**THE MAN KWAME BEDIAKO: HIS PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS ABOUT HIM**

**CONTENTS PAGE**

**INTRODUCTION: BRIEF BIOGRAPHY**

**BOOKS BY KWAME BEDIAKO**

**BOOK CHAPTERS BY KWAME BEDIAKO**

**JOURNAL ARTICLES** **BY KWAME BEDIAKO**

**CO -AUTHORED JOURNAL ARTICLES BY KWAME BEDIAKO**

**EDITED WORKS BY KWAME BEDIAKO**

**THESES BY KWAME BEDIAKO**

**MASTER OF ARTS THESIS**

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY THESES**

**LECTURES/CONFERENCE PAPERS/NEWSLETTERS**

**BOOK REVIEWS BY KWAME BEDIAKO**

**SPEECHES BY KWAME BEDIAKO**

**SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

**PUBLICATIONS ABOUT KWAME BEDIAKO**

**JOURNAL ARTICLES ABOUT KWAME BEDIAKO**

**BOOKS AND BOOK CHAPTERS ABOUT KWAME BEDIAKO**

**BOOK REVIEW OF KWAME BEDIAKO BOOKS**

**THESES ABOUT KWAME BEDIAKO**

**MASTER OF ARTS THESES ABOUT KWAME BEDIAKO**

**UNPUBLISHED DOCTORAL THESES ABOUT KWAME BEDIAKO**

**VIDEO BIOGRAPHIES OF KWAME BEDIAKO**

**KWAME BEDIAKO MEMORIAL LECTURES**

**VIDEOS ABOUT KWAME BEDIAKO**

**BIBLIOGRAPHIES OF KWAME BEDIAKO**

**FUNERAL BROCHURE**

**PROFESSOR KWAME BEDIAKO DATABASE**

**INTRODUCTION: BRIEF BIOGRAPHY**

Rev. Professor Kwame Bediako, FGA
(BA (Hons)., M-ès-L, Doct. 3ème Cycle, PhD)

Rev. Professor Kwame Bediako, full name: Manasseh Kwame Dakwa Bediako, born on 7th July 1945, was a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana. After his secondary education at Mfantsipim School, Cape Coast, he read French Honours at the University of Ghana, Legon, and pursued postgraduate studies in French in the University of Bordeaux, France, between 1969 and 1973. It was during his postgraduate studies in France that he experienced a radical conversion and discovered the crucial significance of personal faith in Christ in the pursuit of the intellectual life. He went on to study Theology at the London School of Theology, England (1973–76). Commissioned into the ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana (PCG) in 1978, he undertook doctoral theological research in the University of Aberdeen, Scotland (1978–83). On his return to Ghana, from 1984 to 1987, he served as Resident and Presbyterian Chaplain at the Accra Ridge Church. During those Ridge years, he was also Adjunct Lecturer at Trinity College, Legon (as the Seminary was then called).

In 1987, he left full-time ministry at Ridge Church, to become the Founding Director of Akrofi-Christaller Memorial Centre for Mission Research and Applied Theology (now Akrofi-Christaller Institute of Theology, Mission and Culture) in Akropong-Akuapem, a pioneer initiative of his, along with a senior minister of the PCG, Rev S.K. Aboa. Registered as a Company Limited by Guarantee with the status of a charity, with the PCG as sole Legal Subscriber, its vision and mission were to provide mission and gospel and culture training for ministers of the PCG initially, later serving more ecumenically, and after 10 years embarking on research and advanced studies in the fields of Christian Faith and Thought and in the relationship of the Christian Church to society. It was his life work to establish the Institute as an academic and pastoral institution serving the wider Christian and academic communities in Ghana, Africa and further afield. Under his direction, the Institute became a theological research University with Presidential Charter to award degrees at Masters (MA and MTh) and Doctoral levels in 2005.

He was also involved in helping to develop a network of similar institutions across the continent of Africa through the African Theological Fellowship (ATF), in which he served as General Secretary. For twelve years, between 1987 and 1999, he was Visiting Lecturer in African Theology in the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, where he lectured and gave postgraduate supervision for a term each year. He was also a member of the Board of the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies (OCMS), Oxford, England. He also lectured in many theological faculties in Europe, the USA, Africa and Latin America.

