



OWL ON-THE-NET



Adisadel College and Alumni Newsletter

EDITORIAL

TRAGEDY AT ADISCO

Just as we were preparing to put finishing touches to this edition, telling you about our Speech Day and Founders Day celebrations and how successfully it had all been, a Tsunami of horrific force hit us. All other news became minimized in comparison.

A tragedy of gigantic proportions had hit Adisadel. This news removed all other headlines from the nation's newspapers. Discussion programmes and talk shows on radio and television throughout the land were focused on Adisadel. People who claimed to be experts came and talked facts which were truths, half-truths and downright lies. There were all sorts of rumours and rumours about rumours. The school was closed down and all students were sent home. It was a bad time for students, tutors, parents and school administrators.

Muslim organizations and associations asked for independent commissions of enquiry to get to the truth.

What really happened?

On Saturday the 15th of March 2008, the senior housemaster was informed that students have defecated in the new classroom block that was commissioned on the speech day by the vice president. He then detailed the chief security to lock all the rooms in the block and submit the keys to him which he did but some rooms couldn't just be locked because they were faulty. Then on the said Sunday morning, at a time when all students were expected to be attending a school function, about 7.30 am, a worker at the school's kitchen on his way to work, saw some students in the block. He was worried so when he came up the school, he complained to the senior housemaster who was also surprised that after having secured the place even though not fully, students could still go there after several announcements have also been made. He decided to verify and so went with some teachers and the worker as well as the chief security with the keys to the block. When he got there with the teachers, he was sighted by the students who were in the block at that time. Knowing they were in the wrong place at the wrong time, they made attempts to avoid being recognised. Mustapha Gafaru Abdul Rahman who was at the top floor with two other students fell to his death. Some say he slipped and some say he jumped. He died instantly. According to the senior housemaster there was no contact with Gafaru as he did not go to the top floor.

Following this tragic event, some students became very roudy, caused damage to school property, refused to eat, attend classes or write exams. Consequently the school authorities had no alternative than to close down the school and send the boys home. A committee has been set up by the board of governors. (see page 2). *A full report will be published after the committee comes out with their findings.*

It was big news also on all Adisadel networks. Most of those who wrote were knowledgeable about the systems and routines of the College and were very sympathetic. A book of condolence has been opened on the Adisadel College Website.

We of the Adisadel College Alumni Office would like on behalf of all Santaclausians to send our heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved family and to all Staff and students of Adisco. *We are also of the view that those who would be found to have broken the school rules and also those who caused damage to school property should be punished and be made to pay for the damages.*

May he rest in peace.

We also pray that all those who have been directly affected by this unhappy event will be able to put everything behind them and complete the rest of their academic year successfully.

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Wilson Tagoe

'57 Knight



& Joe Opare

'81 Jubi[ee



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MARCH 2008
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COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY

The shocking news about the untimely death of Master Abdul Rahman on Sunday 16th March 2008 made the board of governors call an emergency meeting on Wednesday 19th March, 2008 and constituted a five member committee of enquiry to investigate the circumstances leading to the death of Master Abdul Gafaru Abdel Rahman 353, knight house.

Subsequently the committee was inaugurated by the chairman supported by some members of the board, The Metropolitan Director and the Regional Director on Wednesday 26th march, 2008 at Adisadel college chapel at 11.30 am

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE COMMITTEE

The following were the terms of reference:

- i. To investigate the circumstances leading to the death of Master Abdul Gafaru Abdul Rahman
- ii. To enquire into the school regulations regarding the movements of students in the school and whether there were any breaches.
- iii. To enquire as to whether administrative lapses contributed to such situation.
- iv. To investigate any other related issues.
- v. To present findings and recommendation of the committee to the board within fifteen days from the date of the inauguration of the committee.

MEMBERSHIP

1. Anglican church Rep-Rev Canon John Mercedes Adu- Acheampong, manager, Anglican Educ. Unit
2. Lawyer-Mr. E. Darko Yeboah
3. Staff Rep-Ms. Charlotte Impraim
4. Moslem Rep-Alhaji Abdulsalam Adam manager, Islamic Education Unit
5. PTA Rep-Mr. E. Amar, Manager Ghana Commercial Bank, Cape Coast
6. Secretary- Mr. Kwadwo Asiedu-Gyimah, Asst Headmaster (Adm)

Kwadwo Asiedu Gyimah (Board Secretary)

CAMPUS NEWS**Happy Birthday Samuel Sackey (KN '84)**

Samuel Sackey celebrated his 40th birthday on Sunday 16th March, 2008. A solemn mass was said for him at the Adisadel College Chapel, followed by refreshments for all present. Unfortunately the celebration coincided with the tragedy that had occurred earlier that same day and a few students in the vicinity complained of a lead of sympathy for them.

