

**KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**FACULTY OF ART**

**DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ART**

**EXPLORATION OF TEXTILE ART AS A MEDIUM AGAINST CORRUPTION  
IN GHANA**

**BY**

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(BA Industrial Art – Textiles Option)

**August, 2019**

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**A Thesis submitted to the Department of Industrial Art,  
Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology**

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**For the degree of**

**MASTER OF FINE ART (TEXTILE DESIGN)**

*Faculty of Art, College of Art and Built Environment*

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## DECLARATION

I SOLOMON BOATENG hereby declares that this submission is my own work towards the MFA and that, to the best of my knowledge, it contains no material previously published by another person nor material which has been accepted for the award of any other degree of the university, except where due acknowledgement has been made in the text.

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## **ABSTRACT**

Textile art possess the ability of communicating with the viewer in as much as the visual images are well understood by the viewer. This can be accomplished by utilizing concept based images that makes meaning to viewers at a glimpse. It is based on this that, this project seeks to mount an artistic campaign against corruption in Ghana through the use of textiles and non-textiles materials in a mixed-media technique. Textile art refers to art made of textiles as well as art made about textiles by employing techniques such as appliqué, patchwork, quilting, embroidery, tapestry, dyeing, and painting among others. The study used practice-based research approach. Observation and interviews were conducted to ascertain the level of understanding on corruption. The responses obtained assisted the researcher to come out with art pieces that met the objective of the study. Purposive sampling technique was adopted for the interview for this project. The various art pieces produced have been appreciated by the researcher in this report. The study utilized mixed-media technique for the production of the art pieces. This project serves as an effective communication tool to create awareness on the dangers of corruption in the country. It also helped in expanding the frontiers of textile art by exploiting various techniques and materials. Moreover, the study recommends that the fight against corruption is not the sole duty of the head of state, the law enforcement agencies, the judiciary and the media house but citizens also have a role to play. Therefore, citizens should expose anybody who engages in corrupt practices irrespective of the person being a family member, friend and a superior.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
Declaration.....	i
Acknowledgements.....	ii
Abstract.....	iii
List of Tables .....	viii
List of Figures.....	ix
List of Plates .....	x
List of Appendices .....	xi
 <b>CHAPTER ONE:INTRODUCTION</b>	
1.1 Background to the Study.....	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem .....	4
1.3 Objective of the Study.....	6
1.4 Research Questions .....	6
1.5 Delimitation.....	6
1.6 Importance of the Study .....	6
1.7 Definitions of Terms .....	7
1.8 Abbreviations .....	7
1.9 Arrangement of the Rest of the Text.....	8
 <b>CHAPTER TWO:REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE</b>	
2.0 Overview .....	9
2.1 Concept of Corruption.....	9
2.1.1 Classification/Forms of Corruption.....	11
2.1.1.1 Political or Grand corruption.....	11
2.1.1.2 Bureaucratic, Small scale or Petty corruption.....	12

2.1.1.3 State Capture of Private Corruption.....	12
2.1.2 Types of Corruption.....	13
2.1.2.1 Bribery.....	13
2.1.2.2 Extortion.....	14
2.1.2.3 Embezzlement.....	14
2.1.2.4 Patronage.....	16
2.3 Causes of Corruption .....	17
2.3.0 Cultural Factors .....	17
2.3.1 Psychological Factor .....	19
2.3.2 System - Related.....	20
2.3.2.1 Civil Participation/Press Freedom.....	22
2.3.2.2 Poverty and Low Wages.....	22
2.3.2.3 High Tax Rates.....	23
2.3.2.4 Natural Resources Endowment.....	24
2.3.2.5Internet and eGovernment.....	24
2.4 Effects of Corruption.....	24
2.4.1 Effects of Corruption on Economic and Political Development.....	26
2.4.2 Social and Environmental Effects of Corruption .....	28
2.5 Definition of Textile Art .....	29
2.6 Materials and Techniques Used in Textile Art.....	30
2.6.1 Appliqué.....	31
2.6.2 Painting.....	32
2.6.3 Carving.....	32
2.6.4 Adhesive Bonding.....	32

2.8 Significance of Textile Art.....	33
<b>CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY</b>	
3.0 Overview .....	34
3.1 Research Design.....	34
3.1.1 Practiced-Based Research Method.....	35
3.2.1 Empathise .....	36
3.2.1a. Discussion of Interview Results .....	39
3.2.1b Main Findings .....	42
3.3 Ideate .....	44
3.3.1 Tools and Materials Used for the Project.....	44
3.3.2 Sketches of Concept-Based Images .....	45
3.3.3 Selection and Development of Concept-Based Images on Corruption.....	53
3.3.3a Idea Development (Design 1).....	53
3.3.3b Idea Development (Design 2) .....	53
3.3.3c Idea Development (Design 3).....	54
3.3.3d Idea Development (Design 4) .....	55
3.4 Prototype and Testing.....	56
3.4 Evaluate.....	58
3.5 Produce.....	60
3.5.1 Project One (The Perspective of Corruption).....	60
3.5.2 Project Two (Behind the Scenes).....	65
3.5.3. Project Three (The Oppressors Rule).....	67
<b>CHAPTER FOUR: RESULTS AND DISCUSSION</b>	
4.0. Overview .....	70
4.1: Project One (Prototype) - “Me man nti, 3ny3 me nti” .....	70



4.3: Project Two - The Perspective of Corruption .....	73
4.3: Project Three - The Oppressors Rule .....	76
4.4: Project Four - “Behind the Scenes” .....	78
<b>CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	
5.1 Summary .....	80
5.2. Conclusion.....	81
5.3 Recommendations .....	82
REFERENCES .....	83
APPENDICES .....	92

## LIST OF TABLES

<b>Table No.</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Page</b>
Table 3.1:	Categorization of Accessible Population.....	38
Table 3.2:	Respondents Understanding of Corruption .....	39
Table 3.3:	The most common forms of corruption in Ghana .....	40
Table 3.4:	Altitude towards Corruption .....	41
Table 3.5:	Ways to Reduce Corruption.....	42
Table 3.6:	Views on Artistic Imagery on Corruption .....	442
Table 3.7:	Tools and Materials .....	44

## LIST OF FIGURES

<b>Figure No. Title</b>	<b>Page</b>
Figure 3.0: Design Thinking Process (Terrar, 2018) .....	36
Figure 3.1: Design Process for Practiced Based Designs (Boateng, 2019) .....	36
Figure 3.2: Behind Bars .....	45
Figure 3.3: Keep Quite.....	46
Figure 3.4: My Integrity.....	46
Figure 3.5: My Vote, My Power.....	47
Figure 3.6: Resistance.....	47
Figure 3.7: Consequences .....	48
Figure 3.8: Mutuality .....	48
Figure 3.9: Percentage .....	49
Figure 3.10: Benefits.....	49
Figure 3.11: “Mate masie” .....	50
Figure 3.12: “Akoben”.....	50
Figure 3.13: “Akofena” .....	51
Figure 3.14: “Boa me na mmoa wo” .....	51
Figure 3.15: “Nsa kɔ, na nsa aba” .....	52
Figure 3.16: “Nyansapo” .....	52
Figure 3.17: “Epa” .....	53
Figure 3.18(a,b): Composition of Design One.....	53
Figure 3.19: Composition of Design Two .....	54
Figure 3.20: Composition of Design Three .....	55
Figure 3.21: Composition of Design Four .....	55
Figure 3.22 An Illustration of the Prototype (design 2).....	56
Figure 3.23: Adhering of figures onto the Canvas.....	57
Figure 3.24: A Skeletal Layout.....	60
Figure 3.25: Fixing of Carved Image onto Canvas.....	66
Figure 3.26: Transferring the Image onto Canvas .....	68

