

## Meet Ghana's Chief Blabbermouth & Shadow Boxer!

*“...The fact of the matter is, Dr. Okoampa has tried to publish his rejoinder to Prof Lungu's piece on Ghanaweb at multiple venues where Prof Lungu does not visit, frequent, or contribute. What kind of discourse is he interested in? Is it a monkey show for Dr. Okoampa? What is the point in responding to a piece on Ghanaweb by publishing your response on “TalkGhana”? Then there were serial attempts on an obscure magazine, and possibly others Prof Lungu has never heard of or ever visited. Believe me, Dr. Okoampa is only seeing things in his sleep. Prof Lungu will respond at a time and place of Prof Lungu's choosing...”* (Prof Lungu, 20 Aug 08).

We've told the Ghanaian Diaspora, Ghanaians, and the Ghanaweb community more than once!

What we've got so far are the typical insult-laden, convoluted, run-on sentences from Dr. Kwame Okoampa-Ahoofe, Jr, the New York community college teacher. Once in a while, we must circle everyone about the abuse to which many persons and groups on and off Ghanaweb are being subjected to by Dr. Okoampa-Ahofee. The funny thing is on his side. Why would this teacher actually go out to publish rejoinders and retorts to Ghanaweb pieces in entirely different media outlets even though Dr. Okoampa-Ahofee has no reason on earth to believe that Prof Lungu contributes to, visits, or even reads those media outlets. That, my friends, is the mark of a shadow boxer who has an entirely different agenda, separate from what the vast majority of people in Ghana and on Ghanaweb want – quality discourse devoid of insults, braggadocio, and sentiments that attempt to position a person's person, their name, their people, degrees, etc., as the best gift from God to Ghanaians. Prof Lungu will now respond in Prof Lungu's preferred media.

It is real hilarious to be told that Prof Lungu is “...one of those hundreds of disappointed “America Been-tos” recruited to teach grade-school – or elementary – English to Japanese children...an economic exile...” It is funny alright! In Prof Lungu's humble opinion, that was not a serious or intellectually-grounded critique of the Prof Lungu essay titled, “Chief Blabbermouth Attempts Projection and Distortion!,” (Ghanaweb, 2008-08-06). Read it at: [www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/features/artikel.php?ID=147843](http://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/features/artikel.php?ID=147843). If you've been following Ghanaweb, one of the sub-themes of the “Principal Blabbermouth” essay was to demonstrate to Dr. Okoampa-Ahofee that he is wasting our time by pretending that the “World of Ghana,” and the Ghanaweb forum in particular, revolve around him and Mr. Jerry Rawlings.

Not!

We will make just 5 points as response and leave other charges for another day. Again, we want to remind you that this is only for the record, just for the passing, so to speak. The other general point is, we suspected that Dr. Kwame Okoampa-Ahoofe has some “comedic” pretensions. But we did not know that he is also a conjecturer. God help Ghana! This guy is full of it. Caution! Do not believe one iota what he told you. It is nothing but a figment of his imagination about who Prof Lungu is, what Prof Lungu does, what qualifications/experiences Prof Lungu brings to bear on those important issues on Ghanaweb, or why Prof Lungu is in Japan, in the first place. If only Dr. Kwame Okoampa-Ahoofe could conjure up a strong Ghana-centered Freedom of

Information (FOI) bill for Ghana, that would be one saving grace for this community college teacher who tells us he:

“...also earned not two, but three undergraduate degrees from the City College of New York (summa cum laude) in English, Communications and global African Studies, as well as master’s and doctoral degrees in African and African-American Literature, History and Culture from Temple University...”

Please join Prof Lungu in asking Dr. Kwame Okoampa-Ahoofe to conjure up the strongest Freedom of Information (FOI) bill for Ghana. That, my friends, is where the useful and constructive program ought to be directed.

## **Here are our 5 points:**

1. Dr. Okoampa says that “...Professor” Lungu is just another narcissistic parakeet so morbidly fascinated with the imitative echo of his own coarse and obscene snarls that he has actually come to deliriously fancy himself as either the very author and/or poster-boy for Ghana's Freedom of Information Bill...” Reader should visit [www.GhanaHero.com](http://www.GhanaHero.com). On that website, we show that Prof Lungu is actually a positive agent for the FOI bill and a progressive voice for Ghana. Our educational effort on behalf of the FOI bill is legendary and unparalleled. We encourage readers to send email for a copy of the hit song, FOIB – Are You Pickable?. But first, take a minute and do a GOOGLE search for “FOIB Ghana,” “FOIB Africa, or “Ghana Freedom of Information bill.” You will agree that Prof Lungu is doing his part on this very important task. (We will even give Dr. Okoampa some credit: This teacher calls the effort by its just name – Freedom of Information (FOI) bill. Clearly, Ghanaians do not need a Right to Information bill like Mugabe’s, in Zimbabwe.

2. We will again reiterate, as we’ve done numerous times on Ghanaweb. Prof Lungu is a moniker for very good reasons, some of which relates to the behavior of Dr. Kwame Okoampa-Ahoofe and characters like him who are only interested in vain glory. What is so difficult to understand about s moniker in an Internet/Global age, particularly on the part of an individual who tells us he is a “scholar” and “Associate Professor”? And even though we’ve always tried to live up to the tenets and best ethical standards of a true “Professor” at once reflective, humble, and respectful of others, where on Ghanaweb have we said Prof Lungu is a scholar and an intellectual? But Dr. Kwame Okoampa-Ahoofe has! It is hard to tell he fits that bill.