In October 1995, he was honoured for his contribution to Christian Scholarship by the National Christian Awards Committee of Ghana, and in January 1996, elected Fellow of the Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences. He received many other awards from Ghana and Europe in recognition of his achievements. In 1998, he was made Honorary Professor in the School of Theology, University of Natal (later School of Religion and Theology, KwaZulu-Natal), Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, which validated the postgraduate programmes in African Christianity that ACI ran on behalf of the ATF.

He wrote extensively in the fields of Gospel and culture, Christian identity and Christian history, and on the development of new contextual theologies in Africa. His *Theology and Identity—The Impact of Culture upon Christian Thought in the Second Century and Modern Africa,* (1992, reprinted 1999), his *Christianity in Africa—The Renewal of a Non-Western Religion (*Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books 1995; reprinted 1997) and *Jesus in Africa, the Christian Gospel in African History and Experience* (Akropong: Regnum African, 2000; subsequently reissued by Orbis in 2004), have become established textbooks in the fields of African Theology and World Christian Studies.

He was married to Gillian Mary, and they had two sons, Timothy Nana Yaw Nkansah Bediako and Daniel Kwabena Dakwa Bediako. He passed away on the 10th of June 2008, at the age of 63, having been called home to rest by his Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

This is a database that seeks to put together books and book chapters, journal articles, arranged chronologically. It also has sections on resources about him (books, book chapters, journals, encyclopaedia and dictionary articles, videos and memorial lectures) arranged alphabetically, by author.

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**THESES BY KWAME BEDIAKO**

**MASTER OF ARTS**

* Bediako, K. (1970). Négritude et Surréalisme: Essai sur l’oeuvre poétique de Tchicaya U Tam’si. Unpublished MA thesis, L’université de Bordeaux, France.

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**

* Bediako, K. (1983): Identity and Integration: An Enquiry into the Nature and Problems of Theological Indigenization in Selected Early Hellenistic and Modern African Christian Writers. A thesis presented for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at the University of Aberdeen. University of Aberdeen.
* Bediako, K. (1973). *L'univers interieur de Tchicaya U Tam'si.*  Doctoral dissertation presented to University of Bordeaux, France.

**LECTURES /CONFERENCE PAPERS /NEWSLETTERS**

* Bediako, K. (2006). *Religion, Culture, and Language: An Appreciation of the Intellectual Legacy of Dr. JB Danquah*. Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences.
* Bediako, K and Bediako, M (2005). ‘Ebenezer, this is how far the Lord Has helped us’ (I Samuel 7:12). Reflections on the Institutional Itinerary of Akrofi-Christaller Memorial Centre for Mission Research & Applied Theology (1974-2005). Akropong-Akwapim.
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* Bediako, K (1995). The relevance of the Christian Gospel for Africa today. A series of three lectures given at the Silver Jubilee of Asempa Publishers, September 1995
* Bediako, K (1995). The role of the Bible in nation-building in Africa today. 30th anniversary of the Ghana Bible Society, September 1995.
* Bediako, K (1994). Understanding the Christian ideal in education in Ghana. *Akrofi Christaller Centre News,* 11-15
* Bediako, K (1993). Christianity transformed into a non-Western religion—the modern missionary movement in African perspective. Presented at the 1993 Henry Martyn Lectures University of Cambridge, Faculty of Theology.
* Bediako, K. (1993). Cry Jesus! Christian presence and theology in modern Africa. Presented at the Laing Lecture, London Bible College
* Bediako, K (1993). Educating a nation, A Christian perspective for our time.

Under the auspices of the Youth Department of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana, the first A. M. Atkinson Memorial Lectures, Accra, December 1993.

