

THE MODERN GUIDE

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Every Fact, Every Side, Every Story

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Former England striker Wayne Rooney

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Jude Bellingham

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'Don't lower the bar' — Tsatsu Tsikata warns NDC on governance



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NDC names national headquarters after late Jerry John Rawlings



The National Democratic Congress (NDC) has renamed its national headquarters in Adabraka, Accra, as the JJ Rawlings House in honour of its founder and former President, Jerry John Rawlings.

The ceremony, held on Sunday, June 22, coincided with what would have been the late statesman's 79th birthday and brought together senior party officials, members of the Agyeman Rawlings family, and supporters of the party.

President John Dramani Mahama, accompanied by the National Chairman of the NDC, Johnson Asiedu Nketia, General Secretary Fifi Fiavi Kwetey, and members of the Rawlings family, unveiled a commemorative bust and plaque in honour of the party's founder.

Former President Rawlings, Ghana's longest serving Head of State, was born on June 22, 1947, and died on November 12, 2020. He founded the NDC in 1992 and led the party to victory in the country's first elections under the Fourth Republic, ushering in constitutional rule on January 7, 1993.

Addressing the gathering, President Mahama described the occasion as a moment of

remembrance, gratitude, and recommitment to the ideals that have shaped the NDC over the decades.

"Today is a day of remembrance. It's a day of gratitude and renewal. It's a day that invites us to reflect on our journey as a political movement," he said.

He noted that the ceremony was not merely about renaming a building or unveiling a monument but about preserving history, celebrating leadership, and transmitting enduring values to future generations.

According to President Mahama, every lasting institution is built on the sacrifices of individuals who dedicate themselves to causes greater than personal interests, adding that political movements draw strength not only from their structures but also from the principles and leadership that inspire their members.

He paid tribute to Rawlings' contribution to Ghana's democratic development, describing him as a transformative leader whose commitment to probity, accountability, social justice, and national service helped shape the political tradition from which the NDC emerged.

"Today we honour one of the most influential figures on that journey. The man we commemorate today,

Jerry John Rawlings, is a man whose leadership, courage and unwavering commitment to the ideals of probity, accountability, social justice and national service helped shape the political tradition from which our party emerged," President Mahama stated.

The President said Rawlings' vision and determination laid the foundations for the democratic stability and political freedoms Ghana enjoys today, adding that he consistently championed the interests of ordinary citizens and promoted fairness, justice, and accountability in public life.

President Mahama said naming the party's headquarters after Rawlings was both a tribute to his immense contribution to the NDC and Ghana and a reaffirmation of the values he stood for.

He stressed that integrity, patriotism, sacrifice, courage, discipline, and service to the people must continue to guide the actions of both the party and government.

The President described the headquarters as the operational heart of the NDC, where policies are developed, strategies crafted, and decisions taken in pursuit of the party's mission to serve Ghanaians.

He said the renaming would ensure that future generations of party members remain connected to the sacrifices and principles that shaped the NDC.

President Mahama also noted that the unveiling of the bust carried symbolic significance, serving as a reminder of the ideals and values Rawlings embodied throughout his public life.

"We celebrate his courage and leadership. We celebrate his conviction in times of uncertainty. We celebrate his commitment to national service," he said.

The President recalled that Rawlings had consistently resisted attempts to have national monuments named after him during his lifetime. He cited instances where the former President declined proposals to name the University for Development Studies and the FPSO operating in the ENI Sankofa oil field after him.

According to President Mahama, Rawlings preferred to leave his legacy in the hearts and minds of Ghanaians rather than through monuments and structures.

"Fortunately for us today, he is in no position to object to what we are doing here to immortalize his name," he remarked.

Speaking on behalf of the Agyeman Rawlings family, Kimathi Agyeman Rawlings expressed appreciation to the NDC and President Mahama for the honour bestowed on the late former President.

He described the occasion as more than a ceremonial event, saying it represented a moment of reflection, remembrance, and recommitment to the ideals that Rawlings dedicated his life to advancing.

"By naming the NDC Headquarters after former President Rawlings, the party has permanently inscribed his name into the very home of the ideals, sacrifices and aspirations to which he devoted his life," he said.

Kimathi added that the recognition was not only about honouring an individual but also about preserving and reaffirming the values that inspired a political movement and contributed significantly to Ghana's democratic journey.

Rawlings helped shape the political tradition from which our party emerged – Mahama

President John Dramani Mahama has described former President Jerry John Rawlings as a central figure in the development of the political tradition that gave rise to the National Democratic Congress.

Addressing a ceremony commemorating Rawlings' legacy, Mahama said the late former President's commitment to accountability, social justice and national service had shaped both the party and the country.

"The man we commemorate

today helped shape the political tradition from which our party emerged," he said.

Mahama added that Rawlings' influence extended beyond his time in office, describing him as a leader whose vision inspired generations of Ghanaians.

"Beyond being a former President of the Republic, Jerry John Rawlings was a transformative figure whose determination laid the foundations for the democratic stability and political freedoms that we enjoy today," he stated.

The remarks were delivered during an event marking

Rawlings' 79th birthday, during which the NDC renamed its national headquarters in his

honour and unveiled a bust of the late former President.



Tension at Bantama NPP office as chairman accuses Asenso Boakye of political machinations, police intervene

Chaos broke out at the Bantama constituency office of the New Patriotic Party (NPP) on Monday, June 21, as rival factions clashed over allegations of massive manipulation of the party's electoral album.

The confrontations, characterized by hostile verbal exchanges and insults, nearly turned bloody but for the timely intervention of personnel from the Suntreso Police Command. Following the containment of the near-violent disturbance, the police invited the Bantama Constituency Chairman, Fiifi Mensah, and the First Vice Chairman, Kingsley Attah, popularly known as Wofa Attah, to assist with investigations.

Speaking to the press after his engagement with the police, Mr. Fiifi Mensah pointed fingers directly at the Member of Parliament (MP) for Bantama, Hon. Francis Asenso-Boakye. The Chairman accused the lawmaker of unilaterally assembling a team to manipulate the electoral album to favor his preferred candidates in the upcoming constituency-level elections.

According to Mr. Mensah, the

peaceful atmosphere within the constituency was shattered when it emerged that a significant number of loyal, long-serving delegates had been deleted from the register without any justifiable cause.

"We will not allow anyone to determine who should remain in the album based on personal affiliations. The electoral album belongs to the entire party, not a select group of people," Chairman Fiifi explained.

