

KATH/Gee Hospital Still Is Another Kwame Nkrumah Sika Duro (Final)

"...So now, being the economists...let the Danquah-Busia-Bawumia-NLM-NLC-PP-NPP Prestige Project Fabricator gang tell us the economic value...of all the benefits that were accrued, and are still being enjoyed over 57 years by millions of patients, by the existence of the KATH in Kumasi...Next, let them add the thousands of labor, direct and indirect employment and other economic opportunities created...then top all of that with the current plant replacement value (PRV) of all those facilities..., all facilities constructed during 1952-1954 as part of the \$10.2 million project known as the KATH/Gee Hospital. You know, the hospital commissioned by Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, Leader of Government Business of the Gold Coast, in Kumasi in 1954...So, how does \$1,528,800,000.00 look and sound...partners?..., (Prof Lungu, 16 Nov. 15-rev).

For all they want, the management and officials at the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital in Kumasi may strive to suppress and bury the name and image of Dr. Kwame Nkrumah from the premises and websites they control in the name of all the People.

But, the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital, aka Gee, aka the Kumasi Central Hospital, still is another Kwame Nkrumah Sika Duro.

THE \$10,2 MILLION HOSPITAL WAS NO "PRESTIGE PROJECT", OR WAS IT?

It was, after all, during the time Dr. Kwame Nkrumah was Leader of Government Business of the Gold Coast that the "Hospital for Europeans" was cast out to the

"Kwadaso Military Quarters" to make way for a grand new \$10,192,000.00, 510-bed hospital at that site in Kumasi, the second biggest city in the then Gold Coast (now Ghana). And, when it was first completed and commissioned by Kwame Nkrumah in 1954, it was formally named the "Kumasi Central Hospital."

Later re-named the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH), it was never titled "Kwame Nkrumah Hospital for Kumasi" even though the hospital was built for Africans in the Gold Coast under the leadership of Dr. Kwame Nkrumah. This was during a time some in the Gold Coast, among them political elites like Dr. J. B. Danquah, had precious little vision and self-pride to imagine the African was capable of managing their own affairs left entirely to their own devices.



GHANA'A DEVELOPMENTAL TRAJECTORY SQUANDERED:

Dear reader, if the developmental trajectory of Ghana and the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH) had been half as smooth, data-driven, and

professionally-inspired as the story of the British company (Gee, Walker & Slater Ltd.), that constructed the hospital in Kumasi in 1954, Ghana today would have long been a "middle-income" country. And the hospital in Kumasi would have long been a healthcare system, a Healthcare Center of Excellence and Research (H-COER), already. That hospital would today have a lot more nurses, a lot more doctors, a lot more specialists, a lot more student health practitioners, and certainly a many more beds than the 1,200 beds it now hosts for a metropolitan area and region with a 2010 population of 2,035,064 and 4,780,380, respectively.



THERE IS CRITICAL DATA:

Here is the data: The population was 1 million around 1955 when the 510-bed hospital opened with "...an initial annual in-patient admission of 8,000...". Our hospital "...currently admits over 43,000 patients" (say 45,000) catering for "...half of the 20 million people of Ghana...(from)...a catchment area...across the three Northern Regions, Ashanti, Brong Ahafo Regions and the Northern sections of Western, Central, Eastern and Volta Regions as well as the neighbouring La Cote d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso..."

Can we now say that there has been marked improvement in our hospital's capacity over nearly 50 years when our hospital now has just 1,200 beds for 10 million people-plus?

Can we, for 0.12 beds per 1,000 of the population, plus?

Sadly, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah's government that funded and commissioned the KATH was overthrown by the hands of rascal Nonentities, Liars, and Crooks (NLC). Among this bunch of traitors were Harley, Afrifa, Kotoka, Deku, Nunoo, Busia, and their Mouthpiece-BribeTaker/Nuke-Vietnam Ankrah. (Yes, mark it: NLC-Mouthpiece-Bribe-Taker-Nuke-Vietnam General Ankrah!).

You see, the British firm that constructed KATH during 1952-1954 (Gee, Walker & Slater Ltd.), started humbly in Ripley, UK, as a family joinery, picture framing, and undertaker business in 1864. Samuel Gee, whose name became synonymous with the hospital in Kumasi joined the firm in 1870. He soon left, returned as a foreman for a local construction company, then married the daughter of the principal of Walker & Slater Ltd, in 1884. In short order, Gee and his sons controlled the company (Gee, Walker & Slater Ltd). Through World War I and later, they built munition buildings, warehouses, factories, luxury apartments, and publicly financed municipal flats. Even so, it was not until 1923, about 60 years after the founding of the company, that Gee, Walker & Slater Ltd., "...celebrated a major landmark in its history when it won its first contract in London – a nurses' home for the North Middlesex Hospital, in Edmonton..." Twenty-five more years later, the company was given the contract to build that hospital in Kumasi, in the then-Gold Coast.

