRACTICE ON THE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION IN AFRICA: EVIDENCE FROM THE CAMEROON AND NIGERIA**

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My task with this presentation is to redress the imbalance between sovereign independence and the right to self-determination in Africa, with special emphasis on Ambazonia (southern Cameroon) and Nigeria (Biafra). I argue that based on state practice in Africa, the balance between these two valued doctrines of International Law has gone too far in the direction of sovereign independence in the postcolonial era - to the practical evisceration of self-determination. I propose practical measures embedded in International Law aimed at minimizing clashes between groups and individuals seeking to exercise their rights to self-determination and governmental entities determined to curtail such expression to the point of repression.

**63. ENVIRONMENTAL AND INTERGENERATION JUSTICE IN AFRICA: IMPORTANT ISSUES IN ADDRESSING AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENTAL CHALLENGES IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY**

Stephen Nkansah Morgan

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Environmental Justice deals with the fair and equitable distribution of natural resources and environmental burdens. While developmental resources such as roads, drinking water, healthcare facilities, and others are unevenly distributed within African countries, there is evidence of rapid depletion of the natural resources as well. This depletion presents two challenges- on the one hand, we observe the lack of responsibility on the use and preservation of the natural resources for current and future generations, and on the other hand, only a few people appear to benefit directly from the (over)use of these natural resources. Relying heavily on examples from Ghana, I argue that an essential aspect of addressing Africa's developmental challenges in the 21st century is by finding ways in addressing issues of environmental and intergeneration justice.

**64. IMPACT OF INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES ON THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN SHARADA INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, KANO STATE, NIGERIA.**

Jamila Garba Abdullahi

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This research assesses the impact of industrial activities on the quality of life of the inhabitants of Sharada industrial area based on universally accepted indicators of life. Satisfaction indicators measure subjective well-being, which shows how people assess their own well-being, and how they feel in a given period. Data was sourced through a field survey inventory collection of all the industries in Sharada industrial estate and the nature of their production. The study area was stratified into three categories, phase1, phase2, and phase3 and samples were drawn from each stratum for questionnaire administration. Findings show that effluents discharge by tannery industries that constitutes 5.9% and 8.8% of rice manufacturing industries affects the quality of air of the neighbourhood, and that 40% of inhabitants have poor physical and mental health. However, the presence of the industries has little effect on the leisure and recreation of inhabitants in the study area even though environmental contamination was harshly felt.

**65. NAIL IN THE COFFIN? REALISM, RATIONAL CHOICE THEORY AND THE ‘UNITED STATES OF AFRICA**

Isaac Nunoo

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May 2021 marked exactly fifty-eight (58) years since the establishment of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) which in 2002 transformed into the African Union (AU), yet the much anticipated ‘United States of Africa’ or ‘political unification’ envisioned to propel Africa to its ‘golden age’ of economic and political development has not been achieved. Even though some progress has been made under AU in respect of economic integration, the continent continues to struggle with the interface between national identity and continental identity. Using archival materials and other secondary sources, I examine why Africa’s attempt at political unification has failed. I argue that two major factors—systemic and domestic elements—can explain the failure.

**66. WHAT EMERGING ADULTS ARE SAYING ABOUT SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH PROGRAMS: EVIDENCE FROM A SUBURB IN ACCRA, GHANA**

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Young people’s access to appropriate health information in Ghana has seen marginal improvement, but their utilization of existing health services remains poor. With respect to sexual and reproductive health (SRH), most policies target adolescents to the neglect of the emerging adults, who face SRH challenges that make them equally vulnerable. This study provides insights into

emerging adults' knowledge of and experiences with sexual and reproductive health programs. We used data from 30 in-depth interviews and 10 focus group discussions with youth between the ages of 18 and 24. The study group was categorized into three socio-economic groupings: higher education, informally employed and apprentices. We find that emerging adults receive most education on SRH from their various Junior and Senior High Schools; however, the programs do not tackle relevant and pragmatic issues that contemporary youth face.

**67. COVID-19, RELATIONSHIPS AND CONTRACEPTION: WHAT SEXUALLY ACTIVE EMERGING ADULTS WERE DOING DURING THE LOCKDOWN IN ACCRA**

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Access to family planning services was especially challenged for sexually active urban youth at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, and this warrants in-depth investigation. We explore relationship dynamics and contraceptive use experiences of 24 emerging adults in Accra who reported being in relationships during the lockdown period and at the peak of the pandemic. We also conducted in-depth interviews with two family planning providers at a private clinic and pharmacy. Our results show that twelve out of the 24 participants were sexually active during the lockdown and reported stable relationships, while their sexually inactive counterparts had disruptions in their relationships. We find that sexually active urban youth navigated this period with different experiences.

