

**DEEDS OF DISTINCTION:
The Story of Madam Agnes Adwoa Afra⁶⁵**

Clara Ohenewa Benneh

Institute of Adult Education,
University of Ghana, Legon, Ghana

ABSTRACT

The narrative presents a case of the silencing and marginalization of the contributions of the many rural women, whose efforts help to improve human life and meaning. Madam Agnes Adwoa Afra's life story and experiences should serve as a cogent reminder to women and gender activists across this country, Ghana, that women who show exceptional performance in offering humanitarian and other services are present in every segment of our society. Madam Adwoa Afra has spoken for many by sharing her life story. This narrative piece highlights the need to search for the many women in rural settings in many parts of Ghana whose remarkable activities and services are often unheard of, unacknowledged and/or not unrecognized. Whether other women of her like, with such strong values within our rural communities will share the joy of nationwide acknowledgement and documentation of their activities would greatly depend on the efforts of gender activists, who owe them the duty to bring them to limelight. In this biographical study, which re/presents a conversation and discussions on her life and deeds, Madam Agnes Adwoa Afra shares her experiences as a farmer, parent, role model, philanthropist and humanitarian.

INTRODUCTION

Agnes Adwoa Afra, popularly known as "I go to farm," has made a personal choice of community responsibility by offering services to humanity and providing important meaningful life-enhancing support to the sick, lonely and needy in her community. I accidentally heard about this woman when she was being interviewed on one of our local F.M stations in the Brong Ahafo Region of Ghana. Though I admired her efforts, nothing really piqued my interest at that time to learn more about her.

Memories of this woman came back to me on the 8TH of March 2007. I decided to be part of the Women's Day celebrations, which was planned by the Department of Women of the Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs to coincide with Ghana's Golden Jubilee celebrations. Among other things, a photo exhibition was mounted in recognition of the progress made by Ghanaian women in taking up leadership roles and contributing to national development.

⁶⁵ Ms Clara Ohenewa Benneh holds a Master of Philosophy degree in Adult Education. She is currently a lecturer at the Institute of Adult Education, University of Ghana. She lectures in Adult Psychology, Gender and Development, Guidance and Counseling. Her research interests are in the area of poverty and poverty reduction, gender analysis, gender policy and advocacy and empowerment.

As I scanned through the list of these celebrated women, I noticed with dissatisfaction that with the exception of the National Best Farmer of 2004, the population missing in the women profiled were women living in rural communities. We should not lose sight that though majority of our rural women are poor and unlettered, many of them, the underprivileged, possess sterling qualities and ethical values, which they have utilized to enhance the well-being of humanity. Many have made a lot of positive impact on human lives within their localities and in their own way contributed to the development of our country. For me, such women deserve the validation of their voices and experiences. They also deserve an inclusion in our calendar of celebrated women.

From the scanty FM radio information, a follow up interview was conducted with this exceptional woman. The narrative attempts to examine the life experiences of Madam Adwoa Afra and her contribution to maintaining human well-being in her community. The purpose was to project her as an underprivileged star among the privileged majority of women achievers.

METHODOLOGY

The narrative interview approach was adopted. The interview was framed on the Focused Conversation Method developed by the Institute of Cultural Affairs (2007). This method is employed to lead the narrator through certain phases of reflection and to give him or her opportunity to process his or her own experiences as he or she narrates his or her story. The conversation method normally enables an interviewer to ask a series of questions to elicit responses that take a person from the surface of a topic to examine the in-depth implications for their own life. It uses questions at four levels. The first level questions are employed to allow the researcher get the factual information on the narrator's work. The second level entails reflective activity, which calls for inner feelings, personal reactions or the internal responses of the narrator's own impressions as well as narrator judgment about their work. Interpretive questions are used to draw out the narrator's sense of meaning, values, significance and implications of her work. Decisional questions are utilized to elicit decisions on how she has decided to continue what she has been doing and the steps she has taken to see how the work continues, or what she has been trying to leave behind for prosperity.

