

22nd December, 2025

The News Editor,

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

Frimpong-Manso Institute (FMI) is united in gratitude with all Ghanaians to the God of all grace who lavished His grace on us in 2025.

This grace reflects copiously in the peace we have enjoyed so far.

During the period, we witnessed flashpoints, skirmishes and fatalities in parts of the country. The presentation of the report on the Bawku conflict has also been greeted with fresh security challenges in the conflict zone.

But all these have not eroded the national peace architecture nor our democratic foundations.

Ghana's peaceful status and democratic credentials assume more significance when viewed against recent developments in West Africa, which now carries an ignoble and horrible tag as the epicentre of military coups and political instability.

FMI, however, thinks that it is not enough to condemn this situation, no matter how despicable it is. More importantly, our political leaders, followers and the population in general must learn cautionary lessons from the democratic decline and turbulence in our neighbouring countries.

Specifically, the ugly political picture in West Africa presents an opportunity for Ghana to retrofit her democracy. This is by way of addressing the spate of disturbances in Parliament and growing intolerance in public discourse. Intolerance, to say the least, leads to infighting, violence and instability.

We pray that 2026 we see us visibly tolerating, accommodating, forgiving and cooperating with each other, in the supreme interest of national unity and national stability.

We also urge the authorities to translate the current economic resurgence into affordable housing, durable roads and decent jobs for the growing unemployed population in particular.

Despite the gains by NAIMOS, our water bodies, forest reserves, arable lands and the general environment continue to take monstrous hits and poisonous impacts from galamsey. The new year must, therefore, see a clearer verdict on the war against illegal mining and other forms of environmental plunder.

Other issues which call for decisive actions are gambling, cybercrime and indiscipline, particularly among the youth. We should do everything possible to create bright career paths for the young population, and kill any illegal get-rich-quick mentality in them.

To our brothers and sisters who work as traders, teachers, drivers, farmers, fishers, artisans, public servants, civil servants, contractors and consultants, we must be extra-diligent and scale up productivity on all fronts.

Difficult roads, they say, often lead to glorious destinations. May the difficulties we experienced in our personal and national lives in 2025 crystalize into glorious achievements in 2026.

Proverbs 16:3 says: "Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and your plans will succeed." Backed by incessant prayer and tenacious action, we must channel all our plans, dreams, proposals, programmes, and strategies to the Sovereign Lord who alone can guarantee their positive outcomes.

On behalf of the Fellows of FMI, I wish all Ghanaians a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

ISSUED BY FRIMPONG-MANSO INSTITUTE

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Thank you.