



OFFICE OF THE KAKULASEWURA

Mankuma Traditional Area

Our Ref.: KKM I/ADM./...../.....

Date: 3rd August, 2026



PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KAKULASEWURA RECEIVES RENOVATED YAGBON ROYAL MAUSOLEUM AND CALLS FOR NATIONAL RECOGNITION OF GONJA HERITAGE

The Office of the Kakulasewura is pleased to announce that on Saturday, 1st August, 2026, Kakulasewura Sakra Kankan Maji I (Dr. Abu Sakara Foster) officially received the keys to the Yagbon Royal Mausoleum at Mankuma following the successful completion of a self-financed restoration of the Mausoleum enclosure by the civil society organisation - Yagbon b'Kiyigbon.

The restoration was undertaken by Yagbon b'Kiyigbon on behalf of the B'Gbunipo of Yagbon (Principal Counsellors of Yagbon) as part of their commitment to preserving the rich cultural and historical heritage of the Gonja Kingdom.

Receiving the keys in his capacity as Chief Principal Counsellor of Yagbon, Paramount Chief of the Mankuma Traditional Area, and Custodian of the Yagbon Royal Mausoleum, Kakulasewura Sakra Kankan Maji I expressed profound appreciation to the leadership and members of Yagbon b'Kiyigbon for what he described as a patriotic, selfless and worthy contribution towards safeguarding one of the most sacred heritage sites of the Gonja Kingdom.

The Kakulasewura commended the organisation for demonstrating that true service to one's people is measured by commitment to preserving their history, identity and traditions. He urged other civil society organisations, development partners, citizens of Gonjaland, residents of the Savannah Region, and all friends and sympathisers of the Gonja Kingdom to emulate this exemplary spirit of volunteerism and service in support of cultural heritage conservation.

In his address, Kakulasewura acknowledged the solidarity and support of his fellow Principal Counsellors of Yagbon—Sakpawura, Beiwura, Jahoriwura, Tariwura and Nangbenwura—who were present to grace and support the colourful handing-over ceremony. He noted that their presence reflected the unity and shared responsibility of the Principal Counsellors in safeguarding the traditions and institutions of the Gonja Kingdom.

The Kakulasewura also reaffirmed the indispensable customary and spiritual roles played by the leader of the Earth Priests (Kadewura), whose inherited responsibilities remain central to the maintenance, sanctity and traditional administration of the Royal Mausoleum.

Appealing for unity and cooperation among all stakeholders, Kakulasewura called on traditional authorities, government institutions, community members and all interested parties to work together to ensure that the renovated Royal Mausoleum continues to provide seamless, dignified and efficient services during all traditional and royal occasions.

Looking beyond the restoration, Kakulasewura called for national recognition of the Yagbon Royal Mausoleum as a Site of National Antiquity, noting that its history predates the formation of the modern Republic of Ghana by several centuries. He described the Mausoleum as an irreplaceable repository of the history, culture and statehood of the Gonja Kingdom that deserves national attention and protection.

He further proposed the development of a comprehensive heritage project that would transform the Royal Mausoleum into the centrepiece of a modern Anthropological and Cultural Heritage Museum, incorporating the existing Mausoleum within a well-planned heritage park. According to him, the project should include facilities capable of receiving tourists, researchers, pilgrims and visitors while preserving the sacred character of the Royal Mausoleum.

The Kakulasewura also appealed for the construction of an 18-kilometre road linking the ancient capital of Nyange directly to Mankuma, describing the road as critical infrastructure that would improve accessibility to one of the oldest historical and cultural sites in northern Ghana.

Speaking on behalf of the Earth Priests, the Kadewura endorsed the Kakulasewura's vision and fully supported the call for the upgrading of the Yagbon Royal Mausoleum into a nationally recognised heritage site capable of attracting pilgrims, researchers and tourists. He pledged his full cooperation in

ensuring the proper maintenance, preservation and spiritual integrity of the sacred site.

In a symbolic demonstration of shared custodianship, the Kakulasewura formally entrusted the keys of the Royal Mausoleum to the Kadewura to enable him to continue performing his customary responsibilities in maintaining and protecting the sacred site in accordance with Gonja tradition.

In his concluding remarks, Kakulasewura urged all visitors to Mankuma, regardless of the purpose of their visit, to first announce their arrival at the Office of the Kakulasewura, located at the Kakulase Community Meeting Hall, where appropriate guidance and assistance would be provided. He assured visitors of the readiness of his office, together with the elders of the Mankuma Traditional Area, to support all legitimate activities connected with the Royal Mausoleum and the cultural heritage of the Gonja Kingdom.

Finally, the Kakulasewura reaffirmed that, as custodian, he would formally present the successful restoration and handover of the Yagbon Royal Mausoleum to its rightful owner, His Majesty the Yagbonwura, King and Overlord of the Gonja Kingdom (Ngbanye).

Sign



For: Kakulasewura Sakra Kakan Maji I

