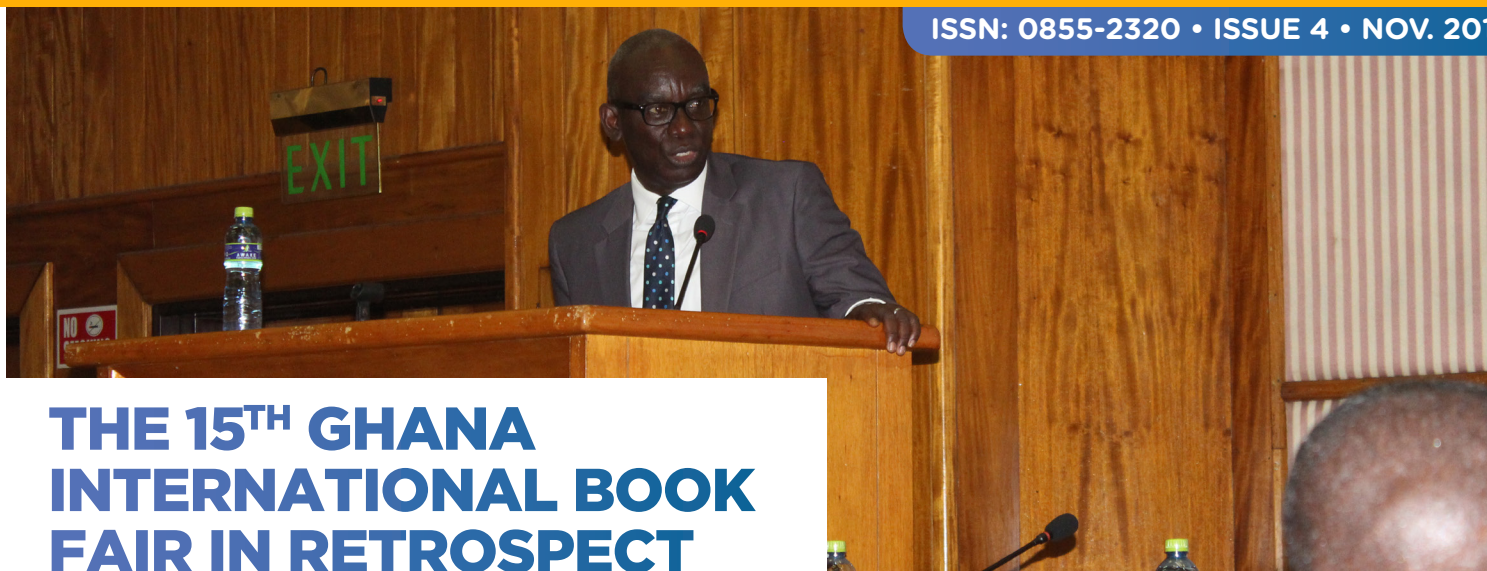


# Ghana Book News



A NEWSLETTER OF THE GHANA BOOK PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

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## THE 15<sup>TH</sup> GHANA INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR IN RETROSPECT

The 15<sup>th</sup> Ghana International Book Fair was held at the Accra International Conference Centre from Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> August to Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2017. The theme for this year's fair was **"Books and Culture in the Digital Age."** The fair opened from 9am to 6pm daily, with impactful events such as:

- » Pre-Press Essentials for Designers and Publishers Workshop
- » Books and Culture in the Digital Age Workshop
- » Rights and Licensing Seminar
- » ICT Seminar: Exploring the positive side of social media (for JHS and SHS students)
- » Symposium: The use of mother tongue (L1) as a medium of instruction at the lower primary
- » Reading Session: Time with Authors
- » Reading Clinic/ Literacy Games for Children
- » Publishers and Booksellers Meeting
- » Reading Programme for Schools by Adwinsa Publications
- » Scholastic Literacy Laboratory Project by Scholastic
- » Preparing for Your Best Academic Year Yet by Scholastic
- » Book Launch by Smartline Ltd

This year's book fair involved 102 Exhibitors— 95 local exhibitors and 7 foreign exhibitors with 4 trade visitors from India and UAE.

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ASST. EXEC. SEC. • Ernest Oppong

The opening ceremony was held on Thursday 24th August, 2017 at 10:00am at the Committee Hall 1, Accra International Conference Centre. It was chaired by Nana Osei Bonsu, the CEO of Private Enterprises Foundation. Mrs Margaret Nkrumah, the Former Vice President of SOS-Kinderdorf International, was the Keynote Speaker.

