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**STRAND**

**2**

# **MY COUNTRY GHANA**

**Sub-Strand 1: THE PEOPLE OF GHANA**

**CONTENT STANDARD:**

B3.2.1.1. Exhibit knowledge of the unique history of the major ethnic group in Ghana.

# THE ETHNIC GROUPS IN GHANA

## Keywords

*Ethnic group, originate, migratory route, conflict, ancestor, Akan ethnic group, Ewe ethnic group, Mole-Dagbani ethnic group, Ga-Adangme ethnic group, Guan ethnic group.*

Ghana is a beautiful country with beautiful people. The people of Ghana have different ethnic backgrounds.

An ethnic group is a group of people who come from one ancestry and have a common way of life. The language, dance, cloth, food, etc. of a group of people make them different from one another. The various ethnic groups are different from one another.

The major ethnic groups in Ghana include Akan, Ewe, Ga-Adangme, Guan, Mole-Dagbani and Gonja. Within each ethnic group, there are various sub-groups.

Each ethnic group has its own special history. The people travelled from different places and settled together in groups. Let us study the various ethnic groups and how they settled in Ghana.



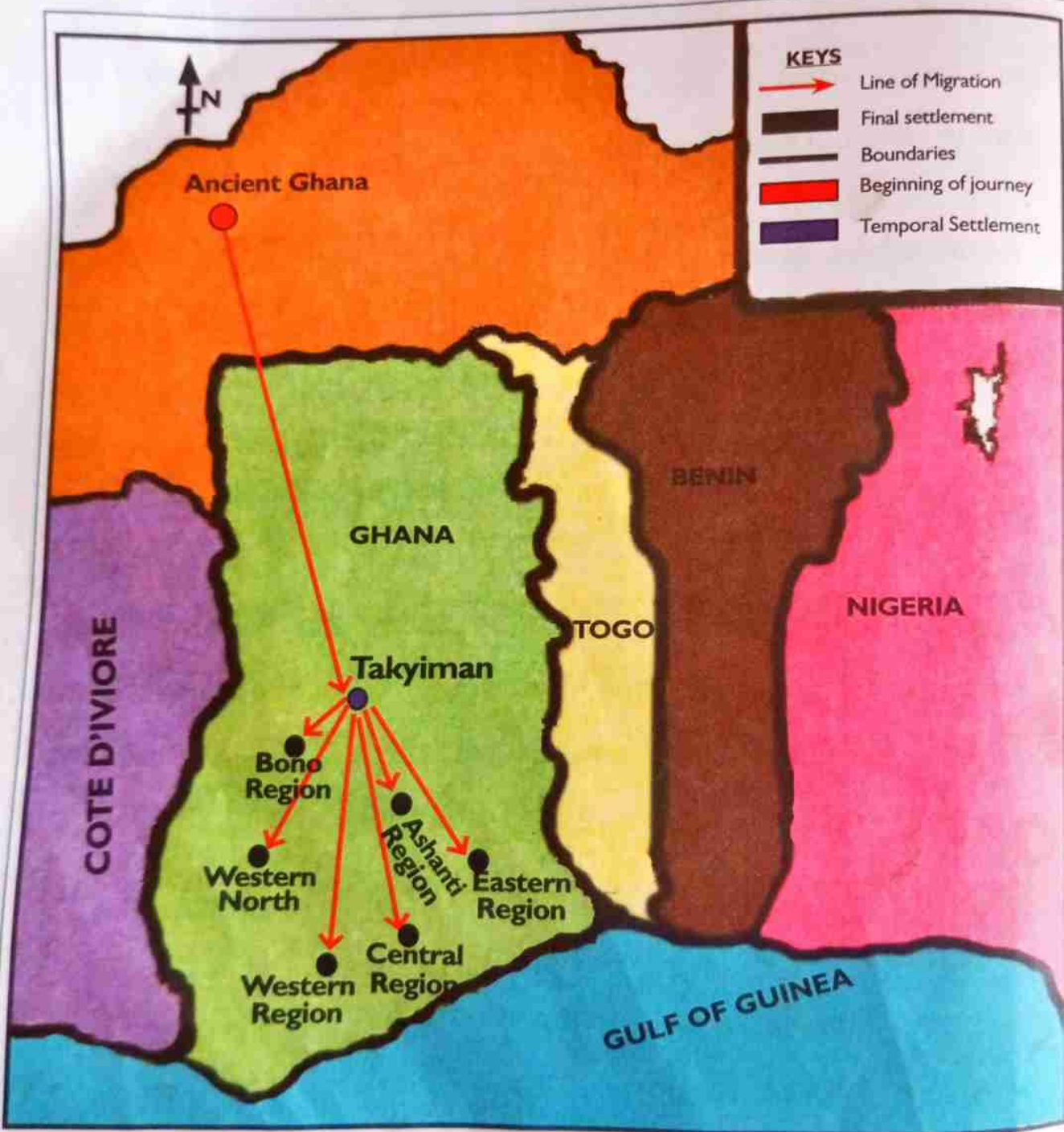
## Akan Ethnic Group:

This is the largest ethnic group in Ghana. It consists of sub-groups like Asante, Fante, Akwamu, Nzema, Kwahu, Bono, Akuapem, Akyem, Sefwi and others. The Akan ethnic group is mostly found in the forest zone of the country. A number of them are also located in the coastal regions.

The Akan ethnic group is believed to have travelled from Ancient Ghana. From there, the Akan moved to settle at Tekyiman in the Bono East Region of Ghana. As the population in the area increased, they moved in separate groups to other parts of the country.

The Asante sub-group moved to settle in the Ashanti Region where they established their kingdom. The Fante sub-group who were led by three powerful leaders (Oburumankoma, Odapagyan and Oson) first settled at Mankessim in the Central Region of Ghana. Some sub-groups of the Akan moved to settle in the Eastern Region of Ghana. They were the Kwahu, Akuapem and Akyem. The Sefwi sub-group of the Akan moved to settle in the Western North Region. Other Akan sub-groups remained in the Bono Region.

Currently, the Akan ethnic group is found in Ashanti, Central, Bono, Eastern, Bono East, Ahafo, Western North and Western regions of Ghana.



Migratory routes of the Akan



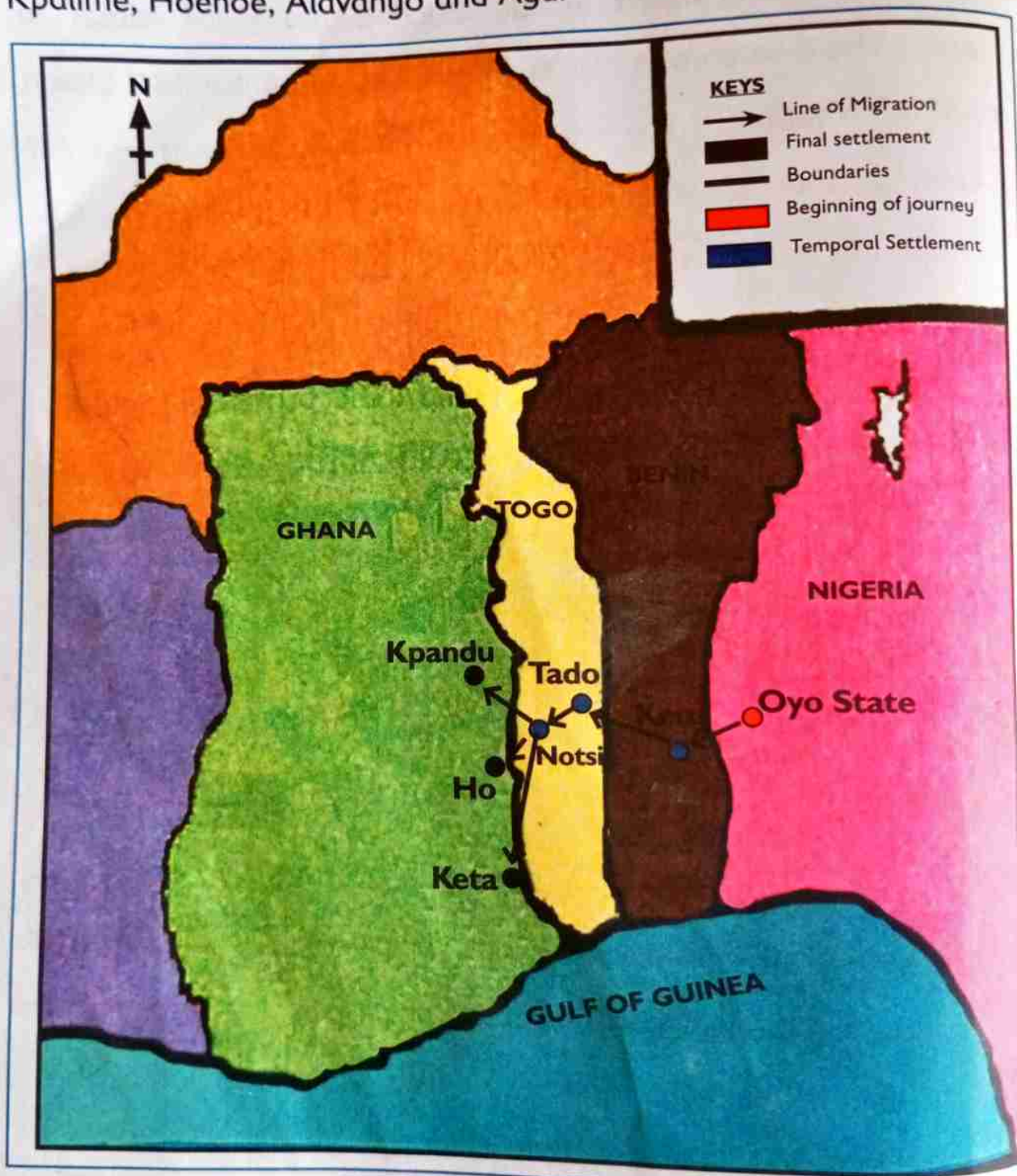
## Ewe Ethnic Group:

The Ewe ethnic group is mostly found in the Volta Region of Ghana. The Ewe consist of sub-groups such as Anlo, Peki, Danyi, Likpe and Vedome. The differences among the sub-groups can be seen in their language and location. The Ewe speak the Ewe language but with minor differences.

The Ewe are believed to have migrated from Oyo state in Nigeria and settled in Benin at a place called Ketu. After staying at Ketu for some time, the Ewe moved to Togo and stayed at Tado. From there, they moved to another place called Notsie. At Notsie, the Ewe were treated badly by a wicked king called Agorkoli. Finally, the Ewe escaped to Ghana in three groups.

The first group settled around Keta Lagoon. Some of the places they stayed were Anlo, Fenyi, Klikor and Afife. The second group settled at Ho the capital town of Volta Region. Some of the places they stayed were Hodzo, Klevi, Takla and Kpetoe.

The third group settled at Kpandu. They stayed at places like Kpalime, Hoehoe, Alavanyo and Agu.



Migratory routes of the Ewe

STRAND 2: SUB-STRAND 1: THE PEOPLE OF GHANA

### Ga-Adangme Ethnic Group:

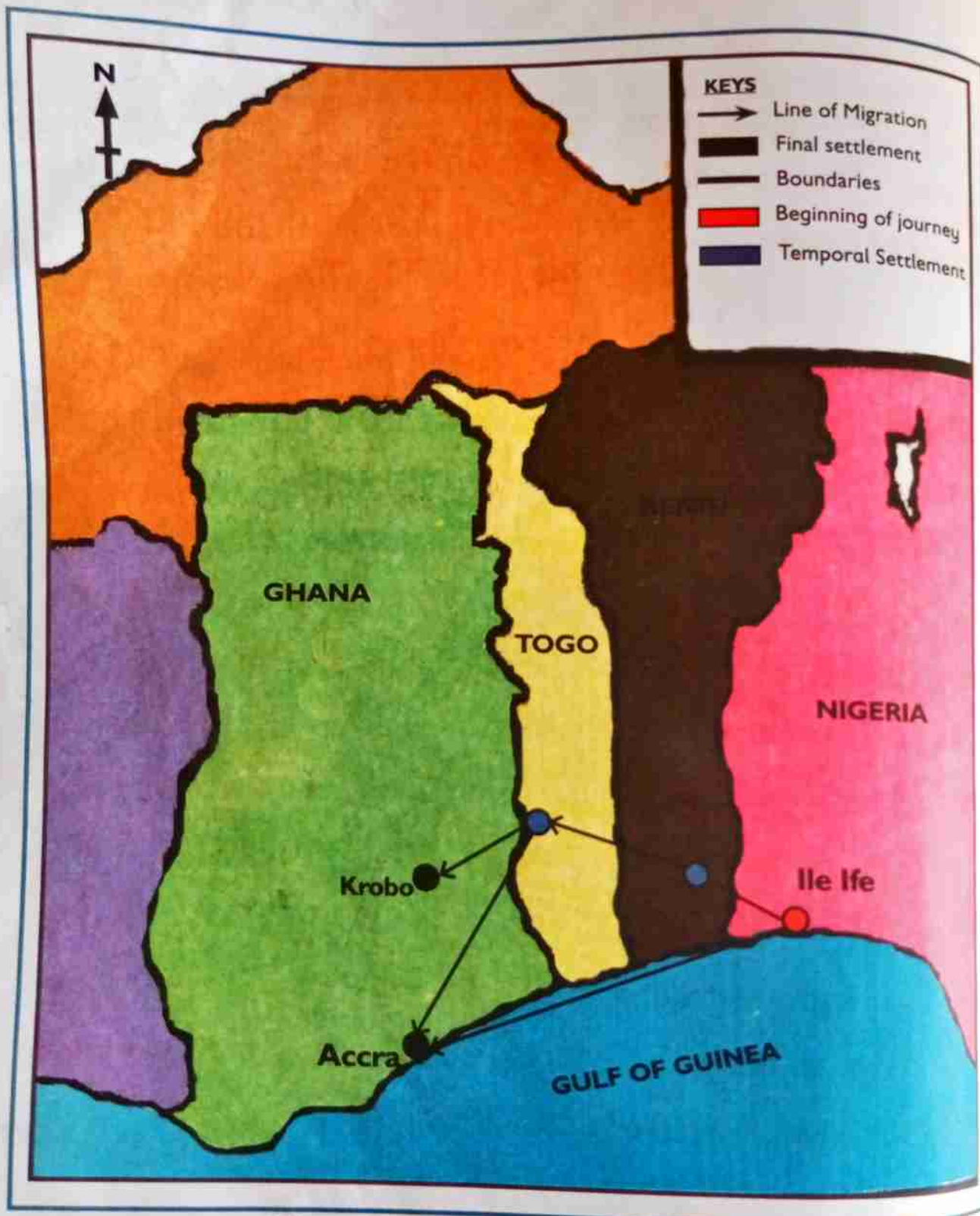
The Ga-Adangme ethnic group is found along the coast of Ghana. They are found in the Greater Accra and Eastern regions of Ghana.

Some of the sub-groups of the Ga-Adangme ethnic group are, Ga-Mashie, Nungua, Teshie, La, Krobo, Shai, Ada, Osudoku and Kpone.

The Ga-Adangme ethnic group is believed to have come from Ile Ife, a town in Nigeria. From Ile Ife, they moved to settle at Benin. After staying at Benin for sometime, the Ga-Adangme migrated to Togo. From Togo, they moved to settle in Ghana in two groups, the Ga group and the Adangme.

The Ga sub-group settled in the area of Accra, Teshie, James Town, Nungua etc. The Adangme sub-group settled along the coastal plains and built the Ladoku Kingdom.