* Bediako, K, Linn, G and Motte, M (1993): IAMS General Assembly, Kaneohe, Hawaii, 10 August 1992, Conference Report. In: *Mission Studies* 10 (1&2), 243-255.
* Bediako, K (1992) Christian Africa—the surprise story of the modern missionary movement. Presented at the 1992 Rigby Lecture Northumberland Bible College.
* Bediako, K. (1992). The Akrofi-Christaller Memorial Centre for Mission Research and Applied Theology. Mission in Context. Akropong.
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Under the auspices of the National Association of Evangelicals of Ghana (NAEG), the first William Ofori-Atta Memorial Lectures, Accra, October 1992

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* Bediako, K (2004). Book Review: Knut Holter, Old Testament Research for Africa: A Critical Analysis *and* Annotated Bibliography of African Old Testament Dissertations, 1997-2000, *International Bulletin of Missionary* *Research* 28 (3), 138-139.
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* Bediako, K (1980). Book Review: Appiah-Kubi, K and Torres, S (eds.), African Theology en Route, Accra-New York 1979; Appiah-Kubi, Kofi A.O., Libération ou adaptation? La théologie africaine s'intérroge. Le collogue d’Accra, Paris. *Journal of Religion in Africa* 11 (2), 158-159
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* Bediako, K. (2006). Akrofi-Christaller Institute of Theology Mission and Culture: ACI Graduation, Akropong-Akuapem, 9th December 2006
* Bediako, K. (2014 ). [Speech at ACI Maiden Graduation Ceremony](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cAOj5sOFbJE&pp=ygUea3dhbWUgYmVkaWFrbyBtZW1vcmlhbCBsZWN0dXJl)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cAOj5sOFbJE>

**SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

**IN DENMARK:**

* University of Copenhagen: Centre for African Studies (1999)
University of Copenhagen: Dept. of Systematic Theology (1999)

**IN PERU:**

* CEMAA, Lima (2003)

**IN THE NETHERLANDS:**

* Hendrik Kraemer Institute, Oegstgeest (1991, 1992, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2004)
* Theological Faculty of Kampen (1991, 1992)
* Free University of Amsterdam, Theological Faculty (1992, 2003)
* University of Leiden, Theological Faculty (1992)
* University of Leiden, African Studies Centre (1992)
* University of Utrecht, Theological Faculty (1992)
* University of Amsterdam, Theological Faculty (1993)

**IN NORWAY:**

* Free Faculty of Theology, Oslo (1993, 1999, 2005)
* Fijellhaug School of Mission, Oslo (1993, 1999)
* School of Mission and Theology, Stavanger (1999, 2005)
* Bergen College (1999)
* University of Bergen (1999)
* Methodist Theological Seminary (1999)

**IN SWEDEN:**

* Örebro Missionskola(1993, 1999)
* Swedish Institute of Missionary Research, Uppsala (1999)

**IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:**

* Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI. (1997, 2000, 2001, 2004, 2005,2007)
* Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA (2000)
* Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, MI (2001)
* Princeton Theological Seminary (1999, 2001, 2003)
* Duke University Divinity School, Durham, NC (2005)

**IN ETHIOPIA:**

* Ethiopian Graduate School of Theology (2001)

**IN KENYA:**

* Daystar University, Nairobi (1995, 2006)
* Guest Lecture, All Africa Conference of Churches, Nairobi (1995)
* Annual School of Theology, African Institute of Contemporary Mission and Research, Butere, Kenya (2006)

**IN SOUTH AFRICA:**

* Evangelical Theological House of Studies (ETHOS), Pietermaritzburg (1995)
* School of Theology, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg (1995, 1998-2005)
* Faculty of Theology, University of Durban-Westville (1995)
* Evangelical Biblical Seminary of Southern Africa, Pietermaritzburg (1995)