The Chairman further claimed that delegates who had faithfully served the party for 12 to 16 years were systematically targeted and stripped of their voting rights simply because they were suspected of supporting his administration.

Chairman Fiifi expressed disbelief over being shut out of the compilation process of the album despite his constitutional role as the constituency chairman.

He alleged a glaring case of double standards, explaining that while other constituency executives including the first vice chairman, the youth organizer, and some polling station executives, were allowed to register dozens of new delegates, his own list of 19 proposed delegates was flatly rejected on suspicion of being his

loyalists.

This development, he noted, completely violates an earlier consensus reached by the party's leadership that no existing delegates would be removed from the register ahead of the elections.

"If the elections are free, fair, and peaceful, whoever wins deserves the victory. I will campaign, and if I lose, I will accept the outcome honorably. But we will not accept attempts to manipulate the system to satisfy someone's selfish interests," Chairman Fiifi warns.

In a drastic move to halt further alteration of the voter register, Chairman Fiifi Mensah revealed that he locked up the room in the constituency office that

takes custody of all copies of the electoral album until the grievances were addressed. He, however, denied an allegation that he locked up the whole office.

"I am the constituency chairman and I am supposed to supervise the process. When I realized there were too many irregularities, I took custody of the albums because I wanted the issues resolved peacefully before the process continues," he explained.

Mr. Mensah noted that he has formally briefed the NPP Ashanti Regional Chairman on the situation, who advised him to submit an official petition to the appropriate national party organs for a peaceful resolution.



Tension at Bantama NPP office

NDC is complete scam, they use 419 to rally fake promises but does nothing — Osahen Afenyo-Markin

Minority Leader in Parliament and Member of Parliament for Effutu, Osahen Alexander Afenyo-Markin, has accused the National Democratic Congress (NDC) of failing to deliver on its promises whenever it assumes political power.

According to him, the opposition New Patriotic Party's biggest threat is not the NDC but internal divisions within its own ranks.

Addressing members of the New Patriotic Party at Sefwi-Wiawso in the Western North Region on Saturday, June 20, the lawmaker called for unity ahead of the next general elections.

"NDC is a complete scam. They

are 419 people. They come to you and lie to you, and when you give them power, they do nothing, but they can only achieve that if we ourselves are divided," he stated.

The Minority Leader urged party members to put aside differences that emerged during the party's internal elections and rally behind the party's flagbearer.

"Let me tell you that the NDC cannot defeat a united NPP. It is only a divided NPP that can defeat itself, so I charge every TESCON member, every youth of this party, every foot soldier in this hall, whatever camp you may have been during the flag bearer election, the election is over. We are one NPP," he said.

He also noted that patience, sacrifice and loyalty are essential virtues for young members seeking to build political careers within the party.

Osahen Afenyo-Markin also expressed concern over the party's electoral performance in the Western North Region, noting that the NPP secured only one parliamentary seat in the area.

He stressed that the governing party's success depends largely

on divisions within the NPP and appealed to party supporters to remain united.

Speaking on behalf of the party leadership, Osahen Afenyo-Markin called on members across the region to work together and support the party's rebuilding efforts.



Minority Leader, Osahen Alexander Afenyo-Markin

The greatest tribute to Rawlings is to uphold the principles he stood for – Fifi Kwetey



General Secretary of NDC, Fifi Fiavi Kwetey

General Secretary of the National Democratic Congress (NDC), Fifi Fiavi Kwetey, has urged party members and supporters to uphold the principles and values championed by the party's founder, former President Jerry John Rawlings.

According to him, the late statesman's legacy can best be preserved through a commitment to probity, accountability, social justice and service to the people. Mr Kwetey made the remarks in a social media post on Wednesday following activities to commemorate the 79th

birthday of the late President, during which the NDC national headquarters was renamed in his honour.

“The overwhelming support and enthusiasm demonstrated throughout the celebration reflected the enduring legacy of President Rawlings and our collective commitment to the values of probity, accountability, social justice, patriotism, and service to the people, which he championed throughout his life,” he stated.

The NDC General Secretary expressed appreciation to President John Dramani Mahama, the leadership of the party, elders, cadres, executives and supporters who participated in the commemoration.

He noted that the large turnout across the country and among the diaspora demonstrated the lasting influence of the late former President.

Fifi Kwetey further called on party faithful to remain united and committed to the ideals upon which the NDC was founded.

“As we move forward, let us remain united and steadfast in our resolve to build a stronger, more prosperous, and inclusive Ghana. The greatest tribute we can pay to our Founder is to uphold the principles he stood for and continue working tirelessly for the betterment of our nation,” he said.

The late Jerry John Rawlings, founder of the NDC and former President of Ghana, remains one of the most influential political figures in the country's history.

Mr Kwetey said the legacy of the late former President should continue to inspire both present and future generations in the pursuit of national development and public service.

SOCIAL NEWS

Late Victor Gbeho's contributions to Ghana's foreign policy will never be forgotten – Mahama

President **John Dramani Mahama** has paid tribute to the late **Ambassador James Victor Gbeho**.

Ambassador Gbeho, a former Minister for Foreign Affairs and former President of the ECOWAS Commission, died on June 13 at the age of 91.

His diplomatic career also saw him serve as Ghana's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Minister for Foreign Affairs and the United Nations Special Representative for Somalia.

The President described him as an accomplished diplomat and statesman whose contributions to Ghana's foreign policy and regional integration will endure.

The President made the remarks after receiving members of the late diplomat's family at the Jubilee House

on Tuesday, June 23, where they officially informed him of Ambassador Gbeho's passing.

“Ambassador Gbeho was a giant of our time, an outstanding diplomat, a dedicated Minister for Foreign Affairs, a colleague in parliament, and a respected ECOWAS Commission President,” President Mahama wrote in a social media post.

Mr. Mahama said the late diplomat made significant contributions to Ghana's foreign policy and devoted his career to promoting cooperation and integration within the West African sub-region.

According to him, the country has lost an experienced statesman whose counsel and expertise were invaluable.

“His contributions to Ghana's foreign policy and his tireless work toward the integration of the West African sub-region will never be forgotten,” he stated.

Ambassador Gbeho served as President of the ECOWAS Commission from February 2010 to March 2012, a period the regional bloc described as critical to strengthening its institutions following major reforms.

ECOWAS has earlier mourned the former diplomat, describing him as

a distinguished statesman whose work advanced regional integration, diplomacy and peacebuilding.

