

THE STUDY OF GHANA'S DEMOCRATIC PERIODIC ELECTION, UNDER THE FOURTH REPUBLIC

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ABSTRACT

Ghana, before coming into the existence of the fourth republic in 1992, witnessed numerous forceful and military takeovers of power, from one government to the other. Eventhough, the fourth republic came with some number of features, this paper shall focus on Ghana's democratic periodic election, which came out of Ghana's multi-party Democracy system, in 1992.

As a result of the democratic periodic election feature, an independent body called the EC was constituted by a constitutional instrument, to conduct a free, fair and transparent periodic election for the presidential, parliamentary and district or local level elections in the country for every four years. This paper seeks to study the periodic elections conducted by the EC under the fourth republic in Ghana, looking at the processes, composition and the functions of the EC, Challenges associated with the Ghana's enviable peaceful and transparent free and fair periodic elections for the presidential elections. Ghana as part of its 4th republic democracy give the right for all Ghanaians to form and join a political party of one's choice.

KEYWORDS: Democratic, Periodic Election, Fourth Republic, Electoral Commission, Ghana

INTRODUCTION

Democratic Periodic elections in Ghana refers to a timely free and fair process by which an office (political Office) is assigned to a person by an act of voting needing a simultaneous expression of opinion by a majority of the citizenry.

Democratic periodic elections under the fourth republic of Ghana offer the opportunity for citizens to choose freely between several candidates presented by the various political parties. It is believed that without periodic elections democracy is not based on the wants and needs of the people. It turns into something else.

Periodic elections can be held only where there exist an environment which seeks to provide popular participation, promotes human rights and guarantees fundamental freedoms, ensures accountability of the government, freedom of the judiciary, freedom of the press, and electoral commission and protects and respects political pluralism.

The goal of Ghana's democratic periodic election is thus to create a secure level playing field for voters and candidates, as well as to provide voter education and civic involvement throughout the electoral process and translate the will of the people into a representative government.

At the core of its purpose, the electoral process is accessible to all citizens, irrespective of where they live and their political affiliations and with respect to universal registration and access to polling station. Likewise, a fairly

democratic election is predicted on political candidates themselves howing a level playing field for campaigning, candidates should have access to all communities and not be limited by the defacto (no go zone) The existence of an uneven playing field for either voters candidates runs contrary to the spirit and reality of democratic periodic election.

The independent electoral commission of Ghana foster conditions conclusive for such a level playing field, election planners in Ghana pays particular attention to establishing

- An effective electoral framework including an independent electoral administration.
- A comprehensive plan of administration and procedural matters.

Even though elections have become a political game in Ghana, it is played according to some agreed rules and principles entrenched in the constitution and electoral laws.

Ghana's periodic elections are governed by both international and domestic laws. In international law, the right to vote is a political right entrenched in a number of legal instruments. For example the universal declaration of Human rights provides that, everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country directly or through freely chosen representative.

Although the UDHR is a UN general Assembly resolution and not binding perse, it can be argued its acceptance by the overwhelming majority of UN members has made it binding as part of customary international law.

On the domestic level, there is no single African country where the constitution does not provide for the right of every citizen to vote during periodic elections. For example, the Ghana's fourth republican constitution of 1992 made a clear provision for the right of the citizenry in taking part in all public elections. According to Article 42 of the said Constitution, Every citizen of Ghana of 18 years and above and of sound mind has the right and entitled to be registered as a voter for the purposes of public elections and referendum. This constitution gave Ghanaians the right to exercise their democratic franchise.

For successful administration of Ghana's periodic election under the fourth republic, Legislators enacted and adopted numerous documents, laws and policies which give a legal and regulatory framework for all public elections in Ghana.

These laws include;

- Constitution of Ghana 4th Rep. Constitution of Ghana.
- Representation of the People Act 1992
- Representation of the people Act 1992
- Presidential elections Act 1992
- Electoral Commission Act 1993
- Political Parties Act 2000
- Representation of the people instrument 2004

- Public Elections (Registration of votes) Regulation (172 2012)
- Public elections Act – CI 75 (2012)
- Political Parties code of Conduct (2012)

Ghana's democratic periodic elections are Competitive. The competitive nature of Ghana's elections determine the democratic legitimization of the exercise of public authority Competition in Ghana's elections ensures legitimacy of decisions taken by the elected representatives provided all adults are eligible to participate in elections since, the elections are competitive, citizens decide to whom and to what extent they will grant legitimacy to exercise power on their behalf and when a change in power should occur. Importantly, the decisions legally made during the election is irrevocable, and cannot be changed in any other way than through the next election. Elections in Ghana are not only an arena of political competition, but also for the candidates and political parties a way to communicate with the public. The most common form of communication are wide political programme and their adhoc electoral versions created as part of election programming function.

