



AFRICAN LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
GHANA CHAPTER (ALSA GH)

VOLUME II



The  
**ALSA-GH**  
**newsfile** •

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## About us

# Introducing The ALSA

The African Law Students' Association (ALSA) is an international, non-profit, non-governmental, non-partisan and non-political organisation run by and for Africa's undergraduate law students and recent graduates who desire to achieve academic, professional and personal excellence in addition to their conventional law studies. ALSA was established in 2013 out of the conviction that an organisation made up from and run by the most ambitious law students and young lawyers can contribute to legal education, foster mutual understanding and promote social responsibility in today's world.



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ALSA seeks to bridge the gap among African law students, unite them and coordinate their affairs, provide a platform for them to realise their potentials, develop their existing skills and acquire new ones, create an avenue for law students to interact and network with fellow students and experienced practitioners from different jurisdictions across and around Africa, and to equip them for a professional life in an international environment through mutual understanding, intercultural cooperation, inter-African solidarity, all driven by the core values of unity and Pan-Africanism.

ALSA is a legal personality having been registered and issued with a Certificate of incorporation by the Corporate Affairs Commission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. ALSA runs an International Head Office in Lagos, Nigeria and two associate offices in Abuja, Nigeria, Zambia and Kenya. African Law Student's Association Ghana Chapter ( ALSA GHANA ) ; therefore is a national body borne out of ALSA. It was established in March, 2023 to unite Ghanaian Law Students towards their academic inclusion, professional networking etc. One major concern for ALSA GHANA is to help law students thrive in their legal studies to become good advocates. This association is not limited to only law students but opened to staunch Legal Practitioners and other relevant stakeholders.



# INTRODUCTORY MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT ( ADMINISTRATION)



**Kelvin Afari Yeboah Vice President ( Administration)**

**Dear ALSA Ghana,**

Greetings from the international President and the executive board of ALSA Ghana. It is our hope that this message finds you all well and in good health. Since the release of our first Newsfile, the board has been working relentlessly to achieve our aim and objectives and so today, I have the privilege to update and share with you the progress over the past months.

First and foremost, I am ecstatically happy to share with you that the KNOW YOUR LAW SERIES, THE LATIN FRIDAY, as well as the NEWS FILE initiative has been active throughout the month to assist law students and the general public at large to get to know the laws as well as get familiar with recent happenings in our society. Albeit facing few hurdles that needed to be solved, we stay committed to our promise to keep you updated with the current affairs in our community.

In addition to the aforementioned, I am again proud to announce some other great initiatives that are yet to be implemented which includes the The Webinar on legal practice in multiple jurisdictions which is happening on the 1st of July, The mental Health Awareness which is in the pipeline, The intensive training on IP law which will be launched soon and most importantly, Legal Clinic which includes an outreach to Senior High Schools in Ghana as well as a Research project that will center on human trafficking in the country. We are partnering with renowned institutions to help fight against human trafficking.

None of the above stated initiatives would have been possible without the support of our executive board and all the committees of Alsa Ghana and that brings me to my last point, gratitude. It is said that when God gives you an assignment, He always gives you the ability and the men to help complete the assignment. Indeed I can say we have the men to help complete the assignment given to us and it is on this premise that I want to commend the Editorial Board of ALSA Ghana for their relentless efforts towards the activities of the organization. I urge you to Keep up with the good work. Moving on, I believe we as ALSA Ghana can build on the our achievements and develop an even more powerful and vibrant Alsa Ghana community.





# INTRODUCTORY MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT ( ADMINISTRATION)

But as stated by the PRESIDENT HIS EXCELLENCY WISDOM TAKYI GYAN, doing it alone won't work. To be able to achieve our goals, we require your support, your ideas and your involvement. I therefore urge you to get engaged, communicate your ideas and worries to us and work with us to create a community we can all look back one day and be proud of.

Thank you.  
Sincerely,

H.E KELVIN AFARI YEBOAH  
VICE PRESIDENT(ADMINISTRATION)  
ALSA GHANA CHAPTER

The collage features three promotional posters for ALSA events. The left poster is for a 'WEBINAR LEGAL PRACTICE IN MULTIPLE JURISDICTION' on July 20, 2023, featuring speakers like Esma Ibrahim and Maduka Onwukeme. The middle poster is for a '1-Day INTENSIVE TRAINING' on Intellectual Property Law & Cybersecurity on June 24, 2023, hosted by Holali Adzo Atiso and Yetunde Akinola Bello, with speakers like Mercy Agugua Esq. and Mrs. Sarah Anku. The right poster is for the 'ALSA GHANA CHAPTER' with contact information and social media links.

The World of ALSA Missions etc.

# Our Mission

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## TO UNITE

African law students under an umbrella and provide a platform for them to interact, network, coordinate and organise themselves in order to amplify their voices on matters affecting their welfare and other issues of national, regional, continental and global importance.



## TO CREATE

a platform for law students and lawyers to learn about other cultures and legal systems in the spirit of openness, critical dialogue and international cooperation

## TO EDUCATE

African law students in principles of law and the rudiments of law practice through articles, journals, book publications, conferences, competitions and other academic resources.



## TO ENCOURAGE

communion and Cohesion among law students and lawyers from different jurisdictions and bridge the gap between law students and lawyers, governments and corporates in Africa.

## TO BRIDGE

communication gaps, improve legal education, foster mutual understanding and promote social responsibility of law students and lawyers.



## TO ASSIST

African law students and lawyers to be internationally-minded and professionally skilled.

## TO AID

the development of international career resources and opportunities for internationally-minded students.



## TO ENGAGE

in projects, programmes and activities related to promoting the rule of law, human rights, etc.

