30th GJA Media Awards

Remarks
by
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Governor, Bank of Ghana

The Palms Convention Centre, La Palm Royal Beach Hotel | Saturday, 7 November 2026

His Excellency John Dramani Mahama, President of the Republic and Special Guest of Honour,
The Chairman, His Royal Majesty King Tackie Teiko Tsuru II, Ga Mantse,
His Majesty Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, Asantehene,
The Right Honourable Speaker of Parliament,
The Chief Justice,
Heads of the Security Services,
Members of the Diplomatic Corps,
President and Executives of the Ghana Journalists Association,
Distinguished Award Recipients,
Members of the Media Fraternity,
Invited Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

PUBLIC

Good evening.

It is a great honour and privilege to join you on this special occasion marking the 30th Ghana Journalists Association Media Awards, a milestone that celebrates three decades of excellence, dedication, and service by Ghana's media professionals.

Tonight, we celebrate not only outstanding journalism but also the enduring role of a free, responsible, and professional media in strengthening our democracy, promoting accountability, and advancing national development.

I would like to congratulate the Ghana Journalists Association on upholding this vital tradition of honouring excellence in journalism and on consistently advancing higher standards of professionalism across the media industry.

This year's theme, *"Celebrating Excellence, Advancing Media Freedom and Combating Hate Speech in the Digital Age,"* is both timely and relevant. Globally, technological advancements have transformed the way information is created, distributed, and consumed. Although digital platforms have created unprecedented opportunities for citizens to get involved and share information, they have also brought significant challenges, including misinformation, disinformation, online abuse, misleading data and hate speech.

Professional journalism serves as society's compass. It helps citizens distinguish facts from falsehood, evidence from speculation, and informed analysis from sensationalism. As guardians of public discourse, journalists are essential for building social unity, encouraging well-informed discussions, and safeguarding democratic principles.

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At the Bank of Ghana, the media serves as an essential partner in promoting public understanding of economic and financial issues. Monetary policy decisions, inflation trends, financial sector reforms, exchange rate movements, and digital financial innovations are often complex subjects. It is through accurate, balanced, and insightful reporting that these issues are translated into information citizens can understand and use. It is therefore fitting that the Bank of Ghana continues to support initiatives that recognise excellence in economic and financial reporting.

One of the most important responsibilities of central banks today is communication. Our policies are most effective when they are clearly understood by the public. Transparency, credibility, and accountability require open and effective engagement with all stakeholders, including the media.

Over the years, Ghanaian journalists have demonstrated increasing sophistication in covering business, finance, and economic policy. Through investigative reporting, analytical features, broadcast discussions, and digital storytelling, members of the media have expanded public understanding of issues that directly affect livelihoods and national prosperity.

It is in recognition of this important contribution that the Bank of Ghana established the **Governor's Economic and Financial Story of the Year Award**. This award seeks to

encourage high-quality reporting that deepens public understanding of economic and financial developments, promotes financial literacy, and contributes constructively to national policy discourse.

The award package includes sponsorship to attend either the **International Monetary Fund and World Bank Spring Meetings or Annual Meetings**, offering a unique opportunity to engage with global policymakers, researchers, and financial leaders. The recipient will also receive a laptop computer, and a one-year internet data subscription.

In addition, opportunities will be provided for professional fellowships with respected institutions such as the **Thomson Foundation**, the **Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism**, and accredited local journalism training centres. Scholarship opportunities for further studies in media, communications, and journalism-related fields will also be available, alongside professional exchange programmes with internationally renowned media organisations such as **Bloomberg** and **Reuters**.

Our objective is simple: to invest in the development of journalists who can continue to elevate the quality of economic and financial reporting in Ghana.

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I wish to congratulate all nominees and award recipients. Your work informs, educates, inspires, and holds institutions accountable.

To the Ghana Journalists Association, I extend my sincere appreciation for your continued leadership in promoting journalistic excellence and defending media professionalism.

Let us continue to celebrate excellence, uphold media freedom, promote responsible digital engagement, and work together toward a more informed, inclusive, and prosperous Ghana.

God bless the Ghana Journalists Association.
God bless our hardworking journalists.
And God bless our homeland Ghana.

Thank you for your attention.