**PUBLICATIONS ABOUT KWAME BEDIAKO**

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* Bediako, G. M. (2009). Reflections on the scholarship of Kwame Bediako and its importance for African theology. *Journal of African Christian Thought*, *12*(2), 19-22.
* Berríos, E. C., & Noble, D. Á. O. (2028) Kwame Bediako: una teología Africana (Kwame Bediako: an African theology) Seminario Teológico de Puerto Rico Extensión de Alliance Theological Seminary, 1-20.
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* Dinkelaker, B. (2018) Kwame Bediako as a World Christian: A European view of his legacy. *Journal of African Christian Thought*, 22(2) 28-37.
* Edu-Bekoe, Y. A. (2015). Describing an African dancing without hearing his music: Kevin Howard has generally misunderstood Kwame Bediako. *Global Missiology*, 3-12.
* Engelsviken, T. (2008). Rev. Professsor Kwame Bediako in memoriam. *Norsk tidsskrift for misjonsvitenskap*, *62*(3), 131-134. T. (2008). Rev. Professor Kwame Bediako in memoriam. *Norsk tidsskrift for misjonsvitenskap*, *62*(3), 131-134.
* Fretheim, S. J. (2018). From poetry and identity to theology and identity: an analysis of Kwame Bediako’s negritude scholarship and its lasting impact on his Christian thinking. *Journal of African Christian Thought*, 21(2) 19-27.
* Fotland, R. (2005). The Christology of Kwame Bediako. *Journal of African Christian Thought*, 8(1) 36-49.
* Gaisie, R. K. (2018). Interpreting Africa through the Gospel of Jesus Christ: some lessons from Kwame Bediako and his thoughts on Clement of Alexandria. *Journal of African Christian Thought*, 21(2) 38-45.
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* Aye-Addo, C. S. (2013). *Akan Christology: An Analysis of the Christologies of John Samuel Pobee and Kwame Bediako in Conversation with the Theology of Karl Barth* (Vol. 5). Wipf and Stock Publishers.
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* Brown, K. M. (2021). *Theological Education in a Globalized World: Contributions from Kōsuke Koyama, Kwame Bediako, and Ada María Isasi-Diaz*. Trinity International University.
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* Dinkelaker, B, (2016). How is Jesus Christ Lord? reading *Kwame Bediako from a postcolonial and intercontextual perspective* (Vol. 14). Peter Lang Edition.
* Dinkelaker, B. (2016). The life and work of Kwame Bediako In: How is Jesus Christ Lord?: reading Kwame Bediako from a postcolonial and intercontextual perspective (Vol. 14). Peter Lang Edition., 125-181
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* Fotland, R. G. (2005). *Ancestor Christology in context: Theological perspectives of Kwame Bediako*. [This was actually a PhD thesis for the University of Bergen, Norway. It is their practice to issue theses as books.]
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* Jansen, M. (2003). African Theology as a Challenge for Western Theology: Comments on Kwame Bediako’s Paper. In Martin Brinkman (ed.), *Christian Identity in Cross-Cultural Perspective*, Brill, 68-72.
* Kwame Bediako In dictionary of African Christian Biography <https://dacb.org/stories/ghana/bediako-kwame/> (accessed 15/6/2023)
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* Nkrumah-Pobi, S. K. B. The Root Metaphors of Christ in the Theology of Kwame Bediako and Heup Young Kim. (ResearchGate)
* Visser, H (2014). The influence of Kwame Bediako in the Netherlands. *Seeing New Facets of the Diamond: Christianity as a Universal Faith: Essays in Honour of Kwame Bediako*. Oxford: Regnum Books 94-104
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**BOOK REVIEW OF KWAME BEDIAKO BOOKS**

* Dekar, P.R. (1997) Book review: Kwame Bediako, Christianity in Africa: the renewal of a non-western religion. *Church History: studies in Christianity and culture*. 66, 694-696
* Gifford, P. (1996). Book review: Kwame Bediako, Christianity in Africa: the renewal of a non-western religion. *African Affairs* 66, 618-619
* Gray, R. (1997). Book review: Kwame Bediako, Christianity in Africa: the renewal of a non-western religion. *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*, 60, 202-203
* Kalu, O.U. (2005). Book review: Kwame Bediako, Jesus and the gospel in Africa: history and experience. *International Bulletin of Missionary Research*, 29, 48-49
* Nelson, J E. (1997) Book review: Kwame Bediako, Christianity in Africa: the renewal of a non-western religion. *Journal of Ecumenical Studies*, 34, 576-577.
* Parratt, J (1997) Book review: Kwame Bediako, Christianity in Africa: the renewal of a non-western religion. *International Review of Missions*, 86 (340-341), 157-159
* Tienou, T (1997**)** Book review: Kwame Bediako, Christianity in Africa: the renewal of a non-western religion. *International Bulletin of Missionary Research*, 21, 129-130
* Wared, K (1997) Book review: Kwame Bediako, Christianity in Africa: the renewal of a non-western religion. Journal of African History 38, 143-145.