# Our Vision

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## **BUILD**

a network of elite law students dedicated to the growth and development of the African



## **EQUIP**

law students with professional skills and international best practices, contribute to legal scholarship and the exchange of scholarly experience in law students and to stimulate understanding, solidarity and cohesion among African law students.

## **PROVIDE**

limitless opportunities to African law students and equip them with the requisite skills to enable them render qualitative services geared towards the development of the African legal profession and the continent.



## **CONTRIBUTE**

to the African renaissance based on good governance, strong cultural heritage, democracy, rule of law and Pan-Africanism.



ARTICLE

# THE MARTYRS OF THE RULE OF LAW

The Martyrs of the Rule of Law are celebrated every year on the 30th of June in Ghana. In this article, I seek to inform and educate you on who these heroes are and why they are celebrated annually.

I would first like to explain who a Martyr is and what the Rule of law is. I believe a Martyr is more honourable than a hero because heroes mostly don't sacrifice greatly the way a Martyr would. In simple words, a martyr is a person who sacrifices something of value, faces persecution or dies for a religion, belief, principle or an honourable cause. They possess the attribute of passion, commitment, dedication and loyalty to that belief, principle or cause which they hold in high regard. The rule of law is the principle that those exercising governmental function should be subject to legal control.

According to De Smith, ' power executed by politicians and officials must have a legitimate foundation based on authority conferred by the law.' The rule of law also means Supremacy of the law. According to A.V Dicey in his book the Introduction to the Study of the Law of the Constitution (1885), the rule of law has three meanings. It means there should be absolute supremacy of the law, equality before the law and the constitution is the source of the rights of individuals.



The three Justices: From left, Justice Sarkodie, Justice Koranteng-Addow and Justice Agyepong

These honourable people believed and operated the rule of law in the exercise of their judicial powers irregardless of the influence or control from higher authorities and unfortunately they met their untimely death. Why did this happen and how did this happen?

In 1982, the 1st of July, the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation reported that all judges were to be provided with armed security for their protection but this did not cause any alarm amongst the citizens since already, judges had security protection of some sort. No one imagined or predicted the ugly and inhumane events that would soon follow after.

It was announced that three High Court Judges and a retired Army Officer had been abducted during the curfew hours which began at 6pm during 30th June, 1982. They were Mr Justice Frederick Poku Sarkodee, Mrs. Justice Cecilia Afran Koranteng-Addow, Mr Justice Kwadwo Agyei Agyepong and Major (Rtd) Sam Acquah.



Justice Cecilia Koranteng-Addow

Mrs Justice Cecilia Afran Koranteng-Addow who was nursing a child and the others were abducted were driven to the Bundase Military Range in the Accra Plains where they were riddled with bullets and brutally murdered and as if that wasn't enough, their bodies were soaked with petrol and then burnt. It is said that justice would always prevail and in this circumstance it did. There was rainfall which doused the fire preventing the bodies from being completely burnt. According to Bary Musa, a cattle-header the bodies had been discovered under a tree, close to the soldiers' cook-house.

These people were killed due to their reluctance to submit to the whims and influence from the PNDC ,the Armed Forces Revolutionary councils and other higher authorities in their duty of work. They believed in the rule of law and the rules of natural justice.

There was a lot of pressure on Rawlings and the PNDC from the people of Ghana and this led to the formation of a Special Investigation Board with a former Chief Justice of Ghana, the Later Mr Justice Samuel Azu Crabbe, as Chairman, to investigate the murders with the aide of the late Chief Superintendent Jacob Jebuni Yidana, an officer of the Ghana Police Service who is also honoured for displaying courage and professional expertise in producing one of the best criminal investigations ever undertaken in the country.



ARTICLE

# THE MARTYRS OF THE RULE OF LAW



The Board produced a report which led to the prosecution of Joachim Amartey Kwei, L/Cpl Samuel Kwaku Amedeka, L/Cpl Michael Senya, Johnny Dzandu and Tony Tekpor where they were all found guilty. While the trial was ongoing, L/Cpl Amedeka, Dzandu and Tekpor escaped in jailbreak, however, Dzandu and Tekpor were captured and rejoined the trial while Amedeka fled the country. They were all sentenced to death including Amedeka who was sentenced in absentia.

His Excellency John Agyekum Kufuo, President of the Republic of Ghana unveiled the busts on 28th June, 2004 which are currently in front of the

Supreme Court of Ghana buildings which are to honour the Martyrs for their integrity and respect for the law.

This is a sad but however inspirational aspect of history which motivates and encourages us to practice the Rule of Law and exhibit our moral values and integrity in the administration of justice no matter which authority, person or influence opposes us or in any other environment. It also goes on to inform us that without Rule of Law, there would be the incidence of arbitrary use of power meaning leaders would do whatever they want and this would lead to a lot of violence and crimes thus endangering the lives and rights of citizens and foreigners in the country.

By Nana Serwah Brempong

[i] HISTORICAL BACKGROUND TO THE MARTYRS OF THE RULE OF LAW ([judicial.gov.gh](http://judicial.gov.gh))

[ii] Martyrs' Day – Lest We Forget ([modernghana.com](http://modernghana.com))

[iii] Martyrs of the Rule of Law Historical Marker ([hmdb.org](http://hmdb.org))

[iv] Today in History: Personalities behind three statues in front of Ghana's Sup ([adomonline.com](http://adomonline.com))



# ALSA GH - PERSONALITY OF THE MONTH

## Ishaq Ibrahim ESQ.

Ishaq Ibrahim ESQ. is an ambitious and talented Barrister at law with a proven academic background in law, business, health, political philosophy and valuable experience in business and politics. Possesses first-class academic written skills and is also an effective verbal communicator. He has acquired diverse professional skills through studying, researching and working in academic and professional environments and he is extremely competent when it comes to liaising with businesses and colleagues on all levels.