**68. EXAMINING COVID-19 AND ITS POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OF E-COMMERCE AND DIGITAL ECONOMY IN GHANA**

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While the devastating effect of the COVID-19 pandemic and the negative impacts of its accompanying safety protocols have been studied extensively by various researchers, the potential of the pandemic and its protocols particularly social distancing and ban on mass gathering as a trigger to be leveraged upon for socio-economic development has not received similar attention. We examine two sets of data collected among young persons in Ghana after the emergence of the pandemic. We argue that the COVID-19 pandemic presents one of the greatest developmental catalysts for Ghana's efforts toward growing its e-commerce and digital economy. However, this potential is threatened by the exponential growth in cyber related crime and its associated challenges.

**69. ADAPTATION STRATEGIES TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN RAIN-FED VEGETABLE PRODUCTION IN WEST AFRICA: A REVIEW**

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Rain-fed vegetable production is the main source of vegetable supply during the wet season in West Africa. It helps to lessen vegetable scarcity and extreme price increases in markets. Climate change and the attendant changes in rainfall patterns negatively impact vegetable cultivation/production in West Africa; however, there is dearth of research in this area. Thus, we interrogate in this paper, the challenges of climate change and farmers' adaptation practices in West Africa.

**70. SMALLHOLDER FARMERS' ADAPTATION STRATEGIES TO CHANGING PROVISIONING ECOSYSTEM SERVICES IN THE SUDAN AND GUINEA SAVANNAH ECOLOGICAL ZONES OF GHANA**

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Intricate challenges linked to changing provisioning ecosystem services conditions continually hamper the supply of vital livelihood needs of ecologically resource dependent households in the Sudan and Guinea Savannah of Ghana. Employing a mixed methodological design including, quantitative and qualitative approaches and underpinned by the political ecology theory, 400 smallholder farmers were interviewed to unpack the prevailing adaptation measures to decreasing supply of provisioning ecosystem services. The results reveal that smallholder farmers in vulnerable landscapes are more likely to implement off-farm adaptation strategies including, migration, livelihood diversification, sale of assets to purchase grains and changing diets. On the other hand, smallholder farmers in resilient landscapes are more likely to implement on-farm adaptation measures including, planting early maturing and drought tolerant crop varieties, application of organic and inorganic fertilizer. The findings further reveal that ecosystem compatible adaptation strategies such as agro-forestry, natural regeneration, reclamation of degraded lands and range land preservation are costly to implement, hence have been practised by few smallholder farmers. Binary Logistic Regression modelling indicates that the ecological zone of an area and socio-economic factors such as age, sex, education, land tenure system, length of stay in the community, status/position in household significantly determine the choice of adaptation measures implemented by smallholder farmers. The integration and mainstreaming of local level adaptation practices and knowledge systems in conventional practices are pivotal to enhancing ecosystem integrity livelihood resilience.

**71. DIGITALIZATION AND THE ACCOUNTING PROFESSION: A CONCEPTUAL PAPER ON APPLICATION, OPPORTUNITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

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This conceptual paper aims to review literature on digitalisation trends, opportunities, and challenges in the accounting profession. Available and relevant professional and academic literature were reviewed and analysed to achieve the research goals. Accredited databases, publications, and journals were searched to find scholarly literature on digitalization and accounting. It was found that digitalization has disrupted the accounting profession and industry in many ways. Some researchers propose that digitalization will adversely influence the accounting profession, while others believe that digitalization provides new opportunities in the field of accounting. Digitalization trends such as Artificial intelligence, big data and cloud computing present tremendous opportunities to the accounting profession. Nonetheless, accountants have to equip them to meet the requirement presented by digitalization in the accounting profession adequately. The effect of digitalization continues to unfold in many professions, such as accounting. Several advantages can be tapped from the opportunities presented by digitalization in the accounting profession. As a result, regulators and other stakeholders must work together to derive essential benefits from digitalization in the accounting profession.

**72. WHY I DID NOT AND WILL NOT VACCINATE AGAINST COVID-19: THE CASE OF RESPONDENTS FROM MADINA MARKET AND THE ACCRA MALL**

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Healthcare professionals advise that in addition to the strict adherence to the COVID-19 protocols, there must be mass vaccination to achieve herd immunity in order to contain the pandemic. It was expected that a significant majority of Ghanaians would rush to be vaccinated when the first dose was made available, however, a significant number of the eligible groups refused to take the vaccines. In this paper, I explore why some people refused to be vaccinated?

