

# Ghana Bulletin of Theology

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### Editorial

The optimism with which the *Ghana Bulletin of Theology* (New Series) was launched in 2006 was very high and the editorial team was determined to ensure that the journal did not only maintain high academic standards but also a regular, uninterrupted publication. Alas, that was not to be; nevertheless, the good news is that the Editorial Committee has confronted the challenges that prevented it from fulfilling its promise and a consistent publication of the journal is now assured.

Articles published in this issue have followed the international and interdisciplinary character for which the journal is gaining reputation. Richard Young's article, 'Between Englishness and Ethiopianism: Making Space for Intercultural Theology' makes a case for the necessity of intercultural theology in seminaries. Using a Ghanaian novel published in 1911, he argues for the creation of space in seminary curricula for intercultural theology in order to foster in students a predisposition that includes perspectives on other cultures in their theological analysis. Rose Mary Amenga-Etego examines the practice and meaning of traditional same-sex marriages among the Nankani of Northern Ghana in relation to the usual concerns raised among scholars about issues such as women's role in sustaining patriarchy, female identity in African religious cultures and the current debate about same-sex relationships in Ghana.

Jan Platvoet's article has an important significance. He dedicates it to two important scholars in the Study of Religion in Africa: Professor Gerrie ter Haar, who retired from her chair at the International Institute of Social Studies at the Erasmus University of Rotterdam, The Hague and Professor John Pobee, a former Chair of the Department for the Study of Religions, University of Ghana, Legon. His article considers the 'history of God' in Akan thought; treating Akan belief as historical phenomenon, he traces the development of notions of God from a primeval to the modern period. Olantunde A. Oderinde's article

does an exegetical analysis of the New Testament passage of Mark 7: 1-7 and explores the significance of purity for health and healing. Joshua Amoah explores the historical development of indigenous Akan lyrics, which have become closely identified with the musical traditions of the Methodist Church in Ghana.

Kuwornu-Adjaotor engages in a mother-tongue study of Galatians 3:24, concluding that the translation of the verse in the existing Dangme New Testament is not adequate and calling for a retranslation. H. L. K. Agbanu's article considers, from the moral philosophical point of view, the various arguments about capital punishment and calls on African states to include traditional ideas of justice in their legal codes since the modern systems of justice do not seem to work well in such states.

Emmanuel Frimpong's article is based on research conducted among Ghanaian Christians worshipping in several Churches in London on their reading of the healing and exorcism passages in the Gospel of Mark. His proceeds with a comparative analysis of the insights gained with Western scholarly interpretations of the passage. The findings are interesting and revealing. Ntneh and Kojo Okyere engage in a comparative study between indigenous Ghanaian proverbs and Old Testament proverbs about slothfulness and poverty.