Mr. Ishaq holds Master of Arts in Legal And Political Theory, from the University College London (UCL) - London, Barrister At Law : Bar Professional Training Course, at the BPP University - London Holborn 2018 , a Master of Law : Commercial And Corporate Law LL.M, from the Queen Mary, University Of London - London in 2015, a Master of Law : Human Rights Law, Conflicts And Justice, from the SOAS, University Of London - London 2013.

Mr. Ishaq obtained his LLB(Hons) from the Prestigious Leicester Law School, University Of Leicester - Leicester, he holds a Diploma (advanced) : Mental Health Nursing, at the Middlesex University - London 2010, also he holds Bachelor of Arts : Accounting And Finance, from the University Of East London - London 2004.

Mr. Ishaq Ibrahim holds a qual qualifications from, the England and Wales and the Ghana Bar. He is a Law Lecturer at the University of Professional Studies, Accra. ALSA GHANA, is very proud of you, for your invaluable support and knowledge towards Legal Education, today among hundreds of lawyers, you have been selected as ALSA Ghana, Personality of the month, well deserved sir, Congratulations.



ALSA GH - PERSONALITY OF THE MONTH



# SARAH FAFA KPODO ESQ

## ADJOURNED DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR, FOR 2022 CIVIL SERVICES AWARDS

**M**s. Sarah Fafa Kodo is a Chief State Attorney, at the Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Justice (Ghana) She is the Director Legal at the Ministry of Energy, Republic of Ghana. She spent 15 years in Ghana's legal directorate of the Ministry of Finance prior to this appointment. In addition, she held the position of Head Legal for the Rana Motors Group of Companies and practiced law in Ghana with Akuffo-Addo, Prempeh and Co, legal practioners. Ms. Kpodo has dual Bar qualifications in England and Wales and in Ghana, she is an active member of the Association of International Energy Negotiators (AIEN), as well as the International Bar Association (UK), the Bar of England and Wales, the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn UK, the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, UK Branch (MCI Arb) and Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Ghana Chapter CI Arb Ghana Chapter.



SARAH FAFA KPODO ESQ



June 2022, she was a speaker at the 6th ICC Africa Conference on International Arbitration, which was held in Nigeria and covered the topic "New Trends in Energy Sector Disputes Attraction for African Arbitration Practitioners." The African Arbitration Association (AAA) has honored Ms. Kpodo for her invaluable contribution to the organization of the AAA Conference in Ghana in 2022. Ms Kpodo has partaken in various arbitration and negotiation trainings and is extremely keen on energy related transactions and dispute resolution matters.

Ms. Kpodo obtained her LLB(Hons) Degree from the University of Wolverhampton, UK in 1999 and qualified as a Barrister and was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 2000 and to the Ghana Bar 2002. Ms Kpodo holds a master's of science (MSC) with distinction in Energy, Trade and finance from Cass Business School of City University, London ( 2011) and an MSc in Major program management from SAID Business school, Oxford University (2011).



# SARAH FAFA KPODO ESQ

## ADJOURNED DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR, FOR 2022 CIVIL SERVICES AWARDS



**SARAH FAFA KPODO ESQ**

Additionally, she had successfully completed an Executive Program in Oil, Gas and Mining Governance from the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford in the year 2007 and an executive education course on Public Partnership Infrastructure in a Market Economy and in the Changing World, from the Harvard Kennedy School of Governance, Boston Massachusetts in 2009.

Ms. Kpodo is an experienced Energy Expert and the Director Legal for the the Energy ministry of Ghana, als an experienced Energy Arbitrator in Disputes, conducted under various rules, including those of the international central for Settlements of Investment Disputes ( ICSID), the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law ( UNCITRAL), the International chamber of commerce ( ICC) and in the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce (SCC).

Ms. Kpodo is the Founder of SEED foundation, which seeks to mentor law students and young Lawyers. Sarah Fafa Kpodo, just won Director of the year, at the Civil Service awards 2022. Today, ALSA-GHANA, celebrate ms Kpodo for your hardwork and dedication, and for her invaluable contribution to the development of ALSA Ghana, opportunities for law students and young lawyers through mentorship. You are indeed a blessing to Ghana and Africa as a whole.





# WOMEN'S COMMISSIONER

## INTRODUCING THE OFFICE OF THE WOMEN'S COMMISSIONER

**T**he office of the women's commissioner is borne out of the umbrella, ALSA-GHA. Whose vision is to build a network of law students and lawyers across Africa and equip them with professionalism. Like all other offices of women commissioners, the office of the ALSA Women's Commissioner is committed to unite, educate, encourage, create opportunities, and bring together young women in the legal fraternity from across West Africa particularly, Ghana, to participate in pertinent issues of national discussions geared towards building their self-confidence and their interest in the law, through collaborations and organized webinars, conferences and seminars with esteemed female lawyers and other distinguished personalities in the legal world whom we look up to becoming like, in the near future.

The Office, together with the umbrella ALSA, also has the mandate to represent female law students and provide a conducive atmosphere to female law students amidst their studies, devoid of any discriminatory acts to ensure that they are on equal footing to that of their male counterparts in all aspects of their academic lives.

The office of the Women's Commissioner, has already commenced with exceptionally brilliant webinars among others such as, the 1-Day Intensive Training Program on Intellectual Property Law and Cyber Security, which was a collaboration between the office of the women's commission of Ghana and that of Nigeria. Which featured esteemed lawyers from Nigeria and Ghana like, Prof. Dr. Comrade AMB Chukunonso Esq. from Nigeria, Mr. Benjamin Tachie Antiedu Esq, an associate at Charles & Charles Ghana, Mercy Agugua Esq. and several others.



Without further pleasantries, today, we the people of ALSA-GH find it worthy and of greater necessity to formally and officially unveil the ALSA-GH Office of the Women's Commissioner to carry on with the tremendous work it has started, geared towards harnessing our collective goal.