According to the regional bloc, Ambassador Gbeho played a key role in promoting peace and constitutional order in Liberia after he was appointed ECOWAS Special Representative to the country in 1995.



Family members of the late Victor Gbeho meet President Mahama

Very focused KGL won't waste time on falsehood peddlers – Dr. Razak Opoku



Dr Razak Kojo Opoku, KGL

KGL Group has reaffirmed its commitment to Ghana and dismissed what it described as persistent attempts by some individuals and organisations to undermine indigenous businesses, insisting that discussions surrounding the National Lottery Authority (NLA) partnership should be conducted through appropriate legal and commercial channels rather than in the media.

The company stressed that it remains a proud headline sponsor of the Black Stars and a committed corporate partner in Ghana's development.

"KGL is a proud headline sponsor of the Ghana Black Stars and is fully committed to the Republic and will never waste its time on those who seek to undermine and destroy indigenous businesses.

"Renegotiations are not done on social media or at the headquarters of the Fourth Estate. This is an important national exercise, devoid of sensationalism, propaganda, and the twisting of narratives."

In a statement signed by Dr Razak Kojo Opoku, KGL accused The Fourth Estate of

being selective with the facts and maintaining a narrative that has not been supported by credible evidence.

According to the statement, The Fourth Estate has consistently advocated for the termination of the NLA KGL agreement since it first began reporting on the matter.

"Right from the beginning, the Fourth Estate has been calling for the abrogation of the NLA-KGL deal.

"At the Fourth Estate, the deal was a terrible one. However, this description has never been backed with any reasonable conclusion or substantial evidence by the Fourth Estate. Its surrogates have also never been able to back their claim."

The statement further argued that concerns surrounding the agreement were subjected to an independent review process after President John Dramani Mahama directed that a committee be established to examine the transaction and address public concerns.

According to KGL, the committee's findings did not support calls for the cancellation of the contract but rather recommended a continuation of the contract.

"The Committee set up by the President rather called for the stay of the contract and the

subsequent renegotiation of the financials to benefit the Republic, not only the NLA.

"The Fourth Estate notable for its lack of integrity and professionalism has gone to town again, peddling barefaced lies to the effect that the Committee's conclusion matches theirs. But it must be unequivocally stated that it is absolutely false for anyone at the Fourth Estate to claim that the Committee's conclusion was consistent with the revelations made by the Fourth Estate in its series of publications against KGL." The company maintained that The Fourth Estate's position had always been centred on terminating the agreement rather than pursuing reforms through renegotiation.

It said the publication had repeatedly characterised the NLA KGL partnership as a bad deal and consistently called for its cancellation.

"It never called for renegotiation but abrogation."

KGL further suggested that if the recommendations put forward by The Fourth Estate had carried significant merit, they would have been considered as part of the ongoing renegotiation process.

"Again, if they were that

consequential, it would have been considered as part of the ongoing renegotiation."

The company urged critics and interested parties to allow the committee and stakeholders involved in the process to carry out their work without undue pressure or interference.

It stressed that all parties remain committed to achieving a fair and legally sound outcome through the ongoing review of the agreement.

"All the parties to the renegotiation of the NLA-KGL deal are fully committed to the ongoing legal and commercial exercise. All parties sincerely appreciate the urgency of this important renegotiation, but this is strictly a legal and commercial agreement that must adhere to the legal rights of each party in the renegotiation."

KGL concluded by reiterating that the renegotiation process should be guided by legal and commercial considerations rather than public campaigns, insisting that any final outcome must protect both the interests of the Republic and the contractual rights of all parties involved.

Govt eyes 1,012km rail corridor to transform cargo transport from Takoradi Port to Hamile



Ghana is set to embark on an ambitious railway development project aimed at transforming cargo transportation and enhancing the country's role as a major trade and logistics hub in West Africa.

The proposed project involves the construction of a 1,012 kilometre rail freight corridor stretching from the Port of Takoradi in the Western Region to Hamile in the Upper

West Region. The corridor is expected to establish a seamless cargo route linking Ghana's western port infrastructure to its northern border.

The initiative forms part of a broader strategy to position Ghana as the preferred gateway for international trade to landlocked countries in the sub-region, particularly Burkina Faso, Mali and other Sahelian economies.

Finance Minister Dr Cassiel Ato Forson said the rail line would significantly improve the movement of goods between

the port and northern markets while facilitating regional trade and strengthening economic integration across West Africa.

Beyond expanding trade opportunities, the project is expected to ease the burden on Ghana's road network, which has for decades served as the primary channel for transporting domestic and transit cargo.

The growing dependence on heavy duty trucks has contributed to the rapid deterioration of roads, increased maintenance costs and placed significant pressure on critical transport infrastructure nationwide.

Industry experts have long advocated greater investment in rail transport, citing its efficiency in moving large volumes of freight over long distances. A shift from road to rail is expected to improve logistics operations, reduce

congestion and help preserve the country's highways.

The Takoradi to Hamile rail corridor is also projected to lower transportation costs, shorten delivery times and improve supply chain efficiency, creating benefits for businesses, investors and consumers alike.

Analysts view the project not only as a transportation initiative but also as a strategic economic undertaking that could strengthen Ghana's competitiveness, attract investment and deepen trade relations with neighbouring countries.

If successfully implemented, the railway corridor would rank among the most significant infrastructure investments in Ghana's rail sector in recent years, revitalising the country's railway network and reinforcing its position as a key commercial gateway in the region.

'Don't lower the bar' – Tsatsu Tsikata warns NDC on governance

Legal practitioner Tsatsu Tsikata has urged the ruling National Democratic Congress (NDC) to resist complacency in government and use the commemoration of former President Jerry John Rawlings' 79th birthday as an opportunity for deep reflection on the party's future direction and governance standards.

Speaking on Monday, June 22, 2026, Mr Tsikata said the NDC must critically examine its message, values, and long term political proposition to the country and the wider world, cautioning against lowering expectations simply because the party is in power.

"I want to insist from the onset that the NDC must use its commemoration to reflect on its future, message and value proposition. What does the NDC have to offer to the nation and to the world at large from now and the future," he said.

He warned that there is a risk of reduced governance standards

if the party begins to measure its performance only against previous administrations rather than higher national expectations.

"There is a danger that we lower the bar of what the nation expects from us in the NDC and that we aim to just a little better than the previous government," he said.

Tsikata referenced what he described as a difficult period in Ghana's recent governance history, urging the party not to allow that context to become its benchmark for performance.