## LIST OF PLATES

	<b>Page</b>
Plate 1.1: “We dey beg” .....	3
Plate 1.2: “Refugee Astronaut” .....	3
Plate 1.3: Remembering, 2009 .....	4
Plate 3.1 (a, b, c & d): Painting of Figures .....	57
Plate 3.2: Fixing of Fabrics to the Various Figures .....	58
Plate 3.3: “Me man nti, eny3 men nti” (Final work) .....	58
Plate 3.4: Carved Plywood.....	61
Plate 3.5: Covering the Glass Frame with Velvet.....	61
Plate 3.6 (a & b): Transferring of Carved Images onto Substrate .....	62
Plate 3.7 (c, d, e & f): Painting of Background and Images .....	63
Plate 3.8 (g & h): Arrangement of Fabric onto the Various Images.....	63
Plate 3.9 (i & j): Wrapping of Fabrics onto the Various Images.....	64
Plate 3.10 (k & l): Progress of Work .....	65
Plate 3.11: “The Perspective of Corruption” (Final Work) .....	65
Plate 3.12: (a & b): Progress of Work.....	66
Plate 3.13: “Behind the Scenes” (Final Work) .....	67
Plate 3.14: Painting of Figures.....	68
Plate 3.15: “The Oppressors Rule” (Final Work) .....	69
Plate 4.1: “Me man nti” .....	70
Plate 4.2: The Perspective of Corruption.....	73
Plate 4.3: The Oppressors Rule.....	76
Plate 4.4: “Behind the Scenes” (Final Work) .....	78

## LIST OF APPENDICES

	<b>Page</b>
Appendix 1: Interview Guide for Lecturers.....	92
Appendix 2: Interview Guide for Students/Unemployed Graduates .....	93
Appendix 3: Interview Guide for Commercial Vehicle Drivers.....	94
Appendix 4: Interview Guide for Businessmen and Businesswomen .....	95

## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Background to the Study**

Corruption is a challenging issue which has gained popularity and is discussed by everybody including politicians, the citizenry, and media houses. The corruption cases in Ghana was on the ascendancy that the then Provisional National Defence Council (PNDC) government in 1981 constituted some institutions such as the Citizen Vetting committee and the Public Tribunals to handle corruption issues (IEA ,2015).

Moreover, succeeding governments have also exploited many ways and solutions to curtail this issue. Various institutions such as the Serious Fraud office (SFO) now known as the Economic and Organised Crime Office (EOCO), Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) and National Procurement Authority (NPA) have been established to assist in fighting corruption.

The fight against corruption continues unabatedly, the former President J.A. Kuffour had to make a “zero Tolerance for corruption” as an aphorism during his administration. Moreover, the sitting Ghanaian president, Nana Addo Dankwa Akuffo-Addo, in his attempt to deal with corruption which is a greater challenge in his administration has come up with an (Institution) called a “Special Prosecutor” (SP) office to help fight corruption which has become a canker and is eating deeper into the economy fabric of Ghana.

Regardless of these efforts, the activities of corruption seem too predominant in Ghana. However, it is interesting to know that, art can be used as a communicative tool through which ideas and feelings can be expressed. Art has been a medium through which

people from varied cultures share their feelings, thoughts and beliefs. Moreover, art acts as a medium through which many societies come together to address social, political and religious issues. Eisner (2002) posits that, art is among the most powerful means of educating people. Interestingly, a work of art produces innovative by-products, and tends to give artists a sense of inner connectedness. Therefore, many contemporary artists such as Bright Tettey Arkwerh, Yinka Shonibare, Ai-Weiwei, among others whose personal life and art works transcend individualism and communicate thoughtful ideas that tackle many social issues.

Bright Tetteh Ackwerh is a Ghanaian born contemporary satirical illustrator who is examining the world around him through his work. His style of work is a satirical representation of socio-political and religious issue in an incisive manner that provokes conversation, sparks debate and elicits response (Lang, 2018). He published an art piece (Plate 1.1) that provoked the Chinese ambassador to Ghana to the extent of writing a letter to the President of Ghana and the Minister of Natural Resources. In the image, China's president, Xi Jinping, can be seen doling out dirty brown water from a vase bowl held by the Ghanaian president and the Minister of Natural Resources. Beside the Chinese president, is the Chinese ambassador to Ghana smiling and holding gold. This art piece has an empirical meaning that Ghanaians are sitting on gold but we are begging for sand.



**Plate 1.1: “We dey beg”**

**(Source: [www.okayafrica.com](http://www.okayafrica.com))**

Lang (2018) quotes “despite the fact he feels powerless about some of the things transpiring in the world around him, i hold he is unaware of the justice he is doing to his country and others with his radical critiques in the form of art”. Another contemporary artist who has exhibited outstanding innovations in his art works to provoke thought is Yinka Shonibare. He clothed dummies with African prints to explain contested global topics purposively to raise concerns (Plate 1.2) (Shonibare studio, 2019).



**Plate 1.2: “Refugee Astronaut”**

**(Source: [www.yinkashonibare.com](http://www.yinkashonibare.com))**



Ai weiwei is considered among the contemporary artists allied with political activism (Plate 1.3). Most of his art works speak about corrupt practices in China and other political issues. Some of his outstanding works which tackles social issues includes “the study of perspective” and the installation “remembering” where he campaigned on behalf of those who fell victim in 2008 earthquake in China. Even though he has faced many critics, he continues to use his art works to speak for many (Connolly, 2019).



**Plate 1.3: Remembering, 2009**

**(Source: [www.mashed.com](http://www.mashed.com))**

Previewing from the above, it can be deduced that many artists have used their art works as a means to advocate for and against many issues and have put governments and top officials on their toes. The study therefore, takes inspiration from the above artists to use textile art as a medium to campaign against corruption in Ghana which has become a retardant to national economic progress.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Corruption is steadily increasing around the world and it is a universal phenomenon which is not attributed to a particular nation but goes beyond national boundaries and frontiers. Therefore, it has been established that corruption is a global phenomenon.

Corruption can act as a retardant in economic development and for that matter many people are of the view that it should be given the necessary attention in a country's development programme. According to Gray and Kaufmann (1998), Ghana is one of the Sixty (60) third world countries where corruption is identified as a severe impediment hindering the development and growth of the country.