To this end, the Office of the ALSA Women's Commissioner, Ghana, is hereby introduced.



## EXECUTIVE OF THE MONTH



My name is Nana Serwah Brempong, a level 300 undergraduate law student of the University of Professional Studies, Accra.

Before university, I served as the House Representative on the Students Representative Council in my Senior High School, Aburi Girls' Senior High School. Currently, I am serving as the Editor-in-Chief in the African Law Students Association and hoping to do more in the future.

I would describe myself as tolerant, hardworking and persevering. I love reading, especially novels, biographies and articles concerning legal topics and issues.

I am a firm believer of equity, equality and justice which led to my pursuance of the study of law.

My favourite inspirational quote is by Nelson Mandela who says, 'What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others.'

My long-term goal in life is to become a great humanitarian lawyer who helps not only her community but the world at large.

## UPCOMING AND PAST EVENTS OF ALSA

1. Unveiling ALSA Ghana Committee(s)
2. Unveiling ALSA Ghana Patroness and Patrons
3. Unveiling ALSA Ghana Partners
4. ALSA-GH Legal clinic.
5. Educational outreach, Basic schools, Secondary school
6. Street Legal Outreach
7. Visit to Prisons.
8. Know your Laws Series.
9. Legal Breakdown.
10. Mental health Awareness.
11. Webinar on Legal Practice in Multiple Jurisdictions.
12. Webinar on Ghana's Security Law.
13. Webinar on Labour Law
14. Webinar on Digital Marketing and Artificial intelligence
15. Campaign to Eliminate Human Trafficking in Ghana and Africa as a whole

### Past Events

16. 1-Day Intensive Training on Intellectual Property Law and Cyber Security.

## Next To Come...

- ✓ **Campus brief**  
( whats trending in law faculties)
- ✓ **Student Personality of the Month**
- ✓ **Legal news Highlights**
- ✓ **Interview, with ALSA Members and more.....**



# Campus brief whats trending in law faculties

## GIMPA LAW TOPS AFRICA AT ICC MOOT COURT COMPETITION



This feat was achieved by the team comprising Dzigbordi Agbenyo, Abigail Anyormi, Obed Owusu, and Laura Edwards.

The GIMPA Law Moot Court Team has won the Best Regional Team of Africa Award at the ICC Moot Court Competition in the Hague, Netherlands.

This feat was achieved by the team comprising Dzigbordi Agbenyo, Abigail Anyormi, Obed Owusu, and Laura Edwards.

The team was prepared under the auspices of the Faculty's Moot Court and Clinical Legal Education Committee which comprises Dr. Enam Antonio as chairperson, Dr. Kwabena Oteng Acheampong, Dr. Justice Srem-Sai, Dr. Isidore Tufuor and Mr Lom Nuku Ahlijah as members.

Furthermore, they benefitted from the assistance and support of Mr. Daniel Odonkor, a former member of the faculty and currently a lawyer. Source DL News.



News from University of Ghana

Emmanuel Boateng, is a level 200 LLB, student at the University of Ghana School of Law, with interest in Land Law, had the opportunity to join delegates at the 5th Ghana Mining and Energy Summit, 2023 to gain practical knowledge from the industry experts leaders in the mining and Energy sectors.





# Student Personality of the Month



Additionally, in the past three years, Emmanuel has participated in various debate tournaments and competitions on behalf of both the law school and the university: in 2021, he was the Winner of both the University of Ghana Freshers Debate Championship and the University of Ghana Pro-Am Debate Tournament, also, while representing the university, he was a Quarter-finalist in the Ghana Universities Debate Championship, a Semi-finalist in the Ghana Universities Public Speaking Championship, a Finalist in both the Accra Open Debate Championship (Novice Category) and the Accra Open Public Speaking Championship; in 2022, Emmanuel was a Semi-finalist in the Africa Intercollegiate Debating Championship, the Accra Open Debate Championship (Pro Category), as well as The Law Challenge - Ghana, and also represented the school in the Pan-African Debate Championship; in 2023, while representing the University of Ghana School of Law, he won the Philip C Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, Ghana Qualifying Rounds and further represented the country in the international rounds of the Jessup Competition in the United States where he was declared the 43rd Best Oralist in the competition and also the 2nd Best African Oralist in the competition.

Emmanuel Akpagli is a level 300 undergraduate student of the University of Ghana School of Law. He had his high school education in the reputable Mfantsipim School. Back in Mfantsipim, he was the Deputy Head Boy (Academic) of the school for the 2019/20 academic year, the Vice-President of the Mfantsipim Students' Representative Council (2019/20). By virtue of his service to the school, in 2020, he was awarded the Mfantsipim Award for Leadership, and after his three-year high school education at Mfantsipim, he was also awarded the Frederick Ampiah Award for the Best General Arts Student in the 2020/21 WASSCE.

Contemporarily, in the University of Ghana School of Law, he has also tried his best to continue these acts of service and leadership to the law school and the university as a whole. In his 3 years in UGSoL, he has been a Justice of the Judicial Board of the LSU (2022/23); the Registrar of the Judicial Board of the LSU (2022/23); an SRC Arbitrator for the University of Ghana SRC Arbitration Committee (2022/23); the Co-head of the Moot and Advocacy Committee (2021/22); among many others.





# Student Personality of the Month

All these acts of service and active participation in these extra-curricular activities were born out of an innate desire to contribute his quota to every society he finds himself in. Emmanuel, aspires to specialize in International Arbitration and Technology Law, hence, his natural affinity for international law. "Look in the mirror, that's your competition"; this popular quote by Jane Harvey-Berrick always keeps Emmanuel going even when life gets tough. The quote reminds him that winning in life is not about beating other people, but mostly, being better than yourself. With this in mind, He strives to be more than he was yesterday and be a better person daily. With this in mind, coupled with his favourite Bible verse from Isaiah 41:10, which says that "Do not be afraid, for I am with you. Do not be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand". With these in mind, he takes on every competition and adversity that comes his way with the mindset to simply overcome and be a better person at the end of it all.

