

**UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, WINNEBA**

**INCORPORATING MBENSUON ENSEMBLE INTO THE CHRISTIAN  
RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH. A CASE OF  
ANOMABO PARISH**



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of Arts in Music Education.**

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**DECLARATION**

**CANDIDATE’S DECLARATION**

I, **Francis Eku-Hyia** hereby declare that, with exception of the quotations and the references which I have duly cited and acknowledged, this dissertation is entirely my own original work, and no one has submitted either part or the whole work for any degree elsewhere.

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**SUPERVISOR’S DECLARATION**

We hereby declare that the preparation and presentation of this work was supervised according to the dictates and guidance for supervision of Thesis as stipulated by the University of Education, Winneba.

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## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this work to my wife, all my children and the union executives of Agona  
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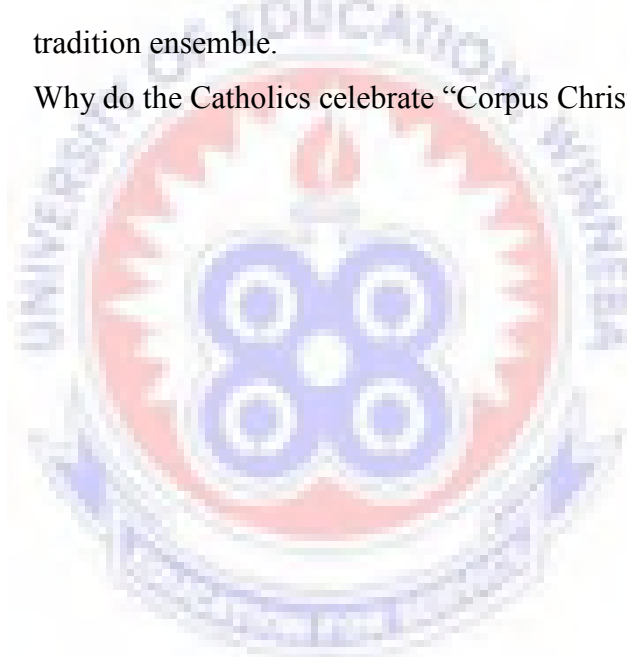
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## GLOSSARY

Agnus Dei	This means “Lamb of God who takes the sins of the world”. This is sung at the latter part of the mass just before the communion is shared to prepare the congregation for the reception of the Body of Christ into their lives.
Corpus Christi	These are Latin words explained as follows: “corpus” means the Body, “Christi”, Corpus Christi means Body of Christ. It is a feast celebrated by the Catholics as “Feast of Christ the King”. It is during this feast that the body of Christ is carried in a palanquin to show to the world that Christ is King.
Credo/Creed	This simply means the proclamation of faith. It is a song recited just after the homily by the priest or by one in charge of the Eucharistic celebration.
Gloria	This also means “Glory to God in the highest”. It is a song of praise used to glorify God.
Gregorian Chants	These were songs performed in the early days of the Catholic Church. They are full of Latin songs and mostly in the calls and responses. The priest normally starts for the congregation to respond.
Kyrie	This is a Latin word which means “Lord have mercy”. It is sung to plead for forgiveness.
Mass	This constitutes the major songs in the Catholic Church’s worship. These songs are five namely, Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus and Agnus Dei.
Monstrance	This is the golden moulded design in which the Body of Christ (Communion) is placed.
Ntehera	These are horns used in performing Mbensuon. They form part of the Aerophone family. The name “Ntehera” is notably found among the Ashantis
Pater Noster	This also, is one of the songs performed in the Eucharistic celebration. It simply means the Lord’s Prayer thus the very prayer which our Lord Jesus Christ Himself taught us.

- Practising Catholics** These refer to members who have been baptised, confirmed and especially matrimonies their marriage and receive Holy Communion. These are the real members recognised by the church as full members and that, if there are positions in the church, these members are considered before any others.
- Sacred Music** It is a generic term often used to encompass a hodgepodge of all music that is played or sung in places of worship
- Sanctus** This means Holy, Holy. It is sung when the priest is sanctifying the Body of Christ and changing it into bread and wine.



## ABSTRACT

The study was conducted to find out why the Roman Catholic Church in Anomabo Parish incorporates traditional ensembles like “Mbensoun, Asafo, F4nt4mfr4m” and other ensembles in her activities. The researcher employed both quantitative and qualitative approaches to gather the data. The study revealed that three elements of the ensemble have been incorporated in the activities of the Church. That is, blowing of horns, playing of drums and bell as well as singing of traditional songs. The study revealed that most people who are non-Catholics do not understand why the Catholic Church incorporates “Mbensoun” in her religious activities. However, eighty five percent (85%) of the respondents agree that „Mbenson“ should be incorporated in the Catholic Church in order to entice the participation of the youth to unearth their musical talents and to preserve the culture of the communities in Anomabo Parish. The research also revealed that the inculturation of the „Mbenson“ ensemble has erased the dichotomy between the Catholic Church and members of the community. The inculturation also helps people to maintain their tradition, culture as well as traditional ensemble. The study recommends that traditional ensembles like „Mbensoun, F4nt4mfr4m, kete“ and others must be taught in all pre tertiary institutions in Ghana to enable all children of school going age to develop positive attitude towards African musical instruments. In conclusion, the research work exposes to non-Catholics to some of the activities of the Catholic Church, and why those activities are carried out.



# AKYEM NYANSAFO

Transcribed By  
EKU-HYIA FRANCIS

O yan sa fo **odzi adze ogya bi** O yan

sa fo **odzi adze ogya bi** **Akyema** O

yan sa fo a o dzia dzao gya bi A kyem a O yan

sa fo a o dzia dzao gya bi

The image shows a musical score for the song 'AKYEM NYANSAFO'. It consists of four staves of music in a single system, written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a time signature of 8/8. The lyrics are written below the notes. Several phrases are highlighted in white boxes: 'odzi adze ogya bi' on the first staff, 'odzi adze ogya bi' and 'Akyema' on the second staff, and 'sa fo a o dzia dzao gya bi' on the fourth staff. The lyrics are: 'O yan sa fo odzi adze ogya bi O yan sa fo odzi adze ogya bi Akyema O yan sa fo a o dzia dzao gya bi A kyem a O yan sa fo a o dzia dzao gya bi'.