In his opening remarks the chairperson noted that the GBPA has a critical role to play in the development of the country's culture and history. He blamed inadequacies in the country's cultural practices on the lack of documentation of the country's culture and history and urged the Association to bridge that gap and urged government to come up with policies geared towards acquisition of local books for schools. "Publishers' relevance," he said, "depends on the government of the day and... we cannot continue to depend on foreign publishers [as has been the case] since independence ..." He called for government's support to grow the industry.

GBPA President, Mr Elliot Agyare, informed that a number of impactful workshops and seminars will take place during the book fair, aimed at helping to grow publishing in Ghana, urged all participants and the public to take advantage of them. He announced a special brainstorming meeting on how to mainstream booksellers into the industry chain. He called for meaningful support for the industry to develop and for collaboration between the Ministry of Education and publishers to raise the standard of education in the country.

Mr Peter S. Dery, Deputy

Managing Director of the Heritage Bank, major sponsor of the fair, said the success of every country depends on "how well we inculcate good reading habits in our children." He therefore pledged the bank's support in that direction.

Other personalities and stakeholders in the industry gave encouraging messages.

Mr Yoofi Grant, Chief Executive Officer of Ghana Investment Promotion Council, mentioned that since the digital platform created a bigger platform for



GBPA President, Mr Elliot Agyare called for meaningful support for the industry to develop and for collaboration between the Ministry of Education and publishers

the youth to read widely they should take advantage of the positive side of social media to enhance their lives. He advised the GBPA to turn their challenges into opportunities. He promised that GIPC is "... actively seeking investment to [strengthen] the industry."

Nana Kwasi Gyan Apenteng, Chairman of National Media Commission and President of the Ghana Association of Writers (GAW), said it is very important to understand the benefits of books in the development of any country. He mentioned that book publishing is at the centre of the digital economy and there was therefore the need for deep reflection on the theme—

"Books and Culture in the Digital Age."

He announced that GAW would organise a book festival on September 21, at PAWA House in Accra, having already organised similar festivals in the Western and the Upper West Regions. The next regional festival would be held in the Volta Region.

The Executive Secretary of the Nigeria Publishers Association (NPA), Mr Emmanuel Abimbola Abiola, expressed his excitement at being part of the 15th Ghana International Book Fair. He indicated that his participation was necessary as a measure to deepen the strong bond between publishers in Ghana and Nigeria and also to reciprocate the visit of the Ghana Book Publishers Association during the recent Nigerian International Book Fair held in May, 2017. He pledged the continuous collaboration between the NPA and GBPA to

help promote publishing in the sub-region.

Dr Margaret Nkrumah, former Vice President of SOS-Kinderdorf International, keynote speaker for the day advised parents to inculcate reading habits in their children by developing interest in reading books themselves. She said parents should give books to their children at a very tender age to whip up their interest as they grow. She stated that, "the digital age has impacted on the way we live, read and [on] every facet of our lives." Dr. Nkrumah emphasised on the need to properly document the country's cultures and history.



# TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR BOOK INDUSTRY PLAYERS



Mr Ravi Shroff, CEO of Nutech Print Services - India facilitating Pre-press Essentials Workshop

## Pre-Press Essentials for Designers and Publishers Workshop

This two-day workshop (24-25 August 2017) was sponsored and facilitated by Mr Ravi Dev Shroff, the Managing Director of Nutech Print Services India. The interactive teaching forum touched on the process of book making, binding and technical considerations in book printing. The facilitator satisfied the curiosity of his audience by answering every question they had and made sure they really understood the topic. He also touched on the very basics of layout such as trim size/bleed, file naming conventions, image resolution etc. as well as advanced topics such as colour gamut and printing to the ISO Standards. Certificates of participation were awarded to the 35 participants.

## Books and Culture in the Digital Age Workshop

A two-hour workshop on Books and Culture in the Digital Age was organised on Friday 25th August 2017 with 17 participants attending. The interactive workshop which was facilitated by Mr Bonny Uba, MD of Focus IT Services UK, touched on the differences between digital book and print book culture; digital distribution platforms and better e-book pricing.

The facilitator seized the opportunity to inform participants about the Focus Advanced Publishing Software and outlined its benefits to publishers and offered special deals to publishers. Certificates of participation were issued to the participants.

## Rights and Licensing Seminar

By kind courtesy of the International Book Bank (IBB), a seminar on Rights and Licensing was organised to help Ghanaian publishers to understand how to increase their titles by trading in publishing rights. The seminar was facilitated by Mr Brian O'Donnell, an Independent Publishing and Copyright Professional who was sponsored by IBB.

The first session took place in Committee Hall 1 on Friday 1:100pm – 3:00pm; the second, Friday 25th August, 2017 in the same venue from 1:05pm – 3:20pm. In all 70 participants attended the seminar.

