



We look forward to welcoming you to our services on the 4th Sunday of every month at:

St Andrew's URC Church
Mount Park Road,
Ealing, London, W5 2RS

NEWSLETTER INTRODUCTION

Dear Friends,

.....with a hint of nostalgia **By Rev. Edward Sanniez**

In the late 50s when I was growing up as a child at Abokobi, radio (wireless radio to be precise) was a novelty while television was unheard of.

Of the two monthly newspapers ('mansralo' and the Christian messenger), which were in circulation, the former kept us abreast with the latest happenings in the Greater Accra region albeit one month late.



Its contents included Tsie Anaanu stories, certain aspects of the Gadangme customs, and wise sayings in the form of idioms and riddles.

Despite the onslaught of numerous television channels and other technological communication tools, as Gadangme people in the diaspora, this Gadangme Fellowship newsletter is an attempt to keep alive some aspects of the Gadangme culture. We hope this Fellowship magazine will also enhance dissemination of information regarding the activities of the various Gadangme groups in UK.

Contributions on relevant topics are therefore solicited from all and sundry.

It would have been ideal if all articles are in either Ga or Dangme however, we have members who have English as their first language. To this end therefore, this shall be a bi-lingual paper.

By the time this newsletter reaches you, we would have finished celebrating the advent season. A season

during we celebrated Christmas (eating, drinking and exchanging gifts). To others, it was a season to remind us of the second coming of Jesus.

When I was growing up at Abokobi, we were content with a cup of gem biscuits which we string into a necklace and a glass of Portello. Now a days the kids look forward to expensive electronic gadgets.

there is also a group who see Christmas celebration as humbuck (as Scrooge once said) unless it can be translated into cash.

It I was therefore no wonder that the Greg Bakers chose to place a half eaten sausage roll in the manger; Tesco depicted the nativity scene using a Moslem family; while to Subway opted to wish their customers a 'Merry Feastmas'.

It seems we have become so materialistic that Christ has been taken out of the Christmas. We have lost the spirit behind Christmas

May we make it our objective to put Christ where it belongs in our Christmas celebrations

God bless

Edward



Newsletter Launched September 2017

GADANGME PROJECT FUND LAUNCH



When the children of Israel were taken into captivity in Babylon, they thought it was going to be for a short stay. The prophet Jeremiah under the leadership of the Holy Spirit instructed the children of Israel to:

"Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what you produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease".

Again, he said to them "seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which you have been exiled to...because if it prospers, you too will prosper."

In the book of Isaiah, we read about the prophet vowing not to rest nor keep quiet till Jerusalem has been vindicated. In the same vein he admonished watchmen(women) "on your walls, never to be silent day or night till He the Lord establishes Jerusalem and makes her the praise of the earth".

Some did more than praying. They got physically and financially involved in the reversal of the fortunes of their homeland. People like Ezra and Nehemiah who were living comfortably well in foreign lands went back to rebuild the walls and temple of Jerusalem.

As Gadangmes in the diaspora, we have become like the Israelites. We have been 'prevented' from going back because of the economic hardships, badly managed educational system and old age to name a few. We have contributed immensely to the prosperity of the countries we have been dispersed to.

As Mordecai in the book of Esther told his niece "and who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this" - to be a blessing to our brethren in our motherland.

To this end therefore, we as a Fellowship have decided to undertake projects that would help in the transformation of the lot of the disadvantaged and marginalized Gadangmes in Ghana in the first instance.

Should you wish to assist or be a partner in this venture please contact:

REMEMBRANCE AND THANKSGIVING FOR NICODEMUS DODOO

K A N F L A H



Dear Fellowship.

Thank you wholeheartedly to those who were able to join us in remembering the life of Nicodemus Dodoo, one year on.

Thank you to Reverend Sanniez for opening the evening in Prayer and to all of you in making it a special evening.

Thank you all for your love and support and for leading the crowd in song, it was a very nice touch and we are surely grateful.

Thank you to Auntie Loretta and Auntie Cecelia for leading the singing for us all, it was emotional for me, but fantastic at the same time.