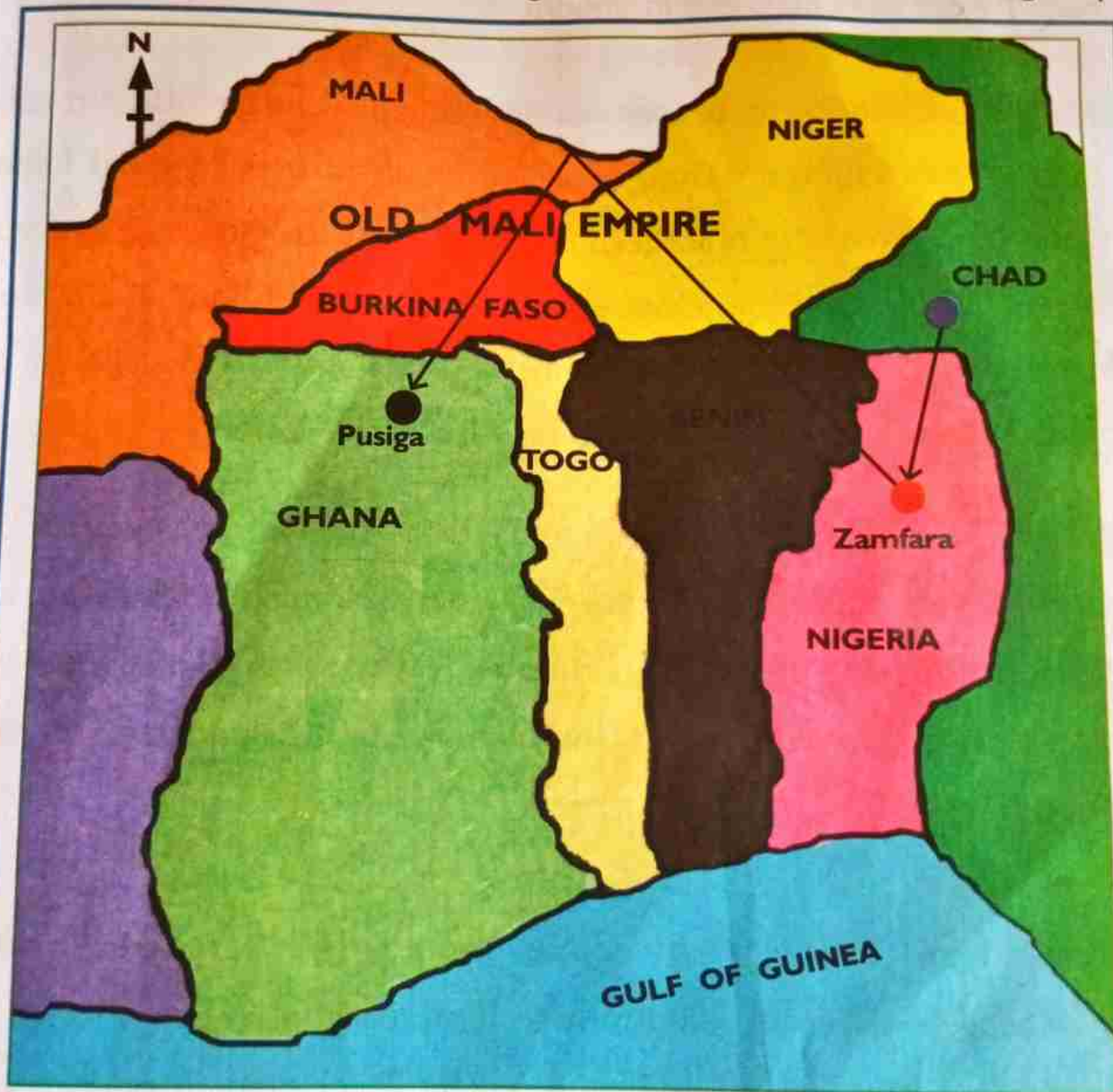




Migratory routes of the Ga-Adangme

### Mole-Dagbani Ethnic Group:

The Mole-Dagbani ethnic group is mostly found in the Northern, Savannah and North East regions of Ghana. The ethnic group



Migratory routes of the Mole-Dagbani



consists of sub-groups like Mamprusi, Dagomba, Nanumba etc. The Mole-Dagbani ethnic group is believed to have come from a region East of Lake Chad in Sudan.

They were led by a brave warrior called Tohazie also known as the "Red Hunter". They travelled from an area around Lake Chad to Zamfara in Northern Nigeria. After staying at Zamfara for sometime, the Mole-Dagbani migrated to the Old Mali Empire. From there, the Mole-Dagbani moved to Ghana to settle at a place called Pusiga in the Upper East Region of Ghana.

When Tohazie (the "Red Hunter") died, he was succeeded by his son Naa-Gbewaa. Naa-Gbewaa was also succeeded by Zirile, his eldest son. When Zirile died, there was a dispute over who should succeed him. This brought a division among the Mole-Dagbani.

Hence, the brothers of Zirile went their separate ways to establish different kingdoms. For example, the Mamprusi sub-group was founded by Tohogu. The Dagomba Kingdom was founded by Sitobu while the Nanumba kingdom was founded by Mantambu.

### Guan Ethnic Group:

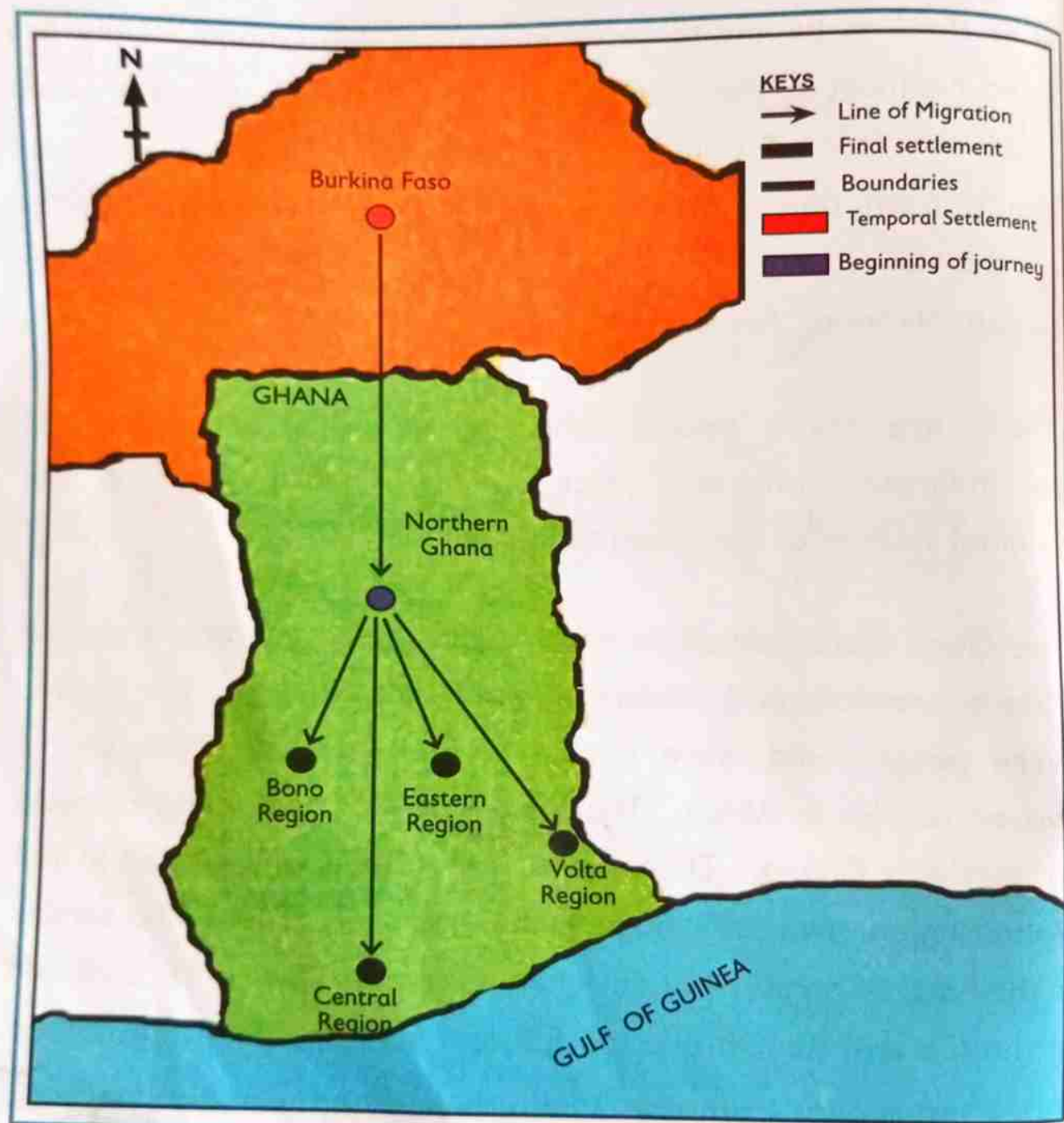
The Guan ethnic group is believed to have migrated from a place in the present day Burkina Faso. They are believed to be the first people to settle in present day Ghana. They are found in almost all the regions in Ghana. This is because the Guan could not form one big kingdom. They lived in separate groups from one another. Examples of sub-groups that make up the Guan ethnic group are, Anum, Effutu, Kyerepong, Larteh, Nkonya, Awutu and Senya.

There are some people who believe that the Guan did not migrate from any place. They regard them as the original settlers of the present day Ghana.

The Guan were pushed to other parts of the country when the Mande warriors and traders entered the country. The Mande were people who were known to be the first producers of woven textiles in Africa. There were some Guan who remained in northern Ghana. There were some Guan who settled in the Volta Region, such as Nkonya, Likpe, Lolobi etc. Those who settled in the Eastern Region include Anum, Okere and Boso. Those found in the Central Region are the Effutu, Awutu, Senya and others. There are groups from the Guan ethnic group who can be found in the Bono, Bono East, Ahafo and Western regions of Ghana.



The languages and other cultural practices of the Guan have been influenced by the environment and other sub-groups living with them.

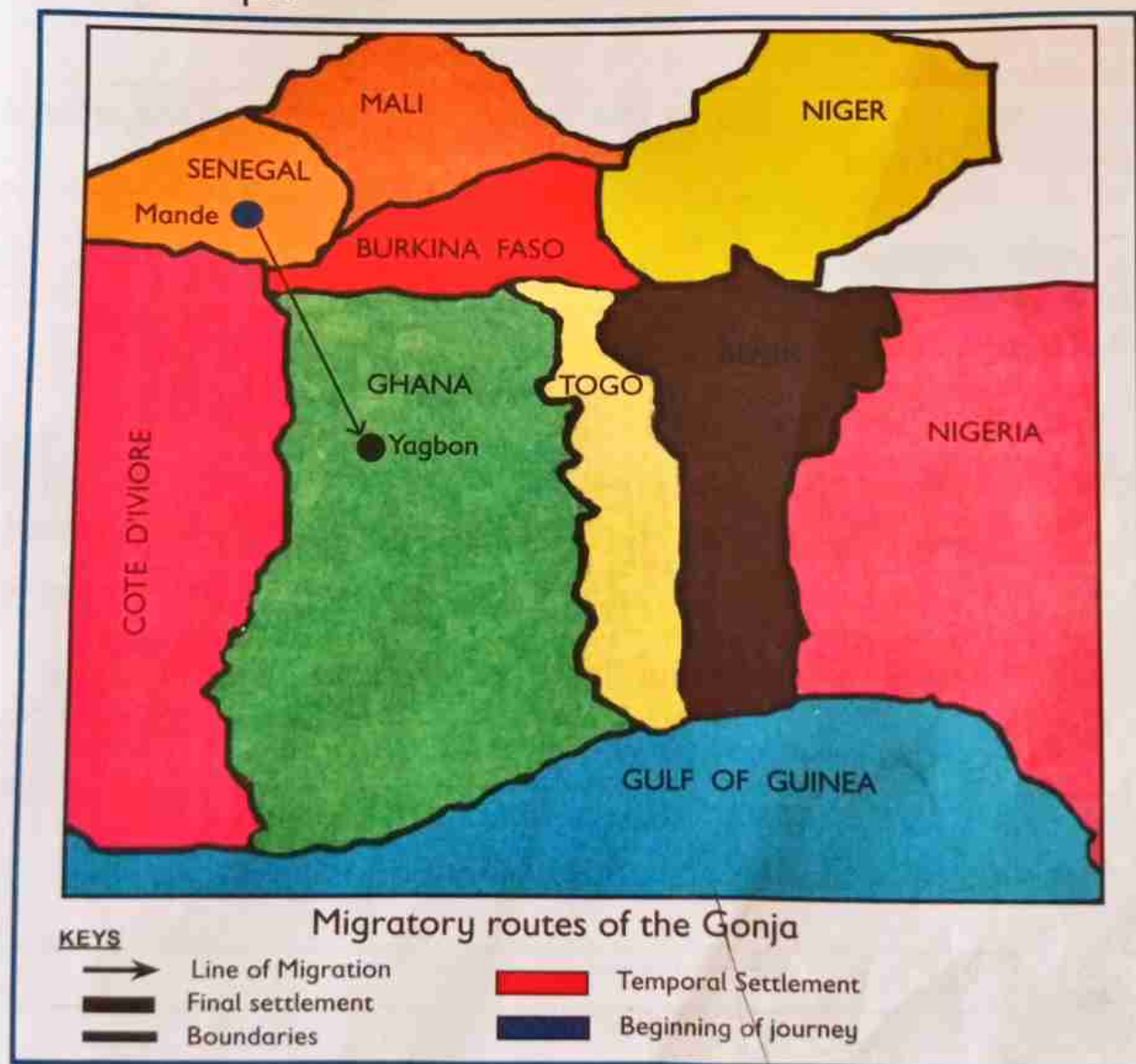


Migratory routes of the Guan

### Gonja Ethnic Group:

Gonja Ethnic Group is one of the major ethnic groups found in the northern part of Ghana. It is believed that Gonja people come from Mande in present day Senegal. From Senegal, they moved to settle in the northern part of Ghana. Some of the places they stayed were Bole, Savelugu, Yagbon, Yapei, Salaga and Buiepe.

The Gonja Ethnic Group were led by a brave warrior called Ndewura Jakpa.





### Activity: 1

In small group discussions, name some of the major ethnic groups in Ghana.

Discuss their origin or where they migrated from.

### Activity: 2

Group yourselves into four groups and compose a song with names of the major ethnic groups and where they originated from.

### Activity: 3

Using the internet, locate the migratory routes of the ethnic groups in Ghana.

### Learner practice 1

Date: ...../...../20.....

Answer the following questions.

1. What is an ethnic group?

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2. Which ethnic group is found in almost all the regions in Ghana?

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3. State the major ethnic groups in Ghana?

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_

- d. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_
- f. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Nzema, Kwahu, Bono and Asante belong to which ethnic group? \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Guan
- b. Akan
- c. Ga-Adangme

5. The Okere, Effutu and Awutu belong to which ethnic group? \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Guan
- b. Akan
- c. Mole – Dagbani

### Learner practice 2

Date: ...../...../20.....

Answer the following questions.

1. Which of these is the largest ethnic group in Ghana? \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Akan
- b. Mole-Dagbani
- c. Ga

2. The Volta Region of Ghana is the home of the \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Gonja
- b. Ewe
- c. Akan



3. The Ewe ethnic group came from a place called \_\_\_\_\_
- a. Ada
  - b. Notsie
  - c. Tafo
4. The wicked King who treated the Ewe badly was called \_\_\_\_\_
- a. Nana Osei Tutu
  - b. Togbui Sri
  - c. King Agorkoli
5. Gonja people migrated from \_\_\_\_\_
- a. Abuja in Nigeria
  - b. Mande in Senegal
  - c. Oyo State in Nigeria

**Learner practice 3**

**Date:** ...../...../20.....

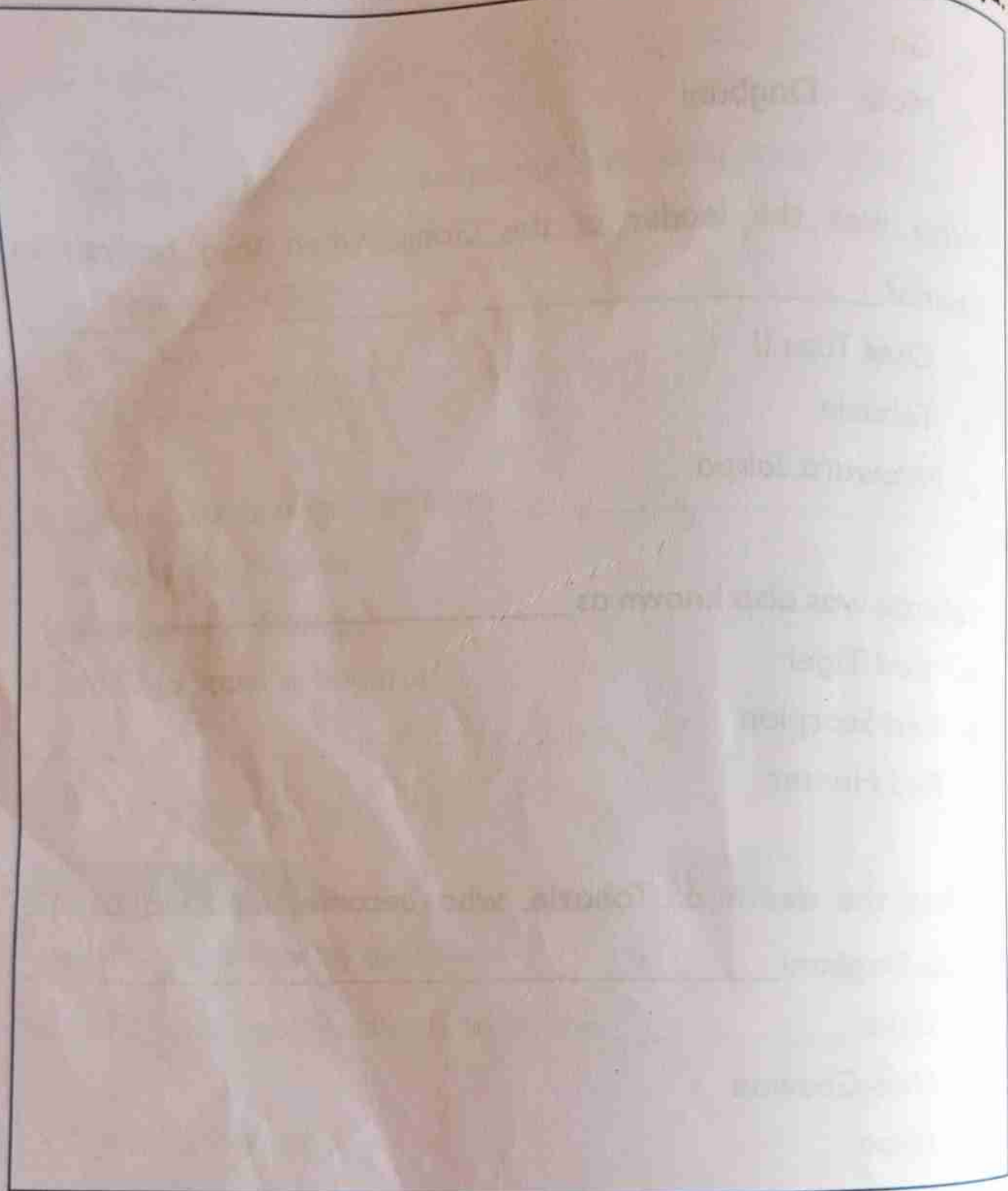
Answer the following questions.