**MASTER OF ARTS** **THESES ABOUT KWAME BEDIAKO**

* CromwelL, JA (2002) Two theologians of significance in Ghana: Rev. Prof. Kwame Bediako and Prof. Mercy Amba Oduyoye. (Dissertation presented to Trinity Theological Seminary, Legon in partial fulfillment of an award in the B. D. Degree)
* Egyir-Croffet, J.G (2005) The theological significance of mother tongue in Christian expression: an assessment of Kwesi A. Dickson, Kwame Bediako and John S. Pobee (Master of Arts (Theology and Mission) project essay submitted to the Akrofi-Christaller Institute of Theology, Mission and Culture.)
* Tandoh, C.R.A. (2003) Two contemporary theologians of significance: Wolfhart Pannenberg and Kwame Bediako and their relevance for Christological construction (Long essay presented to the Trinity Theological Seminary in partial fulfillment for the award of Bachelor of Divinity degree)

**UNPUBLISHED DOCTORAL THESES ABOUT KWAME BEDIAKO**

* Agyarko, R. O. (2005). Libation in African Christian Theology: A Critical Comparison of the Views of Kwasi Sarpong, Kwesi Dickson, John Pobee and Kwame Bediako (Doctoral dissertation, University of the Western Cape).
* Gatumu, A. K. W. (2000). Primal worldview and the Bible: An African Christian contribution to a hermeneutical method from the perspective of the primal worldview, with particular reference to the Gikuyu of Kenya (Doctoral dissertation, University of Natal). (This is not actually about Bediako, so it should be removed.)
* Goricke, K. (1999) Kristen afrikansk teologi mellem identitet og relevans saerligt belyst un fra den ghanesiske teolog Kwame Bediako. (Christian African theology between identity and relevance specially illuminated from the Ghanaian theologian Kwame Bediako) Presented to University of Copenhagen
* Hartman, T. M. (2014). Revelation, Religion, and Culture in Kwame Bediako and Karl Barth (Doctoral dissertation, University of Virginia).
* Magezi, C. (2016). The conceptualisation of Christ's salvation in Kwame Bediako and Thomas F. Torrance and its implications for spiritual security in African Christianity (Doctoral dissertation, North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus).

**VIDEO BIOGRAPHIES OF KWAME BEDIAKO**

* James Ault, Kwame Bediako: his life and legacy

<https://jamesault.com/documentaries/kwame-bediako-his-life-and-legacy/>

* Kwame Bediako-pieces of his life story

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kqMdQr_n8j8>

E**NCYCLOPAEDIC INFORMATION**

* Kwame Bediako

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kwame_Bediako>

* Kwame Bediako

Dictionary of African Christian Biography

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**KWAME BEDIAKO MEMORIAL LECTURES (KBML)**

* [15th Kwame Bediako Memorial Lecture (2023](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S4zwdvbuAl4&pp=ygUea3dhbWUgYmVkaWFrbyBtZW1vcmlhbCBsZWN0dXJl))

*Improving Mental Health in Ghana: The Role of the Church and Theological Institutions.*

Delivered by Prof Joseph Osafo, Professor of Clinical/Health Psychology, Department of Psychology - University of Ghana, Legon. Available: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S4zwdvbuAl4>

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*The Power of Mother-Tongue Scriptures: Changing Perceptions of Christianity among the Dagomba and the Konkomba as a Consequence of their mother-Tongue Scriptures.* Delivered by Rev. Dr. Solomon Sule Saa, Director CISEA / Dean of Continuing Education, ACI. Available: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ybpc9HWzNOY>