Ghana's democratic periodic elections create the image of the public opinion (Turkakawa, 2010A). They serve as a mechanism, for translating public preferences into legitimization of power and also by the opportunity, to actively engage citizens in the processes of electing, authorizing and systemic challenging of their activity, in this field.

Ghana's periodic elections are concern, about delegating political representation. This allows voters to choose those persons, who in their opinion due to the views and values held, seem to be the best representatives (Zukowski 2004. 16). As a result of the democratic mandate to exert power, the elected have sufficient legitimacy to make decisions on behalf of the public and their decisions have the same value of legitimacy.

The pragmatic will of transferring the decision making level, from all eligible to those who were elected may be due to three main reasons:

To increase the efficiency of decision making.

Presumption that, those elected have higher competences than the average.

To give a higher degree of importance to the decision made and thus increase their social impact.

Delegation of political representation, as a result of the elections and transfer of the decision making powers rests on the assumption that voters will be able to choose from among candidates in electoral contest those who have the appropriate attributes (knowledge, integrity, loyalty to the principles, ability to cooperate and reach a compromise) and furthermore that those who are elected will not make decisions based on their own particular interest.

Periodic elections in a democracy are not a simple transfer of decision making powers onto the level of political representatives, similarly as the mere possession of political subjectivity by a voter does not always determine his /her participation in elections. Additional conditions have to be satisfied among which the most important are,

- Possession by those elected of some of the political potential of implementation of the programme goals.
- Equipment of the authority with imperative powers, enabling the realization of postulated tasks.
- Ability to select competing objectives to political cooperation and compromises.

COMPOSITION OF THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION IN LINE WITH THE CONDUCTION OF PERIDIC ELECTION

In accordance with Article 43 of the 1992 constitution of the fourth republic of Ghana, the electoral commission shall consist of

- A chairman
- Two Deputy Chairman
- Four other members

These members are appointed by the president in consultation with the council of state.

The above mentioned members are responsible for the policy making and management body of the commission and exercise general supervision over the activities of its staff. Also the 1992 constitution established the EC as an independent body. The EC has its national office in Accra, 10 regional offices in the various regions and District offices.

The EC appoints a returning officer and two deputies for each constituency. Over the years, the EC will have to hire in excess about thousand temporal staff including presiding officers and other poll officials to administer the process and manage the process. Ghana has currently about 29000 polling stations nationwide and 275 constituencies.

FUNCTIONS OF THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

In accordance with Article 45 of the 1992 constitution of the fourth republic of Ghana, the functions of the Electoral Commission shall include;

- To compile the register of voters and revise it at such periods as may be determined by law.
- To demarcate the electoral boundaries for both national and local government elections.
- To conduct and supervise all public elections and referenda
- To educate the people on the electoral process and its purpose
- to undertake programmes for the expansion of the registration of voters.
- To undertake programmes for the expansion of the registration of voters
- To perform such other functions as may be prescribed by law.

CONDITIONS FOR GHANA'S SUCCESSFUL PERIODIC ELECTION UNDER THE FOURTH REPUBLIC

VOTER REGISTRATION

For a Ghanaian to exercise his/her democratic franchise one need to be recognized as qualified Ghanaian who has met the requirements stipulated in Article 42 of the 1992 constitution of the Republic of Ghana. Prior to any public election in Ghana, the Electoral commission makes publications advertenting the commission's plans of registering eligible voters into the commission's voter's register. The registration of voters' regulation, established as a constitutional instrument and laid

before and considered by parliament provides for the continuous registration of voters. The regulation sets out exactly how these are to be conducted, who is to conduct these activities as well as their duties and responsibilities.

The exercise utilizes the same location for registration that an electorate would eventually vote at

During the exercise, the registration staff will complete the registration form with information provided by the person to be registered. The bio data and the photograph details of the person to be registered are taken. A voter I D card is issued after the process and political parties Agents are entitled to be present at the time of the initial application, and are entitled to the same right to challenge any application at the time of initial registration. Similarly, the EC can provide authority to other organizations to observe the registration application process.