1. The Ewe language is spoken by the \_\_\_\_\_
- a. Akan
  - b. Ga-Adangme
  - c. Ewe

2. The Anlo and Peki belong to which ethnic group?\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. Ewe
  - b. Ga
  - c. Mole – Dagbani
3. Who was the leader of the Gonja when they arrived in Ghana?\_\_\_\_\_.
- a. Osei Tutu II
  - b. Tohazie
  - c. Ndewura Jakpa
4. Tohazie was also known as \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. Red Tiger
  - b. Red Scorpion
  - c. Red Hunter
5. After the death of Tohazie, who became the King of the Mole-Dagbani\_\_\_\_\_.
- a. Zirile
  - b. Naa-Gbewaa
  - c. Jakpa



Draw a map and locate the migratory routes of the Gonja.



Answer the following questions.

1. The Mole-Dagbani are found in the Northern part of Ghana.

a. True

b. False

2. Dagbani is a language spoken by which ethnic group? \_\_\_\_\_

a. Guan

b. Mole-Dagbani

c. Ga – Adangme

3. The Ada, Krobo and Ningo are part of the \_\_\_\_\_ ethnic group.

a. Ga – Adangme

b. Guan

c. Ewe



4. Some of the Gonja settled in one of the following places \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Savelugu
- b. Notsie
- c. Takyiman

5. All the people who settled in present day Ghana came from other places \_\_\_\_\_

- a. True
- b. False

6. Which of the following sub-group is found in the coastal area of Ghana? \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Gonja
- b. Effutu
- c. Asante

**STRAND**

**2**

# **MY COUNTRY GHANA**

## **Sub-Strand 2: INTER-GROUP RELATIONS**

### **CONTENT STANDARD:**

B3.2.2.1. Demonstrate knowledge of how inter-group alliances, conflicts and other exchanges.



# INTER-GROUP RELATIONS

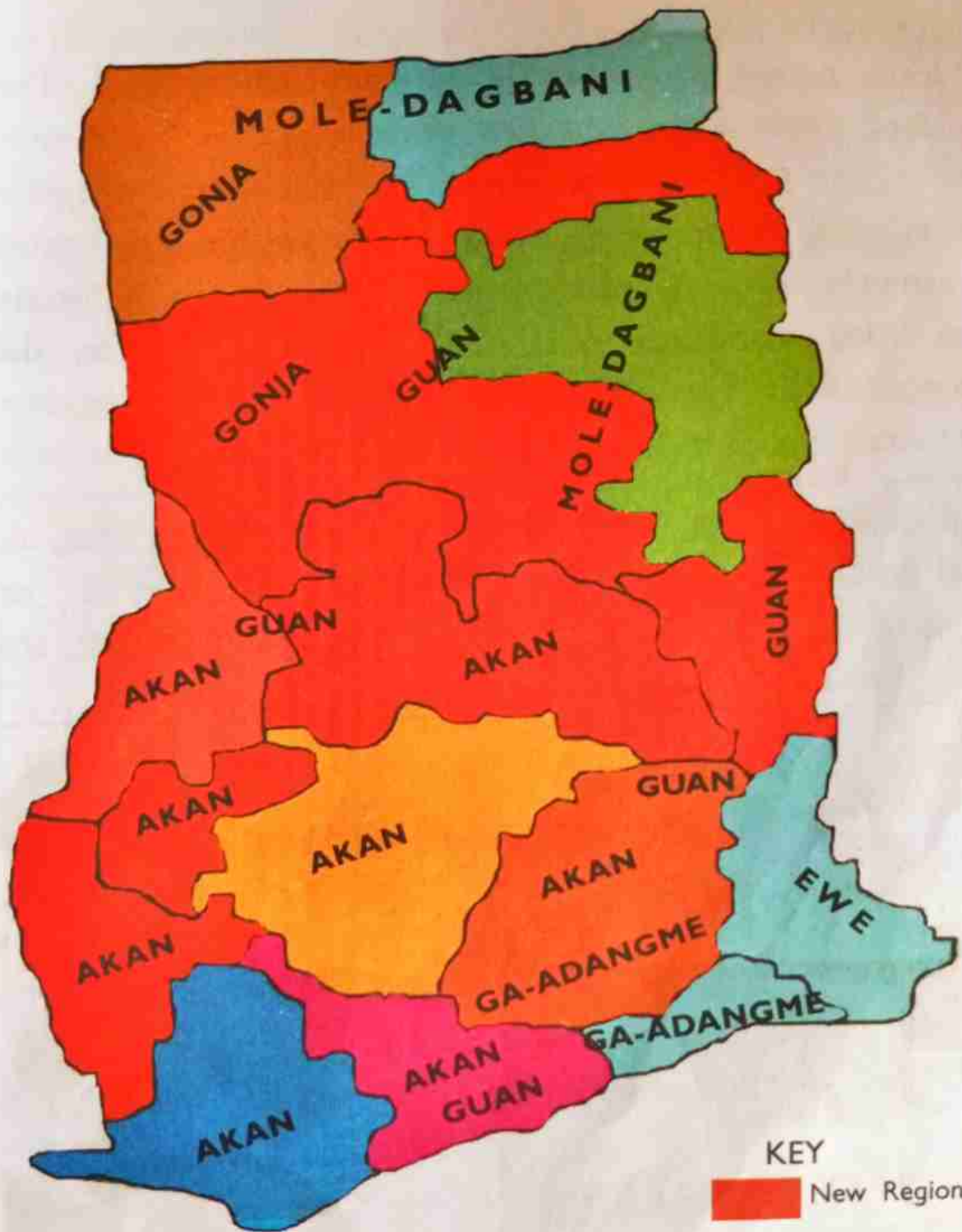
## Keywords

*Ethnic group, trade relation, conflict relation, inter-marriage, clans, pottery, shea butter, cowrie shells, medium of exchange, battle, overpowered, alliance, barter system, kingdom, self-sufficient, business partner, double coincidence of wants, adopted, bracelets, transaction, inconvenient, victorious, colonise*

There are many ethnic groups in Ghana. These ethnic groups have lived together as one people for a long time.

The ethnic groups have different cultural heritage. Before the Europeans came to Ghana, the local people lived in clans and kingdoms. They lived in peace and traded among themselves. However, each kingdom tried to protect itself from other kingdoms. The stronger kingdoms overpowered the weaker ones. When a kingdom won a battle, it took control over the other kingdom. It took control of their lands and all the things they had. For example, the Asante, Denkyira, Akwamu, Dagomba and Gonja were kingdoms that engaged in wars.

The smaller and weaker kingdoms also had to come together to protect themselves from the frequent attacks of the powerful kingdoms.



Ethnic Map of Ghana



## Trade Relations

The local people were mostly farmers and traders. They grew food crops and exchanged other things in the form of **barter system**. The barter system of trade was the type of trade in which goods were directly exchanged for other goods. For example, someone with plantain will exchange it for fish. Those living along the coast were fishermen. Hence, they exchanged their fishes for other things they needed such as shea butter, tomatoes and kola nut.

The people who lived in the forest regions grew crops. They also mined gold. For example, the Asante exchanged kola nut and gold with people in the northern part of Ghana for salt, shea butter, livestock etc.



Salt



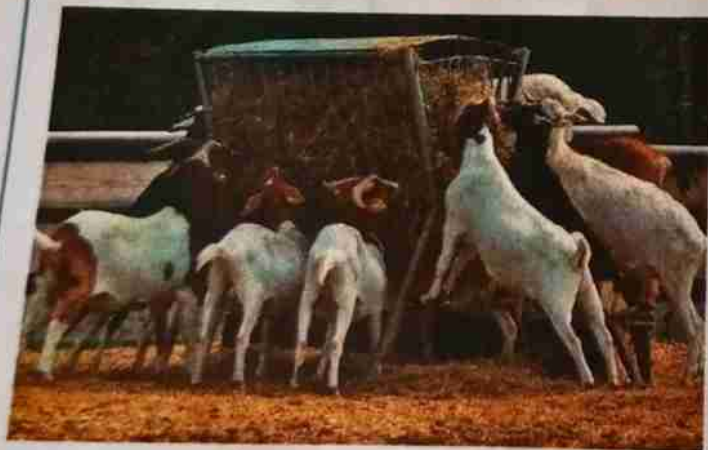
Beads



Shea butter



Pottery



Livestock



Kola nut



Fish

Items of trade



The people who lived in Northern Ghana traded in salt, livestock and shea butter. The people from the Volta Region were good in art and craft. They made pottery and beads. They exchanged these goods for the goods they needed.

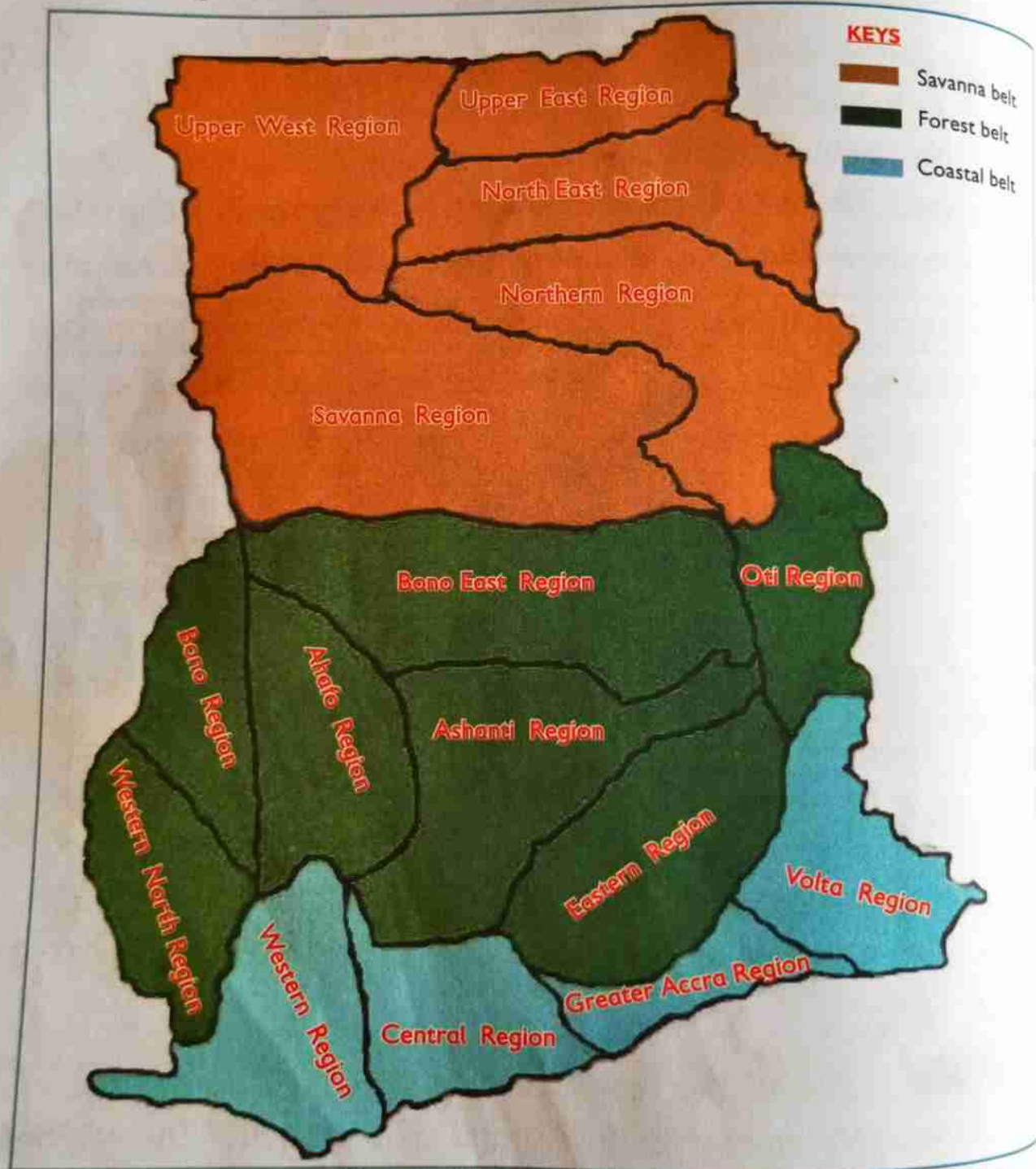
The items that were used in the trade among the various groups in Ghana helped to show the occupations of the ethnic groups. They also helped to understand the items that each ethnic group had. The exchanges of the items among the ethnic groups helped to show that Ghanaians were self-sufficient.

ITEMS OF EXCHANGE	SOURCES / AREAS THEY CAME FROM
Shea butter	Northern / Savanna belt
Gold	Forest / Middle belt
Salt	Northern / Savanna belt and Coastal belt
Kola nut	Forest / Middle belt
Fish	Coastal belt
Ivory	Northern / Savanna belt
Livestock	Northern / Savanna belt
Pottery	Coastal belt and Forest / Middle belt
Cotton	Forest / Middle belt
Beads	Coastal belt

The Northern / Savanna belt consists of people in the Northern, North East, Upper East, Savanna and Upper West regions of Ghana.

The Forest / Middle belt consists of people in the Bono East, Bono, Ahafo, Western North, Ashanti, Eastern and Oti regions of Ghana.

The Coastal belt consists of people found along the coast. They include people in the Western, Central, Volta and Greater Accra Regions of Ghana.



**Vegetational Map of Ghana**

STRAND 2: SUB-STRAND 2: INTER-GROUP RELATIONS



## The use of Cowrie Shells

The barter trade had its challenges. One of the common challenges with the barter system was double coincidence of wants. Traders from different parts of the country did not always have the goods their business partners needed for the exchange. For example, if an ethnic group from the northern part wanted gold from the Asante, then the people from the North should have commodities that the Asante needed. Exchange became very difficult if the people from the North failed to get the goods the Asante needed or vice versa. This problem led to the introduction of cowrie shells as a medium of exchange. The



**Cowrie Shells**

Arab traders from North Africa first introduced cowrie shells into the northern part of Ghana as medium of exchange. Hence, cowrie shells were first used by the people living in the northern



part Ghana as a medium of exchange. Later, they were adopted by all the other ethnic groups in Ghana as medium of exchange. For example, the Asante who used to exchange kola nut for salt with the people from northern part of Ghana changed the value of the kola nut to the value of cowrie shells. The cowrie shells were often threaded into bracelets. Strings were also used to pack the cowrie shells. Each string contained a total of forty (40) cowries. Hence, 40 cowries made 1 string. 50 strings made 1 head (2,000 cowries). 10 heads made 1 bag (20,000 cowries).

However, it became very difficult and inconvenient to count cowries when large sums were needed for transaction. This led to the introduction of other mediums of exchange.

Today, money is used as the medium of exchange in Ghana. The money or currency used in Ghana is the Ghana Cedi and Ghana Pesewa. The name cedi was derived from the Akan word 'sedex' (cowrie). The Pesewa represents the smallest quantity of gold dust. Pesewa was chosen to replace the British colonial Penny.

## Social and Cultural Relations

Members of the ethnic groups in Ghana interact with one another, thereby influencing each other. Each ethnic group has a particular way of life. However, the way of life of one group influenced the way of life of another group. For example, the Ewe found in the Eastern Region were influenced by the Akan living there. They speak the Akan language, enjoy the Akan meal and traditions.

The language of the various Guan ethnic groups was also affected. As the groups moved from one place to another, they met other groups of people who influenced them. The Guan along the coast, like the Effutu and Awutu speak a language that has been influenced by the Akan who are located along the coast.

The Gonja found in the Bono area also speak languages similar to the Akan.

## Inter-Marriage

There were inter-marriages among the different ethnic groups. People from one ethnic group would marry someone from a different ethnic group. The story of Dode Akaibi is an example.

She was the Princess of Obutu from the Awutu ethnic group. She was given out in marriage to the king of the Ga, Mampoma Okai. She later became the leader of the Ga when her husband died. She is believed to have reduced the authority of the King. She reduced the power of the Wulomo (traditional priest) to spiritual matters. It is believed that she introduced the sitting on stools in the Ga Kingdom.

Through this inter-ethnic marriages, there existed peaceful relationships among the different ethnic groups.

