



# PRE-TERTIARY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF GHANA-(PRETAG)

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### CALL FOR URGENT ACTION TO ADDRESS INDISCIPLINE AMONG SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN GHANA.

The Pre-tertiary Teachers Association of Ghana (PRETAG), (formerly CCT GH) is totally appalled by the recent wave of indiscipline in Senior High Schools in Ghana which is a major threat to teachers and their dependents. The incidents of gun wielding, physical attacks on teachers and innocent students, robbery attacks and rape cases have become a rampant feature in our Senior High Schools.

We can recount several life-threatening incidents in some schools in recent times. These include a physical assault on a teacher in Accra High School, the incident where a student was shot in the eye by a fellow student in Adventist Senior High School in Kumasi, an attack on a teacher in Asuoso Community Senior High, which has rendered him permanently blind. It is also confirmed that a student of Osei Kyeretwie Senior High had in his possession a locally manufactured gun. Had it not been the vigilance of the Headmaster and his team, we would have recorded another unfortunate incident.

As a Labour Union, we lean ourselves to the International Labour Organization's Convention No.190 which clearly defines violence and harassment in the world of work. The convention states that "workplace violence and harassment refer to a range of unacceptable behaviors, practices, or threats that aim at, result in, or are likely to result in physical, psychological, sexual, or economic harm.

The deafening silence of our employer is very disturbing and raises the fundamental question of how issues of teacher welfare and safety in general are relegated to the background.

Another case in point is the issue of the O'Really Senior High School where a 19-year-old boy was accused of killing his classmate over a disagreement about who had wealthier parent.

### CALL TO ACTION:

1. As a matter of urgency, we call on the Ministry of Education, Ghana Education Service and school administrators to immediately take actions to address the root causes of indiscipline in SHS
2. We call upon all parents and guardians to play an active role in shaping the moral turpitude of their wards.
3. All teachers who have suffered from one form of disability or the other should be adequately compensated by the parents of those recalcitrant students and government with immediate effect.
4. School management and Parent-Teacher Associations should put proper security measures in place in all our secondary schools.
5. Civil societies must play their role in a fair and firm manner and avoid riding on the back of human rights to jump to the defense of perpetrators of these dastardly acts.
6. Ghana Education Service should match up students' population with adequate teachers in boarding schools.

The reports we are receiving from our Regional Councils indicate that the incidents are widespread, and we deem it expedient to take drastic measures to protect our members, dependents and their properties.

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*Quality Education, Our Concern*

We might not be able to hold back the anger of our members if the employer refuses to act swiftly.

WE CALL ON THE SECTOR MINISTER AND THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF GES TO ACT WITH ALACRITY.  
ANYTHING SHORT OF THE ABOVE WILL CAUSE SERIOUS INDUSTRIAL UNREST.

Thank you.

\*\*\*SIGNED\*\*\*

KINGSLEY ANYIMADU

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

PRE-TERTIARY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION GHANA (PRETAG)

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