3. We would next ask Dr. Okoampa what it is he has against people he calls “Economic Exiles.” Does Ghana and the Ghanaweb community see a trend here? Does Ghanaweb remember when Dr. Okoampa referred to people who live and work in Ghana’s Zongos as “parasites”? Remember “The Serious Threat of Zongoizing Ghanaian Politics.do,’ whatever that “.do” stands for? Is Dr. Okoampa now ready to link his so-called “Economic Exiles” to his Zongo Peoples ttheme as a form of negative, passive-aggressive stance towards people in the Diaspora forgetting that he is also one of them, and a loud-mouht at that? Or is Dr. Okoampa different from so many others? Why for instance, is he still in that corner of New York, after so many

years, the way we are told? More important, can we honestly expect that a true African with an iota of intelligence and intellectual acumen will look down on “Economic Exiles” wherever they may hail from, or whatever they are doing making a decent and honorable living? Come of Dr.!

4. Dr. Okoampa would want you to “recall how this disappointed Japan exile teamed up with a white-American racist professor, Dr. Peter Schwab, once in scurrilously claiming that the moral crime of adultery was widely celebrated all over the African continent.” Suffice to say that back then, this is what Prof Lungu said: “...Even though Prof Lungu is not currently a teacher in a classroom, I thought it was really sad that our “Associate Professor” working as a teacher in an American College would lampoon and so thoughtlessly ridicule another Professor on a forum that the other is not a contributor...”

Now you know. The fact of the matter is, Dr. Okoampa has tried to publish his rejoinder to Prof Lungu’s piece on Ghanaweb at multiple venues where Prof Lungu does not visit, frequent, or contribute. What kind of discourse is he interested in? Is it a monkey show for Dr. Okoampa? What is the point in responding to a piece on Ghanaweb by publishing your response on “TalkGhana”? Then there were serial attempts on ModernGhana, and possibly others Prof Lungu has never heard of, or ever visited. Believe me, Dr. Okoampa is only seeing things in his sleep: Prof Lungu never teamed up with anyone to attack Dr. Okoampa.

5. Finally, Dr. Okoampa says that “...the Repeal of the Criminal Libel Law...accords “Professor” Lungu rhetorical carte blanche to actually malign Nana Akufo-Addo and get away with it?...” We will assume that Dr. Okoampa got there via two statements in Prof Lungu’s piece that said, “...Perhaps, if Akufo-Addo was not so busy yapping about his abilities in bed, he would have found some quality time to straighten this blabbermouth (Dr. Okoampa).....” Then there is this other statement, “...we do not think that Nana Akufo-Addo is a distinguished lawyer who has trained brilliant lawyers, (Joe Ghartey), or Ghana-centered lawyers, at that...” Seems to me Dr. Okoampa forget that he’d told us previously that he did not believe that Prof Lungu “is a Ghana... a Ghanaian.” Besides, and more important, is this English teacher telling us that those two statements, one a fact, and the other an opinion, are actionable libelous statements “against” a public figure even in “old” Ghana?

What nonsense and hopeless chest-pounding!

## **Prof Lungu’s Conclusion:**

Prof Lungu is not on Ghanaweb to boost Prof Lung’s ego or to sell worthless books or trivia. Prof Lungu has better things to do wherever Prof Lungu is. It is obvious that Dr. Okoampa likes to throw his weight around as if he and his kind own Ghana (and Ghanaweb for that matter).

Not, we will tell them, once in a while!

On that score, we know the difference by the comments we read to his pieces on Ghanaweb. Why would his kind think that Prof Lungu is not of Ghanaian nationality, but he is? What chutzpah, to throw his own words back at him!

Here is the Prof Lungu commitment. Once in a while, we will challenge Dr. Okoampa and the like when we think they are being a huge disservice to the community interests, the way we see it. We will not say we are right all the time. But we will say that we disagree, and tell you why, respectfully.

We urge you to visit [www.GhanaHero.com](http://www.GhanaHero.com) often. Learn about the FOI law and ask for it. That website is part of Prof Lungu's effort to help set the record straight where we think we can make an impact. [www.GhanaHero.com](http://www.GhanaHero.com) is meant to add to the Ghana community development and governance capacity, and to promote the necessary democratic processes. Prof Lungu will continue to champion the Freedom of Information (FOI) bill until that law is passed into law.

Think about it and act to support. It is not even a political question! Prof Lungu will remain the premier champion of the Freedom of Information bill! Join us at [www.GhanaHero.com](http://www.GhanaHero.com). Join us! So we must ask and ask again:

**FOIB – Are You Pickable?**  
**FOIB – what are you afraid of?**  
**If you and your kind started it all in the first place?**  
**FOIB - What scares you?**  
**FOIB – Are You Pickable, again, Mr. Politician?**

## Notes for Reflection & Action

1. Visit [www.GhanaHero.com](http://www.GhanaHero.com), the website we've dedicated to passage of the Freedom of Information (FOI) bill for Ghana. Read and reflect. (Listen, read, watch, and reflect!).
2. At [www.GhanaHero.com](http://www.GhanaHero.com), send email with your name and email address for your free copy of "FOIB – Are You Pickable?" Get our contact information at [www.GhanaHero.com](http://www.GhanaHero.com). (We do not want to receive junk mail).
3. Read: Chief Blabbermouth Attempts Projection and Distortion! (Ghanaweb, 6 Aug 08, <http://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/artikel.php?ID=147843>)
4. Also, read Prof Lungu's pieces on Ghanaweb via the link: [www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/features/columnist.php?S=Prof%20Lungu](http://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/features/columnist.php?S=Prof%20Lungu) . You be your own judge about the quality of Prof Lungu's thoughts and reflections on matters important to Ghana and the world.
5. [www.GhanaHero.com](http://www.GhanaHero.com) – We are Ghana-centered to the core! We are Ghana-Proud!



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