Any unqualified person, who is included in the register, can be challenged by any citizen or the political party agents for their inclusion in the register. And this can be done in the District Magistrate court and also can take appeal to the High court upon any dissatisfaction with the proceedings of the case or the verdict of the case.

VOTER REGISTER EXHIBITION

As the process follows a sequence, The EC after all the earlier mentioned processes obliged by law to produce a provisional register of voters, and to exhibit it at the same point of registration and polling station for the purposes of allowing electorates or registered persons to confirm that they have been included in the register or in case of any correcting identified information therein After determination of all challenges and objections, EC then certify the register and publish it. Any person registered in the Register then become a qualified voter in any public election.

During the voters register exhibition period, citizens are allowed to reveal to the electoral commission officials at the various exhibitions centers of any suspicion of a minor or foreigner on the voters register and any person who has died over the past period but still exist as a voter on the register. Documents relating to the death of the alleged person on the register must be provided as a proof at the station Minors, foreigners and ghost names are removed during this exercise.

VOTING AND COUNTING

Voting in Ghana is by a secret ballot. Secret ballot in this paper refers to a voting method in which a voters choice in an election or referendum are anonymous, forestalling attempts to influence the voter by intimidation and potential vote buying. The main aim of Ghana using this method of voting is to achieve a political priority. Under Ghana's fourth republic electoral system, and as part of the secret voting method, voting both are provided at all various polling stations to enable the voter to write or choose on the ballot paper the candidate of his/her choice without others being able to see what exactly the voter choose. Voting under the fourth republic is by the use of thumbprint with a blue ink. In Ghana printed ballot papers are provided with the photo graphs and names of candidates contesting in the election clearly printed with an additional space for the voters' thumbprint that the incumbent before bringing to the polling station feed the box with voted ballot papers. Before the introduction of the biometric device there has to be the use of indelible ink to prevent multiple voting.

A voter in Ghana has to be verified by a verification device by the Electoral Commission Officials at polling to ascertain his/her voter validity. Under the fourth republic democracy, ballot boxes are all transparent boxes. Before elections starts at 8am in the morning, the empty boxes are shown to the various party agents by the Electoral Commission Officials

at the polling station. The boxes are closed with 3 seals, one by the Electoral Commission, another two by the parties involved in the contest. This procedure as in the Ghana's electoral system has projected a picture of a true democracy for others to copy. This has also demonstrated the true Free and fairness of our democratic periodic election under the fourth republic.

COUNTING

Voting closes at 5pm under Ghana's electoral system unless there is a queue of voters after 5pm. Counting immediately starts right after voting closes; it is done while all party agents are present. Counting is done in the public at the various polling stations for all citizens with much interest in election results to witness. The results for the various candidates in the contest are clearly written on a board at the polling stations. The various results in the various polling stations are transferred to the constituency collation Centre under which the polling stations fall for further collation and declaration of only the winner of the parliamentary election. The presidential election results are sent through the regional collation Centre to the Electoral Commission, National head office which is the national collation center for the returning officer of the presidential election to declare within 72 hours.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION UNDER THE FOURTH REPUBLIC

The president of Ghana is elected as the head of state and head of government commander in chief of the Ghana Armed Forces for a four year term and can serve a maximum of two terms in office. The president is elected in a single national constituency on the basis of a majority system. In order to be elected in the first round, a candidate needs to secure at least 50% plus one of the valid votes cast. If no candidate secures such a majority then the leading two candidate contest a run-off election. In the runoff which ever candidate secures the most votes is the winner. To be eligible as a candidate for presidential elections, a person must be a citizen of Ghana over 40 years of age and be registered voter. For the nomination process prospective candidates had to submit to the EC certain relevant documents, signed by the candidate plus two other persons registered in Each District Assembly. Under Ghana's electoral system, and as far as our democracy is concern, a person can present him/herself as an independent candidate in the presidential contest or a person presented by his/her party also as a candidate in the presidential contest. Ghana has since witnessed both categories of candidates over the past 25 years of our fourth republic democracy.

For a political party to present a candidate in the presidential election there is an in house election by the party in which several candidates are allowed to contest for the flagbearership position. The person who emerge as the winner, in the in-house election is been presented to the EC, as its flagbearer or candidate for the presidential election. There exist instances, where various parties give a unanimous endorsement to a sole candidate, for the flagbearership position. Since, Ghana return to multi-party in 1992, there exist numerous political parties, that contested in the 7 presidential elections, we had in Ghana.