Please see attached some pictures from the evening.

Love from Mrs Mercy Dodoo, Carmina, Annona and Ansbert.



A TRIBUTE TO OUR OWN LATE JOE NORTEY

On Friday, 27th October 2017, there was a service of thanksgiving at St Andrew's United Reform Church, Mount Park Road, Ealing for the life of the late Joe Nortey

Mr Joe Nortey was a very much respected gentleman with a serene, philosophical counselling and generous nature. He was kind but a firm disciplinarian with particular reference to punctuality and customs. He ensured that things were done by "the book". Joe is described by a member as 'the guy from the old school'.

His selfless contribution to the wellbeing of the Fellowship was evidenced in being the person who ensured that the church front door was opened well before our meeting time, he stayed most times in the foyer for our safety, and was invariably the last to leave the premises. One member remembers him "as a very dependable, honest and loyal family friend who offered his support and help whenever needed".

Joe shall be dearly missed. As a Fellowship, we cannot but thank and praise our God for his life.



Ashietsɛ Papa Joe Yaa Wɔ Dzogbanj

Please do continue to remember Sr Grace, his widow and Samuel, Eunice and Michael in your prayers.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE 2017



Our Annual Remembrance and Thanksgiving Service was successfully held again during last November's service. This significant service affords the fellowship the opportunity to remember our significant loved ones who have passed on and naturally remain close to our hearts.

Over 70 names which had been submitted by fellowship members were remembered during the service with loved ones lighting a candle of remembrance for each person.

NOTICES/ EVENTS

a. Sponsored Walk – 2 December

Revd Edward Sanniez successfully completed a voluntary walk to raise funds in support of the Fellowship's Educational Sponsorship Scheme for disadvantaged Ghanaian school children in Ghana. This sponsored walk covering a distance of about 6.6 miles commenced from his residence at Woodford Green, Essex through Wanstead/Snaresbrook, Leytonstone and ended at Stratford Shopping Centre. He was accompanied by his wife (Mrs Ernestina Sanniez), and Revd Dr John Campbell of High Cross United Reformed Church. Please donate generously towards this event.

RIDDLE-RIDDLE

What's my name? I am a book in the bible. I am a five-letter word. My first two letters is a regional capital in Ghana and the last three letters is name of where prophet Jona's fish lives.

Who am I? I am a prostitute. I saved the Israeli spies and later my entire family. I was Honoured to be in the lineage of Jesus.

Who am I? My dad was an idol worshipper but stood by me. God caught me while using a strange method to thrash wheat. With 300 men, lamps and strong voices saved the nation of Israel from foreign domination.

If you think it is your alarm clock that woke you up this morning, try putting it beside a dead body and you will realise that it is the grace of God that woke you up.

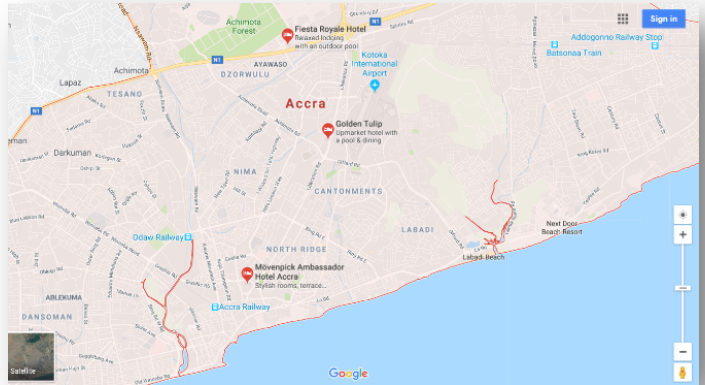
By Edmund Abdo

SUMMARY OF GA & DANGME ON THE MAP

The Ga towns are Accra, Osu, La, Teshi, Nungua, and Tema . Accra itself is in origin a federation of seven quarters, three of which once formed Jamestown or 'English Accra', the other four 'Dutch Accra'. There is a distinct pidginised form of Ga used by non-native speakers as a lingua franca in the streets and markets of the city.

