

OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR



DAY OF SCIENTIFIC RENAISSANCE OF AFRICA

ADDRESS BY:

**PROFESSOR NANA ABA APPIAH AMFO
VICE - CHANCELLOR, UNIVERSITY OF GHANA**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 2023
GREAT HALL, UNIVERSITY OF GHANA**



Pro Vice-Chancellors,

Registrar,

Provosts,

Deans, Directors, Heads of Department,

Our distinguished panel,

The Moderator,

Faculty, Staff and Members of Convocation,

Past and Present Officials of the University,

Alumni and Students,

The Media,

Invited Guests,

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen;

Once again, we are gathered here to climax our month-long activities marking the University's celebration of the Day of Scientific Renaissance of Africa. This year's theme was carefully selected to mirror the theme adopted to celebrate UG's 75th anniversary celebrations, ***Nurturing Resilience, Adopting Technology, Embracing Humanism.***

The University of Ghana, as part of our internationalization drive, our steadfast commitment to the vision to become a research-intensive university and a key player

in the realization of the science and technology goals of Ghana and Africa is proud to champion this celebration.

It is important to recall that June 30 every year is celebrated as the Day of Scientific Renaissance of Africa, in accordance with the African Union resolution passed in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in July 1987. The AU proposes that this day is celebrated across Africa in remembrance of the continent's great contribution to the rise and development of modern science and technology given that in the annals of research and technology development, the story of Africa is usually left untold, yet it is a continent that has nurtured several globally recognized intellectual giants.

Since 2022, the University has actively participated in marking the Day of Scientific Renaissance of Africa. I have followed keenly various activities from Schools, Departments and Colleges and wish to indicate that I am impressed with the scope and diversity of exhibitions and events. For this year's university wide climax, the University planned a three-part event comprising an exhibition, a high-level panel discussion and a launch of seven (7) electronic textbooks authored by faculty of the University and funded by Building Stronger Universities in Developing Countries (BSU 3). I wish to express my gratitude to the organizers of these activities; chairpersons and members of various planning committees both at the College and University level.

The level of participation is an indication that the university community has bought into the laudable idea to celebrate this special day by engaging with the communities around us and showcasing our scientific innovations, scholarly activities and research conducted by our faculty, alumni, and students. Indeed, the research outputs and products exhibited by various units of the University reflect the changing narrative of Africa- a narrative that recognizes the reality that Africa has limitless possibilities to drive innovation and development of our continent and beyond.

These achievements by our researchers have undoubtedly contributed significantly to our global rankings. For example, the recent Center for World University Rankings (CWUR) ranked the University of Ghana as the leading institution in the country, the second best in West Africa and among some of the best universities worldwide. The University of Ghana remains one of the top institutions of higher learning and research in Africa as featured by Times Higher Education (THE), QS (Quacquarelli Symonds), and USA News' Global Ranking of the World's best universities and Webometrics ranking.

It is also worth mentioning that for two years in succession, AD Scientific Index (2022 and 2023) World Scientists and University Rankings placed the University of Ghana as the highest-ranked tertiary institution in Ghana. The AD Scientific Index 2022 Version 2 for instance named Dr. Dwomoa Adu, a Senior Research Fellow in the University of Ghana Medical School, College of Health Sciences, as the best

scientist in Ghana, out of the 1000 academics featured, with a number of other UG faculty among the 20 best scientists.

We are indeed very grateful to our funders, industry partners, and the Government of Ghana for their support.

As we commemorate our contributions to the scientific development of Africa, it is my hope that input and discussions from this platform will provide valuable ideas for increasing our contribution to knowledge generation, dissemination, and utilization globally.

I look forward to fruitful deliberations.

Thank you.

Prof. Nana Aba Appiah Amfo

Vice-Chancellor

30th June, 2023