

EDITOR'S NOTE

I am delighted to inform our cherished readers that beginning with this issue, *Ghana Journal of Religion and Theology* will publish papers in English and French. This is to create a forum for knowledge sharing and research output in the Arts among Anglophone and Francophone scholars in Africa. It is also to participate in the University of Ghana's internationalisation program by engaging with scholars and scholarship in other modern languages besides English. In this volume, we have only one paper in French, but we hope to have more in the subsequent ones.

The collection of papers in this issue focuses on two main areas: African biblical hermeneutics, with its stress on the context of readers, and religion in society, specifically Ghana. While the first three papers illustrate how Africans interpret and employ the bible in their lives, the last three articles examine how religion affects choices people make in their lives and the consequences of this in society at large.

In the first article, **Kojo Okyere** interprets the book of Proverbs from a Ghanaian perspective to engage scientific and indigenous health care practices. After engaging the life and thought of the Israelites in Proverbs with the indigenous systems, the author concludes that indigenous health practices are efficacious, holistic, and resilient and must be encouraged alongside modern health care practices for the enhancement of good health in Ghana.

Mark Aidoo, in the second article, examines the tenets and practice of Charismatic leadership concerning divination and divine calling in the book of Chronicles. He argues that both Charismatic leadership and intuitive divination are expressed within divine calling, extraordinary acting, deliberation, and persuasive speech and that they all engage the principles of intelligence, manipulative speech, and sacrifice to capture the commitment of followers and influence them to take an action.

François Batuafe Ngole in his paper studies tribal identity and identity issues in selected biblical texts with the framework of intercultural hermeneutics. After analysing the biblical texts and the philosophical foundations of the tribes in Africa, the author concludes that the motif of the tribe in the Bible and Africa contributes to the construction of tribal identities, of which the ancestors form the basis.

Genevieve Nrenzah's paper is an ethnographic research that investigates the proliferation of sacred spaces in contemporary Ghanaian religiosity. It examines three renowned sacred spaces of nationwide patronage — Moment of Glory Prayer Army (MOGPA), Atwea Mountains, and Achimota Forest — and raises three pivotal themes that build on three related arguments. She argues that through sacralization, religion domesticates natural spaces and expands urban landscapes. Furthermore, she contends that this development demonstrates the enduring influence of indigenous religious understandings in shaping the ongoing modernity project of Ghana's Pentecostals, and finally, that the actions of the founders are deeply rooted in economic motivations, often inciting competition on the 'religious market.'

Godson Ahoritor in his paper discusses the sustainability of oral traditions in indigenous knowledge generation in Africa. In other words, is oral data a credible repository of knowledge? He argues that a careful qualitative enquiry, that is, reliance on individuals knowledgeable in both exoteric and esoteric of African cultural worldviews, beliefs, and practices can benefit from the in-depth knowledge of individual and communal repositories without falsifications.

Using the Assin Traditional area as a case study of Akan Chieftaincy and destoolment, **Vincent Assanful** investigates the role of the Ohemaa Akan chieftaincy issues. He concludes by observing that though the Ohemaa has the power to nominate a chief, she cannot on her authority destool the chief. Furthermore, he notes that only the kingmaker and not the Ohemaa can destool an Akan chief.

I wish everybody a pleasurable reading!

George Ossom-Batsa