The six dialects of Dangme, as usually counted, correspond to traditional political units. The inland dialects are Shai, Krobo, and Osudoku. The coastal ones, from west to east are Kpone (where speakers now use Ga or are bilingual in it), Prampram (close to Ga), Ningo and Ada (the last strongly influenced by Ewe).

By Edmund Abdo



Map of Accra

NEWSLETTER LAUNCH AND ANNUAL HARVEST

The long-awaited newsletter for the GaDangme fellowship was launched at its September service which also coincided with the annual harvest service.

The editorial team responsible for putting together the newsletter were invited to launch the newsletter. Mr Aryeetey, who had worked tirelessly to produce and oversee the editing and printing of the newsletter cut the ribbon on the day to a rapturous applause from the wider congregation.

It was agreed that the newsletter will be produced quarterly, and all members were invited to send in articles for consideration

and inclusion in future issues.

Shortly after this, the harvest proceed with Christina Ashare chairing the fundraising. She was supported by Phylis Mensah, Comfort Tawiah and Nancy Ankrah.

As per previous years, the proceeds of this harvest will be used to sponsor our mission projects.



Below; Harvest Committee called into their seats in readiness to chair the Harvest



ANNUAL PROGRAMME FOR 2018

Month	Special Events	Date
Aharabata (January)	Leaders' Planning Meeting Day New Year Communion Service	20 Jan 2018 28 Jan 2018
Ofi ɔ (February)	Pastoral Leader/Assistants Training Choir 3 rd Anniversary Celebration	17 Feb 2018 25 Feb 2018
Otsokrikri (March)	61st Ghana Independence Anniversary Service Talk on How to help our Children in Education?	11 Mar 2018 25 Mar 2008
Abɛibe (April)	Talk- Preparation of Power of Attorney	22 Apr 2018
Agbiɛnaa (May)	A Day of Prayer and Fasting Annual General Meeting	19 May 2018 27 May 2018
Otukwajan (June)	Joint Service with URC Ealing (Starts at 11.00am) NB: 3 rd Sunday of June Fellowship Family Fun Day Or Similar Event	17 Jun 2018 23 Jun 2018
Maawɛ (July)	Fellowship Youth/Young Adults Day Ghana Republic Day Anniversary Service Youth/Young Adults Led Worship Service	14 Jul 2018 15 Jul 2018 22 Jul 2018
Manyawale (August)	A Day of Prayer and Fasting GaDangme Cultural Event - Talk on Libation Pouring	18 Aug 2018 26 Aug 2018
Gbo (September)	Harvest Thanksgiving Service, Fund-raising & Harvest Supper	23 Sept 2018
Antɔŋ (October)	Anniversary Thanksgiving Service	28 Oct 2018
Alemle (November)	Annual Remembrance Service	25 Nov 2018
Afuabe (December)	Nyɛhaa wɔlaa (Songs of Praise) OR Service of 9 Lessons & Carols	23 Dec 2018

ADESA SECTION

Anansi, the Turtle and Pigeon... (From Anansi the Spider Man by P M Sherlock)

Mr Turtle once lived next door to Mr Pigeon, and across the road was Mr Anansi's house.

Sometimes Mr Turtle and Anansi would stand together and watch Mr Pigeon flying from one house-top to another, from one tree to another,

"I wish I could fly with Mr Pigeon" said Mr Turtle.

"I wish so, too" said Mr Anansi.

At last one day they went to Mr Pigeon and asked him to teach them fly. Mr Pigeon took them to the oldest pigeon of all. He looked as wise as an owl and said that they could learn. Then each pigeon pulled out a feather and glued it to Mr Turtle's back until all looked like a pincushion, all full of feathers. Mr Anansi, they said, would have to let Mr Turtle try first. Next, they took hold of Mr Turtle and flew up into the air.

Soon they reached Mr Tiger's corn field (every day the pigeons went there and stole Mr Tiger's corn). When they got there, they took their feathers away from Mr Turtle, gave him a large bag, and told him to pick up the grains of corn from the ground. So they all picked up

corn, and Mr Turtle picked up corn too. Then they heard a noise.

