# THE MEANING OF FAMILY

### ONE HUNDRED AND TEN YEARS - (110 YEARS)

The word "family" encompasses a myriad of definitions, each unique to the individual. For some, it signifies the loving bond between parents and children, characterized by mutual sensitivity to each other's needs and desires, and unwavering support in both joyous and sorrowful times.

For us—Afari, Larbi, and Asare—family represents a patriarchal unit, an extensive assembly of children, spouses, grandchildren, and a vast network of distant relatives spanning various generations. We gather from far-flung domiciles on special occasions, striving to preserve the common ground of our ancestral roots. However, the passing years and the diverging interests and experiences tend to obscure these connections in a fading fog of memories.

### **FAMILY MEMBERS**



EXTREME RIGHT DOWN: ASANTEWA ELEANOR ELIZABETH
EXTREME LEFT DOWN: JULIANA ANNOBEA ASARE
EXTREME LEFT UP: NGESI'S WIFE KOROFA FROM AKROPONG.
NGESI EXTREME LEFT AND EXTREME RIGHT
MIDDLE WOMAN IN WINE: SOPHIA IRENE OFFEIBEA KORKOR ASARE
(WIFE OF REV. N.V. ASARE)

THE MIDDLE GREAT: REV. NATHANIEL VICTOR ASARE

## **Grandchildren of Rev. N.V. Asare**

- Jane Oye Ansa 25 March 1901 (Kaaka)
- Mathew Haery Asare Hyeaman 14 October 1901 (Papa Teacher)
  - Joseph Herbert Anno Wilson 29 December 1902
  - Nathaniel Victor Asare Sunkwa 27 October 1917
- Comfort Asaah Afari Larbi 21 November 1921

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Born: 1849, Wife Born: 1854

Baptised: 1863, Left School: 1873

Married: 7 July 1874

### Stations of Labour: REV NV Asare

- 1. Aburi 1886-1889
- 2.Tutu 1889-1892
- 3. Akropong 1892-1899
- 4. Kyebi 1899-1902
- 5. Kumasi 1902-1912
- 6. Mampong 1911-1912

### THE FAMILY'S ORIGIN

Rev. Nathanael Victor Asare, who became the second Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana, was born in 1849 at Nyeduase. His father was Nana Otutu Ababio (Aketewa), Nifahene of Akwapim, and his mother was Annobea of Awukugua, possibly a relative of the late Okomfo Anokye.

#### **EARLY LIFE AND EDUCATION**

Before his birth, his mother sought protection from Okomfo Akwasi Kokoo, who promised an easy delivery if the child, a male, would be dedicated as the soul of the fetish Fofie. Born under these circumstances, Asare was named Okrapa (lucky soul) and was deeply involved in the community's spiritual practices. Despite his mother's objections, he pursued education, inspired by the arrival of Christian teachers in Adukrom in 1863. Baptised by Rev. George Widman, he was named Nathanael Victor Asare. Nathanael overcame his mother's resistance and went to school, excelling in his studies and eventually entering the Theological Seminary in 1868.

#### CAREER AND MINISTRY

Rev. Asare's ministry began in earnest at Akropong and spanned several regions. He worked diligently to establish educational facilities, promote cocoa farming, and foster community welfare through prayer meetings and congregational activities. He played a pivotal role in resolving conflicts, notably between the people of Akropong and Awukugua. His evangelical efforts extended to Kumasi, where he helped rebuild after the Yaa Asantewaa war and ministered to freed slaves.

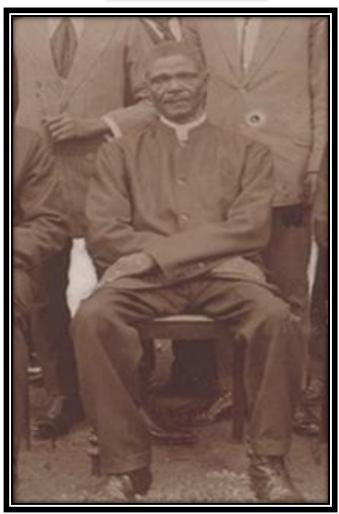
#### **LEGACY**



Rev. Asare's legacy is marked by his unwavering commitment to the church and his community. His work earned him respect and admiration, and his influence extended beyond his lifetime, leaving a profound impact on the regions he served.

### OPHIA YRENE KOO (WIFE OF NV ASARE) REV NV ASARE







VICTOR EMMANUEL ENNYISI ASARE
M H ASARE HYEMAN - PAPA TEACHER



JOSEPH HERBERT ANNO WILSON



JULIANA THEODORA ANNOBEA ASARE

COMFORT ANSAAH AFARI LARBI



ELISABETH ELEANORA ASANTWA ASARE

JANE OYE ANSAH NOOM

FINALLY ONE OF HIS LOVELY GRANDCHILDREN AND THE LAST ON LINE WAS :MRS COMFORT ASAAH AFARI LARBI WHO RECENTLY PASS AWAY

Madam Comfort Ansaah Afari Larbi, affectionately known as Aunt Comfort, graced the world with her presence on November 21, 1921, in the serene village of Asuoyaa, near Koforidua, Ghana.

Her father, Reverend James Afari, served as a devoted missionary to the Presbyterian Church of Akropong-Akwapim, while her mother, Juliana Annobea Asare, the daughter of Reverend Nathan Victor Asare and wife Sophia Koko Asare provided the nurturing love that would shape Aunt Comfort's remarkable life.

She held a cherished place in history as the last granddaughter of the esteemed Reverend Nathan Victor Asare, who once served as the second Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Gold Coast from 1923 to 1924, after Reverend Peter Hall.

On her paternal side, she was the youngest of six children of Reverend James Nathaniel Afari (1860-1936), the 9th line of ministers of the Gospel at the Basel Missionary Society, now known as the Christ Presbyterian Church at Akropong Akwapim ,Ghana.

Notably, she also held a significant place in the political landscape as one of the oldest members of the NPP, even participating in the last election. Aunt Comfort's life was enriched by the legacies of both her parents, with historical, spiritual, and familial significance.