

Curriculum vitae

Daasebre Emmanuel Oti Boateng (Ghana)

Daasebre (Professor) Emmanuel Oti Boateng is a respected traditional ruler and leader, an eminent national and international executive and a renowned scholar.

He was enstooled on 26 October 1992 as Omanhene (Traditional King) and the occupant of the Yiadom-Hwedie Stool of the New Juaben State of Ghana with a royal title of “Daasebre”, which means “His Benevolence”.

Before occupying the stool as Omanhene, he was a Senior Research Fellow and Director of Studies at the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER), University of Ghana. From ISSER, Daasebre was appointed to the high office of Government Statistician, a position he occupied with distinction for a record period of over 17 years (1982-2000).

Daasebre holds the degrees of Bachelor of Science with honours in Economics from the University of Ghana, Master of Science in Statistics from the London School of Economics and Political Science and a Philosophy Doctorate in Statistics from University of Liverpool, United Kingdom. Daasebre (Professor) Oti Boateng developed in his doctoral thesis an algebraic algorithm for the exact inverse of symmetric tri-diagonal matrices, which was a significant contribution to theoretical and practical statistics as it permitted the derivation of exact estimates instead of the hitherto approximate and unreliable estimates in solving important socio-economic problems, especially when sampling on successive occasions. Further elucidation of this was published as ISSER technical paper No. 38 in 1978. He has over 70 technical publications to his credit in the areas of statistics, computing, economics, population and policy issues.

Daasebre has had a wide range of consulting and interactive experience with various international agencies which continue to tap on his expertise. His work experience began in 1963 with the largest bank in Germany, the Deutsche Bank, in their foreign department in Frankfurt. In 1966, he worked with the Boston Edison Company in the USA and produced a classic statistical analysis of Boston Edison’s economic progress relative to the US economy for the 11 years inclusive from 1955 to 1965.

As Government Statistician, Daasebre rebuilt the Ghana Statistical Service to an enviable position as one of the best in Africa. During his tenure, he coordinated and supervised the production of over 350 statistical publications, which informed important national policy decisions. His keen interest in human resources development galvanized him to recruit and train over 100 young statisticians at the postgraduate level to enhance the capacity and capability of the Service. He successfully conducted the 1984 Population Census of Ghana during a period of difficult economic conditions.

Daasebre was a member of the United Nations Statistical Commission from 1983 to 1998 and became the first African to be elected as Chair of the Commission in 1987. In January 1993, Daasebre was also elected the first African Chair of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians at its fifteenth session in Geneva.

In April 1993, Daasebre was appointed a member of the United Nations Advisory Committee on Post Adjustment Questions, thus becoming a member of a core group of specialists who provide technical advice to the United Nations on matters relating to post-adjustment and restoration of purchasing power parity of international civil servants. He was reappointed for second and third consecutive four-year terms.

The genesis of the annual celebration of the African Statistics Day on 18 November is linked to Professor Oti Boateng's original proposal of the idea, which was supported by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Directors of Statistics meeting in Accra in 1987 under his chairmanship. The proposal was endorsed by ECOWAS Ministers and subsequently adopted by the African Union.

As traditional ruler, he combines the dual roles of administration and adjudication; mobilizing his people for development and settling disputes among them, chairing and sitting on various judicial committees with original and appellate jurisdiction on all matters affecting chieftaincy at the regional and national levels.

Daasebre has remarkably strengthened the New Juaben Traditional Council as a local institution for the prosperity of the people. He has enhanced the unity of the chiefs and people of the New Juaben Traditional State by the Akwantukese Festival he instituted in 1997 with a mission of "development in unity for the welfare of the people". The festival is one instrument to mobilize the people, especially the youth, regarding their origins, migration, tradition and customs and to serve as a cultural and tourist attraction of the people of Ghana and elsewhere. He has established the Daasebre Award for Excellence to reward deserving individuals and organizations during the festival.

During the first term of the Fourth Republic (1993-1997), Daasebre was elected as a member of the Council of State, a body which is constitutionally mandated to advise the President of Ghana on national issues. He is a member of the National House of Chiefs and Chair of its Finance Committee.

Daasebre has served on a number of important national bodies, including the National Development Planning Commission (1993-2000), the National Population Council (2002-2009), the Volta River Authority Board (2001-2007), the Community Water and Sanitation Agency (since 2006) and the Ghana AIDS Commission (since 2009) which is chaired by the President of Ghana.

As a member of the Constituent Assembly in 1978 and 1979, Daasebre did not only contribute significantly to the drafting of the 1979 Republican Constitution, but also succeeded in getting his recommendation for the establishment of an autonomous Ghana Statistical Service accepted by the Assembly, which eventually led to the promulgation of the Statistical Service Law of 1985.

For 16 years (1983-1999), Daasebre was a member of the National Tripartite Committee for the negotiation of national minimal wages and other conditions of employment and served as chair of its Technical Subcommittee for the period.

Daasebre has been a member of the International Civil Service Commission, a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly, since 2003. He has made significant contributions to the Commission's deliberations, among which are the review and rationalization of the common system allowances and benefits, monitoring the pilot study and broad-banding pay for performance, base/floor salary considerations and other issues. He has been particularly very strong and influential on matters relating to statistics and post-adjustment questions.

On 23 September 2003, the All Nations University in Koforidua conferred on Daasebre the distinguished title of Professor (Emeritus) of Statistics in recognition of his noble academic career and tremendous achievements in national and international affairs.

In October 2005, Daasebre delivered his Inaugural Lecture at the All Nations University in Koforidua on the topic "Electoral boundaries review and population census periodicity: the need for precision and synchronicity in the process", which analytically revealed some technical deficiencies inherent in article 47 (5) of the 1992 Constitution. The lecture has provided the lawmakers of the country with a compelling case not only to amend the defective article but also to enact a new law to establish a precise census periodicity to regulate the conduct of population censuses and the publication of census results needed for national planning and decision-making and for the commencement of electoral boundaries review to further enhance democracy and development in Ghana.

Daasebre's excellent academic achievement and experience in the field of statistics earned him the recognition of the "International Leaders in Achievement", published by the International Biographical Centre (IBC) in Cambridge, England, in 1988. This publication was dedicated to Daasebre and other distinguished personalities, for his outstanding contribution as a statistician. He has also been appointed to the renowned position of Honorary Director-General of IBC.

The Governing Board of the American Biographical Institute (ABI) conferred on Daasebre in 2006 the distinguished title of Genius Laureate of Ghana, as recorded in *500 Greatest Geniuses of the 21st Century*, published by the Institute for his "unparalleled intellect and wisdom" as well as his "distinguished progression and mastery in the field as statistician and traditional ruler".

In June 2007, he was honoured with the Distinguished Service Award by the Economics Department of the University of Ghana.

In July 2008, Daasebre received the National Award of the Order of the Volta (Civil Division) for his public service and traditional leadership. On 31 July 2008, he received the key to the City of Rochester in the United States in recognition of his promotion of twin sister-city relations. Again in 2008, the Daasebre (Professor) E. Oti Boateng Foundation was established by the American Biographical Institute to honour distinguished statisticians worldwide.

On 29 July 2009 Daasebre was elected the President of the Eastern Regional House of Chiefs.

Daasebre is the author of a book entitled *Barack Obama — Africa's Gift To The World*, written in July 2009 to commemorate the historic visit of President Barack Obama, the first African-American President, to Ghana and Africa.