

**Some Translation and Exegetical Problems in the New Testament
of**

the Asante-Twi Bible (2012)

By

Worae Yaw

November, 2016



KNUST



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(2012)

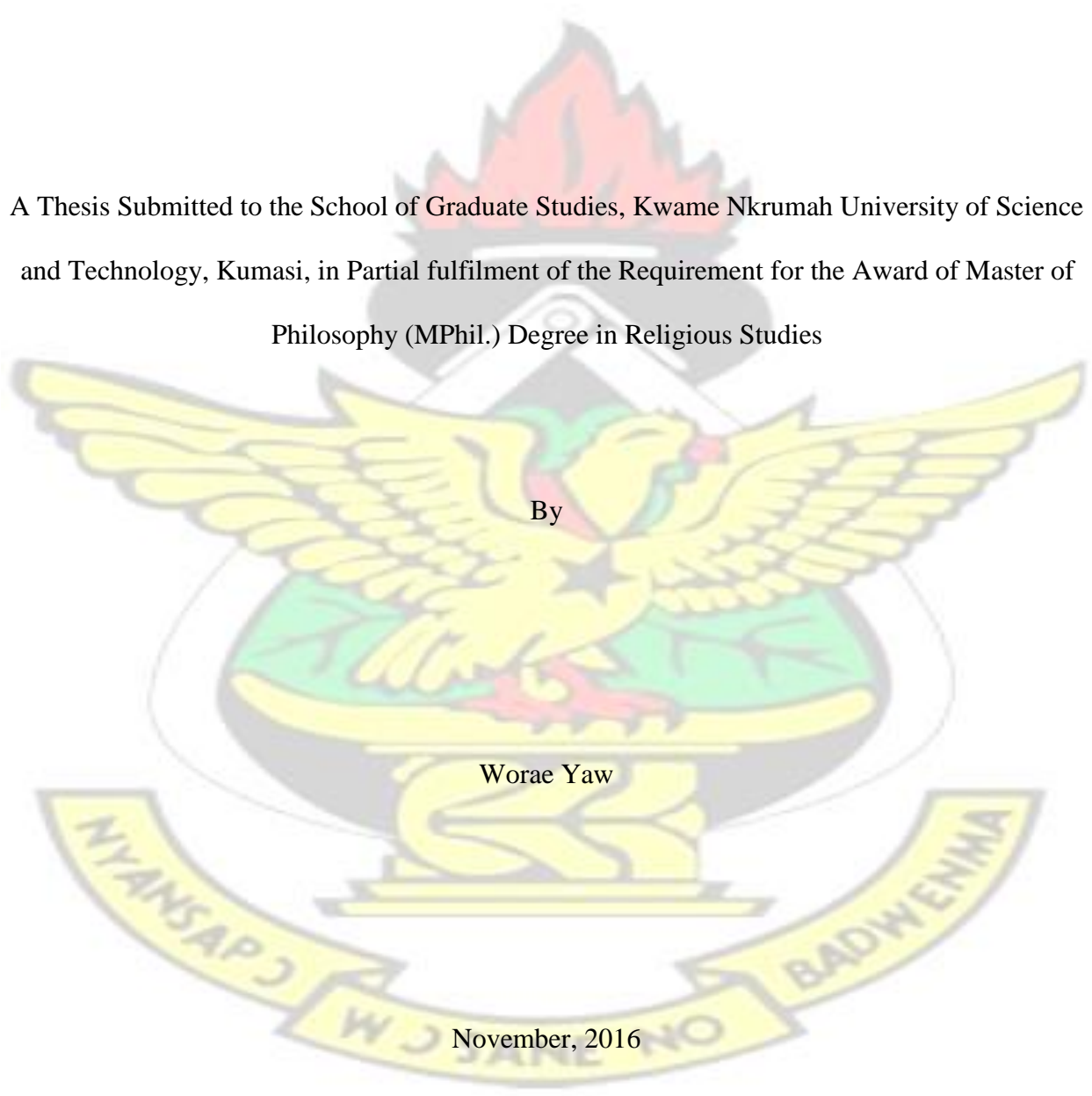
KNUST

A Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, in Partial fulfilment of the Requirement for the Award of Master of Philosophy (MPhil.) Degree in Religious Studies

By

Worae Yaw

November, 2016



Declaration

I, Worae Yaw, hereby declare that this thesis is as a result of my own work and that no part of it has been presented for another degree in this University or elsewhere, and that all sources of information used have been duly referenced by way of footnotes.

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(Head of Department)

