

Ghana: Dr. Busia's Statue Inspires BA Youth

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Atronie — After the official inauguration of a statue of Dr. Kofi Abrefa Busia, Ghana's Prime Minister during the Second Republic, in Sunyani, through collaboration between the Brong-Ahafo Regional Co-ordinating Council, and the Busia Foundation International, many youth from within the region, have been visiting the place, turning it into a tourist attraction site.

Though there were divergent views from the public, about the location of the statue, which is at the Jubilee Park, some had the view that the Park, which has long been unofficially called Nkrumah Park, should have been re-named Dr. Busia Park, after the inauguration of Dr. Busia's statue.

However, the name was not change, as was anticipated by the public, but one significant change about the place, noticed by the BA File, was that the place is recently turning out to be a tourist attraction site, particularly for the youth, who know little about the late Dr. K. A. Busia.

The BA File managed to interact with some of the youth, who were at the place to look at Dr. Busia's statue, were however disappointed, saying that such an honor was long overdue.

One Fredrick Debie, of the University of Development Studies, was enthused about the honour done Dr. Busia, but suggested that it was not enough, because people still wanted to know more about the late Prime Minister, who has made the Brong-Ahafo Region proud.

He called for an information center to be established, where novels and other reading material, about the late Prime Minister, and other important personalities of the region, could be accessible for reading.

Ms. Lily Donkor, of the Sunyani Polytechnic, added that the statue of Dr. Busia gives her some kind of inspiration, whenever she passes by, saying "I feel proud to be a Ghanaian, and follow suit to what Dr. Busia did."

According to Ms. Donkor, Ghanaians could be more patriotic and dedicated, if people, who have contributed immensely to the growth of the country, were honored, by erecting statues for them within the districts, where they come from.

"There are more people, who are still alive and needed to be honored. We shouldn't wait till their deaths, before honouring them," she wailed. Kwame Opoku Agyemang, a Goaso-based businessman, who shared a similar sentiment, encouraged honoring people who had risen, as some were still raising the image of the region, in terms of politics, academics, sports, religion, social, agriculture, culture, among others.

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He mentioned the likes of the former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ghana, Legon, Professor George Benneh, the veteran politician, J. H. Mensah, the late Bishop James Kwadwo Owusu, of the Sunyani Catholic Diocese, the renowned Fetish Priest and Chief, Nana Kwaku Firi, the former Super Featherweight boxing champion, Nana Yaw Konadu, the one time Black Star's striker, Kwasi Owusu, the former National Best farmer, Nana Gyedu, the veteran Musician, C.S.T. Amankwaa, and women like the Editor of the Ghanaian Times, Adwoa Yeboah Afari, among others, to inspire the youth. "I felt very proud of the region, during the symposium organized for Dr. Busia. A lot was learnt, which instilled in me a sense of determination and patriotism," said Matilda Oppong Yeboah, a pupil teacher in Sunyani.

According to Matilda, Dr. Busia's statue seems to be urging the youth, to persevere in fighting for the growth of the region, and the country at large.