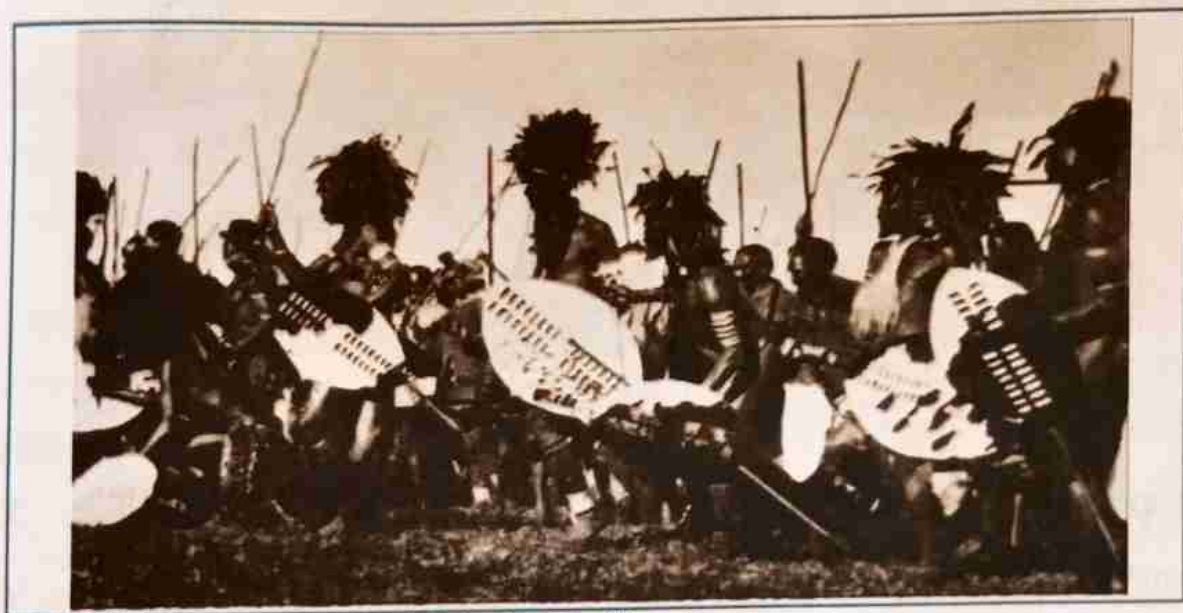
### Conflict Relations

There had been conflict situations among the ethnic groups in Ghana for many years. This is because, each sub-group wanted to protect itself and its lands. The Asante had always wanted to protect themselves from the Denkyira and other sub-groups.

The Denkyira were very strong and controlled most of the Akan states. The Asante wanted to free themselves from their control. They fought at Feyiase, a town in the Ashanti Region and the Denkyira were defeated. They called that conflict “the Battle of Feyiase”.



The Asante went on to fight other groups including the Dormaa, Akwamu, Dagomba and Gonja. They were victorious in those battles. The Asante also fought and defeated Krepi (Peki) in the Volta Region. The Asante became powerful and controlled most parts of the Gold Coast. They even resisted the European traders who wanted to colonise the whole of the country.



Ethnic conflict scene

## Alliances

Some ethnic groups formed alliances with other groups to fight their enemies. For example, sub-groups like the Fante, Denkyira, Ga, Akyem and Krepi formed alliance to fight the Asante. This group also had the support of the British who

were located on the coast. They fought the Asante in the battle of “Akutamanso”. The Asante were defeated and they lost control of most of the people under them.



The Akutamanso war

The people of Akwamu and the Asante were strong allies. They formed alliance and fought in many wars. One of the wars they fought was the “Krepi War” in 1833. In this war the Dutch formed alliance with the Ewe army to fight against the Asante who had formed alliance with people of Akwamu.

The Asante were defeated to the extent that the then Asante King Otumfour Kofi Karikari decided to withdraw from the war. He then ordered the leaders of the Asante army to abandon the Krepi War.



## The Benefits of the Exchanges among the ethnic groups

The exchanges among the ethnic groups were beneficial to the ethnic groups in the following ways;

1. The exchanges helped the ethnic groups to get the food they needed for survival. For example, through the exchanges, the ethnic groups located in the forest and savanna belt got fish from those in the coastal belt.
2. The exchanges brought peaceful relationship among the various ethnic groups. For example, inter-marriages enhanced the relationship between the ethnic groups.
3. The exchanges helped the weak ethnic groups to fight their enemies. Through ethnic alliances, some ethnic groups were able to fight and defeat their enemies.
4. The exchanges enhanced trade among the various ethnic groups. This improved the economic lives of the ethnic groups.

### Activity: 1

In small groups discussion, mention the trade items that were exchanged among the ethnic groups: fish, salt, gold, kola, shea butter, pottery, cloth and iron utensils.

### Activity: 2

Discuss with your friends the form of alliances that existed among the ethnic groups.



### Activity: 3

Form alliances with your friends and role-play a battle scene.

#### Learner practice 1

Date: ...../...../20.....

Answer the following questions.

1. The form of trade where goods were exchanged for other goods was called .....
  - a. Barter
  - b. Market
  - c. Sales
2. Dode Akaibi married a Ga King known as .....
  - a. Nii Armah
  - b. Mampon Okai
  - c. Okai Kwei
3. The Battle of Feyiase was between the .....
  - a. Asante and Ga
  - b. Denkyira and Gonja
  - c. Asante and Denkyira
4. Match the items with the areas where they were obtained.....

a.	Fish
b.	Shea butter
c.	Kola nut

Northern belt
Forest belt
Coastal belt

Choose the correct answer from the alternatives.

1. All the people living in the Gold Coast had the same culture \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. True  
b. False
2. The local people of Gold Coast imported raw materials for production. \_\_\_\_\_  
a. True  
b. False
3. The local people who lived in the forest region were mostly \_\_\_\_\_  
a. Fish farmers  
b. Pastors  
c. Crop farmers
4. The Europeans came to the Gold Coast to trade in salt \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. True  
b. False

Choose the correct answer from the alternatives.

1. Who is believed to have introduced the sitting on stools in the Ga kingdom? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Yaa Asantewaa
  - b. Dode Akaibi
  - c. Mampon Okai
2. Peki is a town found in the \_\_\_\_\_ Region of Ghana.
  - a. Volta
  - b. Ashanti
  - c. Central
3. The Awutu and Effutu belong to the \_\_\_\_\_ ethnic group of Ghana.
  - a. Akan
  - b. Guan
  - c. Ga
4. Dode Akaibi was the first female leader of the Ga people \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. True
  - b. False
5. The name "cedi" was derived from the Akan word \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Sedee
  - b. Sika



Answer the following questions.

1. What is barter trade?

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2. Name two (2) items that were traded in the northern part of Ghana.

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3. The battle of Akatamanso was fought between the Asante and the \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Draw and colour a pottery made by the ancient Ghanaian.  
Discuss your work with the person sitting beside you.



Choose the correct answer from the alternatives.

1. Which of the following items was exchanged by the people in the forest belt? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. fish
  - b. shea butter
  - c. kola nut
  
2. The system of trade among the local people was called \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Credit
  - b. Barter
  - c. Sales
  
3. The local people living in the northern part of Ghana traded in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. fish
  - b. salt
  - c. Kola nut
  
4. Which part of Ghana was cowries shells first introduced as medium of exchange. \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. northern belt
  - b. coastal belt
  - c. forest belt
  
5. In the Krepi War in 1833, the Asante formed alliance with the people of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Nzema
  - b. Akwamu
  - c. Anlo



**STRAND**

**2**

# **MY COUNTRY GHANA**

**Sub-Strand 4: MAJOR HISTORICAL LOCATIONS**

**CONTENT STANDARD:**

**B3.2.4.1. Demonstrate knowledge of the forts and castles built in Ghana.**

## FORTS AND CASTLES IN GHANA

### Keywords

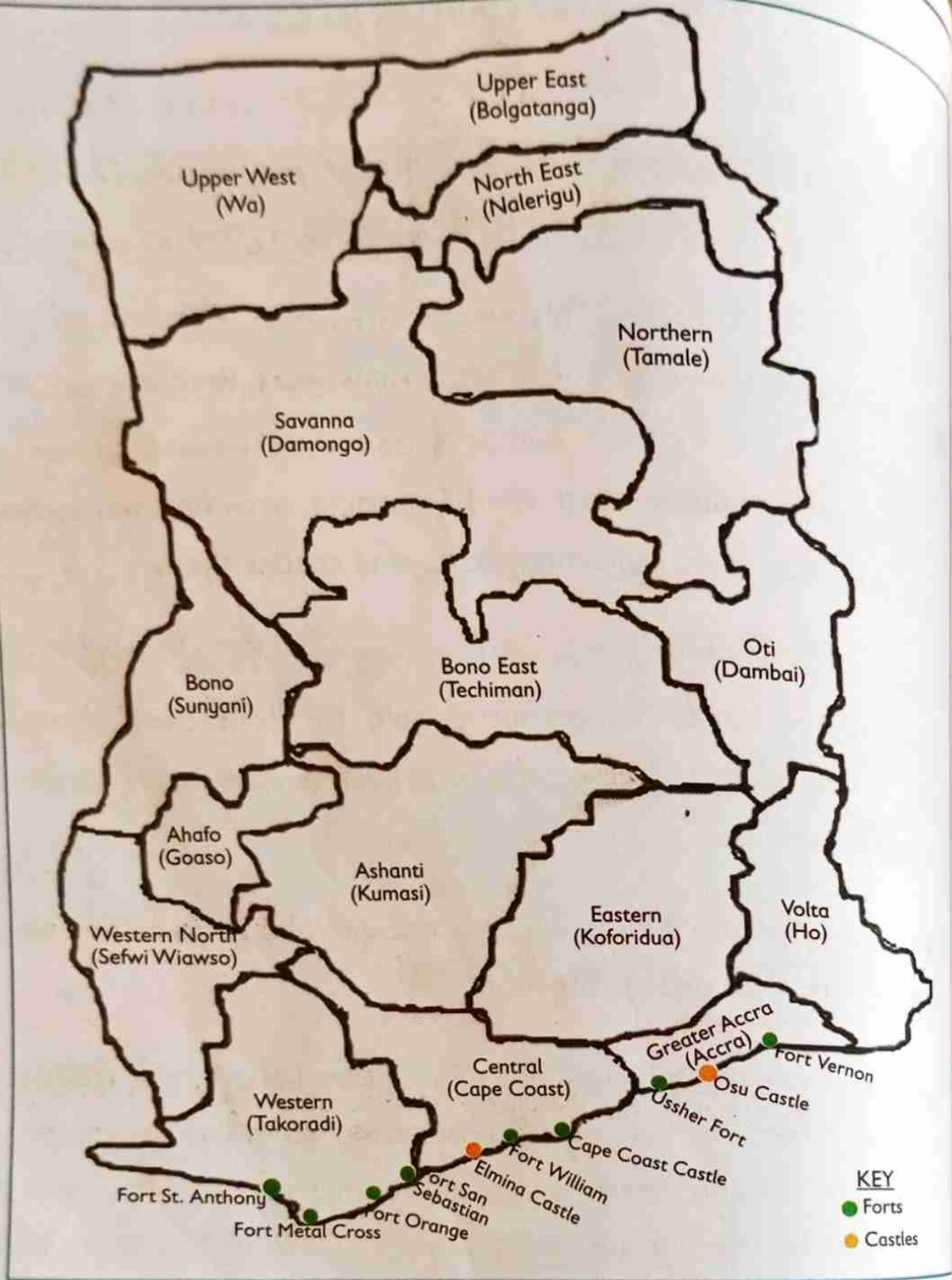
*Fort, castle, Europeans, governor, officials, tourist site, trading post, dungeon, Governor-General, a republic*

Ghana is rich in gold. This wealth attracted the Europeans to come and trade with the local people for the precious stone. The Europeans came in their numbers and they needed places to stay and trade. Since most of the trading activities were done along the coast, they built many forts and castles there.

A castle is a large building with strong walls built in the past by a king or other important people for protection against attack. This means that castles are built purposely to protect important people.

A fort is a fortified building which is occupied by soldiers as their permanent post to offer protection.

While the European officials and Governors lived in the castles they built forts for their soldiers or army to offer protection. The coast of Ghana has many of these structures. They were built to enable the Europeans to have a peaceful trade in the Gold Coast.



A Map of Ghana showing the locations of some Forts and Castles

STRAND 2: SUB-STRAND 4: MAJOR HISTORICAL LOCATIONS



### Elmina Castle:

The Portuguese were the first European to come to the Gold Coast (Ghana). They arrived in 1471 and built a castle in 1482. They named it Sao Jorge da Mina (St. George of the Mine). It was used as a trading post for goods. Later, slaves who were waited to be transported to Europe and the Americas were kept in the castle.

In 1642, the Dutch seized the castle from the Portuguese and took over all the things the Portuguese had in Gold Coast. Elmina Castle is now a World Heritage Site for United Nation Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).



Elmina Castle located in Elmina, Central Region of Ghana.

### Cape Coast Castle:

The Cape Coast Castle is located in the Central Region of Ghana. It was originally built by the Swedes as a lodge in 1653. It was originally called Carolusborg Forts which was named in honour of the Swedish King, Charles X.

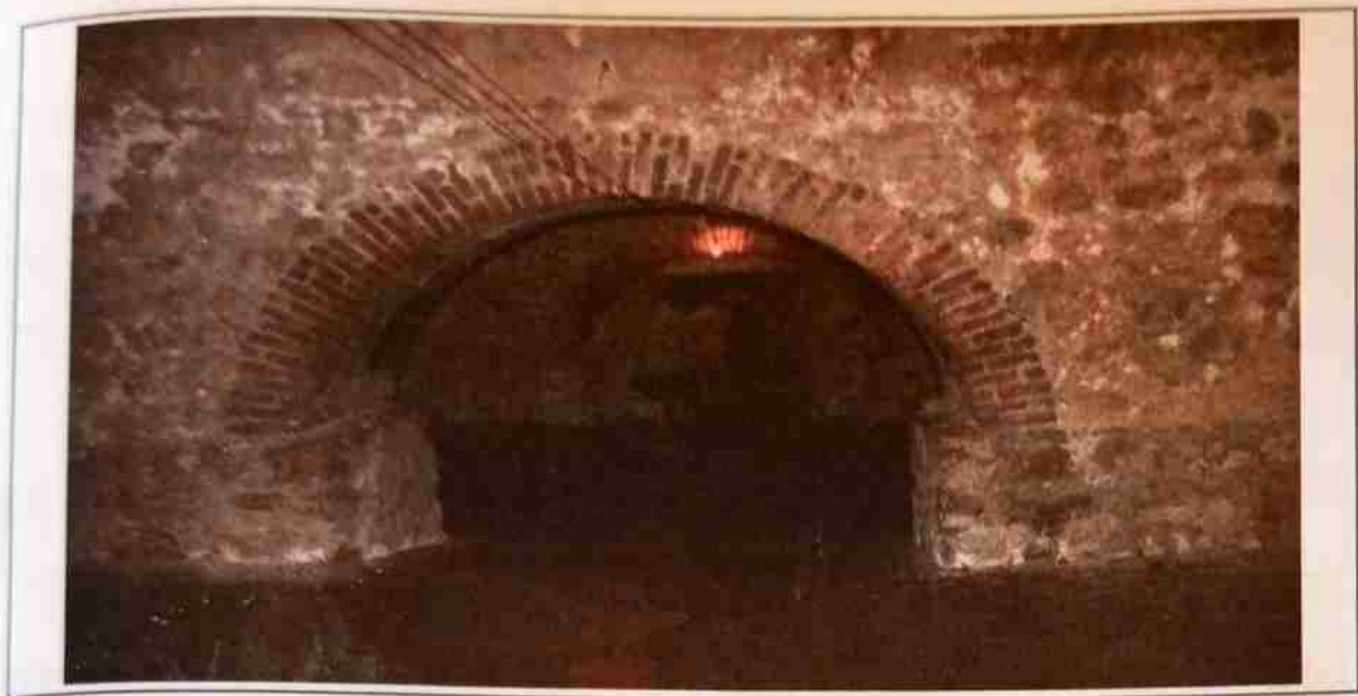
The Dutch later seized the fort from the Swedes and took control over all the things in it.

In 1664, the British staged a war against the Dutch and defeated them. Hence, the British captured the fort and rebuilt it into a castle. Therefore, the Cape Coast Castle was built by the British.