"There is a danger, especially after what the country went through in the disastrous period of 2017 to 2024 under President Akufo Addo and Dr Bawumia," he said.

He cautioned that such an approach could encourage complacency among public officials, who may settle for marginal improvements

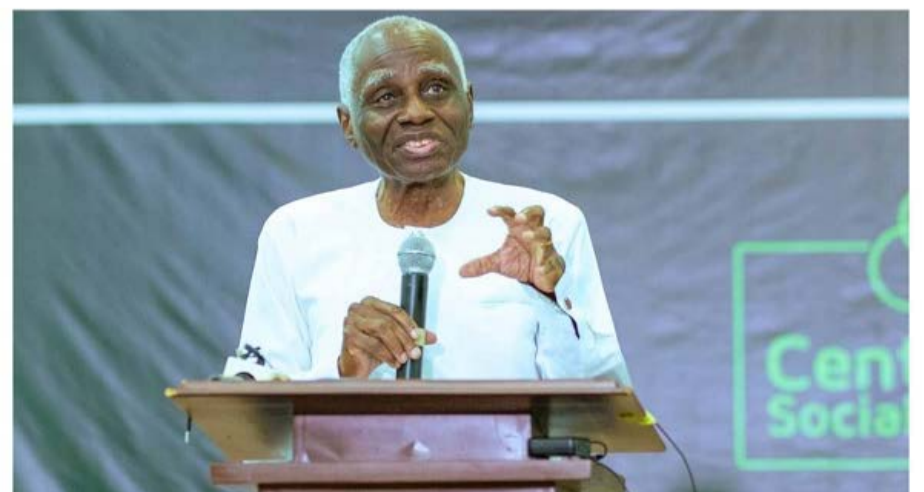
instead of pursuing transformative governance.

"Appointees would only seek to compare themselves to their predecessors and by that measure be content with some improvement in performance and therefore become complacent," he said.

Mr Tsikata further argued that this mindset would be a disservice to both citizens and the governing party.

"May I say without hesitation that this will be both an affront to the people of Ghana as well as an affront to the NDC," he said.

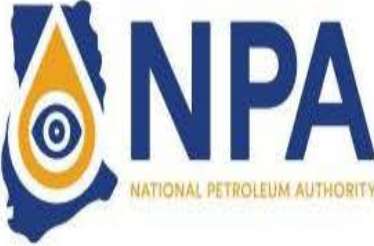
His comments come as the NDC marks the 79th birthday commemoration of its founder, former President Jerry John Rawlings, an occasion often used by party members to reflect on his legacy and ideological direction.



Legal practitioner, Tsatsu Tsikata

PETROLEUM PRICE INDICATORS

As of 22nd June, 2026

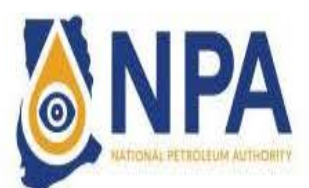
	AVERAGE FOB PRICES FOR THE PERIOD 16TH-30TH JUNE 2026 WINDOW (27TH MAY - 11TH JUNE 2026 AVERAGES)	AVERAGE ESTIMATED FOB PRICES EFFECTIVE 1ST JULY 2026 (12TH- 27TH JUNE 2026 AVERAGES)	% CHANGE
FX Rate (Commercial Banks Average) (USD/GHS)	11.8035	11.4333	3.24%
Crude Oil (USD/BBL)	97.32	79.37	-18.45%
Petrol (USD/MT)	988.77	929.64	-5.98%
Gasoil (USD/MT)	1,056.38	895.45	-15.23%
LPG (USD/MT)	652.65	559.36	-14.29%
Jet/Kerosene (USD/MT)	1,142.67	947.98	-17.04%
Fuel Oil (USD/MT)	578.94	487.14	-15.86%

*Products figures represent the FOB Prices used in the Price Build-Up (PBU)

Note: " Oil prices settled more than 3% lower, as supply concerns eased after U.S. Vice President JD Vance said progress has been made in talks with Iran and the Strait of Hormuz was open." - Reuters

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Let Rawlings' legacy inspire national service – Togbe Afede tells Ghanaians



Togbe Afede XIV, Agbogbomefia of the Asogli State

Togbe Afede XIV, Agbogbomefia of the Asogli State, has urged Ghanaians to honour former President Jerry John Rawlings by upholding the principles of honesty, accountability, justice and patriotism that defined his public life.

Speaking at a lecture and exhibition in Accra on Monday to mark what would have been Rawlings' 79th birthday, Togbe Afede said the late President's values remained relevant to Ghana's efforts to build a prosperous and inclusive society.

The Agbogbomefia said Rawlings' commitment to probity, social justice, national unity and equitable opportunities had left a lasting imprint on Ghana's democratic development

and governance framework.

"The best tribute we can pay to President Rawlings, the best honour we can do to him, is to hold firmly on to the principles that he stood for," he said.

Togbe Afede listed the consolidation of the Fourth Republic, the establishment of district assemblies and investments in infrastructure, education, agriculture, rural electrification and local governance among the former President's enduring contributions to national development.

Mr Kofi Totobi Quakye, a former Minister of Information, said Rawlings' legacy could not be preserved through symbolism alone but must be reflected in the conduct and values of those who claimed to uphold his political tradition.

"The life of Jerry Rawlings cannot be reduced to a few remarks. The revolution he came to embody cannot be reduced to nostalgia, and the legacy he left behind cannot be honoured merely through praise singing. It must be examined, it must be protected, above all, it must be lived," he said.

Mr Totobi Quakye urged the National Democratic Congress (NDC) to remain faithful to its founding ideals of probity, accountability and service, warning that perceptions of little distinction between the country's two major political parties could weaken public confidence in democratic governance.

Mr Johnson Asiedu-Nketia, National Chairman of the NDC, commended

Rawlings for promoting national cohesion and called for continued efforts to preserve unity and a shared sense of purpose among citizens.

Dr Akwasi Opong-Fosu, a former Minister for Local Government, said Rawlings' legacy should serve as a call for sustained reforms to address inequality, strengthen accountability and reinforce public institutions.

The event was attended by senior government officials and leading members of the NDC, including Vice President Professor Jane Naana Opoku-Agyemang.

Former President Rawlings died on November 12, 2020.



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Interior Minister revokes all private firearm permits, orders re-registration



Interior Minister, Muntaka Mohammed-Mubarak

Interior Minister, Muntaka Mohammed-Mubarak, has announced the revocation of all permits previously granted to individuals to possess firearms and sidearms, directing owners to undergo a fresh registration process under stricter requirements.

