

Okyere-Darko Edward
second-year student of Faculty of Law
Ternopil national economics university
Scientific supervisor: *docent of the Department*
of Theory and History of State and Law of TNEU
Angelica Baran

THE ROLE OF HIGHER LEGAL EDUCATION IN GHANA

Bramley once said in his book "God of Eden's" that "Rational minds tend to seek for rational causes to explain human problems." How do we even develop and build people with rational minds in our societies? And how can we spot the potential of a rational thinker? Some people contend that Education, both formal and informal, is the key to the above-raised questions. But, is it just the Education that will hone rational minds? Or? It's based on these questions that we would like to talk on the topic "the role of higher legal education in Ghana. Before we talk about Legal Education in Ghana, permit us to take you through briefly the education system or the cycle in Ghana that one has to pass through before landing on law school.

Education in Ghana is divided into three phases: basic education which comprises of the kindergarten, primary school, Junior High school, secondary education which consists of the Senior High School, technical and vocational school, and the Tertiary education which is made up of universities, polytechnics, and colleges. Education is compulsory between the ages of 4 and 15 [1]. Kindergarten lasts 2 years, Primary school lasts 6 years, and Junior High School lasts 3. Now let's focus on each of the phases.

The Basic Education, compulsory for all citizens, lasts 11 years which ends with the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE). Once the BECE is achieved, the pupil can pursue into senior high schools. Placement into High school is not automatic but rather it's based on the BECE qualifications. Every student is expected to have the basic knowledge in the following subjects before you will be allowed to partake in the BECE: English Language, Ghanaian Language and Culture, Social Studies, Integrated Science, Mathematics, Basic, Design and Technology, Information and Communication Technology, French, Religious and Moral Education, environmental studies, pre-vocational skills, pre-technical skills, Movement and Drama (Music and Dance), and physical education.

The sole official language of instruction throughout the Ghanaian educational system is English. Students may study in any of eleven local languages for much of the first three years, after which English becomes the medium. Students continue to study a Ghanaian language as well as French as classroom subjects through at least the ninth grade. All textbooks and materials are otherwise in English [1].

The Senior High School (SHS) Education lasts 3 years which ends with the West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE). The system is structured in a way that every student is required to declare the field of study program: Agriculture program, general science program, general arts program, business program, Home Economics program, and Visual arts program. The SHS curriculum is composed of core subjects: English language, mathematics, integrated science, and social studies. Every student is entitled to choose about 4 or 5 elective subjects depending on the specified

program. The general science program already has a fixed 3 electives namely physics, chemistry, and biology. The additional 1 or 2 electives depends on the school [2]. Vocational and technical Education takes different forms either following the vocational and technical programs as elective courses in the SHS or joining a technical and vocational institute from scratch. An SHS ranking is established every year by the Statistics, Research, Information, Management and Public Relations division of the Ministry of Education, based on the WASSCE results. This gives the past students their bragging rights.

Tertiary education is basically divided into Universities (academic education) and Polytechnics(vocational education), which offers an academic education from bachelor to Ph.D. Students are admitted based on their W.A.S.S.C.E (West African Senior School Certificate Examination") performance and the minimum grade to enable one to qualify for University education is C. A bachelor degree is usually completed after four years of majoring in a specific field of interest. Master degrees are of two sorts: A one-year program concluded with a final paper based on a literature study, or a two-year program, concluded with a final paper based on one year of independent research. Both can lead to a Ph.D. usually achieved in 3 years within a doctoral program. Polytechnics, on the other hand, propose 3-year curricula, leading to a Higher National Diploma (HND). The students have then the possibility to follow a special 18-month program to achieve a Bachelor of Technology degree [3].

Ghana also possesses many "colleges of education", public or private. They are usually specialized in one field (colleges of agriculture) or in one work-training (Nursing training colleges, teacher training colleges etc. This is the complete cycle of the Education system in Ghana. The next chapter focuses on how one can gain admission into Ghana Law School.

The admission requirements for law schools in Ghana vary by school and degree - LL.B. (bachelor of laws) or LL.M. (master of laws). Ghana has three main law schools namely Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA), Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), and University of Ghana. Every law school has its own requirements. To qualify for admission to the Ghana School of Law for the Professional Law Course, students must be successful both in the Entrance Examination and Interview.

All LLB graduates from law schools in Ghana are allowed to sit for the entrance exams. However, ALL Ghanaian LLB graduates or holders of equivalent law degrees from Universities in the United Kingdom, Canada, United States of America and other common law jurisdictions who have obtained passes in all the prescribed subjects/courses for admission are also allowed to sit for the exams on the condition that they passed certain required subjects such as Ghana Legal System and Methods etc. Students who have also obtained their law degrees from civil law legal system countries have special requirements too.

This is the complete cycle one is required to go through before attaining higher legal education in Ghana. There's no doubt that the rational minds of the people will be honed after passing through all these hurdles in Ghana

REFERENCES:

1. GIMPA Law School, <http://www.admissionsgh.com/gimpa-faculty-of-law/> KNUST Faculty of Law, <http://www.admissionsgh.com/knust-faculty-of-law/> University of Ghana, <http://gslaw.edu.gh/admissions/entry-requirements/> Ministry of Education 2013, Ghana, pages 9-12; table 46 (p. 78).
2. Joe Adu-Agyem; Patrick Osei-Poku (November 2012). "Quality Education In Ghana: The Way Forward". International Journal of Innovative Research and Development. pp. 165–166. Retrieved 13 June 2014.
3. Review of Education Sector Analysis in Ghana 1987-1998, WGESA "Vocational Education" in Ghana, UNESCO-UNEVOC (2012) - Overview of the vocational Education system "Country Module: Ghana", NUFFIC(2013) - Overview of the Educational system by the Netherlands organization for International Cooperation in Higher Education.



Victoria Omotosho O.O.

*second-year student of International Law
Ternopil National Economics University*

***Scientific supervisor: Ph.D., docent of the chair of the
Department of Theory and History of State and Law of TNEU
Valentyna Kravchuk***

THE GENERAL THEORETICAL ASPECTS AND LEVELS OF EDUCATION IN NIGERIA

INTRODUCTION:

The Federal Republic Nigeria, located in the western part of Africa, is made up of thirty-six states and a capital (Abuja), with the estimated population of about 192 million. Education being an instrument of change in Nigeria, education policy has been a product of evolution through series of historical developments and in achieving national development. Education in Nigeria is overseen by the Ministry of Education. Local authorities take responsibility for implementing policy for state-controlled public education and state school at a regional level. The education system is divided into Kindergarten education, Primary education, Secondary education and Tertiary education.

PRIMARY EDUCATION:

Primary education begins at around the age of 3 for the majority of Nigerians. Students spend six years in primary school and graduate with a school-leaving certificate. Subjects taught at the primary level include mathematics, English language, Christian Religious Knowledge, Islamic knowledge studies, science and one of the three main indigenous languages and cultures, Hausa-Fulani, Yoruba, and Igbo. Private schools also offer computer science, French, and Fine Arts. Primary school students are required to take a Common Entrance Examination to qualify for admission into the Federal and State Government Secondary schools, as well as private ones [1].