As a result of this, many governments in Ghana, both past and present, have tried many means of dealing with this national menace thereby forming various committees and implementing many policies, for example, the formation of the Commission for Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ), Serious Fraud Office (SFO) currently called Economic and Organized Crime Office (EOCO) and Office of the Special Prosecutor (SP).

Regardless of these efforts, corruption seems too predominant in Ghana. However, it is interesting to note that, some contemporary artists such as Bright Tettey Akrkweh (painter) Yinka Shirebire, Ai-Weiwei (Sculptor and Painter) have used their art works as a means to express their thoughts on similar issues, to create awareness to the citizenry. They have also protested vehemently against most governments' practices as part of their contribution toward national development.

Inspired by these artists and their contributions, the study explored textile art as a medium to mount an artistic campaign to help fight corruption in Ghana. The research further exposed the destructive effects of corruption and also, to unveil the practical feasibilities of textiles art praxis in contemporary art.

### **1.3 Objective of the Study**

The following are the achievable objectives of the study:

1. To select and develop suitable concept-based images to fight corruption.
2. To produce textile art forms with the developed concepts on the fight against corruption.

### **1.4 Research Questions**

1. What concept-based images would be appropriate to use against corruption?
2. What textile art forms would be appropriately used to campaign against corruption?

### **1.5 Delimitation**

This study utilizes developed pictorial concepts which are suitable and communicative about corruption. It also employs the use of mixed-media techniques in its conceptual rendition of works. The materials include wood (plywood, 2x2 and veneer), fabric scraps, Styrofoam, velvet and adhesives (PVA and 99). The work would be exhibited on KNUST campus- Kumasi.

### **1.6 Importance of the Study**

- This project serves as an effective communicative tool to alert the citizenry on the dangers of corruption in the country.
- The philosophical importance of the study is therefore to change the perception that, the battle against corruption is not the duty of only the government and leadership alone, but rather the individual also has a vital role to play.
- The study will help create awareness that some waste materials can be converted into useful products.

- Furthermore, the production of the art pieces will further expose and widen the practical application and creativity of textile artists.

### 1.7 Definitions of Terms

- **Craft** – the act of creating or inventing something in a skilful way by using the hand.
- **Textile art** – it is an art or craft which utilizes plants, animals or synthetic materials in a clever way to produce a decorative art piece.
- **Mixed media** - is it a technique which uses different media or materials
- **Contemporary art** - contemporary art which is also known as modern day art is the art of today which was produced in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- **Corruption** - is the act of taking advantage of a person, nation or a community by using one's position to acquire something for a personal gain.

### 1.8 Abbreviations

- AFRC: Armed Forces Revolutionary Council
- PNDC: Provisional National Defence Council
- CHRAJ: Commission For Human Right and Administrative Justice
- SFO: Serious fraud Office
- EOCO: The Economic and Organised Crime Office
- NPA: National Procurement Authority
- NPP: New Patriotic Party
- IEA: Institute of Economic Affairs
- SP: Special Prosecutor

## **1.9 Arrangement of the Rest of the Text**

The study has been organized as follows: following Chapter One, Chapter Two is the review of related literature which looks at the theoretical and conceptual framework of the study by authorities and researchers in the field of practice.

Chapter Three defines the methodology which discusses the research design and explains the data acquisition methods employed by the researcher to access information for the final project. It also concentrates on the tools, the materials, and the production processes used in the study. Chapter Four outlines the discussion of the work. Finally Chapter Five contains the summary, conclusion and recommendations.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

#### **2.0 Overview**

This chapter contains the review of related literature. The review is structured under the following areas: concept of corruption (definition, classification and forms), causes of corruption, and the effects of corruption, textile art, techniques and materials used in Textile art and the significance of textile art.

#### **2.1 Concepts of Corruption**

Tanzi (1998) posits corruption has been an issue which many governments have tried to resolve but has become part of many nations or societies. In Ghana, this menace has become so rampant that it has led to situations such as slow movement of files at various government agencies, police extorting bribe from civilians, congestion at ports, queues at passport offices, ghost workers syndrome and election frauds (Dike, 2005; Oliyide & Odeku, 2002).

Corruption is a decay which allows a decision-maker (an official) to deviate from his or her decision-making and consent to receive a reward or a promise of a reward or favour to cause harm to a nation or an organisation (Jain, 2001). Supporting this, Bigovic, (2005) defined corruption as the thoughtful non-compliance with the arm's length principle meant at developing some benefits for an individual or a family member. David (2012) opines that corruption is the illegal use of power by a public official or an individual either to enrich him or herself or for other reasons at the expense of the public on contrary to the laws that are in force. Corruption includes the betrayal of public concern or the well-being

of the general policy for a slenderer benefit and it facilitates social vices such as robbery and drug trafficking (Azeem, 2009).

There is no precise definition for corruption. Though many scholars have tried various means of coming out with a finite definition none has been accepted universally. The most commonly and popular definition of corruption is the use of public office for private gain. However, this definition has created argument among scholars. Some scholars are of the view that, it should not be concluded that corruption cannot occur in the private sector. It does exist and for instance, the abuse of public office is not essentially for oneself or private gain but for the benefit of a nation, community, family, ethnic group among others.

Similarly, Friedrich (1966) as cited in Frunzik (2000) “the use of public office for private gain” is not always widely perceived in a given community to be corruption. For example if a person or an individual making a personal gain is directly making a positive impact to his or her country or community , the community may see it as acceptable and may sometimes reward the individual. Miller (2017) explains that corruption affects individual’s interactions as it continues to exist as moral and cultural problem.

Considering the conflicts in the definition of corruption, some scholars have characterised the definition of corruption into three groups, namely good, bad and ambiguous corruption. For instance, Heindehmer (2002) categorised corruption into “black,” “white” and “gray”. He explained “White” acts are those acts that are more or less accepted by both officials and citizens and does not attract any form of punishment whiles “Gray” acts are considered as corrupt but the opinions of the public differs from the decision makers thus the opinions between the citizens and public officials are divided.

'Black' acts are seen as wrong and condemned by both officials and citizens. From the above discussions, it can evidently be said that, there are varieties of definitions for corruption.

### **2.1.1 Classification/Forms of Corruption**

Corruption is classified into (three) main forms namely: Political or grand corruption, Petty (Bureaucratic) corruption and State capture which is also known as private Corruption.

#### **2.1.1.1. Political or Grand corruption**

Political or grand corruption occur when officials or agent who are responsible for enforcing law abuse their power to acquire wealth, status among others. This form of corruption usually occurs at high-levels of political system. Aktan (2015) explained political corruption as the behaviours or actions which disrespect contemporary laws, ethnics, religious and cultural values of a society by individuals which affects decision making. Andvig and Fjelstad (2001) stated that, in grand or political corruption top officials used their positions to extract bribes, embezzle huge sums of money or personalized rules for their own benefits.

Political or grand corruption leads to misappropriation of resources and thwart decisions. Elaine (2009) confirms rules and regulations are mistreated by top officials and tailored to suit their private benefits. She added on that, “transaction made between private and public sectors are illegally channelled into private payments of bribes”.