Cape Coast Castle/ (Carolusborg)





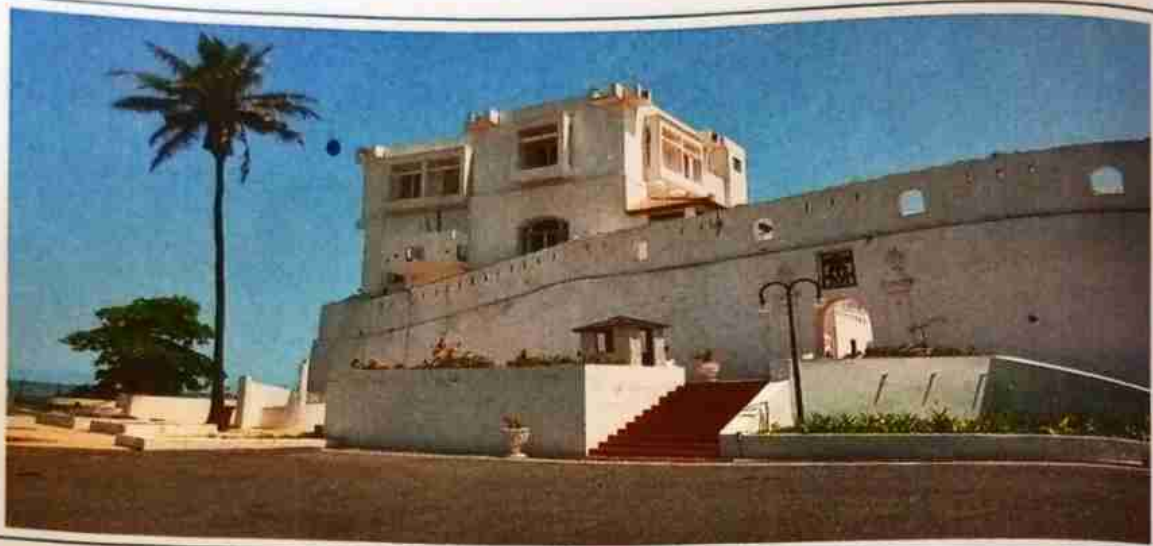
Inside the dungeon

The French also made an attempt to take over from the British but they could not do so. The castle was strengthened and it became the centre of government for the British in the Gold Coast. It was handed over to the government of Ghana after independence in 1957. It now serves as a tourist site to visitors.

### Osu Castle/Christiansborg:

The Osu Castle is also known as Christiansborg Castle. It was built by the Danes in 1660. It is located in Osu, in the Greater Accra Region. It was first used in the trading of gold and ivory but it was later used as a slave post. Its original name was Fort Christiansborg, named after the King of Denmark, King Christian V.





Osu Castle

In 1680, the Fort's assistant commander fought and took control from his commander. He sold it to a Portuguese Commander called Julio de Campos Barreto. Barreto renamed the fort, Fort Sao Francisco Xavier, after a Catholic missionary, Francis Xavier. The Portuguese built a church inside the fort.

The Portuguese left in 1682 and the Danes took control of it in 1683. Fort Christiansborg was made the capital of the Denmark in the Gold Coast.

An Akwamu trader called Asomani took over the castle in 1693. He sold it back to the Danes after a year. The fort was expanded to about four times its original size. In 1850, the British bought Christiansborg Castle from the Danes. The castle later became the seat of the British colonial government. After

independence, the Governor-General still lived in it until 1960. When Ghana became a republic, Osu Castle became the official residence of Ghana's first President Dr. Kwame Nkrumah. It remained the seat of government until a new Presidential Palace was built in 2006.

### Ussher Fort:

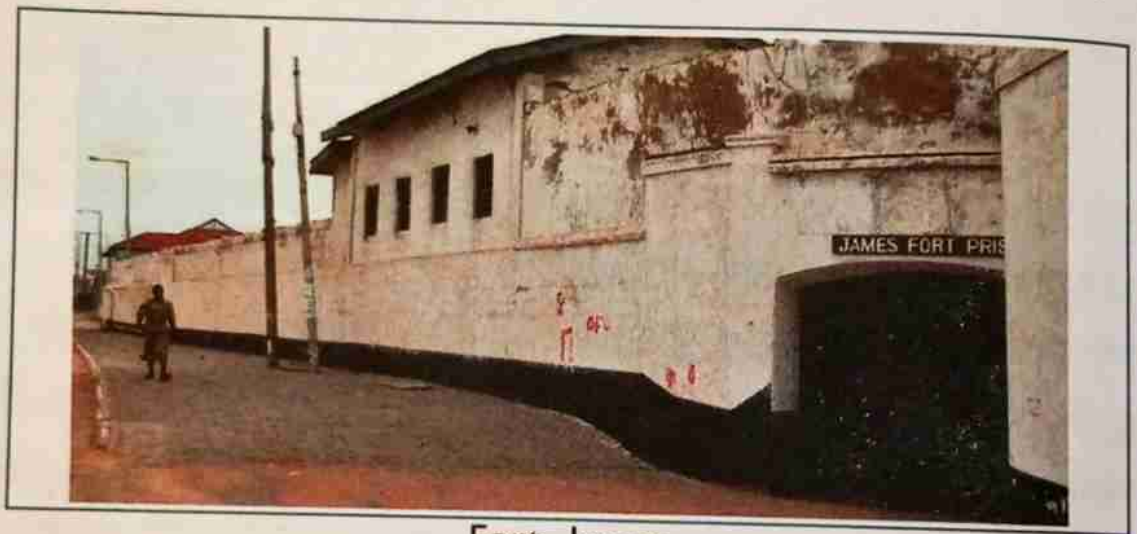
This fort is located in Accra, Ghana. It was built as a simple structure in 1642 by the Dutch (Holland). It was expanded to its present state in 1649 and given the name, Crevecoeur. The name was changed to Ussher Fort when the British took over from the Dutch. The Fort was named after the British Administrator of the Gold Coast, Herbert Taylor Ussher.



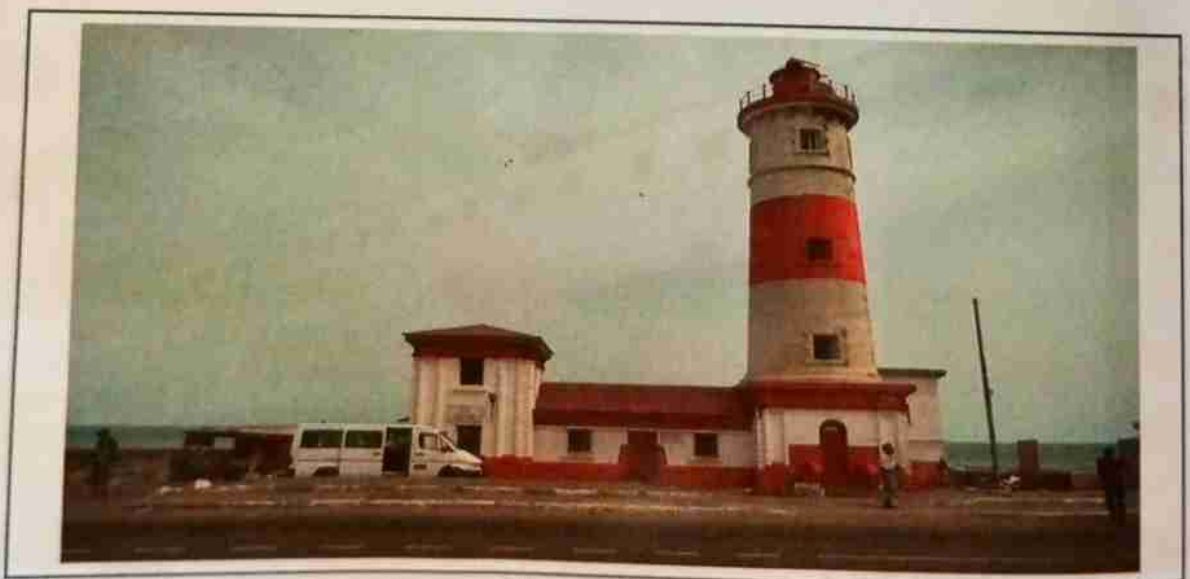
Ussher Fort

### James Fort:

This is a fort built by the British in 1673. It is located in Accra, Ghana. It was used as a trading post. The area around James Fort was called James Town. A lighthouse was built in James Town to provide light for the trading activities that took place at James Fort. James Fort later served as a prison until 2008.



Fort James



James Town Light House

STRAND 2: SUB-STRAND 4: MAJOR HISTORICAL LOCATIONS



### Fort St. Jago:

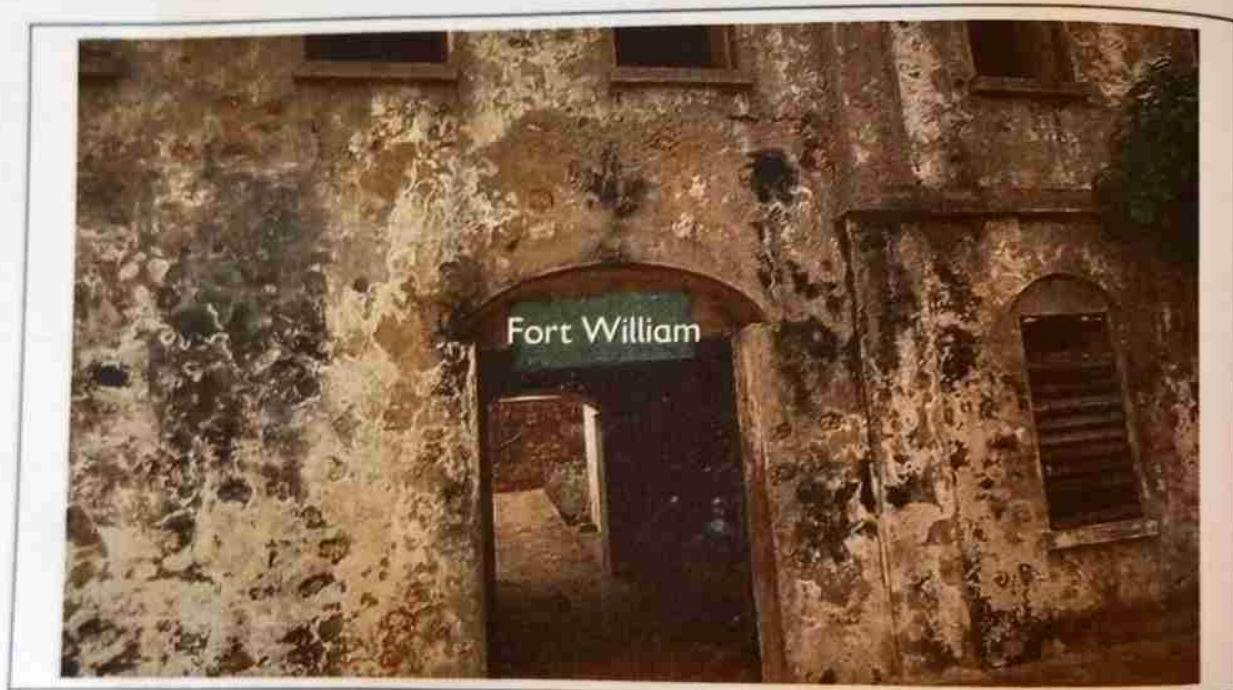
This fort was built by the Portuguese in 1558. It is located some distance from the Elmina Castle on a hill. It was to serve as a place where European convict were disciplined. It was later used as a watch tower over the Elmina Castle. People were stationed there to protect the Elmina Castle from enemy attacks.



Fort St. Jago

### Fort William:

Fort William is located in the coastal town of Anomabu in the Central Region of Ghana. The Dutch built this fort in 1640 for trading. The fort came under several attacks from the Danes, Swedes, French and the British. The Asante and the local people of Anomabu also attacked and occupied the fort. It was rebuilt by the British in 1756.



Fort William

There are several forts and castles built by the European traders along the coast of Ghana. Some are still in good shape presently. There are others which have not been given any proper attention.

## Some of the forts and castles in Ghana:

Fort/Castle	Town/ Location	Region	Built by	Purpose
Fort St. Anthonio	Axim	Western Region	Portuguese (1503)	As a trading post then converted into a fort to protect their trade.
Fort St. Sebastian	Shama	Western Region	Portuguese (1526)	To protect Portuguese trade from British ships.
Fort Amsterdam	Abandze	Central Region	English (1631)	It was to serve as a lodge but later converted to a fort after being destroyed by fire.
Fort Batenstein	Butre	Western Region	Dutch (1656)	As a trading post.
Fort. Friederichsburg	Princes Town	Western Region	Brandenburgers in 1682 (Germany)	As a trading post.
Fort Metal Cross	Dixcove	Western Region	British (1698)	As a trading post.
Fort Apollonia	Beyin	Western Region	English (1770)	As a trading post
Fort Patience	Apam	Central Region	Dutch (Holland) 1702	To protect their controlled area of Acorn.
Fort Orange	Sekondi	Western Region	Dutch (1704)	It was first used as a lodge by the Dutch but later converted into a fort.
Fort Good Hope	Senya Breku	Central Region	Dutch (1706)	It was to serve as a trading post for gold, ivory and slaves.



## DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CASTLES AND FORTS

Although castles and forts share certain common characteristics, there are differences between them. Let us study the differences.

One of the differences between castles and forts is that, castles serve as residence for governor and government officials while forts are occupied by the military.

Castles were built to serve many purposes such as residence and administration while forts were built for military purposes only.

Even though, castles and forts are all tall buildings, forts are more fortified or very strong buildings compared with castles.

Castles were built with the protection of officials in mind while forts were built with wars in mind.

## USES OF CASTLES AND FORTS

Castles and forts have been used for many different purposes since they were built in Ghana. Let us discuss some of their uses:

### Trading post:

Castles and forts were used as trading post by the Europeans. A trading post is a place where goods are bought and sold or exchanged. Examples of castles and forts that were used as trading post were Elmina Castle, Cape Coast Castle, Forts Metal Cross and others.

### Seat of Government:

Castles and forts were used by the Europeans as seat of government where administrative works were done. Examples of castles and forts that were used as seat of government included Christiansborg or Osu Castle and Fort Amsterdam.

### Education:

Some castles and forts were used as schools to educate the people of Gold Coast. For example, the Dutch later used Elmina Castle as a school. The British established a school in the Cape Coast Castle. The Danish also established a school at the Christiansborg Castle.

### Slave Post:

Castles and forts served as places where slaves were kept before being transported to Europe and the Americas. Some of the castles and forts that were used as slave post were Elmina Castle and Cape Coast Castle.

### Place of worship (Church):

The Europeans used some of the castles and forts as churches. For instance, the Portuguese had a church inside Fort St. Jago.

## CHANGES IN THE USES OF FORTS AND CASTLES IN GHANA

We have just learnt the uses of forts and castles in Gold Coast. However, after Ghana gained independence, the uses of forts and castles changed. Forts and castles in Ghana are now being used for different purposes. Below are some forts and castles and their current usage.

Fort Orange is now being used as a light house for the Ghana Ports and Harbour Authority. A light house is a tall building near the coast which has a flashing light on top to warn a ship of the dangers of rocks and others.

Some forts and castles currently serve as tourist sites for generating revenue for the government. They include Fort Amsterdam, Elmina Castle and Christiansborg Castle.

Some forts and castles have been used as prisons after independence. Ussher Fort was used as prison after independence until 1993. James Fort was also used as prison until 2008.

Cape Coast Castle and Elmina Castle now serve as a World Heritage Sites for United Nation Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).



Osu Castle / Christiansborg Castle was once used as the seat of the government of Ghana where all official duties took place.

Some forts and castles have been converted to museums where items such as old pictures of the slave trade are kept. Example is Cape Coast Castle.

### Activity: 1

Discuss with your friends the difference between forts and castles.

### Activity: 2

Using the internet, watch a documentary on the castles and forts built in Ghana.

### Activity: 3

Make a visit to one or two of the forts and castles closer to your community.

Retell the history of the forts and castles you visited.

Choose the correct answer from the alternatives.

1. Why did the Europeans come to the Gold Coast? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. to fight
  - b. to trade
  - c. to play
  
2. What mineral attracted the Europeans to the Gold Coast? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. gold
  - b. bauxite
  - c. manganese
  
3. When was the Elmina Castle built? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. 1471
  - b. 1925
  - c. 1482
  
4. The Elmina Castle was named by the Portuguese as \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. São Jorge da Mina
  - b. Coastal Castle
  - c. Edina Castle
  
5. The Europeans who came to the Gold Coast lived in castles and forts. \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. True
  - b. False

Your friend in Europe thought that the castles and forts built by the Europeans have been abandoned. How do you convince him or her that the castles and forts are still in use.



Choose the correct answer from the alternatives.

1. Which part of Ghana did the Europeans build their forts and castles? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Forest Regions
  - b. Coastal Regions
  - c. Northern Ghana
2. Which castle was the first to be built in Ghana? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Elmina Castle
  - b. Cape Coast Castle
  - c. Osu Castle
3. Which European nation built the first castle? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Britain
  - b. Portugal
  - c. Holland
4. The Cape Coast Castle was built by which European? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Portuguese
  - b. British
  - c. Swedes
5. The Carolusborg Castle was named after \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. King Charles X
  - b. Queen Elizabeth II
  - c. Prince Henry

Choose the correct answer from the alternatives.

1. Christiansborg Castle is also known as \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Elmina Castle
  - b. Osu Castle
  - c. Cape Coast Castle
  
2. The Osu Castle was named after \_\_\_\_\_ of Denmark.
  - a. King Charles X
  - b. King Christian V
  - c. Queen Elizabeth II
  
3. Ussher Fort was also known as \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Christiansborg
  - b. Carolusborg
  - c. Crevecoeur
  
4. Fort St. Jago was built to serve as a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Church
  - b. Barracks
  - c. Factory
  
5. The Osu Castle was first used in the trading of slave \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. True
  - b. False

Answer the following questions.

1a. What is a castle?

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1b. What is a fort?

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2. State any three uses of forts and castles since they were built?

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3. Name any two castles built by the Europeans.

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1. Draw and colour any one of the castles built by the Europeans and compare your work with your friend.