Generative questions are used to serve as a stimulant to the production of the narrative to enable the interviewee focus the narration on the topical area of concern to the interviewer. As an active listener, and listening for what is not even voiced out by the narrator, the interviewer plays the role of reinforcing the perspectives of the narrator by using verbal and non-verbal signals to encourage and support the narrative to the end. In this case, the goal was to facilitate the narration in a way that enabled Madam Adwoa Afra to express and tell her own story with only minimal obstructions. Not many people are good in giving narrative re/presentations of their life but the inter-

viewee's composure showed that she had a commendable degree of competence. Madam Adwoa Afra is a very lively lady and this quality is noticeable at an instance. I began by informing Madam Adwoa Afra that I would be happy to listen to her tell her own story about her life and activities. She laughed and asked: "Are you taking the information to Sunyani or Accra?" These initial exchanges helped greatly to create a rapport with the woman. The interview, which was in Bono, Madam Adwoa Afra's mother tongue was videotaped, transcribed and translated and is being re/presented here. I do this wary of the limits of word use in capturing thought, emotions and ideas as well as the translation challenges presented in the use of the English language to articulating concepts and ideas in Ghanaian languages. There are often no parallels resulting in reductionism in the ideas and viewpoints. Yet, the narrative below offers an opportunity for acknowledging the efforts of an a-typical woman of excellence.

IN CONVERSATION WITH MADAM AGNES ADWOA AFRA

CLARA - Tell me about yourself. You could tell me how the story of what you do to help the sick and needy began. Tell me all the things that happened one after the other, until today that I sit with you. You can take your time in doing this. Please, give me all the details.

MADAM AFRA- I am Adwoa Afra. But people call me "I go to farm." When I was christened I was named Agnes. I am a Catholic and member of an association in the Catholic Church known as the Sacred Heart of Jesus. As a young woman, I married the then Gyasehene of Dormaa. At that time, my husband owned an imposing wooden storey building in the town of Dormaa. As a result, most of the Catholic Missionaries who came to Dormaa lodged with us. The Catholic Church at that time did not have a mission house.

Whenever they came, as a woman in the house, I served them and gave them all the assistance I could offer. Because of this interaction, they often called me and advised that I became a Christian. At that time, I loved very much to be one but when I conferred with my husband, he did not give me his support saying that a wife of a traditional chief cannot be a Christian. This did not discourage me. I kept on giving these missionaries all the services and support they needed and they kept on advising and blessing me.

It was when my husband died over thirty years ago that I was able to fulfill my dream of being a Christian. I registered with the Catholic Church perhaps through the influence of the Catholic missionaries. I also realized that I must be a member of an association in order to be a good practicing Christian. There were many associations and after learning about their aims and practices, I learned that the Sacred Heart of Jesus Society was a symbol of humility, love and service to humanity. Jesus came to live for others, bring comfort to those who are poor, sick and in need. He was a friend of

the needy. So from that teaching, I also decided to be a friend of those who are in need. I realized that the Sacred Heart of Jesus would enable me, live out what is really my heart's desire. And for thirty years and over, I have been attending to the sick, mostly in the Dormaa Presbyterian hospital. Not only that place! I also support the people in my community as a whole. I do not live a day without attending to people who are in need in the hospital.

Farming is my occupation; a routine thing that I do is going to my farm. That earned me the name "I go to farm." Farming has been my only source of livelihood. I have been able to render all the services I render to people from the proceeds from my farm. By God's design, I always have abundant yield. I was taught to hunt when I was a young girl, my father was a hunter, and usually I followed him in order to carry the game back home. In the course of performing this duty, my father taught me how to hunt as if he knew that this will one day be an asset for me to perform what I desire to do in life. As a result, I never buy any foodstuff, except salt.

CLARA - That was detailed accounts but tell me how the work you do with the sick started?

MADAM AFRA - Hmm, the Dormaa Hospital is situated where I normally pass to my farm. I always pass by the Hospital on my way to and from my farm. Most of the time as I pass by the hospital, I see some patients hanging around the hospital. I normally greet them and enquire about their health. I could always read distress in their eyes, always. This made me ponder if I could do any thing to help them.

I could remember some specific events that sparked off what I now do. One morning, while I was on my way to my farm I saw a woman lying on the ground along the path I was using. She looked very sick so I assisted her and took her to the hospital. At another time, as I passed by the hospital, I came into contact with a man that looked very sick. His condition drew me closer. I greeted him and by some sort of intuition I asked whether he has taken any food. When he answered no, I bought him some food. It then dawned on me that there might be others who may also be in that situation, hungry and needed help or some form of support. From that time onwards I started going round the wards, starting from the emergency ward, greeting and joining most of the patients in prayers. It was through such a process that I realized that most of them had no relatives attending to them. I started identifying such people and they became my special clients. I began to carry hot water along whenever I am going to my farm to give to such patients for a bath. Afterwards, I quickly go to the farm to look for foodstuffs, back home, I prepare some food and send it to them. I used part of the foodstuff and the game I get from the farm to prepare food and sell part of my farm produce to support these sick people. I wash their clothes and offer them any assistance that they might need, whether in kind or in cash. This, I have been doing regularly for the past thirty or more years.