### **2.1.1.2. Bureaucratic, Small Scale or Petty Corruption**

Riley (1999) explained petty corruption is the contribution of small moneys or favours to junior officials in order to cater for their basic needs. Poeschl and Ribeiro (2012) assert, petty corruption involves a junior police officer who maybe underpaid and engage in an interaction with civilian or public, demanding or accepting modest sum of money to gratify their needs. It is further explained petty corruption seem to be prevalent in less developed countries, where people must often offer bribe to enjoy some basic services that are for free.

Though petty corruption is not limited to poor societies, it can be very hazardous to the poorest people. Thus individuals who are underpaid may resort to collecting bribe in other to cater for themselves and their families. Although it is called petty and the amount involve is not as much as grand or political corruption but the result is not petty especially to the individuals who are affected and summing them up could amount to billions of dollars (Aktan, 2015).

### **2.1.1.3. State Capture of Private Corruption**

There have been recent developments of some behaviour which are also classified as corruption by some authors. These are legal acts that profit private interest. Hellman and Kaufmann (2001) expatiate that, it is a form of corruption in which private business make private payments to public official in other to influence their decisions or choice and to design a law which suits them. This implies an agreement made between a private entity and a state official or politician for their private gains, thus a kind of “capture” of state property or machine (Shah and Schacter, 2004).

## **2.1.2 Types of Corruption**

Corrupt practices occur in many form/types. Therefore considering the various forms can help in dealing with corruption in Ghana. Sun (1999) used economical approach of demand and supply to explain the types of corruption. Below are some forms or types of corruption.

### **2.1.2.1. Bribery**

Lesson and Peter (2008) defined bribery as the act of taking or receiving money from people before granting them favour or help. Bribe is a fixed value usually in the form of money that will be retune in favours, for things to run smoother or an entrance fee for a part of a contract (Andvig and Fjelstad, 2001). Kristain (2012) assets, in relation to social network, bribery would be a clear indication of illegal Guanxi (social relationship), however, most likely to be found in dyadic relation within the network. He concluded that, “money is the last option when sorting out the balance of favour”.

Tobaben, Robert and Charles (1991) opine that buying contracts can be said to be kick-backs. This is where government officials may use their negotiating power with contractors and their decision in awarding contracts to gain a fee for arranging the contract. He added that, a percentage normally five (5) percent of the contract is kicked back to the government officials by the contractor. Aktan (2015) asserts that bribery or the abuse of power and authority can occur in two ways:

1. “The abuse of power and authority in agreement with the law in order to speed procedures. It is apparent these procedures will benefit some individuals at the expense of others” (Dworkin, 1986).

2. “The abuse of power and authority in accordance against the law in order to hasten procedures”.

The first type of abuse of power and authority in return for certain favours or gains is known as “*acceleratory or light bribery*” whereas the second types is called “*distortion or heavy bribery*”(Berkam, 1992). Andvig and Fjeldstad (2001) states that, bribes are offered in exchange for favourable treatments in relation to political favours, taxation, import or export duties, and contracts among others. It has been observed that, this scenario is very common in Ghana to extend that benefitting from basic services such as getting a document sign, getting water or sanitation services, getting treatment at hospital, avoiding problem with the police, getting admission into government schools is very stressful and frustrating in many occasions. Before one could obtain the above-mentioned services in Ghana, it is alleged that, one has to pay bribe or offer a favour. Bribery affects the moral and economic fabric of a country in many ways and this tends to retard their growth and affect the living standard of citizens.

#### **2.1.2.2. Extortion**

Extortion is the inverse of bribery. Extortion can be defined as to snatch or squeeze from an individual. It can also be defined as the act of extracting from a reluctant person either by torture, or intimidation, thus, it is the act of forcing an individual to give bribe. For instance, a police official taking money from a civilian by force (Aktan, 2015).

#### **2.1.2.3 Embezzlement**

Embezzlement is the misuse of power by a public official to take advantage of a nation or society with the notion of enriching him/herself. From a stern legal view, this act is regarded as theft rather than corruption; nevertheless, in the wider sense of the definition,

the act can be classified as corruption. Public officials may pocket tax revenues; most often they conspire with tax payers or steal from coffers, take loans for themselves and never repay or draw pay for fabricated “ghost” workers Andvig and Fjeldstad (2001). In Ghana, under the Ministry of Youth and Sports, there has been countless number of such cases to the extent that most of the ministers who fell victim lost their jobs. Frunzik (2000) also stated, in Iran-Contra affair in which revenues are from the sale of US anti-tank and anti-aircraft missile were side-tracked to private arms merchants in Latin America.

Holmes (1993) stated that, privatization is a factor which provides new chances to state officials. He added on that, officials can use the opportunities granted them to demand bribe from private organisations interested in purchasing a formerly state own-business or organisation. On the other side is petty theft of equipment or items such as stationery, photocopiers, among others. In Ghana, there have been many instances where state officials are caught to have stolen state vehicles and other items after a change –over in government.

According to Aktan (2015), an embezzlement is done in a fraudulent way called “Peculation”. So in this context, peculation is also called “Aggravated embezzlement”. In conclusion, embezzlement is seen as pilfering of assets (either money or property) by a person in a place of trust over those assets. Tobaben et al (1991) points to another form of corruption, which is **favouritism**, also called as *Influence Peddling*. Favouritism is the practice of giving prejudicial preferential treatment to an individual or group at the expense of another. This normally happens when individuals have access to high –ranking officials and they are tempted to use their influence to gain favours at the expense of others. He further explained that “money is acquired through the sales of assets, the arrangement of

contracts and timely interventions to secure a constructive disposition of regulatory decisions and government contracts.

#### **2.1.2.4. Patronage**

Patronage is also considered as another form of corruption. Granting favours to political supporters has also being a practice which is embedded in politics. In support of this statement, Frunzik (2000) stated, whereas civil service principles at the national and state level may effectively restrict the number of patronage jobs, political appointments persist at the top levels of government and provide a reasonable way for elected politicians to influence bureaucracy through the appointment of legal executive officials. Moreover, the practice of rewarding affluent campaign contributors with appointments such as ambassadors has been custom in presidential politics. Holmes (1993) reveals three forms of patronage, namely:

***Nepotism***- Nadler and Schulman (n d) defines nepotism as granting jobs to one's relative in diverse fields including politics, business, entertainment, sports, religion and other activities. The word "nepotism" is from the Latin word "*nepotismo*" which can be translated as "see nephew". Based on the above explanation, nepotism can be said to be based on only family or ethnic ties.

***Shared experience*** – this is where favour is granted to a person based on a past experienced shared together or having a warm relationship. For example, a patron and a client have a past experienced and a cordial relation, the patron promotes or has promoted the client based on their past experience or relationship.

***Shared interest*** - in these instances, still using the patron as example, the patron does not have a past relationship with client he wishes to promote but rather it maybe they

both come from the same ethnic group or they both agree on certain terms which favour each other. It can be established that, political power devoid of ethical obligation turns out to be corruption and for that matter political officials needs to avoid the temptation of being corrupt through integrity. Eiras (2003) confirms, in view of this integrity, it can be stated that strong powers without this kind of duty faces the chance of becoming corrupt power.