**STRAND**

**2**

# **MY COUNTRY GHANA**

**Sub-Strand 5: SOME SELECTED INDIVIDUALS**

**CONTENT STANDARD:**

B3.2.5.1. Describe the contributions of some outstanding Ghanaian entrepreneurs.

## SOME OUTSTANDING GHANAIAAN ENTREPRENEURS

### Keywords

*Entrepreneur, businessman, Brewery Company, export, manufacturer, merchant, Legislative Council, import, partnership, broker, pharmacist, canned food, resources, nutrition, technology, preservation, military, initiative, poverty, civil servant, yarns, tobacco, apprentice, commissioned, multi-national,*

The development of any country needs the contribution of her people. For a country to develop, the government has a role to play. The citizens of the country also have a role to play.

There are some Ghanaians who have played very important roles in the development of the country. The people we are going to discuss are known as entrepreneurs.

An entrepreneur is a person who organises and controls a business with the aim of making profit.

An entrepreneur puts resources together to produce goods for the purpose of making profit.

The following are some Ghanaian entrepreneurs who have helped in the development of the nation.



## Winfred Tete- Ansa

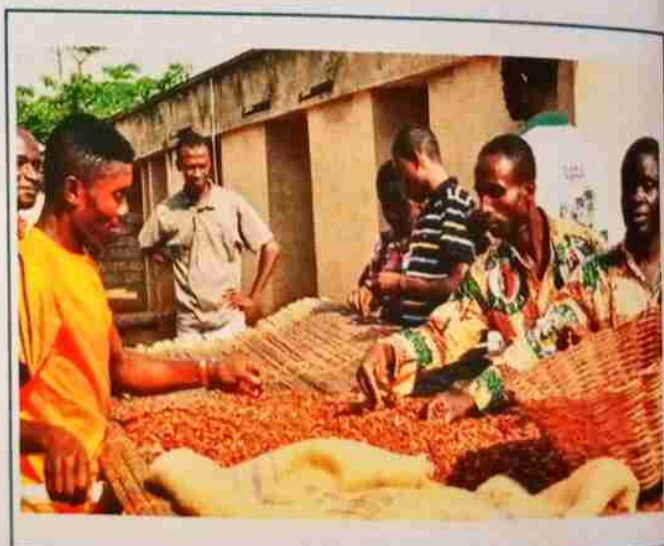
Tete-Ansa was a Ghanaian businessman based in Nigeria and the Gold Coast. He was determined to use his business ideas to help his people in the Gold Coast.

He helped farmers in the Gold Coast to sell their cocoa beans outside the country. He also set up a bank to offer financial support to businesses owned by Africans. He supported local businesses such as, timber, palm oil and other local raw material producers.

He did so because European banks were not giving financial support to African-owned businesses. He established a co-operative bank to help cocoa farmers. Through this, cocoa farmers were able to sell their cocoa beans outside the country.



A Co-operative bank



Cocoa farmers

## 2. Esther Ocloo

She was born as Esther Afua Nkulenu. She was a Ghanaian entrepreneur whose contribution was in the area of making small loans available to businesses. Esther Ocloo was born on 18th April, 1919 at Dzake Peki in the Volta Region of Ghana. She started Elementary School at Presbyterian Primary School at Peki.

Even though she came from a poor family background, she gained scholarship to study in Achimota School in the Greater Accra Region.

She travelled to England to study food technology, preservation and nutrition.



Esther Ocloo



After school she started a food processing business. This was the first formal food processing business in the Gold Coast. She produced marmalade and orange juice and supplied them to Achimota School. She later supplied some to the military. The business grew to be known as Nkulenu Industries.



Nkulenu canned food

She was one of the founders of the Women World Banking. She was the first chairperson for the board of the bank.

Nkulenu started producing canned foods. She produced canned tomato and soup bases.

Esther Ocloo worked in Ghana and in other international organisations. She spent a lot of time in trying to train women to be productive.



Esther Afua Ocloo assisted a lot of women to get small loans for their businesses. This helped a lot of women, especially those in the rural communities. A lot of women were able to provide for themselves and their families.

Her organisation, Women's World Bank, has helped millions of women to start and expand their businesses. Through this initiative, the rate of poverty was reduced.



Newspaper

### 3. B. A. Mensah

Mr. Benjamin Amponsah Mensah was born at Kumawu on 13th September, 1924.

He started working as a houseboy in Kumasi at the age of 12. He was later employed as a clerk with John Holt Limited. He also worked at the Rubber Production sector in the Agriculture Department as a civil servant. He enrolled in the Gold Coast Police Force after he lost his job in the civil service. He left the Police Service after being injured in the 1948 Riots.

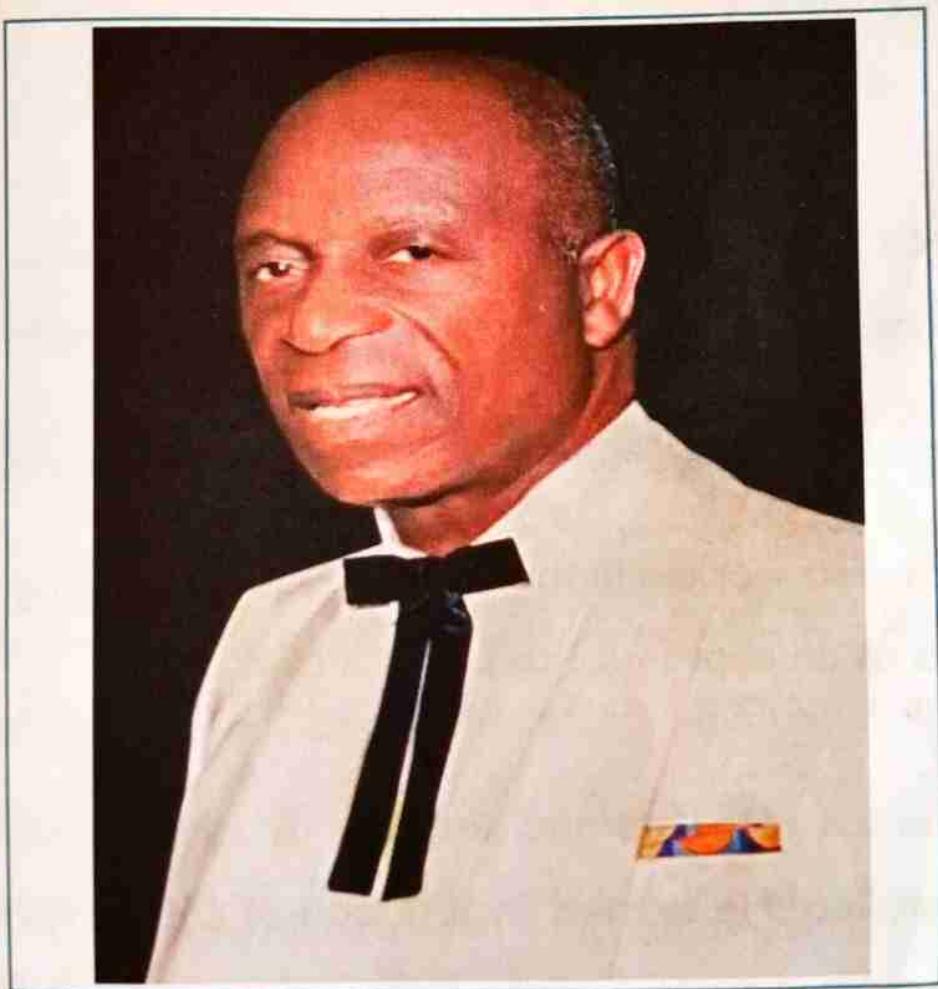
He worked for GB Ollivant for a short period after which he resigned to set up his own company. He set up B. A. Mensah and Company in 1951 as an importing and exporting company.

The company traded in carbolic soap, key soap, Henkes Aromatic Schnapps and EK Gin. It later included guns for farmers. B. A. Mensah also set up a Textile Spinning Works Limited, a company which produced Asante kente yarns. The company became the leading supplier of kente yarns in Ghana.

B. A. Mensah set up International Tobacco Ghana (ITC) in 1976. The business established farms in Ejura, Nkoranza,

Nsuta and Mampong. These farms were involved in the growing of tobacco for export. The farms were registered under the company's name of Leaf Development Company. They could export tobacco to Libya to the sum of US \$1.95 million.

All the businesses owned by B. A. Mensah, employed many Ghanaians. Goods that were produced were sold to Ghanaians and some exported to other countries.



B. A. Mensah



#### 4. J. K. Siaw

Joshua Kwabena Siaw was born at Obomeng, in the Eastern Region of Ghana, on 30th January, 1923.

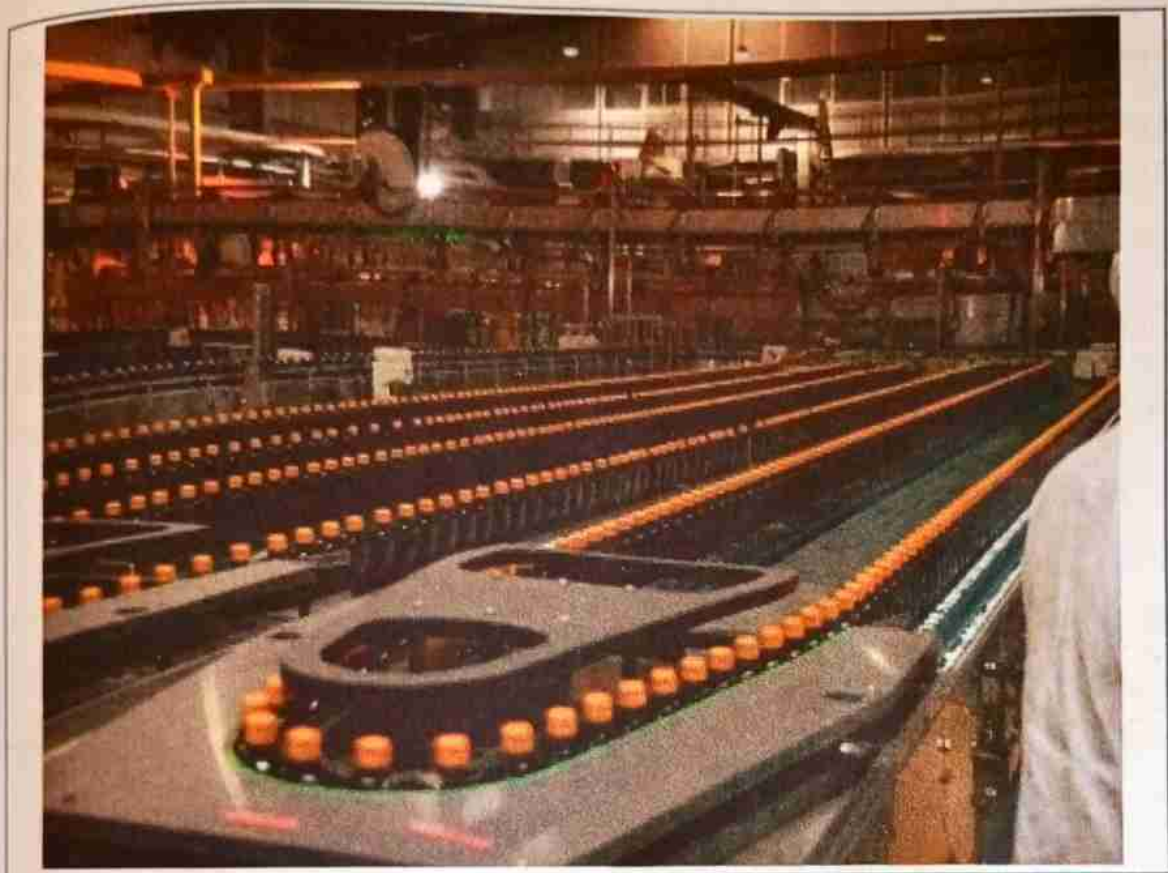
At the age of 12, he started weaving baskets for sale. The money he got was used to support his education. After completing his elementary education, he decided to go into teaching. He taught in schools such as Orthodox Mission School, Effiduase Banko, New Juaben Grammar School and Christ College, all in the Ashanti Region of Ghana.

Christ College was established by J. K. Siaw and his father. The school later became known as Ghana Secondary School in Effiduase in 1976.

J. K. Siaw also worked in the Bremeng Gold Dredging Company and also as an apprentice to a Pharmacist.

The business ideas he had, led him to start a business as a cocoa broker. He started with a loan of £50 at Kwahu Praso. He also started transporting cocoa and timber in 1954.

J. K. Siaw also imported enamelware. This business was stopped by the Kwame Nkrumah led government. The government placed a ban on the importation of those goods.

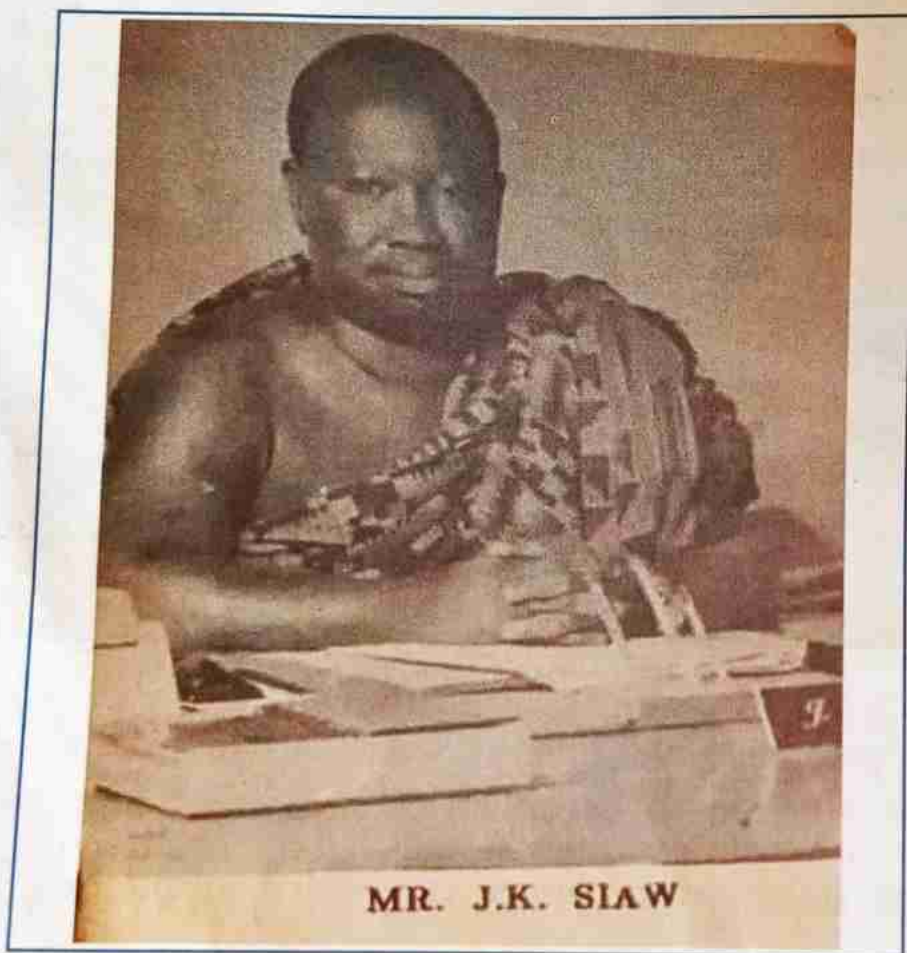


Tata Brewery

Mr. Siaw wanted to establish a Brewery Company. He only had the permission upon the third application in 1969. Tata Brewery Limited was commissioned at Achimota on 30th January, 1973. Tata Brewery Limited was the first brewery company owned by a Ghanaian.

J. K. Siaw together with Mr. Kwadwo Ohene - Ampofo formed the Modern Continental Bank.

The businesses produced goods for the Ghanaian and international markets. A lot of Ghanaians were also employed to work in these companies.



Mr. J. K. Siaw



### 5. Mr. Kwabena Pepra

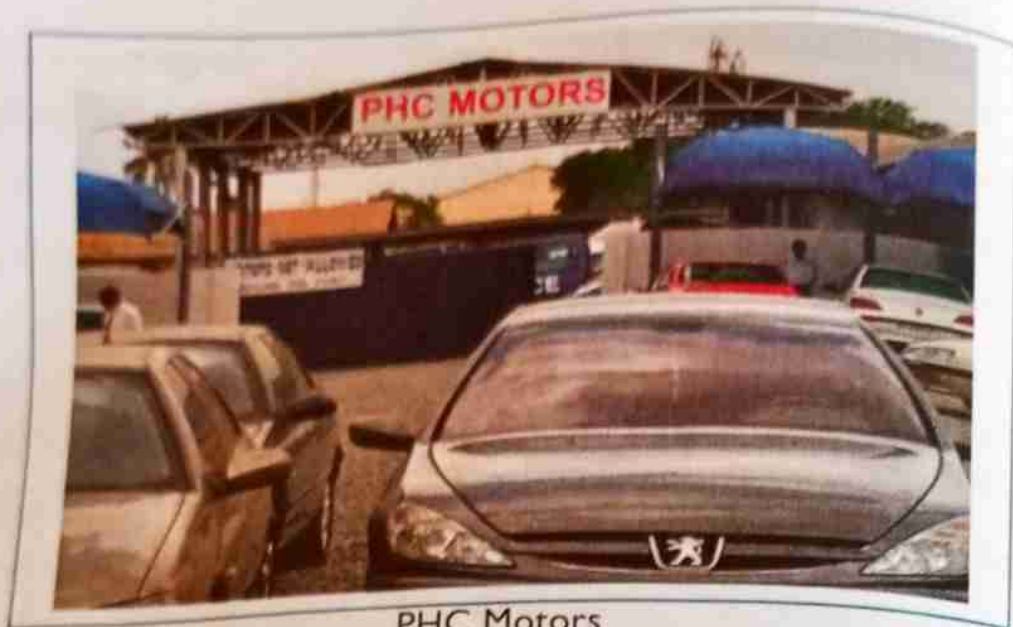
Mr. Kwabena Pepra was born at Osino-Akyem in the Eastern Region of Ghana, on 20th November, 1923. He completed his Standard seven education at the Abetifi Presbyterian Boarding School in the Eastern Region in 1938.