Ghana had its first democratic periodic election, under the fourth republic and after the restoration of multiparty democracy, on the 3rd of November, 1992. The election was contested by five candidates, representing five political parties.

Jerry John Rawlings of the National Democratic Congress had 2,323,135 of the total votes cast, representing 58.4% and Albert Adu Boahen of the New Patriotic Party had 1,204, 764 of the total votes cast, representing 30.3%, Hilla

Limann of the People National Convention had 266,710 representing 6.7%, Kwabena Darko of the National Independent Party had 113,629 representing 2.9% and Emmanuel Erskine of People Heritage Party had 69,827, representing 1.8%. This election was won by His Excellency, Jerry John Rawlings of the National Democratic Congress, having attained 58.4% of the election.

This election, as according to the report by the Commonwealth Observer Group noted that, the process of transition issues, which engendered an atmosphere of deep seated suspicion of the motives and actions of the incumbent. As the first presidential election under the fourth republic, the electoral process was challenged by some delays, towards the preparation, compilation and publication of the voters. Because, there was the lift of the nature of silence, Ghanaians were able to speak freely on issues relating to the process.

The NPP as part of their democratic right compiled its numerous issues relating to illegalities realized by them on the electoral process.

Ghana's second periodic election was held on the 7th of December 1996 with 3 political parties representing on the presidential election. Jerry John Rawlings of National Democratic Congress, the incumbent had 4099,758 of the votes cast representing 57.4% and retained power. John Kuffour of the New Patriotic Party had 2834878 of the total votes representing 39.7% and Edward Mahama of People National Convention had 211,136 representing 3.0%

Ghana went for the third polls on the 7th of December 2000 with seven presidential candidates from seven political parties. John Evans Atta Mills of the National Democratic Congress had 2895,575 representing 44.54% of total valid votes cast. John Kuffour of New Patriotic Party had 3,131,739, representing 48.17% of the total valid votes cast, Edward Mahama of the People National Convention had 189,659 representing 2.92% of the total valid votes cast. George Hagan of the Convention People Party had 115,641 representing 1.78%, Augustus Obuadum Tanoh of National Reform Party had 78,629 representing 1.21%, Daniel Larney of the GCPP had 67,504 representing 1.04% and Charles Wereko Brobby of United Ghana Movement had 22,123, representing 0.34%.

In absence of a clear winner and in accordance with Article 63 clause (3) (4)(5) of the fourth republican constitution of 1992, a presidential run-off election was held on the 28th of December 2000. The competition was between the two leading candidates, National Democratic Congress and New Patriotic Party. The New Patriotic Party led by John Kuffour came out with 3,631,263 representing 56.90% with support from other smaller parties and Atta Mills of the National Democratic Congress had 2,750,124 representing 43.10%. This is the first in the history of Ghana where power was transferred through the thumb of Ghanaians. This has painted a good picture of Ghana's true democracy in both the international and domestic world. There was a smooth transition from the National Democratic Congress to the New Patriotic Party. The winner was sworn into office as the president of Ghana.

John Agyekum Kuffour was reelected at the Ghana's 4th presidential election, on the 7th of December 2004. He won this election with 4,524,074, representing 52.45% and Atta Mills of NDC had 3,850,363, representing 44.64, George Agyepong of CPP had 85,968 representing 1.00% and Edward Mahama of Grand Coalition had 165,375 representing 1.92%.

The fifth periodic election in Ghana happened on the 7th of December, 2008 with eight presidential candidates, seven candidates from seven political parties and one independent candidate. Atta Mills of the National Democratic Congress had 4,056,634 representing 47.92%, Nana Akufo-Addo of New Patriotic Party had 4,159,439 representing

49.13%, Papa Kwesi Nduom of Convention People Party had 113, 494, representing 1.34%, Emmanuel Ansah Antwi of Democratic Freedom Party had 27,889, representing 0.033% Kwasi Amofo and independent candidate in the contest had 19,342, representing 0.23%, Thomas Brew of Democratic Peoples party had 8,653 representing 0.10% and Kwadjo Adjei of Reform Patriotic Democrat had 6,889, representing 0.08%. Since, no candidates received more than 50% plus one of the votes, a run-off election was held and Atta Mills of the National Democratic Congress had 4,521,032, representing 50.23% been the winner and Nana Akuffo Addo of New Patriotic Party had 4,480,446, representing 49.77%.