Speaking at a press conference in Accra on the conclusion of the 2025/2026 Gun Amnesty Programme, the Minister said the decision follows growing concerns over the misuse of legally registered firearms, including an increase in suicide cases involving licensed gun owners.

According to him, government has identified gaps in the existing registration regime that allowed some individuals to obtain firearm permits without adequate screening.

He said new requirements will include mandatory mental health assessments, drug testing and firearms handling training before any permit is granted.

“We’ve seen that people with mental health challenges have already gone through and have the sidearm. We are now introducing mental health assessments before we give you the firearm,” he said.

Mr. Mohammed-Mubarak added that prospective gun owners would also be required to undergo drug screening through the Narcotics Control Commission and demonstrate competence in handling firearms through certified training programmes.

The announcement came as the Minister disclosed that 4,038 unregistered firearms were surrendered to the Ghana Police Service during the Gun Amnesty Programme.

He described the outcome as a significant achievement in efforts to curb the proliferation of illicit weapons and improve public safety.

“The nation is safer today because of the actions of citizens who chose compliance over lawlessness,” he said.

The Minister noted that while the amnesty programme has ended, registration processes remain ongoing for persons who surrendered weapons and wish to legally possess them.

He stressed that approval would depend on background checks and compliance with all qualification requirements.

He warned that security agencies would now intensify intelligence-led operations, targeted searches and surveillance to identify and confiscate illegal firearms.

Mr. Mohammed-Mubarak also announced plans for the eighth arms destruction ceremony scheduled for July 9, 2026, during which more than 2,000 seized and surrendered firearms will be destroyed.

The Interior Minister further cautioned private security companies against the use of firearms, stressing that Ghana’s laws do not permit private security organisations to possess or operate weapons.

According to him, some companies have circumvented the law by encouraging employees to obtain firearms in their individual capacities before pooling the weapons for company operations.

He warned that any private security company found using firearms or violating licensing conditions risks having its licence revoked.

Mental health, drug tests now mandatory for firearm licences — Interior Minister

The Ministry of the Interior has revoked all existing firearm licences across the country and directed all gun owners to reapply under a new licensing regime aimed at strengthening public safety.

The new measures, which take immediate effect, will require applicants to undergo mental health assessments, drug screening and structured firearms training before obtaining licences.

Interior Minister Muntaka Mohammed Mubarak announced the decision at a press conference in Accra on Tuesday, June 23, citing concerns over the misuse of legally registered firearms.

“People who come forward to register side arms or firearms are now using them to commit suicide. In the last few

months, we’ve seen increase in individuals committing suicide with firearms that are registered,” the Minister said.

According to him, the government can no longer wait for existing licences to expire before implementing the new system due to the increasing public safety concerns.

He disclosed that all previously issued permits have been revoked and affected persons will be required to go through the new application process.

“From this afternoon, all permits that have been granted to any individual that you are holding a side arm or firearm is now revoked. We are opening a window where everyone will have to come forward again to register or re-register because we’ve changed the procedure,” Mr Mubarak stated.

The Interior Minister said the revised framework seeks to address gaps in the current licensing system that have allowed individuals with mental health challenges and substance abuse problems to legally possess firearms.

According to him, applicants will now be subjected to mental health examinations to determine their suitability to own firearms.

He added that mandatory drug tests will also be introduced to ensure that persons who use illegal substances do not gain access to firearms.

The government believes the new measures will strengthen gun control, improve public safety and reduce incidents involving the misuse of licensed firearms.



Interior Minister Muntaka Mohammed Mubarak

SPORTS NEWS

Ghana robbed of penalty in England goalless draw — Ghana Coach fumes despite failure to protest ‘sleeping’ VAR

Ghana head coach Carlos Queiroz has taken a playful but pointed swipe at the Video Assistant Referee (VAR) system following his side’s 0–0 draw with England in their Group L clash at the Boston Stadium on Tuesday night.

England enjoyed overwhelming possession, controlling 79 percent of the ball, the highest recorded by a team that failed to score in a World Cup match in six decades. Despite that dominance, they were repeatedly frustrated by a disciplined Ghana side that held firm throughout the encounter.

The Black Stars, however, felt aggrieved by two key incidents, particularly a late penalty appeal involving England defender Ezri Konsa and Ghana substitute Prince Adu Kwabena. Earlier in the match, Kwabena had also been

involved in a collision with England goalkeeper Jordan Pickford, which was instead punished as a free kick in England’s favour.

After the game, Queiroz used humour to question the consistency of VAR decisions.

“Is VAR still working in the World Cup?” he asked jokingly. “Do we still have VAR? I have doubts about that.”

He continued in the same light-hearted tone, suggesting the system had gone missing at crucial moments.

“The VAR referee was on vacation in the second half, apparently,” he said. “Once again, the VAR went for coffee. I like to take my coffee once in a while! It’s a clear penalty and a red card [on Konsa]. Do you have any doubts about that,

or is it only me who was at the game?”

Queiroz later clarified his remarks, acknowledging the sarcasm behind his comments.

“I am sorry for my sarcasm,” he said. “But if I say this kind of thing seriously, they punish me. So I am joking.”

The draw leaves Ghana and England level on four points at the top of Group L heading into their final group matches. England will face Panama, while Ghana prepare for a decisive encounter with Croatia as qualification for the knockout stage remains finely poised.



2026 World Cup: 'I think that's a penalty' - Wayne Rooney reacts to Konza's challenge on Adu Kwabena

Former England striker Wayne Rooney has criticised Ezri Konsa for what he described as a "huge risk" challenge during England's 0-0 World Cup draw with Ghana in Boston, a match shaped by a late flashpoint in the second half.

The controversial moment came when Ghana substitute Prince Kwabena Adu raced through on goal and was brought down in the penalty area after a flying intervention from Konsa.

The Aston Villa defender appeared to miss the ball completely as he collided with the forward, prompting immediate appeals for a penalty and a possible red card from the Ghanaian players.

However, the decision was

ultimately ruled out after officials adjudged Adu to have been narrowly offside in the build-up, wiping out what would have been a decisive spot-kick.

Analysing the incident on BBC punditry duty, Rooney did not hide his concern over the defending.

"I think that's a penalty," Rooney said. "Konsa takes a huge risk. His feet are off the floor when he comes flying in, and he gets the man, not the ball," he added.