Interestingly, Etchegoyen (1995) posits that the higher the strong power to make decisions, the higher the rate of corruption. Integrity involves the completeness, unity and a strong moral character of a person. A public official with integrity is a person who stands on his or her moral grounds and cannot be bought with money or any other kinds of favours. Dworkin (1986) also reveals that, integrity is an essential virtue of a good judicial system. He expatiated this statement by saying, “integrity encompasses protection of rights and values as essential to public institutes.

## **2.3 Causes of Corruption**

According to Psalm (139:14), human beings are fearfully and wonderfully made, thus human beings are made with different characters and different mind-sets. This explains why some people engage in corruption while others do not. Holmes (1993) divided the causes of corruption into three (3) groups. They are cultural, psychological and system-related.

### **2.3.0 Cultural Factors**

Some countries see certain types of corruption as more or less acceptable base on the scale in political beliefs. Frunzik (2000) buttressed on this statement by saying that,

some countries accept and have reputation for corruption mainly because of traditional attitudes towards kinship and family. It is asserted that in a post-colonial Africa, neo-patrimonial government become the rule and the state appeared as an extension of the ruler's family, ethnic, and kinship ties and bribes became the most important means of governance. Corruption has grounded its root in kinsmen and crime has worsened in religion and ethnic divisions. The International Forum for Democratic Studies reveals that, twelve point two (\$12.2) billion dollars of government revenue was diverted to “ Extra – budgetary accounts” in Nigeria and there is no record of how these resources were used (Leiken, 1997).

Another cultural factor is low level of respect for the law. For instance, Holmes (1993) reveals, most citizens in some of the Asian states see “the law” as their and for that matter, they do not have respect for the law because they were formerly colonies. According to Lampert (1984) in the Soviet states particularly in the Transcaucasian nations, a number of influences such as strong family ties, have led to a systematic disrespect of the law. Frunzik (2000) affirms, in soviet times in Armenia, bribe become a widespread phenomenon that it became a norm that bribe can solve a problem competently than law. So many people saw some types of corruption as customary and helpful.

Frunzik (2000) opines, religious influence can also be a causative agent of corruption. Certain religions, for instance Catholicism and Islamic are often entangled with the state and thus likelier to have an effect on levels of corruption. According to Treisman, (2000) countries with Protestant background are associated with lower levels of corruption. La-Port, Lopez-de Silence, Shleifer and Vishny (1999) confirmed that, a study conducted

by Alter reveals those countries with Orthodox Christianity is associated with higher corruption where those with Protestants are associated with lower levels of corruption.

### **2.3.1 Psychological Factor**

Holmes (1993) asserts that peer pressure and peer-compare can also influence corruption. Consequently, if a worker sees his or her co-worker benefiting from corruption, it is likely the person may be influenced and may choose to indulge too. Sometimes people who have the opportunities of taking or receiving bribe and do not use their opportunities are considered as stupid by their co-workers because sometimes their salaries could not afford them to live a luxurious life as compare to their colleagues who indulge in the act of corruption. So due to the pressure of people, officials may resort to practice corruption. It has been observed that, pressure from people can lead an individual to do regrettable things. For instance, Saul was compelled to offer a sacrifice unto the lord as he was not supposed to and as a result God rejected him as king (Holy Bible: 1 Samuel 13).

Holmes (1993) again pointed out that, another psychological factor is *fear*. For example a worker who does not replicate his or her corrupt superior may suffer the threat of losing his or her job. Holmes (1993) further suggests that, "*nepotism* which is also a form of corruption can be a factor which contributes to corruption. There is a popular saying in African adage "blood is thicker than water". This saying is effective to the extent that, when a top official / member does not grant favour to an unqualified family member in a job, that official/member is been seen as wicked. Due to this, it will be very difficult for an official to refuse granting favour to a family member or a friend. Moreover, members from one ethnic group are likely to maintain their positions even if they display corrupt practices. This is because they are more likely to allocate funds favourably to members of



their ethnic group who will give in return by helping to keep them in office. It can be stated that over the last decades, Scholars and commentators in mass media have contended that in transition economies market liberalization and transfer of owner or privatization has significantly amplified corruption. They added that, these changes respond to the conferred interest of corrupt leaders even highly respected researchers are uncertain on this peculiar issue, recommending the extreme caution in introducing economic transformations when legal institutes are yet developed (Leiken 1997.). So privatization provides opportunities to state officials to act corruptly. They can ask or request private organisations to pay bribes or kick-backs when purchasing a state-own business (Kingshott and Dincer, 2008).

According to Frunzik (2000), Human weakness also may cause corruption. Some officials may resort to receiving bribe because they feel they “deserve” a reward upon granting a favour to a person or because they have been helpful to a person. Some too do not want to offend or humiliate a grateful suppliant.

### **2.3.2 System - Related**

It has been observed that, aside the causes of corruption, other opportunities also create room for corruption to operate. Klitgaard, (1991) points out three (3) dimensions of institutional structures which is understood can create opportunities for corruption:

1. The monopoly power of officials
2. The degree of power that officials are allowed to exercise
3. The degree to which there are systems of accountability and transparency in institutions.

In summing up the concepts describe above, corruption equation can be set forth as follows (Klitgaard, 1991):  $C=R+D-A$ . Previewing the above equation, C represents

corruption while R stands for economic rent, D for discretionary power and A represents accountability. The equation explains that, the more economic rent (R) opportunities exist in a country, the greater the corruption. Likewise, the greater the discretion powers (D) given to officials, the greater the corruption. Conversely, the more administrators are monitored or held accountable (A) for their activities, the lesser the corruption, hence the minus sign in front of A.

Monopoly power which is also known as *Market power* as explained by Obaidullah (2019) is the ability of a firm or an organisation to charge the prices of “goods” above its marginal cost. Therefore monopoly power could exist for the lawful reason that certain officials are charged to perform specific functions, thus they may have power over the supply of government goods. So the officials ability to collect bribe from clients depends not only that they have monopoly power over particular “goods” or activities, but also upon the rules and regulations backing him or her concerning the distribution of government “goods” or an activities.

Discretion can be defined as the freedom to decide what should be done in a particular situation. Base on the aforementioned statement, the greater the amount of discretion given to agents to operate, the higher the corruption. This is because opportunities will be granted to agents to interpret government rules and regulation to businesses in exchange for bribery. Klitgaard (1991) cited an example that, in the context of discretion, when a tax inspector is given a considerable room to decide whether companies or businesses are given abstractions or not, there will be some “sort of motivation” to demand or request bribe in exchange to offer favourable conditions.

