

AKAN DICTIONARY PROJECT

by I.K. Chinebuah and A.C. Denteh

There is currently in progress at the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, Legon, an Akan (Twi-Fante) Dictionary Project. The purpose of the Project is to compile an up-to-date descriptive Dictionary of the Akan language to be entitled THE NEW AKAN DICTIONARY, which will be a completely revised and enlarged version of the "Dictionary of the Asante and Fante Language called Tshi (Twi)" by the Rev. J.G. Christaller, published in 1881 and revised in 1933.

In compiling the New Akan Dictionary, the editors will seek to achieve the following major objectives:

1. TO PRESENT the fundamental facts and characteristics of the Akan language as revealed by an accurate linguistic analysis of the phonological, grammatical and lexical patterning of the language. In particular, details of syllabification, spelling according to the currently accepted orthography, pronunciation, tone, morphological forms, grammatical usage and short word-histories will be presented.
2. TO COVER more completely and with greater accuracy the current vocabulary of the language. To this end, citations for word occurrences, forms and meanings will be drawn from written and spoken textual material.

To achieve these objectives, the editors would like to draw upon any lexicographical expertise which is available in Ghana or elsewhere.

The New Akan Dictionary Project has so far been financed by the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, Legon. Assistance, national or international, which will facilitate the successful completion of the Project is hereby being solicited.

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