Despite the 0-0 between both sides, the result leaves both teams level on four points at the top of Group L heading into the final round of fixtures.

England now turn their attention to Panama, while Ghana face a decisive meeting with Croatia as qualification for the knockout stage hangs in the balance.



Former England striker Wayne Rooney

2026 World Cup: Wayne Rooney hails Carlos Queiroz's game plan after England held by Ghana

Former England striker Wayne Rooney has praised Carlos Queiroz's tactical approach after Ghana frustrated England in a 0-0 draw in their 2026 FIFA World Cup Group L clash on Tuesday evening at the Boston Stadium.

Both teams arrived into the contest on the back of opening wins, but it was Ghana who stood firm under sustained pressure, producing a disciplined defensive display that blunted England's attacking rhythm throughout the match.

England enjoyed 79 per cent possession — the highest recorded by any side that failed to score in a World Cup match in six decades — yet they were repeatedly denied by a well-organised Black Stars defence that refused to buckle under pressure.

Rooney, speaking on the BBC, said England struggled to unlock a deep defensive block and suggested more direct play could have created better

openings.

"You're always hoping for that energy and that performance that we had against Croatia in the second half. These games are so difficult when the teams sit back," the former Manchester United striker said.

"You have to break them down, and you have to find the space.

For me, the key was getting crosses into the box. That is where all the chances came from."

He added that Ghana's approach reflected Queiroz's trademark organisation and defensive structure.

"That was a typical Carlos Queiroz performance. Ghana were excellent, and they were

disciplined," he added.

The result leaves both sides level on four points at the top of Group L heading into the final round of fixtures.

England now prepare for Panama, while Ghana face a decisive encounter with Croatia as qualification for the knockout stage remains finely poised.



Former England striker Wayne Rooney

2026 World Cup: 'You have to give credit to Ghana' – England midfielder Declan Rice after stalemate

England midfielder Declan Rice has applauded Ghana's tactical discipline after both sides played out a goalless draw on Tuesday evening at the Boston Stadium.

Ghana produced a compact and well-organised defensive display that repeatedly blunted England's attacking efforts, despite the Three Lions enjoying long spells of territorial dominance.

"You have to give credit to Ghana. It's tough, and they are good players, so it was never going to be an easy game," Rice told the BBC.

"We have one more group game to top the group, so we have to be

positive.

"Loads of top nations draw the first game, so there is no need to be negative or downbeat. We will stay positive," the Arsenal midfielder added.

England controlled 79 per cent of possession – the highest recorded by a team that failed to score in a World Cup match in over 60 years – but were ultimately unable to break down Ghana's disciplined backline.

The result keeps both sides level on four points at the top of Group L heading into the final round of fixtures.

England will next face Panama, while Ghana prepare for a crucial encounter with Croatia, with qualification to the knockout stage still finely poised.



England midfielder Declan Rice

2026 World Cup: I am proud of my players - Ghana coach Carlos Queiroz after holding England

Ghana head coach Carlos Queiroz has praised his players for their resilience and discipline following the Black Stars' goalless draw against England in the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

The four-time African champions faced the Three Lions in their second Group L fixture on Tuesday night at Boston Stadium, where they produced a resolute defensive display to earn a valuable point.

Despite England dominating possession for large spells, Ghana remained compact and organised to frustrate Thomas Tuchel's side and secure qualification to the next stage of the tournament.

Speaking to the BBC after the match, Queiroz expressed pride in his team's performance and commitment to the tactical plan.

"The first goal is achieved, and we qualified for the second round," Queiroz told the BBC after the game

"I am so proud of the way our players fought during the game and how much they stand behind the game plan. They always believed. My humble opinion is that England can be a candidate

to win the World Cup. It is a gift for our fans. It is a gift for some of the players we lost."

The Portuguese tactician explained that his side's strategy was to frustrate England and gradually grow into the game.

"That's the way to win when you have to defend, you defend. I cannot play samba when they play rock and roll," he said.

"The goal was to finish the first

half with the England team frustrated and no solution to beat us. That was when we started to grow up and control the game. We could score, but unfortunately, we didn't do it. I think England could score, so a draw was a fair result."

Reflecting on the significance of securing a point, the former Iran and Egypt coach said qualification for the knockout stage was the team's primary objective.

"Happiness. Win is happiness,

but in this moment, the win is nothing. We reached the second stage, which was the goal," Queiroz added.

The result leaves both Ghana and England level on four points at the top of Group L heading into their final group-stage matches on Saturday.

England will take on Panama, while Ghana face Croatia as both sides aim to strengthen their positions ahead of the knockout rounds.



Ghana head coach Carlos Queiroz

2026 World Cup: 'I didn't deserve player-of-the-match award, it should go to Ghana' – Jude Bellingham



Jude Bellingham

Jude Bellingham said he did not deserve the player of the match award after England were forced to settle for a frustrating goalless draw against Group L rivals Ghana in Boston, a result that served as a timely reality check for Thomas Tuchel's side.

Just six days after their entertaining 4-2 win over Croatia, England faced a far more difficult test against a disciplined Ghana team that defended deep, stayed compact, and successfully disrupted their attacking rhythm throughout the contest.

Clear chances were scarce in a match defined by organisation and defensive resilience rather than attacking quality, with England repeatedly struggling to break through Ghana's well-drilled back line.

The game's clearest opportunity came late on for Harry Kane. Moments after substitute Nico O'Reilly struck the post with a header, the rebound fell kindly to the Bayern Munich striker, but he blazed over from close range with the goal gaping.

Although Bellingham was named player of the match, the Real Madrid midfielder, who was substituted in the 73rd minute for Morgan Rogers, insisted the award should have gone to a Ghana player.

"I didn't deserve it, to be honest," Bellingham told FIFA's in house media. "It should have gone to one of their lads who defended so well.

"I had a couple of moments; it was hard to get into the game, and I'm grateful for whoever voted, but it should've gone to one of their lads. Like always, it's second game fever with England. Win the first one, do well and draw the second.

"It's OK though, they played for a draw that would've seen them go through and fair play to them."

As Bellingham suggested, it marks the fourth major tournament in a row that England have drawn their second group match.

Declan Rice echoed the sense of frustration but urged calm after England's perfect start came to an end.

The Arsenal midfielder told the BBC: "Loads of top nations drew their first game, so there's no need to be negative. We need to stay positive, keep going, and recover before the next match against Panama on Saturday.

