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I Speak Of Ghana



Synopsis

It's a rare person who can be both funny and wise at the same time. Yet that is exactly the way to describe Nana Awere Damoah's writings in this small but compelling short story collection about contemporary life in Ghana. In it the reader will find Ghanaman in traffic, or Ghanawoman paying the corrupt policeman. Either way, one knows these are the words of a master story teller who handily blurs the lines between laughing so hard it makes one cry, or crying so hard it makes one laugh. *I Speak of Ghana* is an honest journey of deft oration replete with the sounds (from the harmonious to the cacophonous), smells (including the pleasant and unpleasant), sights (from the eye-catching to the embarrassing), frustrations, triumphs and the mundane – everything that makes the Ghanaian experience finds its way into this book. Unlike the typical ranting about Ghanaian situations, Nana performs an insightful examination of the heart of the matter. Dissimilar to empty praise, Nana thoroughly embraces the issues that give us hope as people connected to Ghana. Narrated with humor, the book is Nana's eloquence at its best.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Nana Awere Damoah was born in Accra, Ghana. He holds a Master's degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Nottingham, UK, a Bachelor's in Chemical Engineering from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana. Nana spent all his secondary or high school years at Ghana National College, Cape Coast, Ghana and speaks fondly of growing up in the suburb of Kotobabi, in the Ghanaian capital, where he started his education at the local Providence Preparatory School. A British Council Chevening alumnus, Nana works in West Africa. He is an associate of Joyful Way Incorporated, a Christian Music Ministry in

Ghana, where he was the group's National President from 2002 to 2004. Nana started writing seriously in 1993 when he was in the sixth form and has had a number of his short stories published in the Mirror and the Spectator. In 1997, he won the first prize in the Step Magazine National Story Writing Competition. His writing has appeared in StoryTime ezine, Legon Business Journal, Sentinel Nigeria Magazine and the anthology African Roar (StoryTime Publishing, 2010). He is the author of six books: Nsempiisms, Sebitically Speaking, I Speak of Ghana, Tales from Different Tails, Through the Gates of Thought and Excursions in my Mind. He maintains two personal blogs at www.nanadamoah.com and www.nanaaweredamoah.wordpress.com. He is married to Vivian. The couple and their children are based in Tema, Ghana.

"I speak of Ghana" is a book that one can never get tired of reading. It keeps you picturing all that goes on in GH. As Ghanaians, we have a way of making fun of every problem we encounter as a nation; it calms our nerves so we say. Some of the issues are so funny that I am tempted to laugh but at the same time I feel sad. Sad because instead of us progressing we are rather retrogressing. The book reflects our attitude, perceptions, and oh our lack of sense of urgency, misplaced priorities on and on and on. A must read book as well as all his books for every Ghanaian, and the Africa continent at large. Way to go Nana, I speak of Ghana part 2 will not be bad. Well done.

With this collection, Nana's fourth book is yet another great source of insight into what goes on in the minds of the vast majority of Ghanaians in particular and Africans in general. The settings are drawn from multiple countries and cultures, but the thread that runs through is the same - we are able to laugh at ourselves in spite of the situations in which we find ourselves. Be prepared to laugh, smile, raise your eyebrows and shake your head at the same time; the mixture of humour against the backdrop of everyday reality is that potent. By the way, prepare to pull an all-nighter - this is one of those books you might find yourself quite unable to put down until you have read through right to the end. Nana has really spoken of Ghana indeed. Both thumbs up!

One must be truly Ghanaian to really understand the book 'I Speak of Ghana' It speaks of the true nature and character of the Ghanaian. If one is not careful, though, one would assume that there was no hope for 'Ghanaman'. But if the youth of today can be taught not to waste their minds, a precious commodity, the future of Ghana and Africa will indeed be great. Thumps up to the Author. I Speak of Ghana

A very well thought out book. Thought provoking and funny. I could not put the book down till I was done. I highly recommend this book. Are you a Ghanaian? Do you need to know about the ways and thinking of the Ghanaian? This book is a must . Very well done Nana

I Speak of Ghana is a nostalgic and gripping read from beginning to end. It is a blended mix of humor, enagement and comical mockery all designed to remind the Ghanaian reader, especially, that as hopeless as it may all seem, there is still reason to be hopeful, as long as that hopefulness is stewed in awareness and a willingness to think and act. It is definitely a worth-while read that will leave you thinking long after you flip the last page.

I Speak of Ghana reminds me of my childhood, teenage years and life as a married man in Ghana and what I want to change. It also shows how the Ghanaian finds humour in everything sadly to the neglect of our poorly developed country.

Well written, funny and, when I read pieces to drivers and hostel clerks, they were excited and in agreement with the author. He deals with serious issues but with a great humor.

Oh, I love this book. Aside the laughter that arises when one reads it, numerous real life lessons abound in this master piece. I would recommend it any day anytime to anyone to read.

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