Emmanuel; well deserved, from the Executive Board, Editorial board and Research team of ALSA-Gh, we congratulate you on your remarkable achievements attained, your hard work and dedication towards legal education have been recognized, we say AYEEKO. CONGRATULATIONS EMMANUEL AKPAGLI.

Congratulations



# Legal News Highlights

## JUSTICE GERTRUDE TORKORNOO SWORN-IN AS NEW CHIEF JUSTICE OF GHANA



Justice Gertrude Torkornoo's nomination was approved by Parliament on Wednesday, June 7, 2023. Swearing her into office at the Jubilee House on Monday, June 12, 2023, President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo said appointing Justice Gertrude Torkornoo as Ghana's Chief Justice was not a difficult task as she possesses the qualities to lead the Judiciary.

He added that Justice Torkornoo has what it takes to repose public confidence in the Judiciary. President Akufo-Addo gave the assurance that he will be a "dependable" and "trustworthy" partner to ensure that the judiciary and executive work harmoniously to entrench the rule of law in Ghana.

"I want to assure Chief Justice Gertrude Torkornoo that just as I did with her predecessor, I will be a dependable and trustworthy partner of the Judiciary so that the Executive and the Judiciary can work together in the spirit of mutual respect to consolidate the tenets of good governance for the benefit of the Ghanaian people," he said on Monday at the Jubilee House. The swearing-in ceremony was attended by dignitaries, including members of Parliament, government officials, legal practitioners, and representatives from various sectors of society.

Source: [graphic.com.gh](http://graphic.com.gh)

## NEW CHIEF JUSTICE TAKES OFFICE: BRING HONOUR TO JUDICIARY PRESIDENT TASKS JUSTICE GERTRUDE TORKORNOO

President Akufo-Addo explained that his choice of Justice Torkornoo was not a difficult one to make in view of her level of qualification and the number of years served with distinction and her considerable

experience on the bench of the superior court of judicature.

President Akufo-Addo urged Justice Torkornoo to guard jealously its independence, bring honour to the Judiciary and the country, and be a worthy successor to her predecessor. "I am expectant that her tenure as chief justice will also be marked by order, fairness, diligence, deep-seated respect for the rule of law and continuation of the modernisation of judicial functions and the expansion of infrastructure," he said.

The President reminded the Chief Justice that it was essential for the development of Ghana, that the Judiciary commanded the respect of the population through the quality of justice delivery and the comportment and conduct of its judges.

President Akufo-Addo wished Chief Justice Torkornoo well in her endeavours and urged the entire judicial system to lend her the needed support to enable her to promote the rule of law.

"I urge your continued solidarity and cooperation with the new Chief Justice to promote the rule of law that will be in line with the finest traditions of the Bench and the Bar and would help enhance the welfare of the people of Ghana," he said.

The President commended former Chief Justice Anin Yeboah for expanding the frontiers of Judicial independence as well as leading the biggest expansion of court infrastructure across the country. He also conveyed his appreciation to Justices Jones Victor Mawulom Dotse and Paul Baffoe-Bonnie for holding the fort during the period of retirement of Chief Justice Anin Yeboah, and thanked Parliament for the expeditious and thorough way it vetted and approved the appointment of Justice Torkornoo for the high office.

She said she would ensure that judges are accountable for their stewardship pursuant to the Constitution and the rules of the court.

Source: [ghanaiantimes.com.gh](http://ghanaiantimes.com.gh)





## JAMES GYAKYE QUAYSON GRANTED 7 DAYS TO FILE REVIEW CHALLENGING UNCONSTITUTIONALITY OF ASSIN NORTH ELECTION



Mr. Quayson polled 17,498 votes, as against 14,793 by the New Patriotic Party's (NPP's) Ms. Abena Durowaa Mensah, in the December 7, 2020 parliamentary election.

On December 30, 2020, Mr. Ankomah-Nimfah filed a parliamentary election petition at the Cape Coast High Court challenging the eligibility of Mr Quayson to be an MP.

"Upon the true and proper interpretation of Article 94(2)(a) the decision of second defendant [electoral commission] to permit the first defendant [James Gyakyé Quayson] to contest the parliamentary election of Assin North when the first defendant had not shown evidence of the cancellation of his citizenship of Canada is an act which is inconsistent with and violates Article 94(2)(a) of the 1992 Constitution," the court held.

"Upon the true and proper interpretation of Article 94(2)(a) of the 1992 Constitution, the swearing in of first defendant [James Gyakyé Quayson] as Member of Parliament of Assin North Constituency was unconstitutional, null and void and of no legal effect," the court held. The court gave the decision after a constituent of Assin North, Michael Ankomah-Nimfah, invoked its jurisdiction to interpret and enforce the constitution, with a case that Mr Quayson's election was unconstitutional."

In July 2021, Mr. Ankomah-Nimfah, won a judgment at the Cape Coast High Court nullifying Mr. Quayson's election on the basis that the MP held Canadian citizenship at the time he filed to contest the seat. Mr. Ankomah-Nimfah sought a declaration from the Supreme Court that upon a true and proper interpretation of Article 94(2)(a) of the 1992

Constitution, at the time the EC opened nominations for people to file to contest the Assin North parliamentary seat, Mr Quayson held a Canadian citizenship and therefore was not eligible to contest. A single justice of the apex court, Justice Ernest Yao Gaewu, today granted the application for extension of time to file the review.