But I can say that it started even before my husband died. Before I got in contact with the hospital, I used to help people by giving them shelter and food. Sometimes I found out that people have no place of abode and I normally offer them a place to lodge.

CLARA - Why do you do this work?

MADAM AFRA - I know that apart from people dying from their sickness, they could also die out of hunger and loneliness and I have made a conscious effort just to provide that vital human need. I normally assist the patients who have no one attending to them. I visit these patients everyday before any other engagements even when I have funerals to attend. I am never myself if I have not performed these duties. I never found any fulfillment in my life when I had not satisfied this very aspect of my life.

I do all these things everyday. I always attend to the patients before going to the farm. I cannot tell exactly why I do what I do. All that I can say is that I hate to see human beings suffer, especially when they are hungry or have nobody to care for them. I have food I do not buy and I know that human beings need food just to survive. Why can't I share with them what I have? Loneliness and hunger can worsen the condition of the sick person. I cannot tell you why but I have an inner urge and desire to provide for those who are hungry and in need of human touch. I cannot explain any further. I just cannot explain.

CLARA - What impression do you think people have about the work that you are doing?

MADAM AFRA - Many people see my work as a laudable gesture but few others do not. It is not that they disapprove but they try to discourage me. In fact many people acknowledge me and give me a lot of encouragement especially the Catholic Priests. Most often, they come to visit me and pray with me. They pray that God and His son Jesus Christ would strengthen me and give me a loving heart to continue to do what I wish to do. Sometimes, my people think I am more than human and address me as "Jesus Christ" just because of what I do. I retort quickly and tell them that I am nowhere near Christ. I am too unworthy to be marched with Him.

I must say that, though my community acknowledges that I do such good work, it has shown little enthusiasm about the work I do. Some say I am just being nosy. One day a very prominent man in my community called me and advised me that what I am doing is very risky and I may contract some contagious or infectious diseases. I quickly retorted that Jesus knows what I do and He will protect me against any such thing. I argued that Jesus did it for me and as I am following His footsteps, never will He expose me to any such dangers. I know He will protect and strengthen me to do just His work rather than to cause any evil to befall me.

CLARA - How do you feel about the work you do?

MADAM AFRA - I am very content with helping people. In fact, nobody forces me. I have not been doing these things with the intention of getting any reward whatsoever. I do them because I think and feel for those who are sick, hungry and are in need. I did not even envisage and had never hoped for the acknowledgements I have received in my later years. All my concern is for people who are sick, who are hungry and need someone to attend to them. I have lived for just this purpose for the past thirty years that I have been widowed. I always pray that God should give me the sympathy and empathy for suffering human beings. Since I started going to church I prayed that God should grant me the heart of Jesus. Even when I was a young girl I showed a lot of sympathy for people around me, even strangers.

CLARA - How do you see yourself?

MADAM AFRA - I see myself as having been blessed. I go through a lot of critical situations. Some times I get critically ill. I do not know how. Sometimes it looks as if I could die but I walk out, most of the time. I conclude that I still have a lot to render to human beings that is why God has saved me from that illness. I am unemployed so in rendering the services I give to people, I may not have a pesewa, but I cannot tell and I do not know how; suddenly help can come from elsewhere. I know God always prepares a way for me to get through. It is not my might, it is not that I have great wisdom. I believe that it is God who sees me, poor, as I am to keep and provide for me in order to provide all these services and to fulfill my hearts desire. God has never forsaken me and I will never forsake Him as my provider and fortress.

CLARA- Can you please tell me one thing that you had been very distressed or happy about in the course of this service to the sick and needy?