Kwabena Pepra was employed as a confidential secretary to the Managing Director of Paterson Zochonis (PZ), a large multi-national trading company. He was the first African to get that position at PZ. In 1942, Mr. Pepra was again employed at the Cable and Wireless Limited, which is a branch of the Posts and Telecommunications Company.

Mr. Pepra was an inspiration to many Ghanaian businessmen. He always invested for the benefit of others. He talked about the need to assist Ghanaian traders in order to develop the local economy.

Mr. Kwabena Pepra established Paramount Distilleries in Ghana in 1969. They produced alcoholic beverages for the Ghanaian market and also for export. It started as fully owned Ghanaian business until it entered into partnership with a Swiss Company, Vertrieb and Verkauf-Aktiengesellschaft.

He also established a dry-cleaning business. This business grew to a shirt manufacturing enterprise (Universal Industries).



PHC Motors

Mr. Pepra also founded Leyland (Ghana) Limited. This was a company that imported trucks and cars. Leyland Ghana Limited later became known as PHC Motors. He also founded Universal Printers and Publishers Limited. This company dealt in the publishing of educational and other text materials. Later on, Mr. Pepra gained majority shares in Scanstyle Mina Limited, a manufacturer of locked down furniture for export. Mr. Kwabena Pepra was successful in all the businesses he established. He employed a lot of people in those businesses.

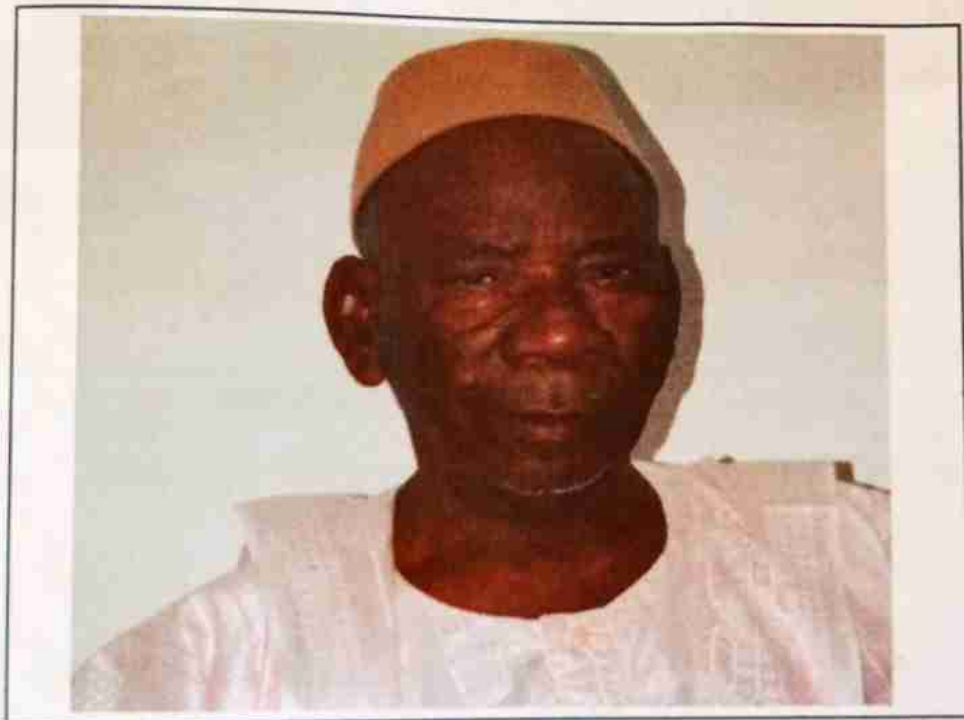
Mr. Kwabena Pepra served as board member of several state organisations. He was once on the board of National Investment Bank (NIB). He was one of the founding fathers and initial shareholders of Ecobank Ghana.



## 6. Alhaji Adamu Iddrisu

Alhaji Adamu Iddrisu was born in 1944 at Old Fadama, a suburb of Accra in the Greater Accra Region. Even though he came from a poor background, he started a transport business in 1971.

Alhaji Adamu started his transport business with 15 vehicles. He transported people and goods from one place to another. The business expanded and more vehicles were acquired. His vehicles carry goods from Tema and Takoradi ports to the northern part of Ghana. His vehicles also travel to Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger and other countries in Africa. His business is called Global Haulage Group Limited (GHGL). The transport business is what people know him for.



Alhaji Adamu Iddrisu



But Alhaji Adamu Iddrisu has other businesses apart from the transport business. The GHGL has under its management, eleven other companies. Some of them are Royal Bank (now defunct) Trans Royal Limited, Cocoa Merchant, Royal Commodities, Global Automobile Ltd. He has contributed greatly to the development of Ghana. He employs over 12,000 people.



Global Haulage Limited

## 7. George Alfred Grant

George Alfred Grant was popularly known as Paa Grant. He was born on 15th August, 1878, in Beyin, Western Nzema. His parents were both traders. He learnt how to do business after school. He was educated at the Wesleyan School in Cape Coast. Paa Grant was employed in a timber trade. He first worked in Axim and then moved to Ivory Coast for five years.

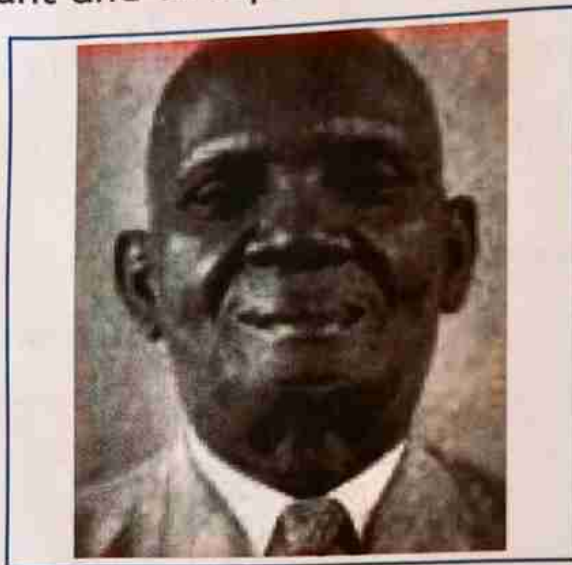
In 1896, George Grant set up his own business called George Grant and Company. His timber business was very successful even though the business was mostly done by European companies.

George Grant visited Britain in 1905 and established business relations with leading timber companies in Europe and the United States. He was able to transport timber to the United States of America and Britain. He opened up offices in London, Liverpool and Hamburg. Back home in the Gold Coast (Ghana), he had offices at Dunkwa, Sekondi and Akyem Abuakwa. George Grant became successful in his timber business.

He was appointed to the Legislative Council in 1926 to represent the people of Sekondi. He also became a member of the Aborigines Rights Protection Society.



He used his influence to bring several developmental projects to his people including, street lights and pipe borne water in Sekondi. Paa Grant became known as the Father of Gold Coast Politics. George Grant was successful in his business as a timber merchant and as a politician.



George Alfred Grant

### Activity: 1

Discuss with your friends the names of some Ghanaian entrepreneurs and their contributions to Ghana's economy.

### Activity: 2

Using the internet, watch the documentary of Ghanaian entrepreneurs. Retell the life stories of any of these entrepreneurs from a documentary show.

### Activity: 3

Form small groups and select one entrepreneur whose work inspires you most and make presentation to the class the reasons for your choice.



Match the entrepreneurs to their business.

Entrepreneurs

Business

1



Esther Ocloo

Timber merchant

2



B.A. Mensah

Nkulenu Industries

3



Alhaji Adamu Iddrisu

Tata Brewery Limited

4



J. K. Siaw

International Tobacco  
Ghana

5



George Alfred Grant

Global Haulage

**Learner practice 2**

Date: ...../...../20.....

Fill in the space with the right word.

1. An entrepreneur is a ..... who  
..... and .....  
a business with the .....  
of making .....  
(profit, controls, organises, person, aim).

**Learner practice 3**

Date: ...../...../20.....

Choose the correct answer from the alternatives.

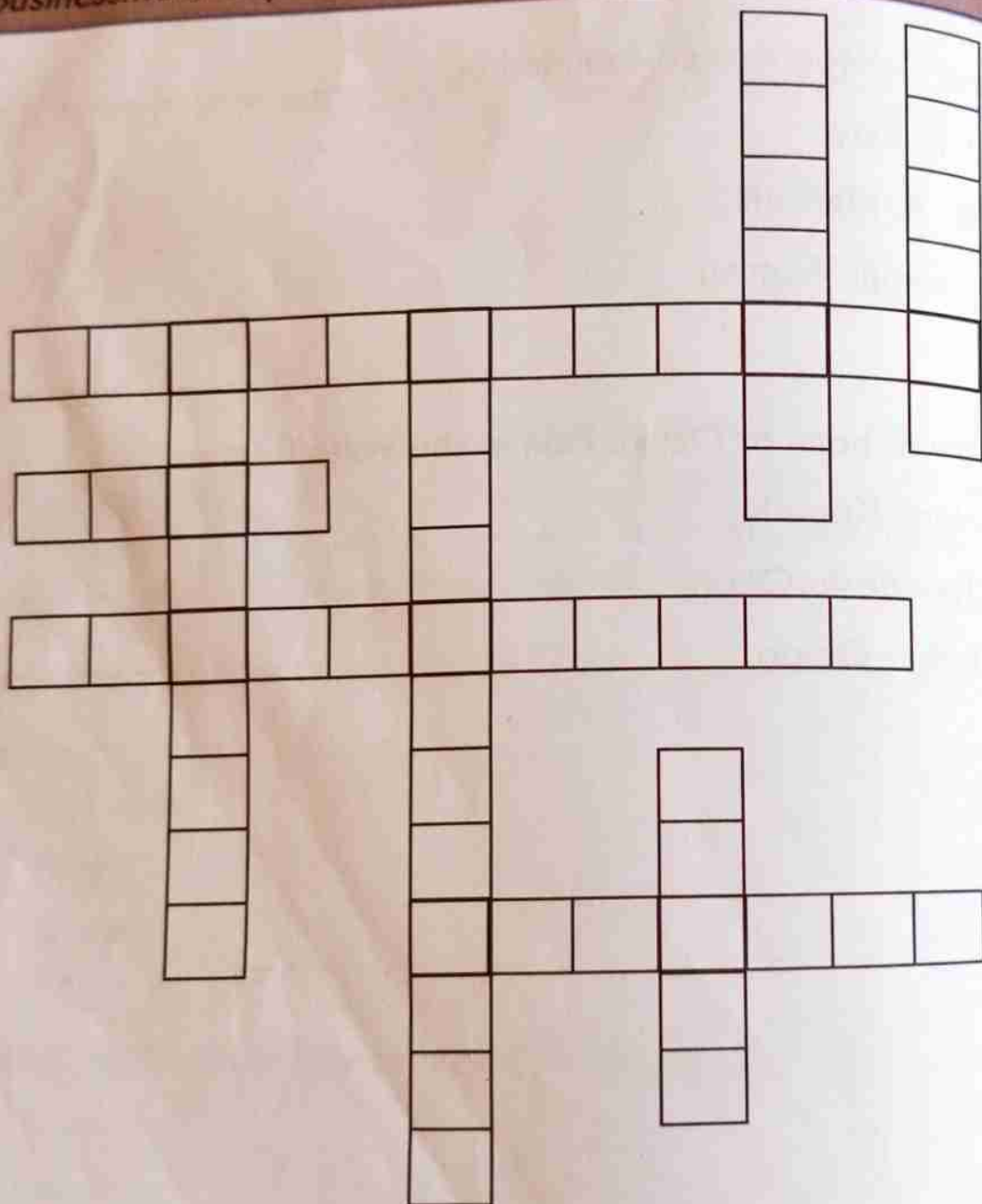
1. According to an entrepreneur, the purpose of production is .....  
a. Business  
b. Profit  
c. Grown
2. Winifred Tete-Ansa was based in Nigeria and Togo. ....  
a. True  
b. False

3. Nkulenu Industries was established by \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. Nana Konadu
  - b. Theodosia Okoh
  - c. Esther Ocloo
4. Christ College was co-founded by \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. J. K. Siaw
  - b. B. A. Mensah
  - c. Kwegyir Aggrey
5. Who was born at Dzake Peki in the Volta Region \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. Nana Konadu
  - b. Theodosia Okoh
  - c. Esther Ocloo



Use the words in the word bank to complete the crossword puzzle;

brewery, Siaw, tobacco, Adamu, transport, businessman, export, entrepreneur, preservation.



Answer the following riddles.

1. I grew up in old Fadama. I started a transport business among other businesses. Who am I? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Esther Ocloo
  - b. Tete – Ansa
  - c. Alhaji Adamu Iddrisu
2. I attended Achimota School. I started the first formal food processing business in the Gold Coast. Who am I? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Theodora Wood
  - b. Esther Ocloo
  - c. Elizabeth Ohene
3. I established a Co-operative bank to help Ghanaian businesses in Gold Coast. Who am I? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Winifred Tete – Ansa
  - b. Alhaji Adamu Iddrisu
  - c. B. A. Mensah
4. I left the Police service to join G. B. Ollivant. I set up International Tobacco Ghana Limited. Who am I? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. B. A. Mensah
  - b. Winifred Tete – Ansah
  - c. J. K. Siaw
5. I started a cocoa business with £50. I established Tata Brewery Company Limited. Who am I? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Alhaji Adamu Iddrisu
  - b. J. K. Siaw
  - c. B. A. Mensah

**STRAND**

**3**

# **EUROPEANS IN GHANA**

## **Sub-Strand 1: ARRIVAL OF EUROPEANS**

### **CONTENT STANDARD:**

3.3.1.1. Show understanding of the interactions between the local people and early settlers.



## EUROPEANS IN GHANA

### Keywords

*Europeans, Portuguese, trading post, alliance, forts, castle, interpreters*

The land of Ghana is very rich in gold. This attracted many European countries to trade with the people of the Gold Coast (Ghana).

The Portuguese were the first Europeans to arrive in the Gold Coast (Ghana). They got to the coast in 1471. They realised that the land was rich in gold. They called the place “da Mina” meaning ‘the mine’. They became interested in trading with the people of Gold Coast (Ghana).

The land was soon called ‘Gold Coast’ because of the abundance of gold deposits found there. The Portuguese settled at Elmina. Other European countries also joined the Portuguese in the Gold Coast to trade with the people. Among the European countries that came to the Gold Coast were Holland, Britain, Denmark, Sweden, France, Germany and Norway. They settled at different places along the coast. Some of the places they settled were Cape Coast, Shama, Axim, Moree, Accra and others.

Other Europeans who came later also settled in the Gold Coast due to the following reasons.

- The people of Gold Coast warmly received the first Europeans who arrived in the Gold Coast. They did not fight them. Hence, other Europeans were attracted to also come to the Gold Coast.
- The trade between the people of Gold Coast and the Portuguese expanded and became successful for the Portuguese. This attracted other Europeans to come and settled in the Gold Coast.
- The permanent settlement given to the Portuguese also attracted other Europeans to come and settled in the Gold Coast. The later Europeans realised that, since the Portuguese were given permanent settlement, they would also be allowed to settle in the Gold Coast.



Portuguese ships sailing to the Gold Coast



## Meeting between the Portuguese and Kwamina Ansah.

When the Portuguese arrived in the Gold Coast, the first place they settled was Elmina, in the Central Region of Ghana. The Portuguese did not have a permanent settlement at Elmina. Hence, they decided to build a castle so that they would have a permanent settlement in the Gold Coast.

Nana Kwamina Ansah was the chief of Elmina during the time that the Portuguese arrived in the Gold Coast. The Portuguese, being led by Don Diego d'Azambuja, had a meeting with Kwamina Ansah the then chief of Elmina. The purpose of the meeting was to request for a piece of land to build a castle as a permanent settlement. Initially, Nana Kwamina Ansah did not want to give the land to the Portuguese. He explained that differences in culture was going to create a problem between the Portuguese and the people of Elmina. He also mentioned that people can maintain good relationship if they do not live together. Once they live together, they begin to fight each other.



However, the Portuguese insisted that they were going to live in peace with the local people of Elmina.

Nana Kwamina Ansah finally granted the request of the Portuguese by giving them a land at Elmina for the building of the castle. This gave way to the building of Elmina Castle in 1482 as the first castle to be built in Ghana.



