

No teenage pregnancy at Atonkor in 4 years

By Augustina Tawiah

The Atonkor community in the Buem Traditional Area, Oti Region, has not recorded any case of teenage pregnancy for the past four years.

The success story is attributed to an intervention dubbed, 'Be Smart Project', introduced by Plan International Ghana, a non-governmental organisation (NGO), in

• Continued on page 3

Eid Mubarak!

• Abubakir Sidiq Omar and Firdaus Naa Asheley Attram, learners of the Rene Educational Centre at Abeka in Accra, saying the Eid-ul-Fitr prayers to mark the end of Ramadan. Picture: EDNA SALVO KOTEY



My friends tease me for being a stammerer

— See page 7



Explore styles, love fashion



— Page 15

Paa Kofi and the cracked pot

Short Story

In a small village nestled in the heart of a dense forest, there lived a skilled hunter called Paa Kofi.

He spent most of his days tracking and hunting wild game to provide for his extended family members and sold the rest to the people in the village.

One day, while on a hunting expedition, Paa Kofi stumbled upon a cracked pot abandoned under a big tree in the bush. The pot had some distinctive designs which the hunter had not seen before. It was so beautiful that he decided to keep it. He picked it up, knowing it could not store any food or water.

When he placed the cracked pot in a corner of the hut, it beautified the whole place. Paa Kofi had a strange feeling that something was peculiar about the pot. Little did he know that his life was about to take a dramatic turn.

The next morning, Paa Kofi woke up to find his hut spotlessly clean, with everything arranged in the right place. There was also a pot full of boiling water on the mud stove outside his hut. He was baffled because he knew the state in which he had left his hut.

Moreover, he wouldn't have left a pot of water to boil on the clay stove while he went to sleep. Wondering who could have done such a thorough job, he looked around, but there was no one else in sight.

As the days went by, Paa Kofi continued to find his hut clean and

tidy. Anytime he returned from hunting, he would find delicious meals prepared and a table set for him. Although he was afraid, he still enjoyed the meals. He thought he had a guardian angel watching over him.

He tried to search around to see who was behind the pleasant surprises, but he couldn't catch a glimpse of the mysterious person. His hunting expeditions improved tremendously. He also brought home good game for his family members and sold the rest. He made a lot of money and eventually became rich.

After enjoying his good fortune for some months, Paa Kofi's curiosity turned into an obsession. He tried everything to uncover the identity of his benefactor. He searched everywhere from behind trees to setting traps, but to no avail. It seemed the person was invisible.

One day, Paa Kofi decided to take a different approach. After making enough noise to indicate that he had gone out to hunt, he sneaked back and hid behind the window of his hut, waiting patiently for the

mysterious person to appear.

He waited for about 30 minutes and nothing happened but as he was about to give up and go to the forest to hunt, he saw the cracked

pot casting a warm orange glow over the hut, Kofi finally caught a glimpse of the person responsible for the magic.

To his surprise, the cracked pot transformed into a beautiful woman. She was busy sweeping the floor, her long, lustrous kinky hair tied back in a neat bun. Paa Kofi was wide-eyed with astonishment as he watched her work.

After the woman finished her chores in his room, she came out of the hut and began preparing Paa Kofi's supper. At this point, Paa Kofi couldn't take in the surprise anymore and decided to confront her. He emerged from his hiding spot, and the woman, startled at the noise, turned to face him.

"Who are you?" whispered Paa Kofi.

The woman, with a look of sadness in her eyes, explained that she was once a human being, cursed by a wicked witch to live as a cracked pot until someone took her home and showed her kindness.

She prostrated before Paa Kofi,

thanking him profusely for picking her up and bringing her to his home. She begged him to allow her to live there for some time before returning to her people because the curse could only be broken completely if the one who rescued her fell in love with her.

Paa Kofi's heart melted as he listened to her story. He realised that he had unknowingly broken the first part of the curse by bringing the cracked pot into his home.

Days turned into weeks and the weeks turned into months gradually Paa Kofi and the woman, whose name was Abrefi, grew closer. They finally fell deeply in love, and Kofi proposed to her. Abrefi, overjoyed, accepted his proposal without any delay.

The news of the marriage ceremony spread throughout the villages located around the forest because Abrefi was a princess who was cherished by his father and that had been the reason why the witch cast a spell on her.

The ceremony was grand, with all the people in the surrounding villages in attendance. Paa Kofi and Abrefi lived happily ever after, surrounded by joy, laughter and the magic of their enchanted love.

*Galaa Vanessa Poupidy,
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GLOSSARY

Distinctive — In a way that is characteristic of one person or thing and distinguishes it from others.

Obsession — An idea or thought that continually preoccupies or intrudes on a person's mind.

Prostrated — Throw oneself flat on the ground so as to be lying face downwards, especially in reverence or submission.

Enchanted — Placed under a spell; bewitched.



Letters

Send your letters and Colour Me to: The Editor, Junior Graphic (Letters), P.O. Box GP 742, Accra, or send an email to: jgraphic@graphic.com.gh

Indiscriminate spitting in public is a menace

Dear Editor, Spitting is a natural human action. But when done indiscriminately in public, it becomes a serious concern.

People spit anywhere, either on pedestrian walkways, in vehicles, at bus stops and even in crowded areas, without considering the effect it will have on others.

This habit is not only unpleasant but also unhygienic, as saliva can carry bacteria that spread diseases.

If one is not careful, they could unknowingly become a target of

someone's spit.

We must all be mindful of where and how we spit to maintain a clean and safe environment.

We all need to carry tissue along so that we can use it whenever we feel the urge to spit and keep it in our pocket and dispose of it discriminately.

Let us be responsible and practice good hygiene for the benefit of everyone.

*Maame Darkoa Opoku,
Accra.*



• Let's use tissue whenever we want to spit.