RECOGNIZING AFRICAN PRIDE & CULTURAL HERITAGE:

The record is unequivocal: Dr. Kwame Nkrumah strongly believed in the capacity of the African to manage his own affairs. We can surmise, though, there were no locally qualified civil engineering companies that could construct a "Gee-Type Hospital" in 1952. The marching order, then, for the government of the Convention People's Party (CPP), was to ensure the foreign company selected for the project had the requisite experience, capacity, and resources to get the job done for the Gold Coast (soon to be Ghana).

And Gee, Walker & Slater Ltd. did not disappoint!

The Gee company constructed the 510-bed hospital to specification.

In fact, the company preserved the legendary Komfo Anokye Sword on the hallowed ground where it existed by constructing around it, like they did at the Alamo in San Antonio, Texas, or other major historical landmarks that have been preserved all over the world. As such, this was part a preservation program for an important Asante historical and cultural artifact. Consequently, when, in 1964, Mr. Muhammad Ali, (born Cassius Marcellus Clay, Jr., in 1942, in Louisville, Kentucky), then the World Heavyweight Boxing Champion, attempted to pull the Sword from that sacred ground in Kumasi, Mr. Ali certainly recognized the tremendous significance of the sword in Ghanaian history and culture.

Mr. Muhammad could not have had any intent to actually, physically, positively, "pull" the Komfo Anokye Sword from that hallowed ground at the entrance to the Kumasi Central Hospital.



Sadly, the local NLC traitor-bunch had no respect for their African heritage, democratic mandate, and the rule of law. Nor, did they think twice working with foreign powers, among them the US, UK, and France, etc, to subvert the belief of independent Ghanaians in Ghanaians themselves to manage their own affairs.

GEE-TYPE SUCCESS ELUDES NKRUMAH'S GHANA:

Fact is, the planned developmental trajectory of the Ghana Nation, the Ashanti Region, and the KATH, etc., were rudely disrupted by the NLC traitors when they staged that coup d'état in 1966. When they did, they threw away all development plans regardless of what stage of development the projects were in. In fact, based on records, if KATH had not already been completed, the Busia-Danquah-NLC-bunch would have classified the Kumasi Central Hospital as a "prestige project," and axe it, they surely would have.

And so, today, nearly 50 years after the overthrow, Ghana is ranked among the highest-indebted countries in the world, with some of the worst records on infrastructure and capital equipment, including health delivery, research, and education.

On the other hand, the solitary company of individuals in the UK just 3 times older than the Ghana nation that constructed the KATH is still prospering in business. Now known simply as Gee Construction Limited, the company has probably constructed or refurbished more high value commercial, education, administrative, housing, medical, and ISO9001/ISO14001 certified/accredited facilities (among them leisure, rail, retail, airport, and libraries, museums, and hotels facilities), than have been constructed or refurbished in Ghana since the overthrow in 1966.

It is all in the data!

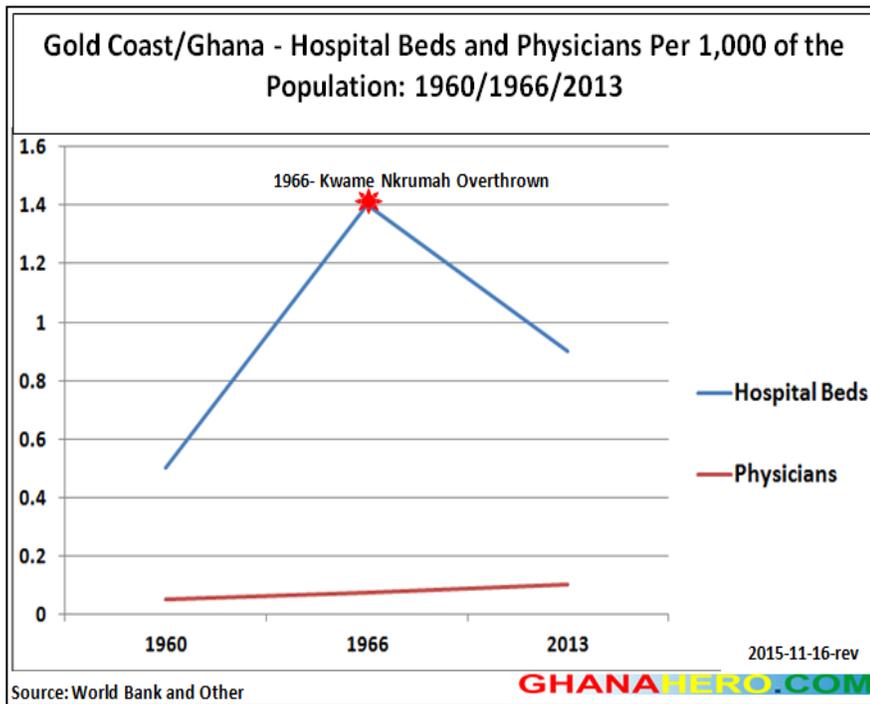
1954-1966: THE "SIKA DURO" FACTOR IN THE KUMASI CENTRAL HOSPITAL:

To move on with our look into the data, we are not aware of any studies that looked into the number of people (mothers, fathers, daughters and sons, etc.), in Kumasi (and in the Ashanti Region, even), who died needlessly just 20 years after the overthrow of Nkrumah's government because population had grown greatly and there was no capacity at the KATH. Then consider that the KATH has for the longest been the primary hospital for referrals also for Brong Ahafo, Volta, and the regions in northern Ghana.

Even so, there was good news, but mostly during 1954-1966!

Consider that a fair estimate of inhabitants of Ghana in 1954 the year the Kumasi Central Hospital was constructed allows us a population approximately 6 million. We have a more firmer 6,043,448 for 1957, the year Ghana became independent.

Before all that, a 1948 population survey estimated the number of people in the Ashanti Region at 823,700 (and Kumasi, at about 78,500). Therefore, assuming the population of the Ashanti Region was 1,000,000 in 1954 when the 510-bed KATH was commissioned, we get a hospital bed to population ratio of 0.51. However, we would hazard that even though there were "30 government hospitals" in the Gold Coast in 1954 (most of them in the South), we could never improve on our 0.51 ratio for KATH because KATH actually served the Ashanti Region-plus.



Thus another Kwame Nkrumah miracle and "Sika Duro"!

During the period 1957 through 1966, from independence day to the year Kwame Nkrumah was overthrown, the number of hospital beds in Ghana increased dramatically. From a low 0.50 per 1,000 of the population for the entire country, it more than tripled to nearly 1.8 beds per 1,000 of the population.

Dance "Adowa-Dance" to 2013!

In 2013, forty-seven years after the overthrow of Kwame Nkrumah, there were just about 0.85 hospital beds per 1,000 of the population, indicating a gross failure to add to hospital bed capacity anywhere commensurate with the rate of increase in the population.

Further, while the number of doctors per 1,000 of the population in Ghana did not see a negative dive, it was still not inspiring given the promise to Ghana 47 years earlier. You see, by 1959, there were 0.5 doctors per 1,000 of the population. Six (6) short years later, in 1966, there were 0.8 doctors per 1,000 of the population, an increase of approximately 0.3 doctors per 1,000 of the population.

Next, "Abele-Dance" in One-Two time, to the other side of 2013!

During 2013, there were an estimated 0.1 doctors per 1,000 of the population, as well representing a failure to meaningfully add to the number of doctors in Ghana anywhere commensurate with the rate of increase in the population. In short, whereas during 1960-1966 the increase in doctors per 1,000 of the population was 0.3 those 6 years, the increase in the number of doctors per 1,000 of the population the entire 47 years after the overthrow of Nkrumah was 0.2.

DANQUAH-BUSIA-BAWUMIA-PRESTIGE-PROJECT FABRICATORS CAN'T ROPE-A-DOPE THAT:

Thus, was squandered the promise of development of/for Ghana, from North to South, East to West, and all places in-between Kumasi and the Ashanti Region. Such that even Mr. Muhammad Ali himself could not sugar-coat the dismal Ghana record with his famed "Rope-A-Dope" dive-and-jive. Simply, all the promise of development, progress, and happiness that Mr. Ali witnessed and experienced firsthand in 1964 just 10 years after the construction of KATH, were all squandered beginning with the actions of that Ankrah-NLC-Busia-NLM traitor bunch, and sundry absent-minded military dictators, among them Mr. Jerry "Accountability" Rawlings.

It is therefore in that light that we must faithfully evaluate the \$10,192,000.00 seed investment in the 510-bed hospital in Kumasi in 1954, just 3 years before independence. If Nkrumah's CPP government had simply saved that money, by 2014, the income (principal, plus interest) would be just \$80,353,000.00.