Mr O'Donnell's presentation was structured into three parts: Copyright Basics and Discussion, Licensing Basics and Discussion and Licensing Contracts and Discussion. He enlightened the participants on factors to consider as an author or publisher when selling or buying the rights of a title from an industry player in a different country.

## Publishers and Booksellers Meeting

As part of efforts to revive the non-functioning book chain in Ghana, a joint stakeholder meeting was organised for publishers, booksellers and printers on Sunday 27th August at 2:00 pm. The meeting was very well attended with about 40 participants. The Chairman of the 15th GIBF Committee and President of the Ghana Book publishers Association welcomed all present and participants were given the opportunity to share their opinions on how best we could get the book chain working. Whereas most publishers were concerned about piracy and delays in payment after supply of books, the booksellers were also concerned about direct sales to private schools by publishers. The printers on the other hand lamented about the high cost of importing paper and their inability to remain competitive.

At the end of the meeting, a committee made up of representatives from all sectors of the book chain was set up to look at all the concerns raised by stakeholders and suggest the best way forward. It was resolved that Ghana Book Development Council should oversee this project since it falls directly under its purview.



Visitors checking out books at the Kumasi book fair

## GBPA & GBDC ORGANISE KUMASI BOOK BAZAAR 2017

ERNEST OPPONG

To commemorate the annual World Book and Copyright Day celebrated every 23rd April and to promote books and reading, the GBPA and the Ghana Book Development Council (GBDC) organised a book bazaar from 25th to 27th May, 2017 at the Kumasi Cultural Centre. Twenty-six exhibitors participated to provide a platform for publishers, booksellers and writers to make books available to the Kumasi public.

Dr. Osafo Acquah, a past president of GBPA talked about World Literacy Day. Representing the GBDC, Ms. Barbara Bukari talked about her office as the mandated government institution concerned with ensuring book industry standards. A workshop on Book Industry Standards facilitated by Mr Woeli Dekutsey, the

CEO of Woeli Publishing Services and Mr Kwabena Agyepong, the General Manager of Winmat Publishers was held for 15 publishing participants. A presentation on the forthcoming 15th GIBF including training programmes and other events was made by Mr. Manukure Kissiedu (Ag. GIBF Director). Mr. Kennedy Amankwaa, the Honorary Treasurer of GBPA, encouraged Kumasi publishers who are not yet members of the Association to join for benefits that will uplift their publishing operations.

Though attendance was below expectation, the general organisation of the event was good and the exhibitors deemed it a worthy beginning of more successful future book bazaars.



# GBPA PARTICIPATION IN NIGERIA INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR 2017

**Joseph Baffour Gyamfi**



The GBPA President (Mr. Elliot Agyare) and the Acting Executive Secretary (Joseph Baffour Gyamfi) represented the GBPA and the Ghana International Book Fair (GIBF) at the this year's NIBF held at the University of Lagos Multipurpose Hall, from 8<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2017. The theme for the event was "Book Chain, Government Policies and the Promotion of Reading Culture in Africa." The fair was attended by exhibitors from Nigeria, Ghana, India and UK. A number of workshops were organised as part of the fair.

Participation by Ghanaian publishers this year was more encouraging than last year. Two of our prominent members; Adwinsa Publications and Kwadwoan Publishing were in attendance. The absence of EPP Books and Services was however highly visible, due to their impressive participation over the years. A lot of book buyers who usually buy books at a huge discount from EPP kept on visiting our stand to ask

why EPP was absent.

A number of workshops and meetings were organised during the fair, notably geared towards strengthening the book chain. The GBPA President was given the opportunity to address participants during a workshop organised by the Nigerian Publishers Association (NPA).

The major concerns faced by Nigerian Book Industry articulated at the various workshops— piracy, non-functioning book chain, self-centeredness amongst individual publishers etc. were the same challenges facing the Ghanaian Book Industry.

## Meetings with NPA and APNET

The President and the Acting Executive Secretary met with the leadership of the NPA to discuss how best our associations can collaborate to explore the publishing potentials in the sub-region.

The President met with

the Chairman of APNET (Mr Samuel Kolewale) to discuss the hosting of APNET offices by GBPA. In this wise the engagement of Mr Ernest Oppong to manage the APNET desk was discussed and and it decided that Mr Kolewale should visit Ghana to have a meeting with Mr. Oppong once an official letter confirming his release by GBPA is sent to APNET.

It was further proposed and agreed that an urgent APNET Board meeting be convened during the 15th GIBF to discuss how best to revive the Network.



