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The News Editor,

PRESS RELEASE: CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MESSAGE FROM **FRIMPONG-MANSO INSTITUTE**

The Frimpong-Manso Institute (FMI) brings our countrymen and women good tidings of great joy on the occasion of Christmas and New Year.

"For unto us a child is born. Unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be on His shoulders. And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace, there shall be no end."

Relative to the elements of the throne names of the Messiah, peace is what we urgently need in this critical period of Ghana's history.

In the face of sharp escalation of tensions, red- hot anger, and fresh threats of mayhem over the re- collation and redeclaration of the disputed parliamentary results in some constituencies, we need peace to maintain the country's constitutional order and democratic governance.

The in- coming Mahama administration specifically needs peace to fulfill its campaign promises, tackle structural challenges, meet heightened expectations, and particularly, grow the economy and create jobs for the unemployed.

The other arms of government- Parliament, Judiciary and other relevant institutions like political parties, chieftancy bodies, religious organizations,

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civil society, academia, media and businesses will be rendered ineffective, dysfunctional or even worthless without the oxygen of peace.

The Frimpong-Manso Institute therefore makes a passionate appeal to all such institutions and the generality of Ghanaians, to be supremely measured and sensitive in their comments and conduct.

Despite all its plaudits and achievements, Ghana's democracy is still fragile, and its foundations of peace, vulnerable.

Nothing, absolutely nothing, should be done to endanger the peace nor undermine the fundamental underpinnings of our democracy.

May the peace of God which transcends all understanding be the portion of our dear nation Ghana in the New Year, and beyond.

Afehyia Pa.

ISSUED BY FRIMPONG-MANSO INSTITUTE

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Thank you.

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