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Abstract

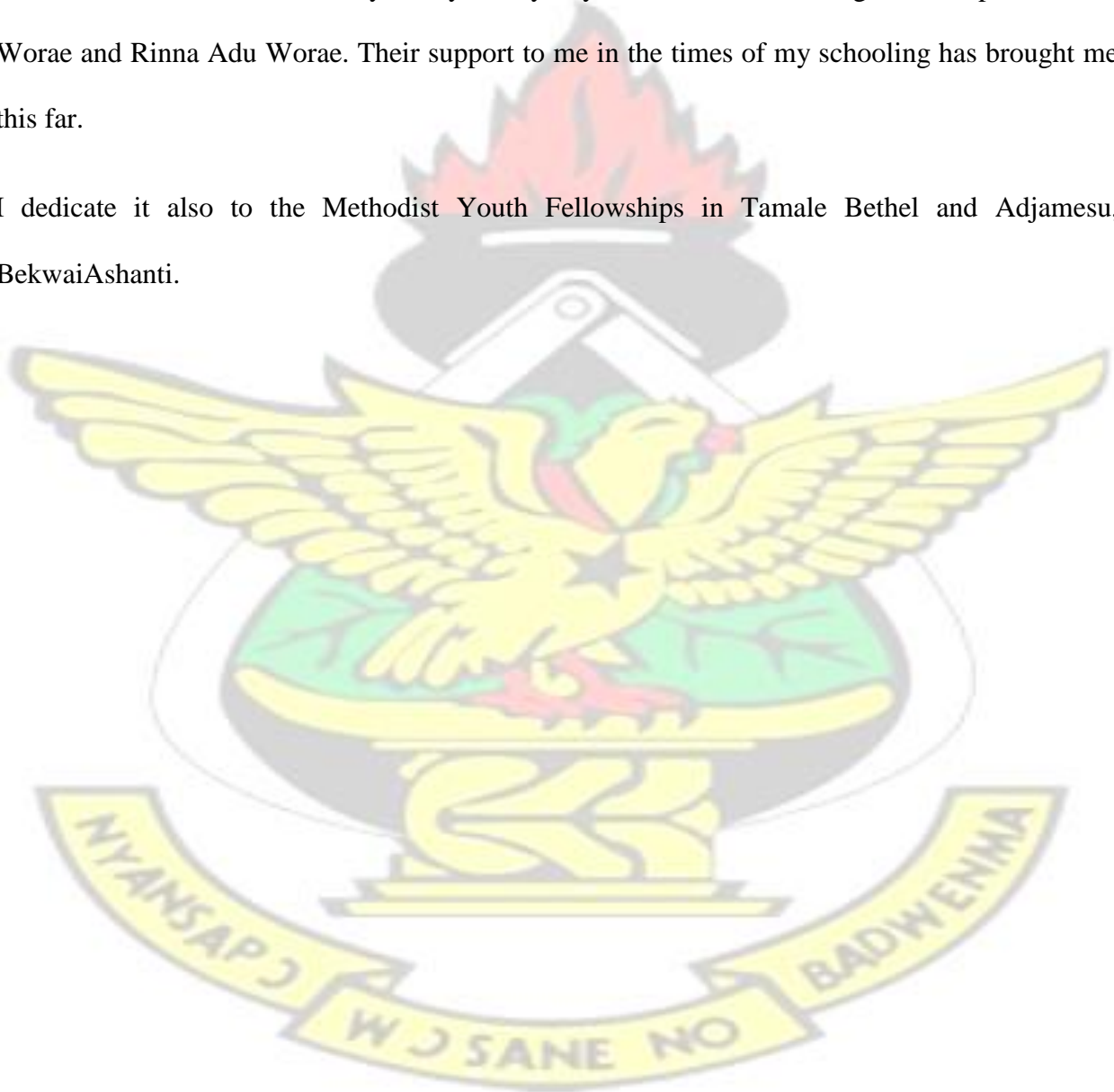
The Bible is God's way of communicating with His people in such a manner that would easily be understood. This has resulted in the many translations of the Bible from their original languages to specific target languages, including Asante-Twi. The first edition of the Asante-Twi Full Bible was published in 1964 as a result of the revision works on the Akuapem-Twi Bible with slight changes in orthographies. The latest revised edition of the Asante-Twi Bible is the 2012 version. Since no translation is perfect, the Asante-Twi Bible (2012) also suffers similar challenge. The researcher identified six (6) of such translation and exegetical problems in the New Testament of the Asante-Twi Bible (AsTB). These include words and phrases in Matthew 15:19 (moicei/ai); 25:15 (ta,lanta); Galatians 5:23 (evgkra,teia); and Ephesians 4:12 (tou/ sw,matoj tou/ Cristou); 6:9 (avnie,ntej th.n avpeilh,n); and 6:12 (pa,lh). The research employs biblical exegesis and mother-tongue biblical hermeneutics in analysing the Greek texts and that of the AsTB texts. Comparative analyses of the Asante-Twi texts with other Ghanaian mother-tongue Bibles were done to show how the various Greek texts have been rendered in these mother-tongue Bibles. The research revealed that the Asante-Twi Bible is widely and mostly used by members of the mainline Churches irrespective of the level of education. However, the translations of some of the words fail to meet the thought pattern of the contemporary Asante Christian whose sociocultural settings are changing with time. It is recommended that stakeholders of the Asante-Twi Bible continually review it to reflect the understanding of the contemporary Asante Christian taking into cognisance the changing socio-cultural values of the Asante Christian.

Dedication

Firstly, I dedicate this work to my mother, Alice Nyame and all my siblings who have encouraged me to go higher in life. This work is also dedicated to my late father, E. K. Boakye – Yiadom whose words of encouragement keep me going higher in life even after his demise.

This work is also dedicated to my lovely family: my wife Paulina, and daughters Adepa Darkwah Worae and Rinna Adu Worae. Their support to me in the times of my schooling has brought me this far.

I dedicate it also to the Methodist Youth Fellowships in Tamale Bethel and Adjamesu, BekwaiAshanti.



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Great things the Lord has done and greater things He will do. All praise and glory be to my God for the strength given me to go through this academic exercise.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS



A.D.	- In the year of our Lord	NLT	- New Living Translation
AkTB	- Akuapem-Twi Bible	NRS	- New Revised Standard Version
AsTB	- Asante-Twi Bible	NT	- New Testament
BC	- Before Christ	OT	- Old Testament
BSG	- Bible Society of Ghana	RSV	- Revised Standard Version
Eph.	- Ephesians		
FB	- Mfante Bible		
Gal.	- Galatians		
GILLBT	- Ghana Institute of Linguistics, Literacy and Bible Translation		
HND	- Higher National Diploma		
IBS	- International Bible Society		
KJV	- King James Version		
LXX	- Septuagint		
Matt.	- Matthew		
NIV	- New International Version		
NKJV	- New King James Version		

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