"You have to give credit to Ghana, they were 5-4-1 off the ball, very compact, tight spaces to play through, but of course maybe we can do a bit more with the ball and create a bit more.

"But it's tough, they're good players, and it was never going to be an easy game. Now we have one more in the group to finish top, so we need to stay positive."

He added that breaking down Ghana's defensive structure proved especially difficult.

"It's always difficult when you play against 11 behind the ball as deep as they were. You've got to find solutions, and in the last 10 minutes we probably found more than we did in the rest of the game.

"We were unlucky not to score, but we stay positive, we keep going, and we still have a great chance to top the group against Panama."

The match also produced the first half of any game at the tournament in which neither side registered a shot on target.

England's struggles were reflected in assistant coach Anthony Barry's half time assessment, where he described Ghana's defensive block as "deep, deep, deep, probably deeper than we expected."

Ghana, however, also had a major grievance late on when Prince Adu appeared to be fouled inside the penalty area by Ezri Konsa, only for appeals for a penalty to be waved away.

Harry Kane, meanwhile, was left to rue his missed late chance after O'Reilly's effort hit the woodwork and fell to him inside the box, but he lifted his shot over from close range.

Speaking after the match, Kane admitted it was an opportunity he would normally expect to score.

"I was kind of just there waiting for an opportunity like that to fall my way. I just couldn't quite get over the ball. I back myself to score that more often than not, but it is what it is."

He added that Ghana's defensive approach made the match extremely difficult for England's attackers.

"It was a game where you're waiting for the ball to drop. We had chances and we could have won it, but they defended the box well and made it tough for us."

England manager Thomas Tuchel had anticipated a difficult encounter after watching Ghana secure a late 1-0 win over Panama in their opening match.

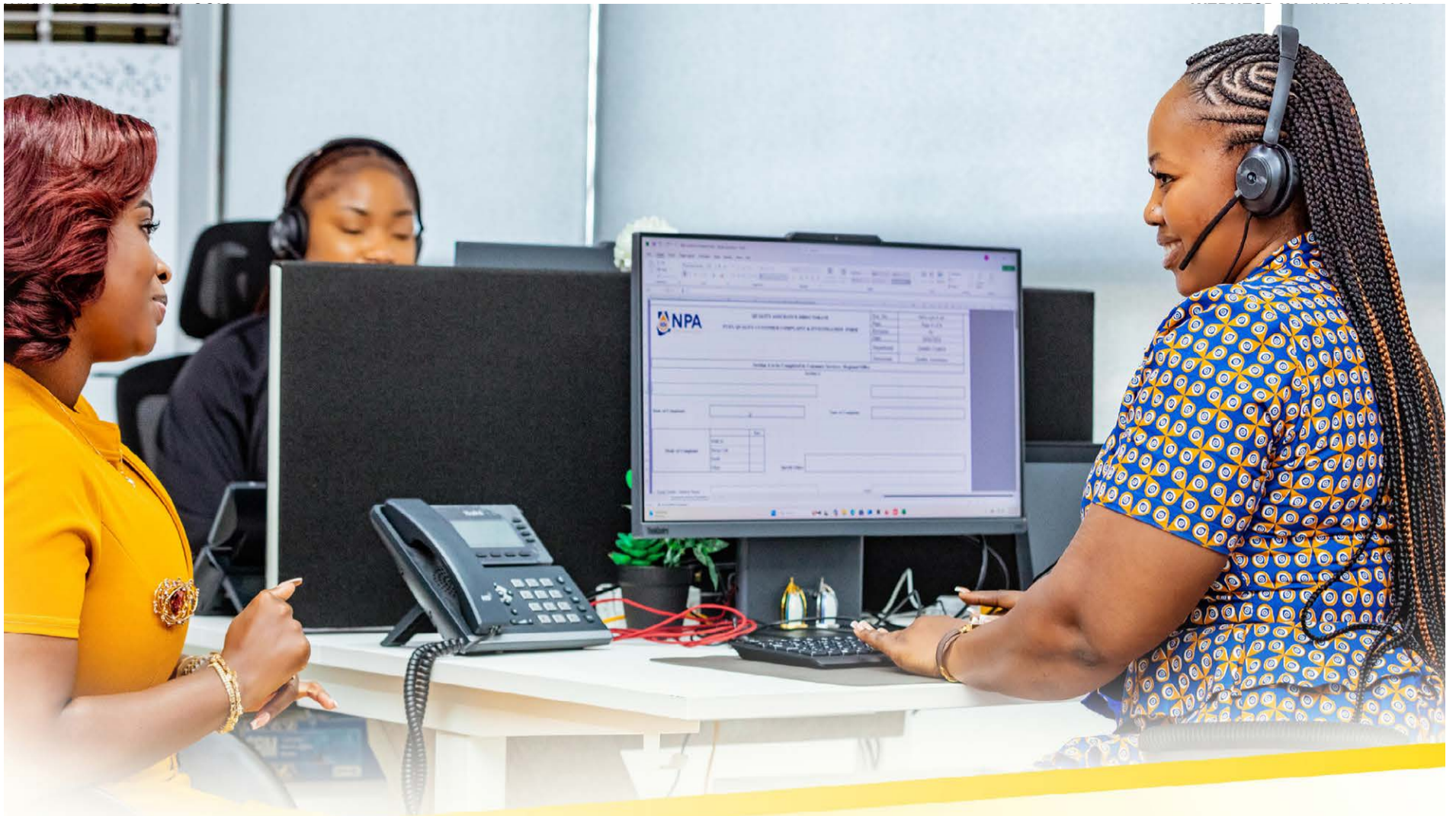
He said he was not frustrated by the result, stressing that his side largely controlled the game.

"I'm not frustrated. I saw it coming. Ghana are physical and very committed. Full credit to them, they were difficult to break down.

"You need patience, but also bravery at the right moments. We conceded only two dangerous chances.

"We had enough shots and crosses and a big chance with Harry Kane. It is what it is."

The draw leaves Ghana among a small group of teams yet to concede at the tournament, alongside Spain, Argentina, and Morocco, while both sides remain firmly in contention for qualification from Group L.