**73. FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH COMPLIANCE TO COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS AMONG HEALTHCARE WORKERS: IMPLICATIONS FOR GHANA'S HEALTHCARE SYSTEM**

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Optimal compliance to infection prevention and control (IPC) protocols are essential in reducing the transmission of COVID-19 among healthcare workers (HCWs) during patient care delivery. Yet, there's little available data on healthcare workers' adherence to COVID-19 safety practices at

the workplace. This study examines the factors associated with HCWs self-reported compliance to IPC safety measures, specifically, hand hygiene, wearing of recommended face mask, social distancing, and disinfection practices. A cross-sectional online and paper-based survey was employed to obtain data from HCWs in four regions of the country. Non-probability sampling methods guided recruitment of participants and ethical approval was obtained from Ghana Health Service Ethics Review Committee and University of Ghana Ethics Committee for the Humanities. Univariate and binary logistic regression guided data analysis. The results show that HCWs were fully compliant with hand hygiene and wearing of face masks compared to maintaining social distance and disinfection practices. The type of HCW (clinical/non-clinical), number of years in service, region of place of work, and frequency of COVID-19 tests were strongly associated with compliance to hand hygiene and wearing of face masks.

74. **GHANA'S FREE SECONDARY EDUCATION POLICY – A SWOT ANALYSIS**

Dr. Clement Adamba, Tong Sterling Ntowayina & Daniel Hawkins Iddrisu

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Ghana's educational system has gone through several reforms after independence. Free Senior High (FSHS) Education is the most recent flagship policy introduced with the rationale of increasing accessibility to Senior High Education to eligible candidates. This study evaluates the policy of the Free Senior High School with the aim of identifying its strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats from the views of major educational stakeholders. We find that the policy achieved its goal of increasing accessibility of education to a greater majority of eligible candidates.

75. **NETWORKS AND SURVIVAL ON THE STREETS: THE LIVED EXPERIENCES OF STREET CHILDREN IN ACCRA**

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Street children are children for whom streets and other unoccupied dwelling places have become their home without the care and supervision of responsible adults. I explore the social networks of street children at Tema Station and Agbogbloshie in Accra. I find that street children need to develop/have social networks to survive on the streets.

76. **FUEL SERVICE STATIONS COMPETING FOR SPACE WITH OTHER LAND USERS IN THE GA EAST MUNICIPALITY OF GHANA: ANALYSING THE CONTEXTS AND DRIVERS**

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Global and national demand for hydrocarbons for automobiles has resulted in huge investments in the oil sector. In Ghana, this has culminated into the ubiquitous establishment of Fuel Service Stations (FSSs) within residential enclaves in major cities including, Accra, the capital city. Why are

FSSs suddenly proliferating in residential areas despite the existence of many state institutions charged with regulating environmental and social sustainability issues in the country? We examine the key driving factors underpinning this phenomenon in the Ga East municipality in the Greater Accra region of Ghana. Using a qualitative methodological design and anchored by the political ecology theory, we conduct in-depth interviews of residents, officials from the National Petroleum Authority, the Planning Department of Ga East municipality, Environmental Protection Agency, and FSSs managers. We find that the elite capture, amorphous regulatory framework, incongruous coordination among state institutions, among others, are the reasons for this burgeoning phenomenon.

77. **THE IMPACT OF CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ON  
INNOVATION PERFORMANCE OF FIRMS FROM THE STAKEHOLDER AND RESOURCE-BASED  
VIEW: CUSTOMERS AND SHAREHOLDERS AS MEDIATING VARIABLES**

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This paper explores firms' performance in product innovation resulting from the influences of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and mediated by the two important stakeholders of the organization: shareholders and customers. We posit that shareholders' participation positively influences CSR.

78. **GOVERNING MIGRATION THROUGH INTEGRATION PROGRAMS**

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Responding to the arrival of nearly 800,000 refugees in Summer and Fall 2015, the European Union (EU) set up the Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF) earmarking 3.4 billion Euros to fight the root causes of irregular migration. European Union leaders started once again to work intensively with countries all over Africa, tying development aid to countries willing to accept returnees from Europe, and offering assistance in exchange for pledges to contain migratory movements. Using Egypt as a case study, I examine the complex and contradictory impact of European funded educational and vocational training programs, livelihood projects and other development programs on the African continent.