**Source: Graphic Online**

## NEW CHIEF JUSTICE TAKES OFFICE: BRING HONOUR TO JUDICIARY PRESIDENT TASKS JUSTICE GERTRUDE TORKORNOO



A former Chief Executive Officer of the Ghana National Petroleum Corporation (GNPC), Tsatsu Tsikata, has asked the Management of the Corporation to actively engage investors to add value to Ghana's crude oil. He also encouraged the Corporation to increase local content and participation in the oil and gas sector as well as utilisation of appropriate technologies in line with the objective of the establishment of GNPC.

"GNPC has got to be proactive in identifying value opportunities from the work that's going on with these foreign investors to generate more national value," Mr. Tsikata said in an interview monitored by the Ghana News Agency on a local TV station in Accra.

He said that in the period of the establishment and active operation of GNPC (in 1985), the Corporation signed agreements with a few significant international companies like Almaco, Shell, Unocal and Alco.

Mr. Tsikata, therefore, urged GNPC to step up efforts in enhancing its human resource capacity to position the Corporation to attract more investment to address challenges in the energy sector.

The government aims to address the challenges in the energy sector with a US\$3 billion loan-support programme from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

**Source: GNA**



# Interview, with ALSA Members

## Q & A

### Answer 10 question as we spotlight him/her

**1. Please, introduce yourself?**

**Ans:** My name is Fiifi Kwofie, a law student at Central University and I reside at Tema.

**2. What University do you attend?**

**Ans:** Central University.

**3. What does it feel, being an ALSA Ghana member?**

**Ans:** It Feels great!

Being a pioneering member of any group does come with it's responsibility and challenges as there's limited precedence, but the reward of gratitude from posterity is always worth it.

**4. How has your journey been as an individual.**

**Ans:** I would say I have enjoyed the highs and lows that life has to offer. I'm grateful to God for all the past experiences and look forward to what is ahead with much optimism and excitement.

**5. If you don't mind, please share your journey as both a law student, and a member of ALSA Ghana.**

**Ans:** As a "fetus lawyer" as they say, thus only a few semesters in my LLB pursuit, I honestly think it has been both exciting and challenging at the same time. Exams, presentations, case briefs, long reading lists etc, have all been good so far, I guess lol.

As an ALSA member, and on the publicity and media team as well, I greatly appreciate the numerous opportunities the association has offered so far, notably, the access to the Forage platform. Hoping to connect and network more with my colleagues in the association.



**FIIFI KWOFIE**  
law student at Central University

**6. How does it feel to be featured in ALSA Ghana Maiden Newsfile?**

**Ans:** Nothing short of an honor. I am indeed grateful and happy altogether. I appreciate this.

**7. What are your hobbies?**

**Ans:** I enjoy choral music! Both local and foreign. My Favorite composer being our own James Varick Armaah. I also sing and play the keyboard. Aside these, I do like to drive and explore nature.

**8. What advice do you have for law and aspiring law students?**

**Ans:** To my fellow "fetus lawyers," let's keep up the good work, it only gets better from here.

To aspiring law students, especially those perhaps scared or unsettled, take that bold step! and believe that you too, can make it. However, keep in mind that "The law is a jealous mistress and requires long and constant courtship."



# Interview, with ALSA Members

## Q & A

### Answer 10 question as we spotlight him/her

**9. Do you have a favorite quote? Can you tell us what it is and why?**

**Ans:** "If it must be done, it must be done well"

This quote teaches and admonishes us to commit some conscious effort to whatever we do. Not only to academics but to life in general. This surely brings success and good results.

**10. Finally, do you have anything to say to the public about ALSA GHANA and what we do?**

**Ans:**

I would like to entreat all Law students to sign up to join this association. Its potential to grow and be a leading force in Africa is unquestionable.

I also ask all and sundry to support ALSA Ghana as it strides to unite law students for academic, professional and personal excellence. It surely is a mut watch Association.



## ARTICLE

# HOW TO BRIEF A CASE

**"A lawyer is a person who writes a 10,000-word document and calls it a 'brief!'"**  
**- Franz Kafka**

This witty saying by Franz Kafka is probably something you've heard if you've been in law school for any length of time. Briefing cases is one of the most fundamental skills a lawyer should possess since cases make up roughly one-third of your coursework as a law student. Although the process is simple, the complexity of the cases makes it laborious, if not challenging and time-consuming. As long as you follow these straightforward steps, you can brief your cases in any situation in a matter of minutes.



## ► Understand The Anatomy Of A Law Report

The first step in briefing a case is to understand the anatomy of a law report. In a pun, a brief is the skeleton of a law report. An ideal law report starts with the **TITLE**, which contains names of the parties to the case, the year of publication, a volume number, an abbreviation of the law report series in which the judgment was published and the starting page number. Next it states the **COURT** where the case was decided; the **DATE** of hearing; and the names of the **JUDGES** present.

Followed in order of the **CATCHWORDS**, which are descriptive words or phrases used to categorize the subject matter of a case and usually presented at the top of the report in a form of words or phrases separated by dashes; the **HEADNOTE** which is a summary of the case encapsulating the principle of law which the case establishes; The **BLOCKLIST** which is a list of decided cases considered by the court in formulating a principle of law; the **FACTS AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY** which is a short paragraph that outlines the nature and history of the proceedings from the date of commencement to the current hearing; the **ARGUMENT**, which is a summary of a counsels submission but is not usually included in every report; the **JUDGMENT(S)** which is the largest and most important element a law report and contains the deliberations of the judges; the **ORDERS** thus a conclusion of the judgment and finally, the name of the **REPORTER**

## ► Identify Your Case Title or Citation

The case citation or title refers to all the information needed to locate a particular case. As stated in the anatomy, this is the title of a law report and includes the names of the parties to the case, the year in which the case was published, a volume number, an abbreviation of the law report series in which the judgment was published and starting page number, thus the page number in the law report that this particular case starts.