The pigeons all stood still and lifted up their heads. A second or two later, the oldest pigeon flapped his wings, and all the other pigeons flapped their wings and flew away leaving Mr Turtle all by himself in the field of corn.

Mr Anansi saw the pigeons return home, but there was no Mr Turtle with them. Mr Turtle was left in the middle of the field, and there the watchman found him with the bag of corn.

"So it is you, Mr Turtle, is it? You are the thief that comes and steals Mr Tiger's corn?"

"No", cried Mr Turtle, "no, my sweet watchman. Ask Anansi if you doubt me. It is the pigeons who have been stealing the corn."

"What are you doing here then?" ask the watchman

"Oh my sweet watchman," cried Mr Turtle, "ask Mr Anansi if you doubt me. I told the pigeons that I wanted to fly, and they lent me feathers and I came with them, but I am not stealing the corn."

"Well", said the watchman, "I never saw a turtle fly. You must come with me." And he put Mr Turtle in a pail of water and took him to Mr Tiger's house. (to be continued)

MORAL TEACHINGS

The Labourer and the Nightingale (*Source <http://www.taleswithmorals.com>*)

A Labourer lay listening to a Nightingale's song throughout the summer night. So pleased was he with it that the next night he set a trap for it and captured it.

"Now that I have caught you," he cried, "you shall always sing to me." "We Nightingales never sing in a cage." said the bird.

"Then I'll eat you." said the Labourer. "I have always heard say that a nightingale on toast is dainty morsel."

"No, do not kill me," said the Nightingale; "but let me free, and I'll tell you three things far better worth than my poor body."

The Labourer let him loose, and he flew up to a branch of a tree and said:

"Never believe a captive's promise; that's one thing. Then again: Keep what you have. And third piece of advice is:

Sorrow not over what is lost forever."

Then the song-bird flew away.

Moral teaching: "Never believe a captive's promise", gave him a large bag, and told him to pick up the grains of corn from the ground. So they all picked up corn, and Mr Turtle picked up corn too. Then they heard a noise.

KASEMƆ GA. KASEMƆ NYƆJI LƐ AGBƐI.

Nyɔji Lɛ Agbɛii (NAMES OF THE MONTHS)

