



HEADMASTER'S ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTED AT THE 98TH SPEECH AND PRIZE-GIVING DAY CELEBRATION ON SATURDAY, 8TH MARCH, 2008

Mr. Chairman,

Our Special Guest of Honour, Distinguished Guest Speaker, My Lord Bishops and the Clergy, Ministers of State, Nananom, Directors of Education, our Invited Guests, Members of the Board of Governors, Staff of Adisadel College, Santaclausians both ancient and modern, Members of the Press, Students, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I deem it a great honour and a singular privilege to present to you the annual report for this 98th Speech and Prize-Giving Day Celebration. I wish, in the first place, to welcome all of you to this unique hill which is the alma mater of great men. From the top here, I see all categories of men and women who have come not only from far and near but also from all fields of endeavour, political divide, religious and social persuasions just for the sake of Adisadel College. The signal being sent is clear that the welfare of Adisadel is so dear to your heart. I therefore extend a warm embrace of “akwaaba” to you all on behalf of Chairman and members of Board of Governors, staff and students. I am fully convinced that your presence here will enable you to experience, at first hand, all that it takes to make Adisadel products unique wherever they find themselves.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished invited guests, Adisadel College was established on the 4th of January 1910 by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (SPG) with a clear vision to produce men of integrity and distinction to take up responsible positions both locally and internationally and to excel. This vision has since become a reality and

evidence abound for all to see. Until a couple of months ago, the three arms of Ghana's government had two headed by Adisadel products in the persons of the Rt. Honorable Ebenezer Sekyi Hughes with his 1st Deputy Speaker Hon. Freddie Blay for the legislature and the late Chief Justice George Kingsley Acquah who succeeded a generation of chief justices from the Santaclausian family for the Judiciary. To make the cycle complete and to crown Adisadel's exploits our 95th Speech day saw His Excellency, John Agyekum Kuffuor, President of the Republic of Ghana heartily accepting an honouring Old Boys status of Adisadel College with the remaining third arm, the Executive. At last year's speech and prize-giving day celebration, I stood here to predict that come 2008 a Santaclausian will become the President of Ghana but you will well agree with me, that the prophet Isaiah said "your ways are not my ways neither your thoughts my thoughts". Yes, the horse can be prepared for battle yet victory will come only from the Lord. As a family, we take consolation in the fact that there is time for everything and what belongs to you will eventually come to you at the appropriate time.

Today, Adisade has been blessed with the presence of His Excellency, Alhaji Aliu Mahama the Vice President of the Republic of Ghana. The College will be highly pleased to confer honorary Old Boys status on His Excellency.

DISCIPLINE

As a school, we have always believed in the adage; discipline is the hallmark of every successful enterprise. In the light of this, every effort has been made to instill the requisite discipline not only in the boys but also the staff beginning with the Headmaster himself. Our expectation has always been that parents and guardians will play complementary roles in this business. Unfortunately, some people are turning our

educational institution as a dumping ground for their incorrigible children; a state of affair which is so sad. Mr. Chairman, kindly permit me to cite two unfortunate instances which led to the dismissed of Five final year students.

1. A student who snatched a lady teacher's bag
2. Four boys who broke into their housemaster's bungalow and stole his belonging including money.

Adisadel College was founded on a solid Christian faith and the insistence on our boys to tow the path of righteousness has never be reneged on. The school authority will, in spite of all the constraints, continue to enforce discipline in all its aspects mindful of the fact that sparing the rod spoils the child.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Our boys who readily submit themselves to the rules and regulations of the school surely make the school proud by excelling in both internal and external competitions. Currently, on the internet is the ranking of the top 100 Senior High Schools in the whole of Africa and it will interest our distinguished invited guests to know that Adisadel College is 10th. The secret of our success story is not hard to find; you only need to be a member of the Santaclausian family. A comparative analysis of the West African Senior Secondary School Certificate Examinations results were supplied to all parents and guardians at our recently held PTA meeting. One thing that stood out clearly was the fact that all the subjects were recording impressive improvement. From an overall average percentage pass of 68% in 2004 the school recorded 98.3% in 2007. Furthermore, the best student performance has also risen from Four As to Seven As and a B. A lot more

subjects are registering 100% pass. We stand by the conviction that this year will surely see our students with 8As for the first time. In God we trust.

INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENTS

In Adisadel College, the culture of maintenance is a reality and every effort is made to uphold it despite the numerous constraints. All the ten dormitory blocks, thirty classrooms, administration block, Dining hall, a few masters' bungalows and other ancillary structures are witnessing massive rehabilitation works. In addition to these, new structures at various stages of construction are:

1. The New Acropolis as the Headmaster's residence.
2. The four-storey, sixteen-unit classroom block near the main gate
3. The new Kitchen bakery, Kenkey factory with extra rooms for the cooks
4. The PTA sponsored Four-storey, eight-unit block of flats for the teaching staff.
5. The new Cold Store with a powerful 15KA stand-by generator courtesy of the 1983 year group of Santaclausians.
6. The new Dispensary block courtesy of Kankam Family.
7. The New six-unit classroom block for our primary school.

Currently, the school is in the process of benefiting from the construction of the 11th dormitory block, which will accommodate the 4th year Senior High School students, a two-Storey twelve-unit block of flats for the junior staff and the complete rehabilitation of Adisadel College road net work.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Chairman, distinguished invited guests, a few of our staff had to bid bye-bye to Adisadel College on attaining the compulsory age of retirement. They included Mr.

Max deBordes former Head of the Guidance and Counselling Department, Mr. Anthony John Mensah the Accountant, Mr. Kow Tamfo the Chief Mason. Other staff members who transferred on ground of further studies or higher appointments were Mr. Alex Azameti, Mr. Sylvester P. Mensah, Mr. Gabriel Mwinkume and Ishaque Appiah. Mr. Kwame Asadu Amponsah replaced the accountant while Mary Araba Jackson joined the office staff. Rev. Canon J.J. Bain Duodoo has also replaced the School Chaplain Rev. Canon J.M. Adu-Acheampong who has been appointed the Central Regional Manager of Anglican Schools.

DONATIONS

Sir Isaac Newton the celebrated Scientist once observed and Mr. Chairman with your permission I will like to quote “If I can see any further then it is because I stand on the shoulders of those who have gone ahead of me” unquote. I dare say that if Adisadel College has come thus far then it is because our indefatigable old boys, parents, well-wishers and other philanthropists so numerous to mention supported us in diverse ways. Mention can be made here of Messrs Dr. Sam Mensah, Ricky Telfar and John Djokoto who continue to equip the music department with sophisticated instruments to facilitate academic work and enhance recreational activities.

Dr. King from U.K. has recently donated sets of chess equipment to start a chess club in the school.

The Inspector General of Police Mr. Patrick Kwarteng Acheampong has “walked his words” by donating 68 pairs of boots to go with a set of police cadet uniforms in fulfillment of his promise last year, to establish the Police Cadet in his alma mater. We still remember the sacrificial work of Mr. Otuahene the M.D. of ADB assisted by Mr.

Owusu Ansah who undertook a complete rehabilitation of Knight House. I take this opportunity to fervently appeal to other old boys to come to the aid of their houses especially Hamlyn, Jubilee and Ebiradze\Lemaire block as well as Elliott. The Board Chairman Mr. Solomon Abam Quartey also donated one air conditioner for the conference room.

The establishment of three Special Awards by the 1988 year group of Santaclausians in American dollars with attractive plaques is performing wonders in the school as a first class motivator. This has gone a long way to prove that the Adisadel College Teacher can receive part of the reward here on earth before the heavenly one. Today, it is the American dollars that speaks in Adisadel College not Ghana New cedis.

URGENT NEEDS

Mr. Chairman, the New Educational Reforms enjoins each and everyone to participate actively to ensure its success. The school continues regularly to purchase computers and accessories for the ICT department. However, we still need more to augment our stock. The school will be extremely grateful to any well-wisher or benefactor in this direction. The school urgently needs a boundary wall to protect the college lands from further encroachment. A bus to meet the transportation needs of both student and staff will be greatly welcome by the school.

A modern multifaceted Assembly Hall with a capacity for two thousand students is our dream yet to be realized.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

As the Chief Executive of this great Institution I must confess that I have fully enjoyed the unflinching support of the entire staff, the prefectorial body and the students

at large. My team of energetic managers who make time after the day's hard work every Monday to meet and take decisions in the interest of the school deserves my gratitude and appreciation. The Board Chairman as well as the remaining governors have been of immense assistance to me and I laud their contributions. The PTA continues to assist the school in a variety of ways and I owe them lots of gratitude. Our new school nurse, affectionately called Auntie Lydia has virtually become a mother to the students and won the hearts of many for her invaluable service.

CONCLUSION

Adisadel College has taken up her position as the first or with the first in all fields of endeavour. This is in accordance with our motto "Vel primus Vel cum primis". All we need is maximum support and co-operation from our Stakeholders to enable us maintain this lead. With Discipline still as our watchword, academic excellence will continue to be real.

Long live Adisadel College

Long live the Santaclausian Family

Long live Ghana.

**H. K. K. GRAHAM
(HEADMASTER)**