

Tribute by Nkonyaman Foundation

ith sadness we have to announce the death of the Founder and Director of "Nkonyaman Foundation for Educational Development", Dr. Peter Kwadjoe Fordjor. Born in Nkonya Wurupong in 1939 he had his Primary School Education in Wurupong Presbyterian Primary School and his Middle School Education in the then newly established Wurupong RC Middle School. He was always aware of the fact that a child coming from a rural background faces more challenges on the road to academic success than if you are born into an educated, well to do family in an urban centre. However, when he learned during the first years of this century that the pass rate of the BECE-examination in Wurupong was either very low or at zero percent, he was shocked. Something had to be done.

Since 2007 Dr Fordjor, together with his wife Ingrid, made general enquiries among all stake holders in town to get their opinion on the causes of the discouraging situation in Wurupong Basic Schools, as well as suggestions what could be done to turn the situation around. Using Osaase Lodge as a meeting point and in close contact with

the Wurupong School Management Committee a holistic strategy was developed among the stake holders to address challenges. He was convinced that programs involving pupils, teachers, parents and the community were necessary. Therefore, since 2010, Nkonyaman Foundation organized among other activities a yearly Speech-and -



Prize-Giving-Day, the first one in October 2010, Capacity Building for Teachers, Mentoring/Role Model Programs for JHS pupils, Contributions to School Libraries and Sensitization of parents.

Through his personal contact to Prof Bea Lundt he organized and supervised from 2010 to 2014 the practicals of her students from the University of Flensburg attached to Wurupong Basic Schools for three weeks to one month a year. He understood this co-operation as a

unique chance for teachers and pupils in Wurupong to experience a boost of motivation and foster learning and understanding of both sides. During his last Speech-and-Prize-Giving-Day in Wurupong, October 2017, he was taken ill and had to be rushed to the Wurupong Clinic. In his written speech, which he was no longer able to deliver, he quoted a German proverb which says: "Help yourself, then God will help you." In other



words: "Heaven helps those who help themselves." Closing his speech on this note he appealed to pupils to work hard and learn well, to teachers to teach well and give their best, to parents to support their children by supervision and financially, and to the community to do everything that the schools, the teachers and the pupils can give their best. You cannot honor him better than by following his advice.