Samuel Sackey who was the chapel prefect in his final year is also the leader of the 1984 year groups to who received the baton for sponsoring next year's speech from the 1983 year group was handed.

FROM THE HEADMASTER'S DESK – [H.K.K. Graham](#)

Adisadel College has just celebrated her 98th Speech, Prize-Giving and Founder's Day ceremonies with all the pomp and pageantry. The Special Guest of Honour, His Excellency, Alhaji Aliu Mahama, the Vice President of the

Republic of Ghana admonished the students to be disciplined, focused and avoid anything that will destroy their future. The Guest Speaker, Santaclausian Prince Kofi Amoabeng, CEO of Unique Trust Financial Services asked all stakeholders to play their roles effectively to enable Adisadel come out of his present difficulties. The Vice Chancellor of the University of Cape Coast, Rev. Prof. Emmanuel Addow Obeng who was the Guest Preacher made it clear that all men need to follow the Lord Jesus Christ in order to achieve any meaningful thing in life.

The 1983 year-group of Santaclausians, main sponsors of the speech day, donated a Cold Store with a powerful back-up generator to supply electricity to the dining hall in addition. The group also organized two separate parties for the teaching staff and their spouses at Sanaa Lodge with a live band then another one for the non-teaching staff at Cape Coast Hotel. Three handsome awards were also given to the staff at the speech day to inspire them for greater performance. The 1968 year-group of Santaclausians also donated sets of scientific equipment to the physics, chemistry and Biology laboratories. Two bulls were donated by Mr. Owusu-Mensah, M.D. of GHAPOHA and another one by the 1983 year group for the students' enhanced dinner. Dr. Paul Poku, an illustrious Santaclausian, sponsored the Sunday Cement Party after organizing more awards for the students and staff at the speech day.

The 1988 year group of Santaclausians also continued with their three special awards to motivate the staff. Each award had a beautiful plaque with US dollars attached. The Quartey brothers, Edward and Edwin, made the teachers proud with their Model Teacher Award of \$1,000. They followed up with a visit to the hill after the speech day. The Abdel Mahmoud Best Teacher Award was also given to the deserving recipient.

ADISADEL LOSES A FINAL YEAR SCIENCE STUDENT

Barely a week after the Vice President had commissioned a newly constructed four-storey, sixteen-unit classroom block near the main gate yet to be used, a final year science student Master Abdel Mustapha Gafaru Rahman fell from the fourth floor and died instantly. This was when a group of students had dodged the usual Sunday morning church service on the 16th of March, 2008 at 7.00a.m and were hiding in the building. They heard that the Senior Housemaster, Mr. J.B. Opare was coming with two other teachers and they all tried different types of escape routes. The late Gafaru has since been buried but the students took the law into their own hands and became unruly leading to the closure of the school on Monday, 17th March, 2008 upon the recommendation of the Board of Governors and approval by the Ghana Education Service (GES). Following a

decision from an emergency meeting of the Board of Governors on Wednesday, the 19th of March, 2008, the final year students were recalled to come and continue with their mock examinations and to prepare for the imminent West African Senior Secondary School Certificate Examinations. Each student was to come with the parent to sign a bond to be of good behaviour for the rest of his stay in the school. The continuing students, Forms 1 and 2 would return to school on the 14th of April, 2008. Calm has once again, returned to the school and both students and teachers are going about their duties with deserving normalcy.

The school has visited the bereaved family to express sympathy and donated food items and cash towards the funeral. Since the unfortunate demise of Master Gafaru, the school authority has been bombarded with all kinds of unfair questions. Accusing fingers have been pointed on us and wild tongues snarled at the school. The sad aspect of the whole issue is the fact that people have deliberately refused to acknowledge that the insistence on discipline by the school authority, since her inception, has made the school what it is today; for parents to ardently desire having their children here at all cost. People have imputed religious dimension to it which is most unfortunate. This is because Adisadel has always exercised religious diversity and tolerance to a high level; a fact which can be amply testified to by all our Moslem students both past and present.

