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Tel. No. 021-685012 / 3



REPUBLIC OF GHANA

**MINISTRY FOR CHIEFTAINCY
AND CULTURE
P. O. BOX 1627
STATE HOUSE
ACCRA**

28th April 2014

**THE AG DIRECTOR
INFORMATION SERVICES DEPT.
ACCRA**

Atten: DDIS (PRC)

**MINISTRY OF CHIEFTAINCY AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS
HANDS OVER SACRED FIHANKRA STOOL AND SKIN TO
NATIONAL HOUSE OF CHIEFS**

The Minister for Chieftaincy and Traditional Affairs Dr. Henry Seidu Daannaa has indicated that the Chieftaincy Institution is governed by laws and order and therefore there was the need for all to respect the laws of the Institution. He said this was necessary for the development and growth of the Institution. Dr. Daannaa emphasised that the government recognises the important role of the chieftaincy Institution to National Development and will therefore provide the necessary resources to facilitate the work of the Institute. Dr. Herry Daannaa stated this when he officially handed over a sacred stool and skin, symbols of divine chieftaincy authority to the President of the National House of chiefs Wulugu Naba Pugansoa, Naa Prof John S Nabila at the short Press Confrence ceremony at the Ministry on Thursday April 24, 2014. The stool and "skin" are the sacred divine Chieftaincy Authority donated by National House of Chiefs to the

"Fihankra" Community in 1994 as the symbol of relationship between the Ghanaian Community and the people of the Diaspora.

The Fihankra which literary means when leaving home no goodbye was said refers to Ghanaians in the Diaspora. The idea behind the sacred stool and skin is to emphasise the historical, social and cultural link between the people of the Diaspora and their homeland. Its aim is to re-integrate Africa with the Diaspora.

Objectives: The objectives of Fihankra are to assist Africans throughout the Diaspora in the process of cultural re-identification

It is also to promote trade, tourism and investment, facilitate cultural exchange through Community and creative programming and acquire land to facilitate the cultural and economic planning and development of model communities both in African and the Diaspora.

It is interesting to note that the purification of Fihankra as far back as 1994, evolved from the activities of the Ancestral stools and skins purification Committee of which his Majesty Odooro Numapau II then President of the National House of Chiefs and Grand patron of Fihankra was chairman, and Kana Kwadzo Akpini was executive secretary.

The handing over ceremony was also attended by the Deputy Minister for Chieftaincy and Traditional Affairs Mr. John Alexander Ackon, some paramount Chiefs and some members of the Diaspora Community.

COMPILED BY

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(PRO)

FOR: HON. MINISTER