An example is **TACKIE v LAMPTEY [2001-2002] 2 GLR 186**

The names of the parties involved in the dispute is always written in the order of who initiated the case against who. In every case, thus depending on the type of suit, you could have a 'Plaintiff v Defendant,' a "Petitioner v Respondent" or an "Appellant v Respondent" among others. The example above is a civil suit involving Tackie, the plaintiff and Lamptey, the defendant. The case was published from 2001 to 2002, in the Ghana Law Report which is abbreviated as GLR and the case starts from page 186.

## ► Pay Attention To The Area of Law

The area of law for every law report is found in the catch words. For cases that have more than one area of law, you most likely wouldn't need all the areas. Thus you can make your brief much simpler by fishing out your area of law depending on the course or the discipline you are taking.

For example, **TACKIE v LAMPTEY [2001-2002] 2 GLR 186** has an area in land law, law of evidence and an area in procedural law.

For example, one case can have an area in jurisdiction, evidence, and court process. The aim is to pick out one of these areas, say jurisdiction. For a land law class, you most likely would need a brief pertaining only to the area that deals in land law. To extend your brief to the area of evidence and procedure will be complicating your case summary. Hence pay attention to the particular area of law needed in each case.



## ARTICLE

### ➤ Read The Case

Since most law reports are out-paged, most students find this to be impossible, but in essence, you must go through the report to familiarize yourself with the case. A better understanding of the facts and principles can only be achieved through reading. Again, reading the case helps you recall it easily as you are already familiar with it.

### ➤ Consider The Relevant Facts

In clear words, this is a summary of the dispute. Most reports are likely to involve facts that are not necessarily pertinent to the issue for the court. Hence, you will need to consider only the relevant facts when summarizing the dispute. Relevant facts are those statements of happenings or chain of events that are pertinent to the issues raised under area of law. For example, in *TACKIE v LAMPTEY* [2001-2002] 2 GLR 186 the issue at hand was the identification of land ownership, the summary of facts should be centered on what brought about the dispute of ownership. Relevant facts in this case should include the source and method of each party's grant. Note that, you will not know which facts are legally relevant until you have read and deciphered the entire case.

### ➤ Outline The Procedural History

This is the order in which the case must have traveled through the courts. For a trial court opinion, indicate the kind of lawsuit the plaintiff filed for. For an appellate court, you must include the judgment of the trial court as well as the ruling that prompted the appeal. Finally, it is important to state the reasons for the appeal as well as the verdicts of the trial court and appellate court if the case travels to the supreme court. Note that not all cases are appealed.

### ➤ Determine The Issue

The issue is the legal question arising out of the dispute that needs to be answered by the court. A statement of issue in law usually begins with the phrase, 'Whether or not...' or a simple 'Whether...!' Though a statement of issue must be detailed enough to be comprehensible it must be encapsulated in one sentence and must not exceed three lines.

### ➤ State the Holding

The holding is a 'quick' or brief answer to the issue. In a simpler way, first state the holding "yes" or "no," then state the legal principle on which the court relied to reach that answer in a sentence or two.

### ➤ Describe The Rationale

The rationale is also known as the reasoning of the court or the legal backing against a ruling of the court. This includes the applicable authorities or principles in statutes or decided cases and how they are linked to the case at hand.

### ➤ State the Final Disposition or Order

Here, consider who the court ruled in favor, the orders the court made and the remedies (if any) the court granted. If it is an appellate opinion, did the court affirm the lower court's decision, reverse it in whole or in part, or remand the case for additional proceedings?

### ➤ Include Concurring/Dissenting Opinions

These are opinions from other judges that may be of interest to the case. Including this in your brief will help you see the case in a different light.

### ➤ Comments

Finally, analyze the case and its ruling from your point of view. Would you have given a different verdict if you were the judge? What are the political, economic or social implications of the decision?



## International News

candidate, according to the IPID , which claims that the generals collaborated to alter the scoresheets.The three police generals are expected to show up in the Magistrate Court to answer for their actions .  
Source :Timeslive

### UK JUDGE DISMISSED FROM OFFICE FOR DELETING RELEVANT DATA



A Circuit judge in the United Kingdom was dismissed for misconduct after he deliberately destroyed evidence that was of interest to the police. According to the statement , the judge Andrew Eastal who was appointed in 2018 was found to have purposefully destroyed evidence while knowing that it was relevant to the police officers conducting a criminal investigation. He claimed that, his acts were not intended to thwart the criminal injury, but they were nonetheless deemed to be "Misconduct of the utmost seriousness". The investigating judge's conclusion that this was extremely serious misbehaviour for which the judge should be removed from office was supported by the Lord Chief Justice and the Lord Chancellor.

### SWISS POLICE ON TRIAL OVER NIGERIAN'S DEATH



In connection with the killing of a Nigerian man five years ago,six police officers are scheduled to stand trial in Switzerland. As a result of his arrest in Lausanne , Mike Ben Peter in deceased Nigerian man passed away. It was alleged that he was a drug dealer and was taken into custody using conventional methods, according to the police.

Following his refusal to allow the search ,the police pinned him on the ground leading to his untimely death.The deceased man's relatives and anti-racist organizations have compared his passing to the shooting killing of George Floyd that was orchestrated by the American police in Minneapolis.