Teachers were dedicatedly discharging their legitimate duty of ensuring that, as shepherds, they bring any straying sheep into the flock. Yet, people have fabricated their own versions of the incident and added sugar to taste. Howbeit, the truth which is God always stands. Never in history, has falsehood prevailed. We shall continue to seek the good of the boys for the work we do is not for men but for God the Creator. He will surely come to our aid. Adisadel has produced men of distinction and integrity all over the years and nothing can stop her.

Long live Adisadel,
Long live the Santaclausian Family,
Long live Ghana.

ADISADEL COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY LIST DATED - MARCH 31ST, 2008

ITEM.	GOAL DESCRIPTION	OBJECTIVE	STATUS
A	YEAR 2005		
1.	Establish Electronic Library.	Expand IT capabilities and productivity.(Plan ref- Action Plan Goal 5.6)	Evaluating a fiber optic system to complete internet connectivity
2	Construct a new school clinic.	Improve health facilities to enhance academic, health and character growth	80% Complete. Being sponsored by the late I.N Kankam's family.
3	Construct a Centenary Resource Centre (€20 Billion)	Expand school physical facilities to include a modern library, administration and assembly hall to facilitate other future initiatives.	Project launched on 27 th October 2005. Fund Raising in progress.
4	Construct a new tennis court. (€120M)	Enhancement of academic, health and character growth (Plans ref.-Action Plan Goal 3.1)	Individual or group sponsorship required.
5	Landscape certain areas of the school compound (\$3,300)	Enhance aesthetics of Adisadel College campus	FUNDS HAVE BEEN PROVIDED BY THE ADISADEL FOUNDATION (USA). Work has begun. 80% of work completed
6	Refurbish school clock tower (£10,000)	Restore to original design and performance	Sponsored by U.K Old Boys Assn. Funds still being solicited.
B	YEAR 2006		
1	Renovate Houses	Improve condition of requisite student facilities to enhance academic, health and character growth	Sponsorship letters mailed to parents. Alumni office to plan other fundraising activities. Fresh sponsorship received for Knight House renovation
2	Refurbish Upper school bathroom facilities - Condition.	Reduce health risk. (Plans ref.-Action Plan Goal 3.5)	Completed with funds from the Government
3	Construct a block of sixteen classrooms.	Student-teacher ratio enhancement. (Plans ref.-Action Plan Goal 3.3)	Work completed. Commissioning will be done on March 8,2008
4	Provide back up Lightning System. Solar system being contemplated.	Provide electrical power to entire campus whenever total electrical power is lost.	Implementation will be accomplished in phases. No progress

6	Secure school boundary (€1 M per 3.5 m module.	Stop land encroachment and monitor students and visitors to and from campus. (Plans ref.- Action Plan Goal 3.4)	Total Cost estimate to be prepared. Individuals or groups may sponsor modules starting 2006.
7	Upgrade staff housing. (€15-20M) per house condition	Additional initiative to motivate staff	School yearly budget to allocate some funds. PTA also supporting. 3 Bungalows upgraded. A 4th one is NOW COMPLETED
8	Construct a new basketball court.(€120M)	Enhancement of academic, health and character growth (Plans ref.-Action Plan Goal 3.1)	Individual or group sponsorship required
9	Rehabilitate School Roads	Enhance aesthetics of Adisadel College campus	Minor repairs completed
10	Construct block of flats for Staff	Staff motivation and improvement in the supervision of students resulting in improved discipline and academic performance.	Initiated by PTA. Foundation completed. Additional funds being approved by Get Fund.
11	Rehabilitate and expand Acropolis	Upgrade to modern standards.	Rehab work completed. 40% expansion work on going with GetFund funds.
C	YEAR 2007		
1	Renovate remaining 6 classrooms (€13 M per classroom excluding Desks.)	Improve condition of requisite student facilities to enhance academic, health and character growth	Work completed
2	Construct a staff club house	Staff motivation	No progress
D	YEAR 2008		
1	RECONSTRUCT THE SCHOOL GATE ON THE ADISADEL VILLAGE ROAD	Provide a befitting entrance from the village road in view of the impending centenary celebration	Sponsorship needed
2	Landscape the Adisadel village entrance to the school(\$2,900)	Enhance the aesthetics of the school entrance from the village which has been an eyesore.	Sponsorship needed
3	Rehab all the road networks in the school.	As part of the drive to enhance the aesthetics and also prevent the roads from eroding.	Has gone on tender. Contractor yet to be chosen for work to begin.
1			
	Construct a new dormitory block	To accommodate students due to the new educational programme.	Funds to be provided by the GetFund

A Cry from Nico's Heart

Nico Annan has recently been elected as the Chairman of the Centenary Planning Committee to co-ordinate the work of the main committee itself as well as the various sub-committees.