MADAM AFRA - Yes, there is one memorable event that has been with me all these years, even though it was very disheartening at the beginning it turned out to be a joyous moment fulfilling my believe in God and his son Jesus Christ. One day, when I went to my farm, I could get no game. You see, I sometimes go to the river to fish. Fortunately, I got some of the fish. I came home quickly as usual to prepare food for my 'patients'. When I sent the food, one of the patients said he could not take fish for some reasons; I was really disappointed because he refused to take the food and most importantly because I had no money to buy any meat. I thought for moments, I could not think of anything. An inner urge pushed me to walk down to the market. As I entered the market, a woman called me "I go to farm," any game? I normally sold to her. Then, by a dint of luck she said if you have nothing for me, I have something for you, she gave me a piece of grass-cutter meat. Immediately this song came over to me and I sang it aloud: *Only Jesus can do this*.

For someone to lay down his life for another: *Only Jesus can do this*. I quickly ran home and prepared some food for my special patient. I was very happy.

CLARA - Have you been rendering services to other people apart from the patients in the hospital?

MADAM AFRA - Yes, you see, let me refer you to one or two instances. A young man once was riding a bicycle and he fell. He was seriously hurt. I was standing in front of my house and could see he could even not get up. I rushed to him lifted him up. I observed that he was bruised all over. I took some water to wash the wound then I realized that he had a very deep cut so I rushed him to the hospital. He was sent to the theatre for the wound to be stitched. I quickly came back home prepared food, washed the clothes he was wearing and sent it back to him. Fortunately, he was from this town, so I approached the parents and informed them of his condition. I kept visiting him till he was discharged from the hospital.

At another time, a decomposing body was found in the bush. Nobody wanted to be around it. When I got wind of it, I said to myself, God does not want the human being he has created with his own hand to be treated this way. I took my own cloth to cover the corpse. Quickly, I ordered a coffin to be made from my own resources; Afterwards I went to the hospital organized an ambulance and some laborers and got the corpse buried.

There are many other things I have done to help other individuals in this community. Whenever, anyone sees a human being in need, they come straight to my house to tell me. One day, a man was found lying unconscious near the town's refuse dump hill. I was informed and quickly I rushed to the place, organized an ambulance and took him to the hospital. I later realized he was from the northern part of the country and had no relative in the town so I took the responsibility of caring for him. I also I paid for all his medical expenses. And many such things I have done.

CLARA - Are you satisfied with what you have done for sick people?

MADAM AFRA - Yes I am satisfied with everything I do and I will continue to do what I do. I believe God has abundantly rewarded me, to say the least, with long life and mostly with an inner joy. I always pray that God would grant me the heart that will always be willing to help those who are sick and in need.

CLARA - What are the major problems you face now?

MADAM AFRA - My major problem is that as I am advancing in age, my health and strength are deteriorating. Presently, I have a serious joint ailment. My children who supported me are now grown and married out. It is not easy for me at the present to carry foodstuffs from the farm, cook, carry the food to the hospital and wash the dirty clothes of patients. Secondly, I must say that the very hospital I rendered all my services seem to have forgotten about me. The new Pharaohs do not know Joseph and they have not rendered me any medical attention now that I have not been well.

CLARA - Have you made any effort to let people take up this when you are no more, especially your children?

MADAM AFRA - Yes, I have been speaking on air in our local radio station, entreating most especially young girls not to look only for riches but to be willing to offer services to their fellow human beings especially those in need. I speak to many but if only one can take after me. I will be very happy.

CLARA - Have you received any form of award in recognition of your work?

MADAM AFRA - But first and foremost, when I started, I did not do all these things for any reward as such but I do it because of my religious conviction to follow the footsteps of Christ, my God and Savior, for whom I live. It was quiet recently that people stated showing concrete appreciation. Initially, it was verbal and many asked for God's blessing for me.

Many people have reciprocated my efforts with material rewards in cash and in other funds. Surprisingly, many come from outside this community. In many instances, people from Sunyani, Berekum and even as far away as Kumasi and the Ivory Coast have helped. For instance, one day I was called to the hospital for a message. The message was a letter from the Ivory Coast which was to thank me for the care I gave to a wife when she was admitted to the hospital. To my surprise, a substantial amount of money had been enclosed. I could not even remember who that person was or when that happened.

I had received many other positive gestures, but it had come in quite recently. The warmest moment was when Pope John Paul II sent special greetings to acknowledge my service to humanity. I do not know how he got to know about me, perhaps the Bishop of my Diocese mentioned me and my work to him when he visited. I said to myself, this is God's doing and how marvelous is his work. The Presbyterian Church has also given me a certificate of honor during their golden jubilee and the Dormaa Presbyterian Hospital. Notable also is the interview I had with the British Broadcasting Corporation.

