

EDITORIAL

It is with sincere appreciation and scholarly commitment that we present this issue of the *Journal of Applied Sciences*, *Arts and Business (JASAB)*. The contributions gathered herein reflect the core mandate of the Journal; namely, to promote research that is intellectually rigorous, contextually attentive, ethically grounded, and deeply engaged with the lived realities of individuals, families, institutions, and the broader society.

This issue opens with a reflection by Paul Kang-Ewala Diboro and Christian Addai, who engage Luke 4:18–19 in relation to pastoral ministry in Ghana. Their work reasserts the centrality of compassionate mission, healing, and advocacy for the marginalized as core expressions of Christian witness. In a related theological exploration, Joseph Gyanvi-Blay revisits the prophetic critiques of Amos, calling the contemporary Pentecostal/Charismatic church in Ghana to hold together vibrant worship and committed action toward social justice. In the area of spiritual formation and education, Kenneth Oppong *et al.* examine the Week of Spiritual Emphasis in a tertiary institution and show how deliberate spiritual programming nurtures moral consciousness, emotional stability, and academic discipline among students.

Turning to family and community well-being, John Ayo Oladapo and Elizabeth Olubunmi Oderinu explore strategies of family resilience. Their work highlights cultural identity, interpersonal support, and shared meaning-making as essential resources for coping with adversity. Alongside this, Emmanuel Twumasi-Ankrah and Etse Nkukpornu investigate the role of financial education in addressing poverty. The scholars demonstrate how religiosity can reinforce positive financial behavior and enhance personal agency.

Consumer decision-making and institutional identity also feature prominently in this volume. Nana Danso Boafo, Bernard Dankwah, and Joyce Amoakowaa Boafo discuss how institutional positioning influences students' choice of university. Isaac Ampong's paper examines how different forms and levels of benchmarking influence performance in Ghana's local government administration, using data from employees of the Old Tafo Municipal Assembly. The findings show that greater diversity and intensity of benchmarking practices significantly improve administrative performance, highlighting the need for wider application of benchmarking strategies across public sector institutions. In another paper, Nana Danso Boafo et al. consider how corporate advertising shapes consumer attitudes, noting the subtle role of emotional appeal and symbolic meaning in everyday purchasing decisions.

The next set of contributions turn to governance, finance, and accountability. Ernest Obeng, Josephine Kyei Baffour, and Sandra Adolley Fosuhene examine the quality of accounting information systems within local government units with particular emphasis on the importance of reliable reporting for transparency and public trust. Relatedly, Josephine Kyei Baffour, Ernest Obeng, and Prince Charles Boakye Boadu study the role of internal audit within the Ghana Health Service and demonstrate how effective audit practice supports operational efficiency and accountability. The final article comes from Joyce Ama Quartey and Danile Amoah. The paper addresses the persistent audit expectation gap in Ghana by offering realistic strategies for narrowing misunderstanding between auditors and the public.

Together, these contributions advance knowledge that is both intellectually rigorous and socially engaged. We express deep appreciation to all authors for their thoughtful work, to the editorial board for their leadership, and to our reviewers for their careful and generous evaluation of manuscripts. We also acknowledge our readers, whose engagement sustains the scholarly conversation that this journal seeks to nourish.

In Christ, Rev'd. Prof. Yaw Adu-Gyamfi Editor-in-Chief

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CALL FOR PAPERS: JASAB, VOL. 2, ISSUE 1 (MAY 2026)

We invite scholars, practitioners, and researchers to submit original articles for publication in the May 2026 issue of the *Journal of Applied Sciences, Arts and Business (JASAB)*. This peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary journal is committed to applied knowledge that engages real-world problems, transforms practice, and contributes to scholarly discourse across diverse fields.

We welcome high-quality, original submissions in the following fields:

- Applied Sciences: Nursing, Midwifery, ICT, Mathematics, and Computer Science
- Arts and Business: Education, English, Communication, Business, HRM, Marketing, Accounting, Procurement, Supply Chain Management, and Planning
- Theology and Religious Studies: Biblical Interpretation, Church and Society, Christian Education, Theology (Systematic, Public, Pentecostal, etc.), Church History, Old and New Testament, Wisdom Literature

Papers that explore interdisciplinary intersections or provide fresh insights on contemporary African challenges are especially encouraged.

Visit the journal's website for information about author guidelines.

Submissions should be sent via our <u>online system</u>. For enquiries, contact the Editor-in-Chief through jasab@csuc.edu.gh.

Join us in advancing rigorous, transformative scholarship that bridges disciplines and impacts society.

Rev'd. Prof. Yaw Adu-Gyamfi Editor-in-Chief JASAB, Christian Service University, Kumasi, Ghana