Ghana, as a part of its periodic election, went for another polls on the 7th of December 2012, with eight candidates contestants, involving seven candidates representing seven political parties and one independent. John Mahama representing on the ticket of the National Democratic Congress had 5,574,761, representing 50.70%, Nana Akuffo Addo of the New Patriotic Party had 5,248,898, representing. 47.74%, Papa Kwesi of Progressive Peoples Party had 64,362, representing 0.59%, Henry Lartey of the Great Consolidated Popular Party had 38,223, representing 0.35%, Hassan Ayariga of the People National Convention had 24,617 representing 0.22%, Michael Abu Sakara of the Convention People Party had 20,323, representing. 0.18%, Akwasi Addai of United Front Party had 15,201, representing 0.14% and Jacob Osei an independent candidate in the election had 15,201, representing 0.14%. The New Patriotic Party were of the view that, there were identified irregularities, such as over voting, unverified voters and unsigned pink sheet by some of their polling agents and therefore, petitioned the Supreme court of Ghana, to declare the election as null and void. This case was before the supreme, for about 8 months or so. The NPP boycotted the inaugural ceremony of the winner of the 2012 election. After a competent work by the Supreme Court, a judgment was given in favor of the winner of the 2012 election, as the legitimate winner haven't presented by both parties in the case relevant documents, relating to the 2012 presidential election.

The Seventh election in Ghana came on the 7th of December, 2016, with seven candidates, six representing six parties and one independent. Nana Akuffo Addo of the New Patriotic Party had 5,716,026, representing 53.85%, John Mahama of the National Democratic Congress had 4,713, 277, representing 44.40%, Papa Kwesi Nduom of the Progressive Peoples Party had 105,682, representing 1.00%, Ivor Greenstreet of the Convention Peoples Party had 25,395, representing 0.24%, Edward, Mahama of the People National Convention had 22,214, representing 0.21%, Nana Konadu of the National Democratic Party had 16,878, representing 0.16% and Jacob Osei the independent Candidate had 15,889, representing 0.15%, Nana Akuffo Addo having had 53.85% of the votes was declared the winner. The victory for the candidate and the party came, as a result of alleged hardship, depreciation of the currency and the collapse of the Ghana's economy, under the watch of the John Mahama. In respect of these, mismanagements and corruption suspected by some Ghanaians and the leader of the main opposition leader and his team, the strong campaign was carried across the length and breadth of the country. Unfortunately, on the side of the incumbent, he was beaten by the third time contesting candidate of the NPP. In history of Ghana, this was the first time a sitting president could lose power serving only one term in office. There was a successful transition from the NDC to the NPP. The winner was inaugurated with both parties participating. Ghana is proud to mention, of successful democratic periodic elections, since the restoration of a multi- party democracy in 1992. Citizens enjoyed if not 100% some peaceful and transparent elections. This has been the bone behind Ghana's stable developing democracy. This Ghana's peaceful and transparent election has been enviable, across the African continent since, the transfer of power in some countries has really caused the destabilization of the country.

Again, power was smoothly transferred from the National Democratic Congress to the New Patriotic Party.

GHANA'S CHALLENGES OF PERIODIC ELECTIONS

Even though our democratic periodic elections in Ghana resulted in peaceful alternations of power between the two dominant political parties- NDC and NPP, elections are invariably playqued by localized violence that threatens the peace, security and stability of the country. Even though continued, these acts of violence have accompanied every election at least under the 4th republic. The phases that these happen are petition in three; before elections, during election and after elections. These periods are characterized by threats, intimidation, physical assault, and vandalization of electoral materials as well as the use abusive languages. Mostly, youth groups or individuals are employed by the political elites in carrying out these offensive acts. Most of these individuals are a person that seems "hopeless" in life. Some are promised political positions and other material rewards.

During the period under study, the pre-election period in Ghana were characterized by numerous abusive languages in our media, both printed and on radio. The comments of party supporters pose a big threat and abuse of our democratic freedom of speech. Unnecessary comments such as all 'die be die' insults, threats to people are recorded during the process.

During this period also is the secretly training of macho men by supporters which paints a picture as Ghana's readiness to war. Over the years, the two dominant parties in Ghana have had committed youths with well-built bodies. These people are used in most circumstance in fighting over petty issues.

