

President Mahama wins Ghana's election

Accra, Dec. 9, - The Electoral Commission(EC)of Ghana on Sunday declared the Presidential Candidate of the National Democratic Congress (NDC), President John Mahama as the winner of the 2012 Presidential Elections.

At a press briefing in Accra where hundreds of journalists both local and international had been anxiously waiting for hours for the results to be declared, the Chairman of the Commission, Dr. Kwadwo Afari-Gyan announced that President Mahama polled 5,574,761 votes (50.70%).

His closest contestant Nana Akufo-Addo of the New Patriotic (NPP) polled 5,248,898 votes (47.74%).

The other results were: Dr Michael Abu Sakara Foster of the Convention People's Party (CPP) - 20,323 (0.18%)

Mr Hassan Ayariga of the People's National Convention (PNC) - 24,617 (0.22%)

Dr Papa Kwesi Nduom of the Progressive People's Party (PPP) - 64,362 (0.59%)

Dr Henry Lartey of the Great Consolidated Popular Party (GCPP) - 38,223 (0.35%)

Mr Joseph Osei-Yeboah (Independent) - 15,201 (0.14%)

Mr. Akwasi Addai of the United Front Party (UFP) - 8,877 (0.08%).

The percentage turnout was 79.43

Total Registered voters were 14,158,890

Total votes cast were 11,246,982

Total Valid Votes -10,995,262

Total Rejected votes -251,720

Total constituencies – 275

Profile of Ghana's President John Dramani Mahama

President John Dramani Mahama winner of Ghana's 2012 presidential poll secured 5,574,761 votes representing 50.70% .

President Mahama is Ghana's Fourth President of the Fourth Republic. He was born on November 29, 1958 at Damango, in the Northern Region of Ghana.

He is a communication expert, historian, writer, former Member of Parliament and Minister of State, and immediate former Vice-President of Ghana.

He ascended to the high office of Presidency following the death of the incumbent President John Evans Atta Mills on Tuesday, July 24 in Accra.

President Mahama's father, Mr Emmanuel Adama Mahama was the first Member of Parliament for the West Gonja Constituency and the first Regional Commissioner of the Northern Region during Ghana's First Republic.

After completing his education, President Mahama went on to pursue an additional postgraduate diploma in social psychology at the Institute of Social Sciences in Moscow, and returned to Ghana from 1991 to 1996. He worked as the Information, Culture and Research Officer at the Embassy of Japan in Accra.

He moved on to work with PLAN International, Ghana as International Relations, Sponsorship Communications and Grants Manager.

An eloquent champion of the underprivileged, President Mahama was first elected to the Parliament of Ghana in 1996 to represent the Bole/Bamboi Constituency for a four-year term.

In April 1997, President Mahama was appointed Deputy Minister of Communications. He rose to become the substantive Minister of Communications by November 1998; it was a position he held until January 2001 when the National Democratic Congress (NDC), which was the current ruling party, handed over power to the newly elected New Patriotic Party's government.

In 2000, President Mahama was re-elected for another four-year term as the MP for the Bole/Bamboi Constituency. He was again re-elected in 2004 for a third term.

From 2001 to 2004, President Mahama served as the Minority Parliamentary Spokesman for Communications and in 2002 he was appointed the Director of Communications for the NDC.

That same year, he served as a member of the team of international observers selected to monitor Zimbabwe's Parliamentary Elections.

During his tenure as Minister of Communications, President Mahama also served as the Chairman of the National Communications Authority, in which capacity he played a key role in stabilizing Ghana's telecommunications sector after it was deregulated in 1997.

President Mahama also served as a member of the National Economic Management Team, a founding member of the Ghana AIDS Commission, a member of the implementation committee of the 2000 National Population Census, and a deputy chairman of the Publicity Committee for the re-introduction of the Value Added Tax (VAT).

Continuing to expand his interest and involvement in international affairs, in 2003 President Mahama became a member of the Pan-African Parliament, serving as the Chairperson of the West African Caucus.

In 2005 he was, additionally appointed the Minority Spokesman for Foreign Affairs. He served in these capacities until 2008, when he was handpicked to become the vice presidential candidate.

President Mahama has seven children. He is married to Mrs. Lordina Mahama. Despite his often busy schedule, President Mahama makes it a point to devote time to his family, his faith and his hobbies.

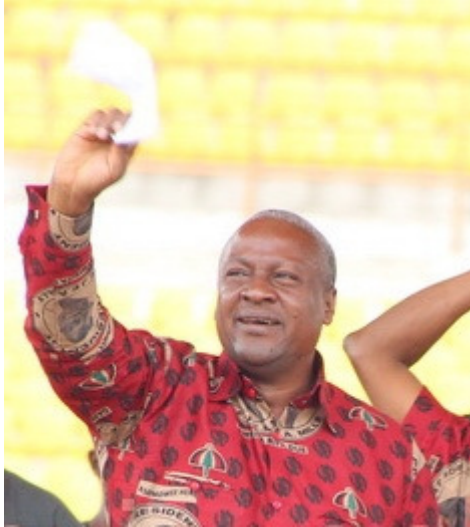
He is a Christian, who believes in the importance of respect for and tolerance of, other faiths and forms of worship in a nation as diverse and peaceful as Ghana.

He has a keen interest in environmental affairs, particularly the problem of plastic pollution in Africa, which he has committed himself to addressing during his tenure as Vice President.

President Mahama loves to read. He is also an avid writer and has had numerous articles published nationally and internationally.

His first book, *My First Coup d'État and Other True Stories From the Lost Decades of Africa*, was published by Bloomsbury on July 3, 2012.

I thank Ghanaians for the confidence reposed in me – Prez Mahama



President John Dramani says his victory in the just ended Presidential elections is one for all Ghanaians.

Addressing the media at his residence after the results were announced by the EC, President Mahama said “I want to thank Ghanaians for the confidence reposed in me... All Ghanaians have won.”

He said he is overwhelmed by the victory and hopes that every Ghanaian can participate in the process to transforming the country.

"I am humbled by this decision of the Ghanaian people. Let's respect the will of the people," he said.

He congratulated his team for working hard towards victory and said it was time for Ghanaians to unite to develop the nation. “We must celebrate together as Ghanaians,” he said.

President Mahama also thanked the EC for working assiduously on the biometric voting system despite the technical hitches faced in the process.

He called on all the political parties to respect the voice of the people, saying “the voice of the people is the voice of God.”

National Chief Imam commends Muslims for peaceful elections

Dr Osman Nuhu Sharubutu, the National Chief Imam has expressed gratitude and appreciation to the entire Muslim community and the nation for ensuring a violence- free elections.

The Chief Imam said the exercise had proved to the international community that the country was indeed a pacesetter and a beacon of democracy in Africa.

This was contained in a press release signed by Alhaji Khuzaima Mohammed Osman, personal assistant to the Chief Imam and copied to the Ghana News Agency in Accra.

The release said the Islamic Peace and Security Council of Ghana under the flagship of the Chief Imam and sponsorship from DANIDA embarked on a pilot project dubbed “ Ensuring Violence-Free 2012 Elections in Zongo Communities” to ensure peaceful elections.

The Chief Imam thanked the local, district and regional Chief Imams and Islamic educators for their tireless efforts and said their main objective had been achieved since there had not been any reported incidence of violence during the elections within the Zongo communities.

The National Chief Imam appealed to the nation to be calm pending the declaration of the winner of the December 7 polls and said he would continue to pray for peace, tranquility and development to prevail in the aftermath of the elections.