Mr. Agyare addressing the NPA



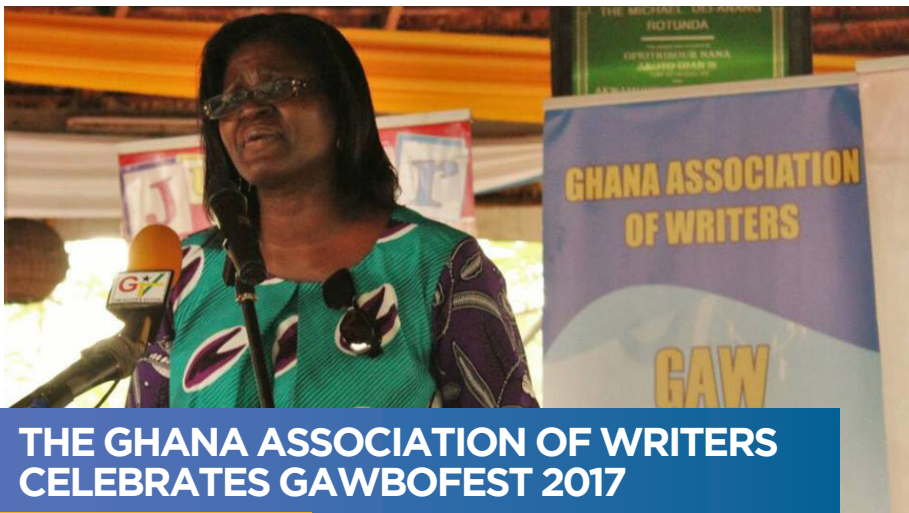
# GIBF 2017 IN PICTURES











## THE GHANA ASSOCIATION OF WRITERS CELEBRATES GAWBOFEST 2017

BY ERNEST OPPONG

GAW organised the seventh Book Festival, dubbed GAWBOFEST 2017, on September 21, 2017 (Founder's Day holiday) at PAWA HOUSE, South Roman Road, Roman Ridge, Accra. It was an all-day event celebrated from 8:30am to 5:30pm under the theme "*Empowering Ghana through Reading*".

The purpose of this annual book festival is to bring together authors, publishers, illustrators, booksellers, bloggers, book designers, librarians, teachers, parents, children and readers in an atmosphere of fun to celebrate books, reading, writing, story-telling and creativity.

The President of GAW, Nana Kwesi Gyan Apenteng, welcomed all the participants to the GAWBOFEST and urged them to make the best out of the celebration. The programme was chaired by Prof. Esi-Sutherland Addy and the guest speaker was Dr. G. Koryoe Anim-Wright, the President of the African University College of Communications (AUCC). She indicated there is a correlation between reading and national development. Dr. Anim-Wright made a call to all present to be players and not spectators in order to advance reading and writing for national development.

Many educative and entertaining events were held to rekindle the spirit of reading and writing which is fading from our national consciousness. Some schools, parents, writers, publishers and other book industry players converged to make the celebration a success.

The following were varying events performed:

- Authors reading from their books to the audience
- Authors signing copies of their books for readers
- Publishers stands where everyone could buy books and other reading-related products
- Poetry Slam
- Storytelling
- Balloon craft
- Face painting
- Spelling bee and quiz
- Writing clinic
- GAW bookshop – a one-day bookshop of members' books at discount prices
- Live music performed by a youth trombone choir
- Seminars and workshops
- A children's stage featuring interactive activities and presentations

## Who vs. Whom

Let's crack the code for who and whom. It is easier than you might imagine. The following are informal methods rather than rules; however, they really work!

**RULE:** Use who when you could replace it with he.

Example: Who/whom is standing by the gate?

We would say, "He is standing by the gate." So who is correct.

**Example:** Gail wished she knew who/whom won.

Gail wished, is a subject and verb pair (also called a clause). She knew is another subject and verb pair (clause). Who/whom won, the third clause, is the one we care about here. We would say, "He won." So who is correct.

**RULE:** Use whom when you could replace it with him.

**Example:** To who/whom am I speaking?

Let's turn the question into a sentence to make it easier: I am speaking to who/whom. We would say, "I am speaking to him." Therefore, whom is correct.

**Example:** Hank wanted to know who/whom they trusted.

Hank wanted to know is a clause. That leaves who/whom they trusted. Again, let's turn the question into a sentence: Who/whom did they trust? We would say, "They trusted him." Therefore, whom is correct.