### **2.3.2.1. Civil Participation/Press Freedom**

According to Dimant and Tosato (2018), it has been discussed that press freedom plays a vital role in anticorruption campaign programmes as well as increasing the social cost of living. They added that, Civil participation can be used to fight against corruption as regular elections grant the public or citizens the opportunity of eliminating a corrupt politician. Treisman (2000) affirms that, a long disclosure of democracy envisages lower corruption. According to Bhattacharyya and Hodler (2015), both media freedom and democratic principles (democratization) have a negative effect on corruption. As asserted by O'Neil (1998), press freedom and democracy work hand in hand, especially when a strong civil society join forces with the press in combating social menace including corruption.

Press freedom gives the media the opportunity to publish balanced news about the activities of a government, including news about corruption by a government official or stakeholder (Wijayanto, 2007). This helps to promote accountability and also helped to control corruption.

### **2.3.2. 2. Poverty and Low Wages**

From a theoretical perspective, one would expect corruption to increase with the rate of poverty and low wages (Dimnant and Tosato, 2018). Klitgaard (1991) affirms, another contributory factor of corruption is low wages. He stated that for public servants, the incentives structure within the government has customarily been seen as one of the key factors in the evolution of corruption. If officials are paid wages which are equivalent to their nature of job or their line of duties, then the rate of corruption may be low or will not be that significant. However, if officials in the public sector are paid wages which are way

below those in the private sector in their same line of duties, then it gives the chance for corruption to operate in the public sector.

It has been observed that, this factor is very common in Ghana. The unemployment situation is very high; therefore there is no source of regular income to the individuals and those who have regular source of income, the income is too low to support a family. Meanwhile, the prices of goods and items are very expensive, thereby significantly increasing the living cost of most Ghanaians. So in this case, personnel will look for “ways and means” to complement their venture, such as bribery. Dimanto and Tosato (2018) opine, poorer countries have lower ‘legal system’ in that, they are unable to dedicate the necessary resources to building an effective legal system.

### **2.3.2.3. High Tax Rates**

High tax rate can also create room for corruption. A research conducted by the researcher reveals that, many micro-businesses in Ghana do not pay taxes and larger businesses fake their tax revenues due to high rate of taxes. Evidently, according to Ghanaweb.com (2004). It was reported that Ghana recorded the highest tax rate in 2004 at the rate of twenty-five point eight-three percent (25.83 %).

Another School of thought also revealed that, foreign aid is another contributing factor to promoting corruption. Saxton (1999) says, foreign aid can be a lubricant to corrupt practices by strengthening the public sector in relation to the private sector. However, these foreign aids go to party supporters, friends and specific interest citizens. Aid has tended to promote federal control and fostered a concentration of governmental power in the beneficiary or recipient government. This statement is attested by the fact that government to government transfer often lead to increase in government expenditure.

#### **2.3.2.4 Natural Resources Endowment**

Natural Resource endowment which is normally referred to as “resource curse” is another cause of corruption (Dimant and Tosato 2017). Arguably, many scholars have asserted that over concentration on natural resources in a country creates room for corruption to operate in due to increased opportunities (Sachs and Warner 1997). To confirm this argument, a study conducted by Korhonen (2001) indicated that non fuel raw resource endowment has the greatest potentials to increase corruption and limit growth. However, Dimant, Krieger and Meierrieks (2013) disputed Korhonen’s findings and stated that, the abundance of fuel, mineral resources and ore has the greatest opportunity to increase corruption.

#### **2.3.2.5 Internet and eGovernment**

From a theoretical perspective, it has been argued that, access to the internet and existence of eGovernment can decrease corruption as access to the internet helps to disseminate information expediently. For instance, eGovernment permits the transaction of permits to be done online hence increasing accountability, transparency and efficiency. Moreover, internet grants the public access to publish any information including corruption to reach a larger populace and this create awareness and also exposes corrupt officials. Anderson, Bentzen, Dagaard and Selaya (2011) similarly stated that, increased usage and availability of the internet has contributed in decreasing corruption by exposing some corrupt practices as well as corrupt officials.

### **2.4 Effects of Corruption**

The influences corruption has on developing countries cannot be over emphasised. The consequences are often hazardous. For instance, the eleven (11) year war in Sierra-

Leone was credited to persistent corruption in domains of governance. Although corruption generally has a negative connotation, however some scholars are of the view that, corruption can be beneficial in some circumstances. For example, Mauro (1996) stated that, corruption can help encourage development process. In the sense that, entrepreneurs who wish to do business with an aggressive or indifferent government can use bribery which is a form of corruption to fast track things. In many developing countries unwarranted officials controls and principles generates serious uncertainty for entrepreneurs. So bribery can assist entrepreneurs to get around undue principles (Mauro, 1996).

Similarly Gladwell (n.d) stated an example that, “throughout American history waves of immigrants were deprived access to the kinds of institutions that would have allowed rising movement and when that happened, these groups turned into crimes and other social vices which affected the country greatly”. Blattman (2012) supported this argument by stating that, why should this be so? One reason: most of us fail to envisage that corruption can also lubricate the wheels of fortune or prosperity. Hitherto in places where governments and organisations are unproductive, corruption could increase productivity and development. Bribe can act as lubricants and give faster or better services to the firms or businesses with utmost opportunity cost of waiting.

On the contrary, Kaufmann (1997) disputed that critically, this argument is full of holes. It fails to recognise the gargantuan degree of discretion that many politicians and officials can possess, especially in corrupt societies or countries. They have discretion over the formation, production and interpretation of counterproductive procedures. Thus instead of corruption being the lubricant to noisy wheels of a stiff administration, it will rather become a fuel for unnecessary regulations”. Many scholars believe that, corruption if not

rooted out in a country can have diverse effects on the economic, social, environmental and political development of a country.

#### **2.4.1 Effects of Corruption on Economic and Political Development**

According to Frunzik (2000), corruption can have diverse effects on human capital formation. He further stated that there are two (2) major effects in which corruption can have on human capital. Firstly, corruption decreases tax administration which can lead to tax evasion and tax exemptions. Therefore, for a tax given system of government, the higher the level of corruption, the lower the profits and the lower the incomes available for funding public provision of basic services like education, proper health care, among others. Secondly, corruption increases the operational cost of government and therefore retards economic growth.

It can be established that, higher corruption result in lower education and poor health care system. Mauro (1996) made a quantitative analysis that government spending on education is negatively and significantly associated with higher levels of corruption. Corruption also discourages aid flow which in turn has negative effects on development. In Ghana, there have been instances where loans obtained for infrastructural developments have been embezzled and these monies stayed as debts on the bears of imminent generations, which will be an impediment in further economic development.

Mauro (1998) attests that corruption affects economic development by influencing the choice of project undertaking by government. In postponement to this analysis, Tanzi and Davoodi (1997) showed that corruption leads to misappropriation of public funds that have perverse effects on economic growth. Tanzi (1998) mentions corruption can reduce budget revenues which is very vital in further development of a nation. One major factor

of corruption is high tax rate; this can fuel corruption and can lead to tax evasion and poor tax administration.