79. **THE CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY-INNOVATION NEXUS: A STAKEHOLDER THEORY, RESOURCE-BASED THEORY, AND THE JOB-TO-BE-DONE FRAMEWORK**

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Over the last few decades, corporate social responsibility (CSR) has gained a lot of coverage, policy consideration, and academic attention. Also, increased sustainability awareness has become the norm in recent times. In addition, innovation has been identified as a critical factor in the promotion of competitive advantage in businesses. In consequence, the literature has paid close attention to innovation performance. As a result of these key developments in practice and literature, the study uses the stakeholder theory, resource-based view, and the Jobs-To-Be-Done theory to examine the CSR-Innovation nexus by assessing the effect of innovation performance on CSR activities of Ghanaian companies. We attempt to answer two questions: (1) What are the types of innovations adopted by the companies? (2) What is the effect of innovation performance on CSR activities? We find that the effect of CSR on innovation has been investigated considerably in extant literature, and they show a positive and significant influence of CSR on innovation.

80. **THE ROLE OF SMALL FISH IN FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL SECURITY IN GHANA: AN ANALYSIS OF THE DISCORDS BETWEEN POLICY AND REALITY**

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Fish consumption in Ghana has more than tripled in the last six decades, making the country one of the highest consumers in Sub-Saharan Africa. For many low-income households, small pelagic and juvenile fish are critical for their food and nutritional security. This paper conducts an institutional mapping of fish, health, and food policies and how they affect the prioritization of small fish in Ghana. Implicit in existing policies and regulations on fishing in Ghana is the desire to promote the cultivation and harvesting of bigger fish most notably tuna and Tilapia, with a huge silence on the role of small fish which over the years has constituted the main source of protein for the poor. There is a conscious criminalization of small fish harvesting via the policies on net sizes with low support to the development of small-scale fisheries supplying smaller fish to consumers. Interviews with fish processors shows that small fish constitutes a vibrant subsector with huge volumes of production transacted along the value chains mainly due to the preference for small fish by the poor and increasingly also among richer households due to its low costs, healthy attributes, and high nutritional value. There is therefore a need for specific and clearer policies that guide the harvesting, processing, marketing, and consumption of small fish in Ghana.

81. **VIOLENCE AGAINST PERSONS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT IN THE ACCRA METROPOLIS**

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Persons with disabilities reportedly are at a heightened risk of violence and suffer mental health challenges as victims of violence. Although there have been some studies on violence against PWDs, persons with visual impairment experience of violence have not been fully explored in the Ghanaian context. Adopting an interpretive phenomenological design, the study aimed to find out a) the types of violence persons with visual impairments experience b) reasons why persons with visual impairment experience violence c) how persons with visual impairment cope with violence perpetrated against them. Using the purposive sampling technique, ten participants were selected from the Ghana Blind Union in Accra for the study. Data were collected using in-depth interviews and were analyzed thematically and from the perspective of the Critical Disability Theory. The study findings revealed that participants experienced physical, social, sexual, emotional, and verbal violence. Reasons for participants' experience of violence included participants' disability, transfer of anger from their caregivers and frustration from their partner. Participants adopted coping strategies that included engaging in religious activities, relying on social support and practicing cognitive avoidance. The study concluded that the state of persons with visual impairment may continue to be a recipe for violence if the negative stereotypical beliefs on disability are not altered. It was therefore recommended that the Department of Social Welfare and Community Development embarks on sensitization campaigns on disability issues to help alter negative perceptions some people had about persons with visual impairment.

82. **LOCAL DIFFERENTIATION AND ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN COASTAL GHANA**

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This study investigates the perception of the impact of climate change on the livelihoods of small-scale fishing communities in the Western Region of Ghana. A mixed method approach was employed, consisting of a survey of four hundred fisherfolk households and twenty interviews with stakeholders. Changes in rainfall pattern, decreasing rainfall, stronger waves and storms that increase coastal erosion and cause persistent flooding were found to be the main effects of climate change on the livelihoods of small-scale coastal fisherfolk. Transnational fishing practices by fisherfolk in response to climate change contributed to the building of resilience of fishing households while other adaptation strategies appeared to be insufficient in the long run. Coastal communities are not homogenous with respect to climate change impacts and corresponding adaptation strategies. Based on the empirical results policy implications are suggested related to early warning systems and multi-scalar marine planning.

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