Ghana sweeps WAEC top Awards

Ghana has swept all the top three International Excellence awards instituted by the West African Examinations Council (WAEC) which seeks to honour candidates with outstanding performance in the West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE).

Awardees

Master Cecil Tetteh Kumah formerly of Mfantsipim Senior High School was adjudged the Overall Best Student in the 2020 WASSCE written by over two million candidates from the five participating countries.

He had a total score of 650.1328.
Master Kumah is currently with the Columbia University in the USA studying Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science. For topping the West Africa, Master Kumah was presented with a cheque for $1,500.

The second Overall Best student went to Mr Godfred Aseda Obeng from Hope College at Gomoa Fete. He is currently with the University of Ghana.

Master Obeng had a total score of 625.6953 and for placing second, he took away $1,200 while Ms Afua Manukure Ansah who took the Overall Third Best had a total score of 624.640.

Miss Ansah, who is currently studying at the Cornell University, USA, took home $900.
The Distinguished Friend of Council Award was presented to Dr. John Anum Sackey, a former Senior Lecturer, Department of English of the University of Cape Coast and Central University as well as a Chief Examiner, Literature in English and Oral English.

For his award, he took home a plaque.

Making Ghana proud

Earlier, President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo congratulated the three on making Ghana proud, saying "the three awards winners are Ghanaians who are beneficiaries of the free SHS policy."
He urged prospective candidates in the region to learn from the success chalked up by the three.

President Akufo-Addo further lamented on the high level of examination malpractices, particularly the leakage of examination questions, saying that the menace must be of concern that needed immediate attention.

That, the President noted, hindered quality assessments, adding that it erased the public confidence in the examinations by the council. He, therefore, called for comprehensive measures to be put in place to curb the practice.

President Akufo-Addo gave an assurance that "the government is working with WAEC to help curb examination malpractices in Ghana."

According to him, that would ensure that Ghanaian children became competitive and also maintain the integrity of the examination administered in the country.
For his part, the Chairman of the Council, Mŕ Baboucarr Bouy, commended Ghana for promoting the work of the council and education in the sub-region. He also called on other governments to invest in the council’s in their various countries. Mr Bouy emphasised the need to help curb examination malpractices in the region.

Criteria for the award

The criteria for the award is opened to only candidates with a minimum of eight Grade A1s at one sitting, without any hint of impropriety. The raw scores of the eligible candidates are converted to T-scores and used to rank the candidates.

In the event of time, the T-scores of the candidates in their common subjects (English and Mathematics) are used.

Where there is still a tie, the raw scores of the candidates in the core subjects are used and in the event of a further tie, the T-scores of the best of the candidates remaining core subjects are used.

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