CLARA - Thank you, Madam Afra. Would you like to ask any question?

MADAM AFRA - "Not a question in particular," she laughs. I only implore that if you are taking this information to Accra, then I will need a copy of whatever comes out of this interview for keeps. God bless you my daughter

CLARA - I shall honor your request. Thank you.

INTEPRETING MADAM AFRA'S STORY

Good deeds of people should be recounted and should not be left untold. Narratives on life experiences help people to learn surprising and delightful things about other

people. Stories of individual personalities are very important because they generate first hand knowledge and wisdom for others. Such knowledge has a powerful effect on behavioral and attitudinal change.

The narrative above portrays a unique woman who by a specific religious faith, lives out all the religious convictions she stands for in life: service to humanity, particularly care and support for the sick and needy. Madam Agnes Adwoa Afra, popularly known as "I go to farm" is an illiterate poor widow and a farmer who lives in the Dormaa Ahenkro community in the Brong Ahafo Region. Materially, she is poor but she possesses spiritual qualities that require determination, time, commitment and self-sacrifice.

For last thirty years or more of her life, she has focused her heart, attention and time, on serving the sick and needy. Throughout those years, poor as she has been, materially, she has single-handedly, drawing from her own meager resources, provided comfort, support and hope to thousands of patients from diverse backgrounds; Ghanaian and foreigners alike especially at the Dormaa Presbyterian Hospital. She attended to them, provided for them by giving them care, water, food and other essential support such as toiletry supplies and laundry services.

The Dormaa Township is very close to the Ivory Coast border. One fact about the people living along the western borders, which Ghana shares with Ivory Coast, know is that access and health delivery system in Ghana is far better than that of the neighbors across the border. Ivory Coast is noted for having poor health delivery services and system. Hospitals in the Brong Ahafo Region, along the borders close to Ivory Coast, such as the Presbyterian Hospital at Dormaa Ahenkro, Holy Family Hospital at Berekum, Saint Mary's Hospital at Drobo and Presbyterian Hospital at Sampa, all faith-based holdings, normally have an influx of patients from the Ivory Coast. Patients from the Ivory Coast, in most cases, do not have immediate relatives to attend to them. Another identifiable factor is that the 'strangers' are mostly northerners who serve as farm hands to cocoa farms and most of the time do not have immediate relatives to support them when they accidentally fall sick, especially during the off season of cocoa. It will not be far from right to conjecture that many who come for medical care come as destitute, with no money and may have no access to the basic human need as food. Such categories were the special clients of Madam Adwoa Afra.

It is not surprising that Madam Adwoa Afra comes across a host of patients who needed a human touch and feeling of philanthropy that she willingly offered. These hospitals normally do not provide food for its patients. They also have limited staff and require the assistance of family members and others to support patients on admission. She therefore became a caregiver of all 'strangers' who came to the Dormaa Presbyterian Hospital. In fact, she identified them and supported them in diverse ways. From her own analysis, she has served as caregiver to thousands of such peo-

ple. To quote her own words: "I cannot count them". This assertion has been corroborated by people in her community.

Madam Adwoa Afra has always been the first point of call when it comes to issues concerning strangers or people in need. For example, when an unidentified dead body was found, she was immediately called upon to act. Why she? In her own words:

A decomposed body was found in the bush. Nobody wanted to be around it. A woman came to my house to inform me, 'I go to farm,' there is a dead body by the refuse dump.' When I got wind of it, I said to myself, God does not want the human beings He has created with his own hand to be left unburied when they die. Human beings are not to be treated this way. Quickly, I took my own cloth to cover the body. I ordered a coffin to be made from my own resources; Afterwards I went to the hospital organized an ambulance and some laborers and got the corpse buried and many other things I have done to help other individuals in this community."

She has single-handedly organized for the burial of two corpses from the hospital, or dead patients whose relatives could not be traced.

The genuineness of Madam Adwoa Afra as a humanist and a philanthropist stems from her use of the words human beings, hunger, suffering and need, which she kept using and emphasizing throughout the interview. One could easily recognize in her eyes and in her speech a deep sense of empathy and sympathy that she shares with the people she renders her care and services. It can be inferred that as an unlettered woman, she could not have read these themes from books but that it was only a way of life and experiences she practices and therefore very accustomed to exhibiting and actually exhibited to humanity.