**Credit: GrammarBook.com**



# International Book Fairs for 2018

International Book Fairs	Date	Venue
New Delhi World Book Fair	6 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, India
Cairo International Book Fair	25 <sup>th</sup> January, 2018	Rabat, Egypt
London Book Fair	10 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> April, 2018	Olympia, London
Bologna Children's Book Fair	26 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> March, 2018	Bologna Fair Centre, Bologna, Italy
Quebec International Book Fair	4 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> April, 2018	Quebec, Canada
Abu Dhabi International Book Fair	25 <sup>th</sup> April - 1 May, 2018	Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.
Nigeria International Book Fair	7 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> May, 2018	Multi-Purpose Halls, University of Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria
Book Expo America	30 <sup>th</sup> May – 1 <sup>st</sup> June, 2018	Javits Center, New York, USA
Zimbabwe International Book Fair	Last week of July, 2018	Harare Gardens, Zimbabwe
Beijing International Book Fair	23 <sup>rd</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> August, 2018	Beijing, China
<b>Ghana International Book Fair</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> August – 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2018</b>	<b>Accra International Conference Centre, Accra, Ghana</b>
South African Book Fair	First and second week of September (Yet to fix a date)	Johannesburg, South Africa
Nairobi International Book Fair	Sept - Oct (Yet to fix a date)	Sarit Centre Expo Hall, Westlandâs, Nairobi, Kenya.
Frankfurt Book Fair 2017	10 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> October, 2018	Frankfurt, Germany

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# 10 Famous Book Hoarders

by Emily Temple

## 01 Karl Lagerfeld

During a “master class” at the 2015 International Festival of Fashion and Photography, Lagerfeld explained: “Today, I only collect books; there is no room left for something else”. His collection includes books in French, English, and German.

300,000 Books



## 02 George Lucas

In 1978, George Lucas established the Lucasfilm Research Library—library is not open to the public, but his employees—as well as special guests like Cecil B. DeMille, Alfred Hitchcock, Cary Grant, Clint Eastwood, Steve Martin, Edith Head, and Charlton Heston—are allowed to check things out.

20,000 Books



## 03 Jay Walker

Jay Walker founded Priceline.com, calls it “the Library of the History of Human Imagination”

10,000+ Books

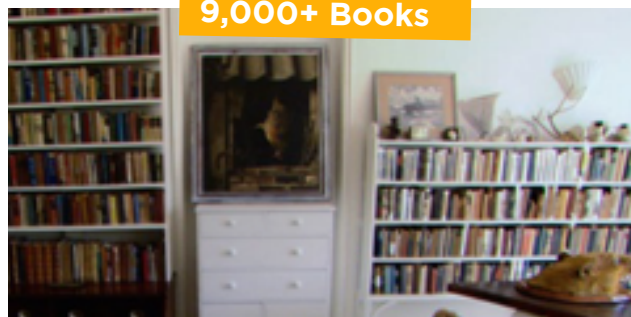


## 04 Michael Jackson

### Michael Jackson

The King of Pop was also the King of Books. He had 10,000 books at the Neverland Ranch, “[a]nd there were places that he liked to sit... and read—he was very well-read.”

9,000+ Books



## 05 Ernest Hemingway

He carried a library with him wherever he went, and was continually acquiring new books, as many as 150-200 a year. By the time of his death, his Finca Vigía library had some 9,000 volumes—

7,000+ Books



## 06 William Randolph Hearst

### William Randolph Hearst

Hearst had two libraries in his castle/ Ken Dream House—the main library, which held 4,000 volumes, and the Gothic study, which held 3,000.

07

**Thomas Jefferson**

"I cannot live without books," Thomas Jefferson famously said. According to the Library of Congress, when the British torched the capital in 1814, Jefferson had built the biggest personal library in the United States—

**6,487 Books****6,000 Books**

08

**Nigella Lawson**

Food writer, television personality Nigella Lawson is pictured in front of the floor-to-ceiling bookshelves filled with thousands of cookbooks in her house in London. Her favorite book is David Copperfield.

**5,000+ Books**

09

**Harry Houdini**

When Houdini died, he left his private collection—book on magic, theater, and spiritualism—to the Library of Congress. Several sources claim that at that time he probably had the largest collection of books on magic in the world.

**4,000+ Books**

10

**Hannah Arendt**

The Hannah Arendt collection at Bard College is made up of some "4,000 volumes, ephemera and pamphlets."

Accessed 20/9/17 from <http://lithub.com/10-famous-book-hoarders>

# 16TH GHANA INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR, 2018 IN FOCUS

**Theme : Revitalising the Book Chain for  
National and International Cooperation**



Accra  
International  
Conference  
Centre



Thursday,  
30th Aug. to  
Sunday, 2nd  
Sept. 2018



9:00am  
- 7:00pm  
daily