It has been observed that, in Ghana the amount of tax collected is lesser than the projected tax each year. Tax evasion takes place when taxpayers manipulate their declarations to reduce their tax payments. It is alleged that, in Ghana there are instances where businessmen and businesswomen pay bribes to senior tax or customer officers to secure a formal certificate of tax exemption. Not only do businessmen and businesswomen pay bribe at the top, in some instances too they pay bribes at a cheaper rate to low level officials to secure the same treatment.

Corruption leads to reduction in state revenues which in turn raise the budget deficit. It can be asserted that the effects of ongoing large budget deficits are estimated to be long term. First, centralized deficits frighten long-term economic development in that national saving may be used to accommodate government debits. Second, continuing large deficits yield higher interest rate in the future. This indicates that each successive parliament will find usually increasing share of national resources to be already committed, not to offer amenities to those tax payers in the year but to cover interest or funds spent to provide services in the past. Finally, large deficits restrictions may compel the government to only respond to genuine national concerns (Mikesell, 1995).

According to Smith (1971), corruption may tend to jeopardize some of the nation's potential assets, the eagerness, idealism and empathy of its youth. In that, the enthusiasm and idealism of the youth turns into sarcasm. Corruption in the long run turns to threaten democratic development. In countries where corruption encompasses government and rule



of law, justice is hindered by corrupt politicians, lawyers, judges, prosecutors, police officers among others.

#### **2.4.2 Social and Environmental Effects of Corruption**

High corruption is supplementary to deprived quality of infrastructure and tends to decrease its contribution to productivity. Tanzi and Davoodi (1997) state, corruption has a great influence on both the quality and quantity of public investment. There are instances where existing infrastructures are left to deteriorate while new projects are undertaken and this gives corrupt officials the opportunity to extract extra commissions from new investment projects.

Corruption distorts policies and priorities and also weakens fairness of institutions and processes. As a result of this, corruption damages the legality of regimes leading to loss of public back up (support) and trust for state or government institutions. According to Jain (2001), there are two (2) ways in which corruption can affect allocation of resources. First, it can transform the private investor's revenue system of the relative advantages of various investments. This stimulus follows from corruption induced in the relative prices of goods and services, and factors of production such as entrepreneurial talent (Jain 2001). He further expatiated that, corruption can result in misallocation of resources and distort decision making. Thus when decisions are made on how public funds will be capitalised or which private investments will be permitted, are made by a corrupt government organization. This misallocation has the potential of influencing the decision-makers to reconsider decisions (corruption payment as one of the decision criterion). Lindsay (2010) also added that corruption is a serious challenge in the contemporary world. It demoralizes good government, basically distorts public policy and leads to misallocation of resources.

Curtailling it is only possible with the support of a wide range of stakeholders. Corruption at its higher levels can increase a country's brain drain problems. Corruption can act as a push factor to potential emigrants since it is associated with a number of unfavourable outcomes (Jain, 2001).

Corruption accelerates environmental destruction. There are environmental laws in many countries and these laws cannot be enforced if officials in charge resort to collecting bribes. Taking into consideration and weighing both the positive and negative effect of corruption, it can be concluded that, corruption is not a good act and therefore should not be encouraged. It should be a responsibility of every citizen to try and play his or her role in dealing with this menace.

## **2.5 Definition of Textile Art**

Universally, the definition of textile art has been a bone of contention because the act does not have a specific definition. Interestingly, many artist, writers and critics agree nontrivially that textile art is an art whose material is fibre and other component. Asinyo, Frimpong, and Dowuona-Hammond (2016) define textile art as arts and crafts that utilizes plants, animals or synthetic fibres to produces a decorative object. Schofield (2011) explains that any art that employs textile elements and techniques is called textile art. Dixon (2013) expatiates the aforementioned definition that, textile art “as a general term given to any work made of textiles”, it encompasses works made of yarns, threads, fabric, fibres and mixed media. He further stated that textile artist explore various techniques to create art using threads and fibres in combination with paints or pigments.

Wasafiri (2010) is of the view that, textile art is an area of art which comprises art made of textiles and art made about textiles. Ulzen-Appiah (2009) discusses textile art as

a derivative of textiles which is produced for its aesthetic appreciation but not necessary direct human use as conventional textiles. Therefore products from textile art are not to be worn but are rather for decoration or installation purposes. From the above discussion, it can be established that, any art in which the material base is textiles and any other media, employing textile techniques in combination with other techniques is referred to as textile art.

## **2.6 Materials and Techniques Used in Textile Art**

Many processes are employed in producing textile art as attested by DeGraw (1972). There are numerous processes that are employed in creating fibre art and some of these techniques can be identified in the prehistoric era. He further stated that, during ancient times, techniques such as weaving, felting, knotting, wrapping and sewing were employed to make textile art. According to Fibre-image (2015), textile artists utilize different techniques including knitting, embroidery, patchwork, felt making, needlework, quilting among others to create art works which are very interesting and appealing. Reynolds (2014) affirms textile art encompasses many activities using fabric and thread as well as hand embroidery, machine embroidery, applique and others.

Buttressing on this, Hergert (2013) asserts, textile art include countless techniques ranging from quilting, embroidery collage, weaving, knitting, crocheting distressing fabrics to accomplish an explicit texture, salvaging fabrics and even incorporating paper. Fibreartnow (2014) also gives reveals, various techniques and materials associated with textile art consist of basketry, beadwork, braiding, crochet and surface designs such as batik, shibori, hand dyeing, embroidery, crawl, applique, and lacework, mixed media, sculpture, sewing tapestry and many more. Dougherty (2007) similarly stated that, other

techniques employed in textile art include batik, print-making, collage, mosaic and silk painting. It can be stated that, contemporary textile artist have access to enormous resources of different fibres types, materials and techniques to work with. As Degraw (1972) writes that artist may choose to work with fleece of sheep which was first employed in Stone Age about 12000 years ago or they may choose cotton or hemp to work with. However, in the contemporary world, the technology of synthetics has created new possibilities by adding to the idealistic impact of the fibre break-through.

Lunin (1990) also added on that artist of today combine non-fibrous materials with thread, clay, paper, wood and even metals. However, the most important thing is art is made of textiles or with textiles. Inferring from above discussions, it can be established that textiles art has extended its territories and for that matter the materials and techniques used in textile art are now uncountable and there is no restriction on the number of materials or techniques used in an art piece. The significant thing is, the art piece is made of fabrics (textiles) or with fabrics (textiles). The researcher therefore adopted the various techniques in the execution of project.

### **2.6.1 Appliqué**

Applique in literal term is a decorative or an interesting technique which is achieved either by hand or machine by overlaying patches of coloured or plain fabrics over a material. It is one of the oldest forms of designs in the world and is still commonly used today .The term applique originated from the Latin word “*applicare*” and from the French word “*appliquer*” which literally means " to join " and is the act of decorating the surface of a fabric by applying pieces of cut fabrics on top of fabric layer either by sewing or embroidering around the edges (Johnson, 2007, Kane 2015).

According to Muntnick (2015), applique is an attractive surface design technique that adds dimensions and texture to the background material. Walker (2019) posits, there are three (3) methods of applique, namely; Fusible applique which is also known as raw-edge applique, freezer-paper applique and Needle-turn applique. Applique is mostly used in textile arts to create decoration and depth to any craft product. It is also used to renovate and revitalize old items of clothing's into modern pieces.