During my encounter and interactions with Madam Afra, I found a woman whose association with a religious group, faith in God and belief in humanity, had influenced her attitude throughout the latter part of her life. Her emphasis on what she has learned from her association made me curious about the profile of this society. The question is: To what extent can religious faith, teaching or orientation nurture attitude, feelings, behavior and conduct for humanitarian services? In the first place, to the society of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Jesus symbolizes infinite love, purity, humility and service. The simple meaning of the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is love. Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a prayerful observance and outward action that acknowledges and celebrates love. As Madam Afra acknowledged, "in all my prayers, I have asked God to render me a heart of His son, Jesus Christ." The Society recommends to its members to be charitable to their neighbors. As part of their annual programme activities, members of the society of the Sacred Heart of Jesus must strive to offer gifts to the poor, the sick and those in need. They believe

that it is better to practice devotion through faith by praying and by doing good works like feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, visiting the sick and the imprisoned. They believe that through good works people can help people in need.

It could therefore be conjectured that the spirituality and charisma that such societies teach and stand for may have inspired and motivated the old woman to show love, affection, companionship, care and concern for the sick and needy. Her story perhaps, serves, as an example of the powerful impact and positive role that religion play in people's responses to human problems.

To Madam Afra, human beings matter and human beings must be provided with services to cater for the needs of others. She believes that human beings are more precious than anything else and thus she devotes her later years in life purposefully by rendering such services to the sick and people in need. She in diverse ways brings smiles and hope to many; the sick, weak, children and adult, the living and the dead. It must be pointed out that these values are rare in our recent days and very difficult to uphold by many. People who commit themselves to such ethical and spiritual values are very few, very few indeed. This makes Madam Adwoa Afra, an exceptional individual, a generous character and an outstanding figure; one of few humanitarians and philanthropists of our era. Madam Afra is also a widow, materially poor but she finds fulfillment by giving off the little that she has from her own resources. Her role as a caregiver and offering humanitarian services distinguishes her from many others, individuals and collectives, who raise funds for such work.

Moreover, understanding the effects of poverty on women remains important when we examine the life experiences of women in rural communities. Women in rural communities bear a disproportionate burden of poverty in Ghana yet they tend to give much out of the little they have. Taking cognizance of the serious limitations and deprivations they face, they still manifest high spiritual and ethical values, which cannot be quantified in monetary terms but are worthier than diamonds. Yet, such women often have less of or no formal exposure and little efforts have been made to publish such individuals. My many awards ceremonies that have been organized in recent tie hard include persons like Madam Afra. In the recent, Ghana at fifty awards and celebrations, women were hardly acknowledged. Yet the few women who were able to make the cut hardly included persons like Madam Afra. There is no doubt that our nation's largest source of human and ethical values lie within our rural women. Many are such undiscovered 'diamonds'; there is the need to continue searching for such rare women gems in our rural settings if women's stories are to be told and completely too.

AN ORDINARY WOMAN DOING EXTRA-ORDINARY THINGS

Madam Adwo Afra's impact on society is tremendous. As stated already, the late Pope John Paul honored her, A British Broadcasting Corporation correspondent in-

interviewed her in 2004 describing her as “an ordinary woman doing extra-ordinary things.” She was featured in the *Weekly spectator* on a full page on her activities in (*Weekly Spectator Saturday October 1 2005p4*). The Brong Ahafo Chapter of the Ghana Journalists Association also honored her in 2001. Again, she has been honored by the Dormaa Presbyterian Church during its Golden Jubilee celebrations and the Dormaa Presbyterian Hospital.

Madam Adwoa Afra is a true Christian, humanitarian and philanthropist, indeed. Though neither a politician, nor an academic, nor an entrepreneur, nor a wife of a head of state and never received any national award, her humanitarian efforts have made her presence to be felt and known by many far and wide. She should be recognized as an achiever in her own right who is worthy of celebration. There are many such women whose lives and activities are making great impact in their communities and humanity in general. They do not make it into headline news but make tremendous impact on the lives of individuals and groups in their communities. Such persons should be fished out and celebrated with the other notable women as we celebrate fifty years of our women achievers. As we celebrate fifty years of women achievers, Madam Agnes Adwoa Afra is presented as the “Florence Nightingale” of our golden jubilee.

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