* [11th Kwame Bediako Memorial Lecture (2019)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zzJgayvoTFU&pp=ygUea3dhbWUgYmVkaWFrbyBtZW1vcmlhbCBsZWN0dXJl)

*Language, Education and Nation Building: A Historical, Cultural and Theological Appraisal.*Delivered by Rev. Prof. Phillip Tetteh Laryea, Dean of Accredited Studies, ACI.  Available: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zzJgayvoTFU>

* 10th Kwame Bediako Memorial Lecture (2018)

*Church and Theological Education: Legacies of The African Theological Initiative.*Delivered by Prof. Tite Tienou, Dean Emeritus and Research Professor of Theology of Mission, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Illinois, USA.

* 9th Kwame Bediako Memorial Lecture (2017)

*African spirituality and Christian ministry: 'Discerning the signs of the times' in our environment and community* Delivered by Prof. Allison M. Howell, Associate Professor / Adjunct Lecturer, ACI.

* 8th Kwame Bediako Memorial Lecture (2016)

*Boko Haram Explained – Lessons for our Time.* Delivered by Rev. Prof. John Azumah, Director of the Sanneh Institute, Professor of World Christianity and Islam, Columbia Theological Seminary, Adjunct Lecturer, ACI.

* 7th Kwame Bediako Memorial Lecture (2015)

*Saint Anthony of Africa: Lessons for African* *Christians Today.*Delivered by Most Rev. Dr. R. Aboagye-Mensah, Former Presiding Bishop, The Methodist Church Ghana, Dean, Faculty of Theology and Mission, Pentecost University College, Accra.

* 6th Kwame Bediako Memorial Lecture (2014)

*Christ, Our Perfect Sacrifice: The Odwira Festival and Christianity in Contemporary Ghana.*Delivered by Rev. Dr. Mrs. Ernestina Afriyie, Senior Research Fellow, Chaplain and Dean of Students, ACI.

* [5th](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqGSME3nKWE&pp=ygUea3dhbWUgYmVkaWFrbyBtZW1vcmlhbCBsZWN0dXJl)  Kwame Bediako Memorial Lecture (2013)

*Interpreting and Articulating the Faith: Lessons from Early Christian History for Africa Today.* Delivered by Most Rev. Prof. Emmanuel Asante, Former Presiding Bishop, The Methodist Church Ghana, Chairman, National Peace Council of Ghana

* 4th Kwame Bediako Memorial Lecture (2012)

*The Christian Chapter of the History of African Religion.* Delivered by Prof. Andrew F. Walls, Emeritus Professor of the Akrofi-Christaller Institute and also Professor of History of Missions at Liverpool Hope University, UK.

* 3rd Kwame Bediako Memorial Lecture (2011)

*The Bible in African Christianity: Kwame Bediako and the Reshaping of an African Heritage.* Delivered by Rev. Prof. B. Y. Quarshie, Rector, Akrofi-Christaller Institute.

* 2nd Kwame Bediako Memorial Lecture (2010)

*Christianity and Citizenship.* Delivered by Prof. Lamin Sanneh, Yale Divinity School, University of Yale.

* 1st Kwame Bediako Memorial Lecture (2009)

*Who Do You Say That I Am? Revisiting Kwame Bediako's Responses to an Eternal Christological Question.* Delivered by Very Rev. Prof. J. Kwabena Asamoah-Gyadu, Trinity Theological Seminary, Legon.

**VIDEOS ABOUT KWAME BEDIAKO**

* Hartman, [T. A Theology of Nondominating Power: Kwame Bediako on Politics](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JmMZByezqzk&pp=ygUea3dhbWUgYmVkaWFrbyBtZW1vcmlhbCBsZWN0dXJl)

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**FUNERAL BROCHURE**

* Funeral brochure. Call to glory. Rev Professor Kwame Bediako (6th July 2008) Akropong: Akrofi Christaller Institute. [I think it would be a good idea for the library to scan this and make the pdf available.’