São Jorge da Mina/Elmina Castle

Nana Kwamina Ansah therefore became known as the first king to welcome the Europeans to the Gold Coast and the whole of West Africa.

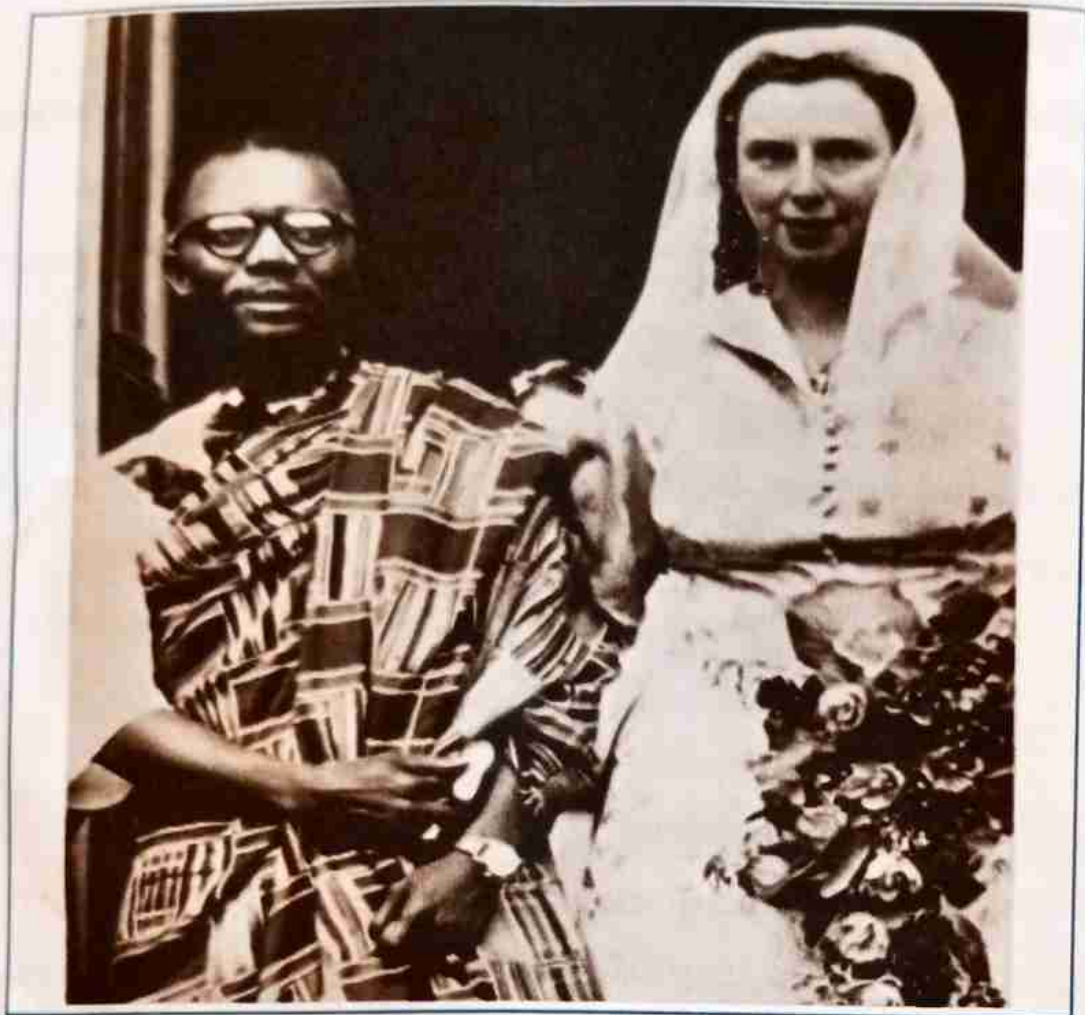
## Alliances

The other European countries started forming alliances with the chiefs along the coast. This was to enable them secure trade relations with the local people. The Dutch also had permission from the local rulers through the Asebu treaty, to build a fort at Moree. The Fort was called Fort Nassau. The Europeans built forts and castles along the coast to protect their trade with the Ghanaians.

## Inter-marriages

The Europeans used another method to protect their trade with the local people. They established stronger bonds through marriage. The Europeans married some of the local women. By this means, they became a family. Children born out of such marriages were known as 'mulattoes'. An example was the marriage between Severine Brock and Edward Carstensen. Severine Brock was a Ga and was married to Edward Carstensen, a Danish, who was the last governor of the Christiansborg Castle. James Bannerman was a military governor of the Gold Coast between 1850 and 1851. His father was a Scottish, but his mother was a Fante. James Bannerman also married the daughter of Nana Osei Bonsu.





A wedding between a Ghanaian and an European

## Education

The Europeans also introduced formal education in the Gold Coast. They set up schools for their children and the children of the local people. Some local people were trained to read and write. The people served as interpreters for the Europeans in their dealings with the local people. This helped them in their trade.



### Activity: 1

Group yourselves and dramatise the meeting between the Portuguese and Kwamina Ansah

### Activity: 2

Discuss with your friends the reasons for which other Europeans who came later also settled in the Gold Coast

### Activity: 3

Form small groups and discuss within the group how the Europeans settled in the Gold Coast including forming alliances with local chiefs and marrying local people.

Choose the correct answer from the alternatives.

1. Who was Nana Kwamina Ansah? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. The chief of Gold Coast
  - b. The chief of Elmina
  - c. The governor of the Gold Coast
  
2. Why did the Portuguese meet with Nana Kwamina Ansah? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. To request for a land to build a castle
  - b. To negotiate to buy gold
  - c. To marry the Gold Coast women
  
3. Where is São Jorge da Mina located on the coast of Ghana? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Accra
  - b. Cape Coast
  - c. Elmina
  
4. Which European nation built Fort Nassau? The \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Portugal
  - b. Holland
  - c. Britain
  
5. Where on the coast of Ghana is Fort Nassau located? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Cape Coast
  - b. Moree
  - c. Saltpond

Choose the correct answer from the alternatives.

1. The children born by the Europeans and Ghanaians were called \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Mulattoes
  - b. Albino
  - c. Foreigners
  
2. Which European nation was the first to come to the Gold Coast? \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Portugal
  - b. France
  - c. Britain
  
3. Before the Europeans came to Ghana, the Ga controlled most of the local lands. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
4. The Europeans built castles in the north of Ghana. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
5. The Asebu treaty was signed between the local people and the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Dutch
  - b. Portuguese
  - c. French



Choose the correct answer from the alternatives.

1. What name did the Portuguese give to the land when they came to Ghana? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Gold Coast
  - b. Da Mina
  - c. Elmina
  
2. The British were the first Europeans to come to the Gold Coast. \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
3. In which year did the first Europeans come to the Gold Coast? \_\_\_\_
  - a. 1842
  - b. 1471
  - c. 1526
  
4. On which coastal town did the first European land? \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Axim
  - b. Accra
  - c. Elmina
  
5. Formal education was introduced in the Gold Coast by the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Chiefs
  - b. Europeans
  - c. North Africans

Answer the following questions.

1. State three coastal towns where the European nations settled.

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2. Name three (3) other European nations that came to the Gold Coast after the Portuguese.

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3. State one reason Kwamina Ansah gave when he initially did not want to give the land to the Portuguese.

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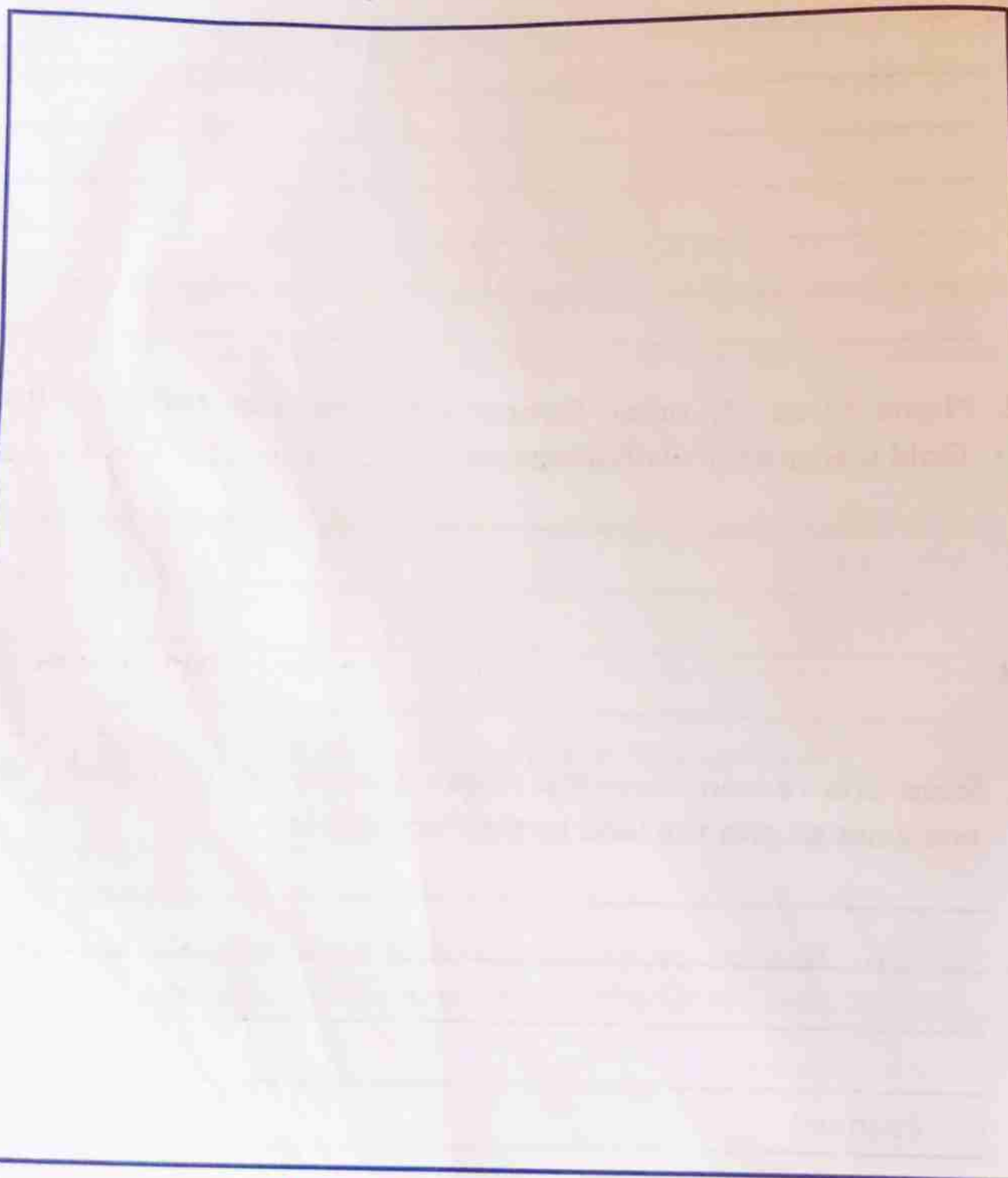
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Draw and colour Portuguese ships sailing to the Gold Coast





Choose the correct answer from the alternatives.

1. The Europeans came to the Gold Coast to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. learn
  - b. trade
2. Who married the daughter of Nana Osei Bonsu? \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. John Smith
  - b. James Bannerman
3. The Europeans introduced formal education in Gold Coast. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. True
  - b. False
4. What did the Europeans set up to train their children and the local people? \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. church
  - b. school
5. Some of the local people who were educated by the Europeans served as \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. interpreters
  - b. teachers

## GLOSSARY

**Adopted:** Having taken or followed a course of action.

**Alliance:** An agreement met between two or more people to pursue a particular task.

**Ancestor:** A person who lived long time ago.

**Apprentice:** Someone who has agreed to work for a skilled person for a particular period of time and often for a low payment in order to learn that person's skills.

**Barter Trade:** A form of trade where goods are exchanged among people without the use of money.

**Battle:** A prolong fight between organised armed forces.

**Bracelet:** A piece of jewellery that is worn around the wrist or arm.

**Brewery Company:** A company that makes and sell beer.

**Broker:** A person who buys and sells things for other people.

**Businessman:** A man who works in business, especially one who has a high position in a company.

**Business partner:** A person or an entity that have agreed to work together to create and manage a business.

**Canned food:** Food preserved in a tin.

**Castle:** A castle is a large building with strong walls built in the past by a king or other important person for protection against attack.

**Civil Servant:** A person who works in government department of a country.

**Clan:** A group of people that consist of families that are related to each other.

**Colonise:** To live in and govern another country.

**Commissioned:** The formal arrangement for someone to do a piece of work or for work to be started.

**Conflict Relation:** Joining forces together to fight an enemy.

**Conflict:** A serious or long lasting armed struggle or fight.

**Cowries:** They are shells that were introduced as a medium of exchange.

**Double coincidence of wants:** This is where two parties, each hold an item the other wants, so they exchange these items directly without the use of money as a medium of exchange.

**Dungeon:** A strong underground prison cell, especially in a castle.

**Entrepreneur:** A person who organises and controls a business with the aim of making profit.

**Ethnic Group:** A group of people who share a similar culture (beliefs, values, and behaviours), language, religion, ancestry, or other characteristic that is often handed down from one generation to the next.

**European:** A native of Europe or someone who comes from Europe.

**Export:** The act of sending goods to another country for sale.

**Fort:** A strong building built by the Europeans which was occupied by soldiers as their permanent post to offer protection.

**Governor:** An official appointed to govern a town or region.

**Governor-General:** This is a title given to the person who is sent to a former British colony as the chief representative of Britain.

**Import:** The act of bringing goods to your country from abroad.



**Inconvenient:** Causing trouble, difficulty or discomfort.

**Initiative:** The ability to make decisions and take action before anyone else.

**Inter-marriage:** A marriage between people of different ethnic groups.

**Interpreters:** A person whose job is to change what someone else is saying into another language.

**Kingdom:** A country, state or territory ruled by a king or queen.

**Legislative Council:** Group of people who make or amend or repeal laws of a country.

**Manufacturer:** A person, business or country that makes something on a large scale using machines.

**Medium of Exchange:** Something that is used to pay for goods and services. For example, money.

**Merchant:** A trader who sells goods in large quantities.

**Migratory Route:** Geographical route along which the ethnic groups passed to settle in Ghana.

**Military:** The armed forces of a country.

**Multi-national:** A company operating in several countries.

**Nutrition:** The substance that we take into our body as food and the way that they influence our health.

**Officials:** Persons holding public offices or having official duties.

**Originate:** To come from a particular place.

**Over powered:** The act of defeating someone or groups by having greater strength or power.

**Partnership:** A form of business where two or more companies come together to operate as one entity.

**Pharmacist:** A person whose work is to prepare and dispense medical drugs.

**Portuguese:** A native of Portugal.

**Pottery:** Pots, dishes and other articles made of clay.

**Pottery:** The craft of making articles from fired clay.

**Poverty:** This is a state or condition in which a person or community lacks the financial resources and essentials for a minimum standard of living.

**Preservation:** The act or process of keeping something valued alive, intact or free from damage or decay.

**Republic:** A republic is a country where power is held by the people or the representatives that they elect. Republics have presidents who are elected, rather than kings or queens.

**Resources:** Something that a country has and can use to increase its wealth.

**Self-sufficient:** A state where a person or a nation is able to provide everything they need, especially food without the help of others.

**Shea butter:** It is a seed fat which is obtained from the shea tree and it's used for food and in the manufacturing of cosmetics, and soaps. It was used by the ethnic groups in the Northern part of Ghana for the barter trade.

**Technology:** This is the use of devices which are the result of scientific knowledge for production.

**The Akan:** This is the largest ethnic group in Ghana consisting of sub-groups such as Fante, Asante, Denkyira, Bono, Akuapem, Sefwi, Ahafo etc.



**The Ewe:** An ethnic group in Ghana mostly found in the Volta Region which consists of Anlo, Vedome, Danyi etc.

**The Ga-Adangme:** An ethnic group in Ghana mostly found in the Greater Accra Region consisting of sub-groups found in Labadi, Osu, Shai, Krobo, Teshie, Tema and Ada.

**The Gonja:** Ethnic group in Ghana found in the northern part of Ghana. They are mostly found in the savanna region.

**The Guan:** An ethnic group in Ghana found in almost all the regions in Ghana. Some of the sub-groups of Guan Ethnic group are Nkonya, Efutu, Anum, Larteh Kyerepong etc.

**The Mole-Dagbani:** An ethnic group found in the northern part of Ghana which consists of sub-groups such as Mamprusi, Dagomba, Nanumba etc.

**Tobacco:** A substance smoked in cigarettes and pipes that is prepared from the dried leaves of a particular plant.

**Tourist Site:** A place where people visit for pleasure and interest.

**Trade relation:** A situation where people, firms and countries trade by buying, selling and exchanging of goods and services among themselves.

**Trading Post:** A place or establishment where trading of goods took place.

**Transaction:** A completed agreement between a buyer and a seller to exchange goods, services or financial assets in return for money.

**Victorious:** Having won a victory in a struggle, war or competition.

**Yarn:** Thread used for making cloth or for knitting.