

OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR



CONFERENCE ON THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE BEACONS CELEBRATION

THEME:

“EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF WOMEN FOR GLOBAL LEADERSHIP”

ADDRESS BY:

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2022

UNIVERSITY OF GHANA

Her Excellency, Harriet Thompson, British High Commissioner to Ghana

Her Excellency, Rebecca Akufo-Addo, First Lady of the Republic of Ghana

Chief of Staff, Madam Akosua Frema Osei-Opare

Honourable Cecilia Abena Dapaah, Minister for Gender, Women and Social
Protection

Dr. Abena Asomaning Antwi, our distinguished keynote speaker

The Governor, Rotary International District 9102

The District Governor, Rufine Lima Quenum

The District Governor Elect, Mr. Victor Asante

The Past Rotary International Director, Mr. Sam Okudzeto

All Rotarians and Rotractors present

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

All Protocol Observed

I am very honoured to welcome you all to the opening ceremony of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons which has been organized to commemorate Her Majesty the Queen's 70th year as monarch and head of the Commonwealth.

I am also very pleased to welcome you to the Great Hall of the University of Ghana. We are indeed privileged to host this august occasion and to celebrate this feat with you since it is the first of its kind.

Indeed, I cannot deny that I was fascinated by the theme chosen to celebrate this historic milestone, *'Empowering the next generation of women for global leadership'* since it resonates with my dream to encourage and mentor young ladies to make impacts and break stereotypes wherever they find themselves.

Over the years, several countries, persons, and institutions have contributed their quota to empower women around the world and grooming them to take up opportunities in various spheres of life. This is indeed a strategic investment in the future, since it provides an opportunity for us to educate, mentor and train the young women of today who will someday take up the mantle of leadership in various fields and institutions.

Today, we can attest to the fact that several women have made remarkable contributions to education, business, fashion, football, and other equally

important fields of endeavour. Quite often, this has been done in combination with housework and provision of care for their wards and this can only be attained by dint of hard work and the resolution to make a difference. I truly believe that this has often not been easy especially when their hard work is met with a lot of resistance. Truly, these women have defied the odds to change the narrative in order transform lives and make impacts.

On this note, I would like to acknowledge and appreciate the Rotary Club and all its distinguished members and volunteers for the honour to host such an important programme here at the University of Ghana. I believe that you have done due diligence by availing yourselves to support women empowerment and contributing in various ways to make this august occasion a memorable one.

To the young ladies present, I entreat you to take advantage of this life changing experience to learn, listen and build on the experiences that will be shared with you during these sessions. Let these motivate you to give your best, even when you encounter challenges. Stay strong, remain resilient, forge ahead and keep your eyes on the prize.

In conclusion, I would like to warmly welcome all of you to the University of Ghana. I urge you to enjoy the programme, make contributions, take advantage of the opportunity to socialize and connect as well.

On this note, I wish you fruitful deliberations.

***Professor Nana Aba Appiah Amfo
Queen's Platinum Beacon Celebration
May 18, 2022***