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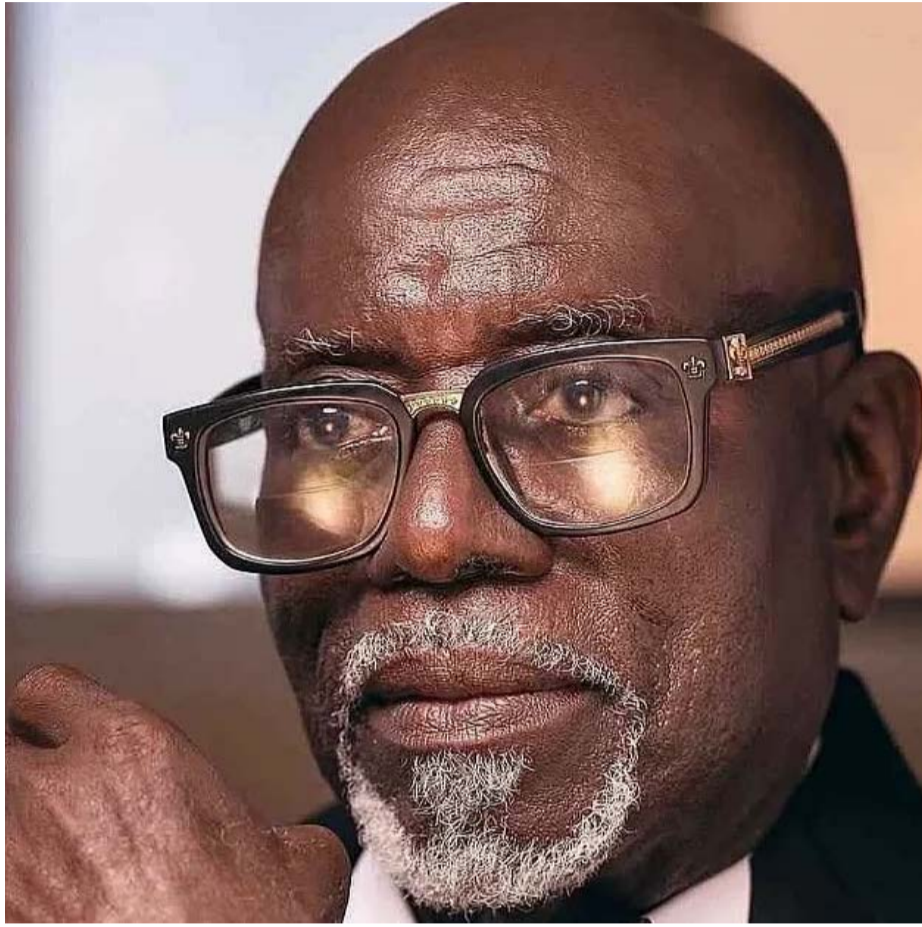
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I won't marry again in my next life – Veteran actor Fred Amugi



Veteran actor Fred Amugi

Veteran actor Fred Amugi has sparked public discussion after stating that, if given the

chance to live his life again, he would not choose marriage.

Fred Amugi explained that while he values friendships

and relationships, he would prefer not to formalise them through marriage if he had the chance to start over.

The actor attributed his views partly to the significant changes in society and family life over the years.

According to him, traditional marriage dynamics have evolved as women increasingly pursue education and professional careers, altering the structure of modern households.

“In my next life, if I am asked what I won't want to repeat from my previous life, I would say marriage. Before, women didn't chase careers and office work, so they were usually at home. But now, whatever a man can learn, women can also do the same. And these changes have also affected marital institutions,” he said in an interview with gospel musician Piesie Esther on Sunday, June 21

Although he stopped short of discussing specific difficulties in his own marriage, Amugi acknowledged that many people mistakenly believe his home life is trouble-free because he rarely speaks publicly about personal matters.

“I'm someone who doesn't talk about my issues outside, so people assume my home is peaceful. So if I am starting again, I won't consider marriage.”

His comments have since generated mixed reactions online, with some social media users interpreting the remarks as a sign that the actor may be facing challenges in his marriage, while others viewed them as a broader reflection on changing marital realities.

Music is not my last option – Davido

Nigerian Afrobeats superstar Davido has hit back at critics who claim he only does music to stay relevant or make a living, insisting his career is driven by passion, not necessity.

The 30BG boss made the statement on X, writing: “Una think say music nah my last option, una go learn.”

Davido's post is a direct rebuttal to the assumption that he chose music out of desperation or because he lacked other viable career paths.

Coming from the famously affluent and influential Adeleke family, the award-winning artist has vast generational wealth and a highly successful business empire outside

entertainment.

With the bold remark, Davido is reminding detractors that he makes music purely out of love for the craft.

It also serves as a confident warning to competitors: respect his talent and longevity, as he will continue to dominate the industry on his own terms regardless of their opinions.

The post has since sparked debate online, with fans applauding his confidence while critics weigh in on the ongoing conversation about privilege and artistry.

“I'm not a @davido fan, but from the deepest part of my heart I love how the guy carries himself. He knows when to be serious, when to play, and he is not an attention seeker, but

he pays attention. And most importantly, his humility. If I must be a fan of any Nigerian secular musician, it must be Davido,” Clement C Mbanugo wrote under Davido's post.

Uzo Chiamaka also wrote: “Why all these long talk. Leave Davido alone. There

is something about someone whom even grandmothers love and attend his shows. The love for Davido is about his inner man. . He is a very real person. Good and innocent, free-spirited individual. Stop hating on him.”



Nigerian music icon, Davido

‘I am not above arrest’ – Criss Waddle reacts to Ajagurajah’s doom prophecy



Ghanaian musician Criss Waddle has responded to recent claims by spiritual leader Ajagurajah, who said he foresaw trouble approaching the artiste from abroad.

Speaking during a TikTok Live session on Saturday, Criss Waddle questioned why Ajagurajah chose to make the alleged revelation public rather than contact him privately if the warning was

genuine.

The musician said he is fully aware of the realities of life and does not need anyone to present possible situations as exclusive spiritual revelations. He added that he is “street-aware” and understands that anyone can come under investigation if authorities deem it necessary.

“I am not above arrest or being invited by any institution,” Criss Waddle stated. However, he maintained that such possibilities should not be

portrayed as special messages revealed by God.

He further argued that if agencies such as the FBI decide to investigate a person, no spiritual intervention or sacrifice can erase evidence or stop the legal process.

“We are very alert and street-aware, so don’t come pretending that God has revealed something to you when we already know it’s possible to happen,” he said.

The comments come days after Ajagurajah claimed during a TikTok Live session on June 14, 2026, that he had seen what he described as “bad water and bad wind” coming from abroad against Criss Waddle.

According to the spiritual leader, the situation required urgent intervention to prevent harm. He subsequently called on the musician to provide two cows for what he described as a spiritual exercise to avert the danger.



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