Nyɔji lɛ agbɛi	He ni ana gbɛi lɛ kɛ jɛ	Bɔ ni je lɛ mli feɔ
Aharabata (January)	Kɔɔyɔɔ ko gbɛi. Gamei tseɔ kɔɔyɔɔ nɛɛ akɛ Aharabata.	Kɔɔyɔɔ gbɛɛ ɲanii ko tswaa, fɛi yeɔ, nibii gbɔɔ ni nu ɲaa.
Oflɔ (February)	Jweianɲ fɔfɔi ko gbɛi ni, ekwɛɔ ye nɛkɛ be mli.	Hulu tsoɔ waa, latsa waa, jwei bɔiɔ ɲalamɔ.
Otsokrikri (March)	Hulutsoo lɛ naawale gbɛi.	Hulu tsoɔ krikri, egbaa waa, jɛɲ dɔɔ waa ni latsa tsaa waa. Tsei ayibai kpalaa, ɲa ɲalaa.
Abɛibe (April)	Abɛii ni baa babaoɔ akewo nyɔɲɔ lɛ.	Hulu tsoɔ waa bɔ ni sa, jɛɲ dɔɔ, abɛii baa babaoɔ ni amɛgbulɔɔ manɔi ahe.
Agbiɛnaa (May)	Nunɛmɔ wulu ye afi lɛ mli gbɛi.	Jɛɲ dɔɔ saɲɲ, nugbɔ bɔiɔ nɛmɔ ni enɛɔ gbidii.
Otukwajan (June)	Ɖulami agbo ko gbɛi, ɲulami nɛɛ ye ɲulamii bibii enumɔ komei ye ehewɔ.	Jɛɲ dɔɔ, ni nu nɛɔ saɲɲ bɔ ni sa.
Maawɛ (July)	Ɖulami agbo ko gbɛi; ɲulami nɛɛ ye ɲulami pɛmpɛoo kome kɛ bibii nɛɛhu ye ehewɔ. Amɛjɛɔ ye Otukwajan nyɔɲɔ lɛ mlijaa mli, ni amɛye aahu keyashio Gbo nyɔɲɔ lɛ nɔ.	Hulu tsoɔ. Ɖshɔ mli jɔɔ ni loi nyleɔ nu ɲanii lɛ sɛɛ kɛbaa ni anaa amɛ agbɛɔ. Gamei tseɔ loogbee be nɛɛ akɛ obue. Fɛi yeɔ waa.
Manyawale (August)	Nunɛmɔ ɲwetɛɲwetɛ, ko gbɛi. Mina mibote gbalashihile mli. Akan wiemɔ ni.	Hulu tsoɔ, shi ewooo latsa; kɔɔyɔɔ tswaa waa ni fɛi yeɔ gbɛkɛ.
Gbo (September)	Nunɛmɔ fioo ko gbɛi. enaawale shɛɛ Agbiɛnaa nunɛmɔ lɛ.	Hulu tsoɔ saɲɲ, kɔɔyɔɔ mli jɔɔ hie kã mli kɛ gbɛkɛ fɛɛ.
Antɔɲ (October)	Ɖulami ko gbɛi, eye ɲulamii bibii etɛ ye ehewɔ.	Hulu lɛ naa waaa, ni kɔɔyɔɔ tswaa mulu, ɲshɔ ɲmɛɔ dɛoo. Ɖwei gbalaa, shi ɲulamii lɛ yaboteɔ ɲshɔ mli.
Alemle (November)	Ɖulami kusha ko gbɛi, amɛjɛɔ, nɛkɛ be ni amɛye kɛboteɔ Afuabe mli.	Hulu tsoɔ, kɔɔyɔɔ, mli bɔiɔ wesewese feemɔ, fɛi yeɔ bibiibii.
Afuabe (December)	Afua ni woo lɛ gbɛi ni.	Afua woo ye shikpɔɲ kɛ ɲshɔ hie fɛɛ nɔtoonɔtoɔ: Fɛi yeɔ gbɛkɛgbɛkɛ, Kɔɔyɔɔ lɛ mli bɔiɔ. gbimo.

KASEMƆ GA. KASEMƆ NMALEKRƆŊKRƆŊ LƐ. (Ga Bible Study)

WƆYIWALAHREMƆ LƐ NƆMIMAA (Assurance of salvation)

Nu shishi ake, agbene, akeni obahe Yesu Kristo no oye hewole,
akpo bo keje esha **hewale** ke ehe **nyomwo** mli. Afo boa wo Nyomwo weku le mli.
Satan baatsɔ nɔa ke lakamɔ no koni oje oyiwalaheremɔ le he nwanne.

Susumɔ Nmale kukuji nɛɛ ahe jogbanɔ, nomei baawa bo ni ona shishinumɔ fannɔ ye no ni Kristo tsu eha bo ye senmtso
le no le ni osaa kunimyeli ye onwanejei le hu no.



NIKANEMƆ:

Yohane 3:16; Yohane 1:12-13; Efesobii 2:8-9; 1 Yohane 5:11-13; Yohane 10:27-30.

SUSUMƆ HE

1. Owala baaba naagbee gbi ko. Keji ootao ohishi keya naano ye heni Naa Nyomwo yɔɔ le, meni sa ake ofeo?
Yohane 3:16.
2. Meni naanyobɔ hee mli miishɛɛ ona agbene ake ohe Kristo oye? Yohane 1:12.
3. Meni no ɔtsɔ okena oke Kristo ten naanyobɔ le? Efesobii 2:8-9.
4. Meni haa bo nɔmimaa ake Nyomwo bi ji bo leɛɛɛ? 1 Yohane 5:12.
5. Meebe esee baafo ake Nyomwo bi ji bo? Yohane 10:28.

KAIMƆ

“Mɔ ni yɔɔ Bi le, eye wala; mɔ ni be Nyomwo Bi le, ebe wala hu”
(1 Yohane 5:1)