## International News

### WHY SUPREME COURT RULED GYAKYE QUAYSON'S ELECTION UNCONSTITUTIONAL



On the 17th of May 2023, the apex court of Ghana which is the Supreme Court of Ghana ruled that, James Gyakye Quayson's election as a representative for Assin North was unlawful and commanded that his name be removed from the records of parliament. The case suit filed by Micheal Ankomah Nimfah sought a declaration that James Gyakye Quayson lacked the necessary qualifications to serve as a representative for the Assin North area. The Court emphasised on Article 94(2) of the 1992 Constitution of Ghana which provides that a citizen must not hold any other citizenship at the time when nominations are opened by the Electoral Commission for registration of candidates for election as Members of Parliament in order to be eligible to be a member of Parliament. The Supreme Court reaffirmed its stance that the requirement of having only Ghanaian citizenship must be met at the time of nomination and not at any later period, in this case by October 9, 2020. Hence the Court held Gyakye Quayson's was ineligible to be a Member of Parliament as he owed allegiance to another state at the time he filed for his nomination papers and was declared and elected as a Member of Parliament.

**Source : Dennis Law News**

### WOMAN JAILED FOR TWO MONTHS FOR STEALING GH¢4,600

An unemployed woman by name Queenstable Mintah, 25 years of age who allegedly schemed with her friend to steal an amount of four thousand and six



hundred Ghanaian cedis from a small -scale miner has been sentenced to two months imprisonment by the Tarkwah District Court. She pleaded guilty to the charge of stealing and she was indicted on her own plea. The Court presided by Charles Owusu Ansaah fined the convict and her counterpart Ohemma for an amount of GH¢1,080.00 or serve four additional months in prison.

**Source :Dennis Law News**

### SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE GENERALS CONVICTED WITH CORRUPTION IN RECRUITMENT SCANDAL



According to Timeslive, the country's Independent Police Investigative Directorates (IPID), has charged three police generals with corruption of which two are said to have retired and one remains in service. The group was a member of a panel that in 2016 conducted interviews and made recommendations for candidates for open jobs. A different applicant was appointed unfairly disadvantaging the deserving



# POEMS

## The law & I

Did I love the law or the law loved me?  
 I sought the law but it was enacted  
 The law became a bill on me  
 One I could not pay, but sought the majority  
 However, the bill was opposed  
 as to who to bear the consideration  
 First readings were the time you appeared before all  
 In simple and verbose patterns you deliberated  
 And a second reading was made  
 by the report which I delivered  
 And there arose a debate  
 Maneuvered through the winnowing sessions  
 the guillotine and the kangaroo, votes were cast  
 I opposed your very being  
 and a third reading was made  
 Where the hearts of the majority, you won  
 An act you existed to be  
 after your assent and I acquiescence  
 I became your enemy for non countenance  
 So I asked, Did the law love me ?  
 Caused I never loved the law.....

Debby Osei Boakye  
 UPSA LAW SCHOOL.



# Legal nuggets for last month

  
 AFRICAN LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
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**ALSA-GH**

**MONTH OF JUNE**


**KNOW YOUR LAW SERIES**

1. "Chief" means a person, who, hailing from the appropriate family and lineage, has been validly nominated, elected or selected and enstooled, enskinned or installed as a chief or queenmother in accordance with the relevant customary laws and usage.

Article 277 of the 1992 Constitution of Ghana



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**MONTH OF JUNE**

**KNOW YOUR LAW SERIES**

2. An employer shall not assign, whether permanently or temporarily, a pregnant woman worker to a post outside her place of residence after the completion of the fourth month of pregnancy, if the assignment, in the opinion of a medical practitioner or midwife, is detrimental to her health

Section 56(1) of the Labour Act, 2003 (ACT 651)



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LATIN FRIDAY

- 1. Damnum Sine Injuria**

This maxim simply means 'Damage without injury', where 'damnum' means 'damage', sine means 'without' and injuria translates into 'injury'. This phrase posits that a person cannot sue for any action if it does not violate the right of a person even if the action causes damage or harm, intentionally or not. The legal right of the person has not been violated, so the court of law would not grant any legal remedy even if the plaintiff has suffered some kind of financial or physical damage as a result of the defendant's actions.
- 2. Furiosus nulla voluntas est**

This simply translates into 'A madman has no will.' A person suffering from any mental ailment or is mentally incapable cannot validly sign a will or contract, thus any document given assent to by such a person is null and void. Such a person cannot form the frame of mind necessary to commit a crime neither does he have a free will.
- 3. Justitia Nemini Neganda Est.**

'Justice is to be denied to no one.' Every person is equal under and before the law and subject to the jurisdiction of the standard courts, regardless of the persons rank or position, race, colour, gender and other features. All persons must be afforded their legal rights without discrimination; Justice is to be denied to nobody.
- 4. Nemo Moriturus Praesumitur Mentire**

This means 'A man will not meet his maker with a lie in his mouth.' This posits that a person who is about to die has no reason to lie, thus a dying person's utterances will be assumed very likely to be truthful in relation to documents, declarations and many others.
- 5. Qui Facit per Alium Facit per se**

'He who acts through another does the act himself.' This basically means that where a master or a person employs servants or an agent, he is responsible for any action taken by them in the same way that he is responsible for his own acts.

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Happy Father's day

The thrill of being a great father is not seeing your children go on to become successful adults. The thrill of a great father is the journey, experiencing your child's successes along the pathway to their greatness!

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# CLOSING REMARKS

Dear ALSAnites,

I deem it a great pleasure to deliver another amazing Newsfile for the month of June which contains new and interesting developments from Student Personality of the month to a poem written by one of our own.

I also pray that every part of this News file including the Legal News Highlights and Articles educates, informs and helps you in your journey as a law student. I know we are all excited as the Office of the Women's Commissioner has been officially introduced and are waiting for the numerous successes and achievements they would obtain both in Ghana and outside Ghana.

Once again I am grateful for the amazing contributions, encouragements and efforts given by our Country Director ( President), the Vice President (Administration), the Editorial Board, the Research Committee, the rest of our Honourable Executives and our members for making this Newsfile a success. I look forward to seeing you in the next month to do this once again. Till then, long live ALSA!!





Sincerely,  
Nana Serwah Brempong.



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