During the Speech Day earlier this month, he had a special appeal to make. He said that time was not on our side and the amount of work to do was mind-boggling. Worst of all money was in short supply. He informed us all that the percentages of pledges collected was around 10% and many of the fine people who pledged to give so much in cash and in kind were not redeeming their pledges, in spite of constant reminders.

Before Nico took up this daunting task, a few people had either refused the offer or had found reason to resign soon after accepting it.

However, this is a job somebody has to do and if Nico has accepted to bite the bullet so to speak, it really is the duty of all of us Santaclausians to give him every bit of our support and co-operation. This is in all our interests.

We Received Important Visitors

Two prominent members of the Adisadel Old Boys Association of North America have spent several days with us here on the Hill. They are Mark Aggrey and George Arthur. They were here for the Speech Day Celebrations and were around at the time of the tragedy and its aftermath. They were able to talk with the Headmaster and members of the administration, talked with the staff and students and also visited us at the Alumni Office. They will write reports of their visit on the Santaclausian networks and we hope to publish some of these in future issues of our Owl-on-the Net. Quartey brothers also flashed.

The latest contact details for Year Groups are as follows:-

1960	Wing Comm (Rtd) W Opoku	021 775561
1963	Mr Dan Dennis	0244 590354
1964	Dr Kwesi Hanson	020 2017987
1965	Mr Awuah Nyamekye	021 301178/0244 368945
1966	Mr Kwamena Dickson	020 8143137
1967	Mr Reindorf Perbi	(021) 770618 /770712/ 770454/ 777173
1968	Mr Ato Ampiah	0277 546864
1969	Mr Kwame Sakyi	021 769413
1970	Mr A Adom	0244 372052

1971	Mr Clement Entsua-Mensah	0244424962
1972	Mr Kojo Afedzi Hayford	0244 314410
1973	Dr James Heyman	
	Mr Sam Asamoah	0243 530420
1975	Mr Eddie Jean DuPlan	021 765361
1976	Mr Ben Enos	0244 284157
1977	Mr Seth Dzordzorme	0277 545070
1978	Mr Philip Longdon	0244 356432
1979	Mr Harry Sintim-Aboagyesi	0244 666404
1980	Mr Michael Frimpong	0244 310529
1981	Mr Kwesi Sagoe	022 203099/0208 110804
1982	Mr Patrick Yebesi	0202 019821
	Dr Gibert Buckle	0208 8123223
1983	Mr George Amissah	0244 380954
1985	Mr Gottfried Asiedu	0277 411515
	Mr Ato Classpeter	0244 641169

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Regional Groupings

Ghana

Accra	Mr Kwame Sakyi-President	021769413/785301
Cape Coast	Mr C K B Tachie-Menson-Chairman	042 33268
Kumasi	Mr Asare Bediako	
Takoradi	Col (rtd) Kaku Korsah	0244 780765/0208 24461
Tema	Dr Deheer Johnson-Chairman	022 304047/ 0277 828896
	Mr Frank Tekyi-Mensah-Secretary, Mr Emmanuel Ayivor-Treasurer	

USA

Washington DC:

George Arthur President, Edward Quartey Vice President, George Gyamfi, Treasurer Kojo Ocran, Secretary.

North California:

Mr Daniel Acquaaah-President, Mr Alex Akoto-Vice President

Adisadel Foundation Inc: Mr Kwabena Sarpong-President, Mr Bob Baafi-Vice President, Mark Aggrey-Treasurer, Alfred Essandoh-Secretary, Mr. Edmund Tawiah-Operations Manager.

Webmaster,

Frank Indome

UK

Mr Joe Wryter-President, Mr Herbert Bukari-Chairman, Mr James Mercer-Vice Chair, Mr Albert Koranteng, Secretary, Dr Ambrose Togobo-Treasurer, Mr Yookow Orleans-Lindsay-Asst. Treasurer, Mr Kodwo Binfoh, Financial Secretary, Mr Kwku deGraft-Johnson, Asst Fin Secretary, Mr Sam Amponsah, Social Organiser, Mr Kweku Turkson, Fund Raiser, Mr Tsatsu Acolatse, Mr Kwame Adu, Mr Larry Osei-Kwaku-committee members.