So now, being the economists that they are, let the Danquah-Busia-Bawumia-Prestige-Project gang tell us the economic value (in dollars or cedis, or whatever), of all the benefits that were accrued, and are still being enjoyed, over 57 years, by millions of patients by the existence of the KATH in Kumasi, in the Ashanti Region of Ghana. Next, let them add the thousands of direct and indirect employment and other economic opportunities created all those years. Finally, let

them top all of that with the plant replacement value (PRV) of all those facilities still existing, including those roads, all facilities constructed during 1952-1954 as part of the \$9.1 million project known as the KATH that was commissioned by in 1954 by Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, Leader, Government Business, Gold Coast.

**KOMFO ANOKYE TEACHING HOSPITAL (KATH):
ECONOMIC FACTOR TABLE FOR DANQUAH-BUSIA-BAWUMIA-
NLM-NLC-PP-NPP PRESTIGE PROJECT FABRICATORS**

Item	Direct Employment & Labor Category	Number of Employment*	Cumulative Economic Impact (Direct/ Indirect): 1954-1995^	Cumulative Economic Impact (Direct/ Indirect): 1995-2015^
1	Doctors	176		
2	Para-Medical	556		
3	Nurses	757		
4	General Administration	28		
5	General Services	52		
	TOTAL	1,569		

*Allow them to assume 1995 Base Year for their Homework.

^Let them assume for each one of those 50 years, plus the "ripple factor". Fill-in the blanks.

We at www.GhanaHero.com have calculated a value more than \$1,528,800,000.00 (\$1.5 Billion) for just the initial investment of \$10.2 million in 1954, as of 2014.

How does \$1,528,800,000.00 (\$1.5 Billion) look and sound, if we simply multiplied the original investment by 150, just about 3 times the age of Ghana? Or, we could go nuclear economic-wise. Using the Table below, our "Prestige-Project-Fabricators" could utilize 1,569 (from 1995) as our baseline number of employees each one of the 50-odd years and estimate impact assuming "ripple effects." That is, each KATH job each year supported about two extra jobs and every dollar spent by KATH (approximately \$5.25 million in 1995) supported roughly \$1.99 of additional economic activity every year, in the Ashanti Region and beyond.

Then, what value to add for the millions of lives saved and/or reconstructed in the Ashanti Region and all over Ghana, all those years?

How would all of that compare to the paltry \$80,353,000.00 we would have earned if we had merely saved our money in a bank?

Or, maybe, our Prestige-Project-Fabricators would have preferred we gave them the those funds back in 1952. In that case, what would they have done with all that money, for all the good People in the Ashanti Region-plus?

Talking about prestige projects!

Give us a break, partners!!!

So it goes, Ghana!

NOTES/SOURCES:

1. AKA = Also Known As.
2. Ghana Statistical Services. 2010 POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS, FINAL Report, Population of Kumasi Metropolitan Area (2,035,064). Population of Ashanti Region (4,780,380).
3. This is Derbyshire. The Derby Telegraph. Building on small beginnings, 30 April, 2009, <http://www.derbytelegraph.co.uk/Building-small-beginnings/story-11618217-detail/story.html>.
4. The Kumasi Central Hospital was designed in part by Dr. Albert Hawe and Dr. Charles Bowesman, both Irishmen who helped train the first Ghanaian doctors and surgical specialists. Dr. Hawe was personal physician to President Kwame Nkrumah and Dr. Bowesman treated Asantehene Nana Osei Tutu Prempeh II, assisted by Ghanaian apprentices. Both Drs. Bowesman and Hawes were married to Ghanaian women. The hospital was constructed by Gee, Walker & Slater Ltd., during 1953-1954. (The company is now known as "Gee Construction Limited", <http://www.geeconstruction.co.uk/about/history/>).
5. Ghanaweb. Ghana: Komfo Anokye Hospital At 50, 6 October 2006, <http://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/health/Komfo-Anokye-Hospital-At-50-111706>.

6. Ramesh Govindaraj et al. Hospital Autonomy in Ghana: The Experience of Korle Bu and Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospitals. Harvard School of Public Health and School of Public Health University of Ghana (1996).

7. Reportedly, there were 30 government hospitals three of which had nursing training schools, all with a total of 3,630 beds in the Gold Coast in 1954. In 1956, in the Ashanti "dependency", there were 11 hospitals, 19 health centers. and 41 midwifery clinics. As a result, we could conclude that the KATH and the "European Hospital that was re-sited at the "Kwadaso Military Quarters" must have been included in the count for the Ashanti "dependency". After faithful research, we do not have any numbers indicating how many hospital beds were still reserved for "Europeans", versus "Africans" who were the majority, before independence and full control of government by the Convention People's Party (CPP). (Visit GhanaHero.com for more information, or send them a note, if you have a question).

8. Human Resource Policies and Strategies for the Health Sector, 2007-2011, KATH Staff Table Summary (1995).

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