During election period, most committed party youth were involved in numerous fights and burning and of property, seizure of ballot boxes by macho men and unemployed youth constitute a formidable threat to the growth and consolidation of the country's Hedgling democracy. These acts of violence, combine to produce tense volatile and unpredictable electoral atmosphere, that create an urgent sense of insecurity in the minds of many Ghanaians, during elections periods.

The post-election period of Ghana's election has also given the past years, posed a threat to our democracy. Some of these violent acts are the seizure of public facilities by party activists, should there be a change in government. Over the years and with few change of governments we had, there were a numerous seizure of new government loyalist of public offices, such as NADMO, TOLL BOOTHS, SCHOOL FEEDING, PASSPORT OFFICES, DVLA and PORTS.

The various security agencies over the years have demonstrated their professionalism in handling these political violent acts.

ELECTION CAMPAIGN

During election campaigns political parties compete to inform voters about their candidates, issues and their stand on concern on the development of the nation. Over the years election campaign in Ghana were held in a largely peaceful environment with the information of electorates on the plans of the parties on candidates involve the election. Election campaign was highly competitive, with political parties and candidates holding called and meetings across the country. There was expensive use of advertising on radio, television and in newspapers. Posters, flags and billboards were used extensively.

Parties or candidates also used leaflets, road shows images music and social media to reach their supporters on the public.

Campaigns generally over the years focused on issues with candidates putting across spirited agenda on, for instance, the use of oil resources, infrastructure development education, youth employment and health and more importantly, the country's economy and the energy.

Over the years, the political parties involved in the national elections in Ghana compiled their action plans as their action plans as their manifestoes. This is expected to be launched and used as a guide in all political advocacies. Each and election year determine the area of concern by the various parties to be used in the campaign.

Also these campaign activities carried out by the media in an equitable manner and professionally

CONCLUSIONS

Ghana over the past 25 years peacefully transferred power from one government to the other through the decision of the citizenry through our democratic periodic elections.

Despite the minor violence associated with Ghana's periodic election, the country is used as an example for other countries faced with massive violent approach used by persons in taking power from one government or the other. Ghana is proud to mention 7 presidential and parliamentary successful elections over the past 25 years. Electoral process, systems and administration are the key features behind Ghana's peaceful, transparent, free and fair periodic election. There is always a smooth and peaceful transition of power in Ghana which was backed by the transition Act.

The democratic periodic elections in Ghana are as a result of the multi-party system. The multi-party system came as a result of the participation of numerous political parties vying for political offices. The periodic elections in Ghana serve as a peaceful means of transferring these political offices. Periodic elections in Ghana have helped in referring completely peace in the country when it comes to the transfer of government from one political to the other. Election activities in Ghana are conducted peacefully, freely, fairly, transparently. Ghanaians can proudly change any government which seems to them not properly managing country affairs. Even though, Ghana has been applauded for its successful periodic elections held over the years, relating to its adopted process and strategies for the smooth running of the elections, there are identified areas that concern must be given to, in order to complete or avert any impediment to the electoral process.

The Electoral Commission of Ghana, which is established constitutionally as an independent body, still rely on the government for allocation of fund, to carry out projects and run elections. Over the years, there were some delays in the allocation of fund, for projects of the Electoral Commission. These delays have impeded the progress of work of the Electoral commission.

Based on the above grounds, the Electoral commission must be given the power to mobilize fund for running of its affairs. The delay by the Electoral commission, to conduct its projects on time has created suspicions of biasness among some Ghanaian citizens. For example the exhibition of the voters register was delayed, due to lack of fund to carry out the exercise.

Secondly, to avert any future violent occurrence of attacks on some political office holders, when there is change of government, there should be a well constituted independent body liaising with the Judiciary, for the taking overall

properties, belonging a month to any presidential election in Ghana. This shall completely avert those violent attacks, whenever change of government occurs.

This independent body will later hand over all the properties, to the winner of the election, who happens to form a new government. Also, this independent body will aid the transitional body, in the smooth transfer of power.

Also, the National Commission for civic education must be involved in the electoral process of Ghana. This will help in educating the citizenry, on the relevance of the election, rules and regulations, governing the process and the sanctions applying to any infringement of those rules.

Also, the Commission on Human Right and Administrative Justice, which is also another state law enforcement agency, must foster such needed activities deemed crucial, in tackling all abuses on the citizenry. This shall only help Ghana's periodic election challenge and violent free process.

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