### **2.6.2 Painting**

Marriam-webster (2012) defines painting as the act of applying pigment paint or other medium to a support base. Boddy-Evans (2015) and chalk (2008) define painting as the act of painting an image created using colour on a surface such as paper or canvas.

### **2.6.3 Carving**

Carving is the act of shaping something from a material by scarping away portions of the materials with the aid of a tool. This technique can be applied to any material which is solid enough to hold a form. According to Cambridge dictionary (2019), carving is the act of shaping or creating by cutting into or shaping solid materials such as wood, stone and clay.

### **2.6.4 Adhesive Bonding**

According to Ebnesajjad (2006), adhesive bonding is a process in which a glue (adhesive) is applied to surface articles to bind them either temporary or permanently. Dorn (1994) states, adhesive bonding is the act of joining parts by making use of an adhesive which under goes physical or chemical seasoning reaction causing the parts to stick together via surface adherence and interior strength. Adhesive bonding has advantage of

joining or combining two dissimilar materials together and provides design convenience and flexibility.

## **2.7 Significance of Textile Art**

Brite and Stamsta (1986) assert that the aim of textile art is to experiment new ideas, to expand the frontiers, to explore various materials and techniques and to “*think and do*” and “*do and think*” until there is some kind of breakthrough in the artistry world. According to Reynolds (2014), because there are varieties of textile art products, individuals living with physical impairments may choose textile artwork which suits their abilities and interest. Simply put, textile art can be used as a therapy.

According to Lunin (1990), it is not the rational aspect of the fibre/textile art work which is significant. However, the work is important based on how it is created and how it communicates. From the above discussion, it can be concluded that, textile art has played a significant role in the art praxis by creating possibilities in the field of textiles. This is to say that, textile art has expanded the frontiers of textiles as the processes which were used in textiles were geared towards clothing and furnishes which are the basic necessities of man.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.0 Overview**

This chapter outlines and considers the system of procedures and principles used in production of the artefact. It deals with the research method, the population under study, and the sampling procedure employed in the study. The research instrument, data processing and analysis are also discussed.

#### **3.1 Research Design**

In a research study, the focal point is turning the research questions into a proven project and to be able to answer these questions a particular research method should be adopted (Research Design, 2013). In order to help the research answer the questions under study, the researcher chose qualitative research to help him ascertain the needed information for the study. Leedy and Omron (2005) confirm, to be able to answer questions in a qualitative research, one must do a thorough investigation to get a holistic understanding of the problem under study, thus qualitative research gives the opportunity to gather various data and scrutinise them from various angles to get an in-depth understanding about the study.

Therefore, the study dived deeper into the concepts of corruption (the meaning of corruption, the types of corruption and the causes of corruption). Also, the use of different types of media (conventional and non-conventional textile material) with their respective strengths and weaknesses gave an in-depth understanding about the behaviour of these media. Moreover, it created an opportunity to investigate and explore the possibilities of

using textile and non-textile materials in producing textile art pieces. Therefore the researcher chose qualitative research and employed Practiced-based research method.

### **3.1.1 Practiced-Based Research Method**

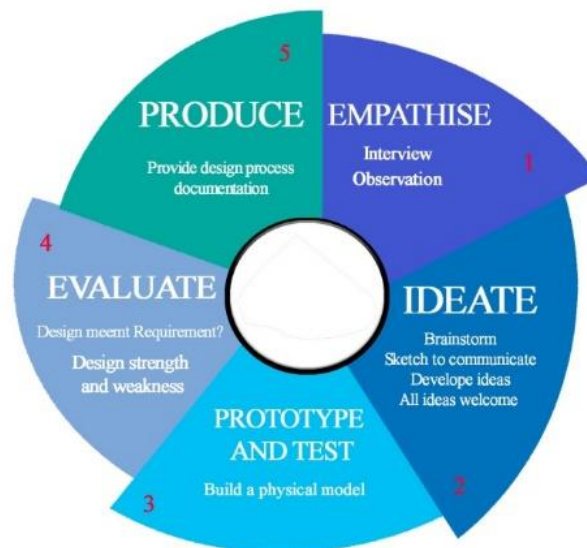
According to Candy and Edmonds (2018), a practice-based research is a type of research in which an investigation is done in order to gain new idea or knowledge by means of practice and the result of that practice. In a practice-based research, the emphasis is on the creative process and the artifact which is generated. This implies that practice and research are embedded in a way so as to generate a new idea or knowledge that can be shared and studied.

Prevailing from the above definition and statement, it can be established that, this project is considered as practice-based research. In this study, the emphasis was on the final art pieces as well as the step by step approach used in the execution of the work. A model describes the complete structure of a realistic feature, based on a logical standpoint. A model identifies basic thoughts and defines what reality is like and the situations under study (Clarke, 2007). The ideas which are identified in models are known as concepts. Models are designed or adopted to suit a particular research. The study took inspiration from the engineering design processes model (Figure 3.0) and constructed a new model (Figure 3.1) for the study.





**Figure 3.0: Design Thinking Process (Terrar, 2018)**  
 (Source: <http://www.interaction-design.org>)



**Figure 3.1: Design Process for Practiced Based Research (Boateng, 2019)**  
 (Author's source)

### 3.2.1 Empathise

Terrar (2018) opines that empathy is the foundation of a human-centred design process where one observes and engages with users to uncover their needs. The researcher utilized interviews and observation to gather relevant data for the study.

The target population included students and lecturers from the Faculty of Art – KNUST and Sunyani Technical University, Department of Visual and Industrial art. It also included SHS students specifically, Sunyani Senior School (SUSEC), business men and women, commercial drivers and art practitioners and unemployed graduates within Kumasi and Sunyani Metropolis. Table 3.1 gives the categorization of the accessible population.

The purposive sampling technique was adopted for this project. Leedy and Omron (2005) posit that purposive sampling technique helps in selecting respondents who can provide pertinent and truthful information for discussion. Moreover, Leedy and Ormond further stated that in purposive sampling, people and other objects are selected for a specific purpose. Therefore, the researcher adopted this technique to select peculiar people who provided relevant information for the study. It also helped the researcher to select various media and techniques for the execution of the art works.

In this project, observation and interview were the tools used in gathering data. According to Frankel and Wellen (1996) an interview is a careful asking of pertinent question(s) concerning a certain problem. They added that an interview is an important way for a researcher to check his or her impressions gained through observation. The study employed an unstructured interview to conduct the research. Basically, in an unstructured interview, the interviewer is interested in hearing from the interviewee, therefore varieties of open-ended questions were asked. This format was adopted by the researcher to help build attitude with the respondents and ensured a better ground for soliciting useful information. Face-to-face interviews were conducted for sixty (60) respondents. The responses gathered were then analysed using Excel.

**Table 3.1: Categorization of Accessible Population**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Accessible Population</b>
<b>Workers</b>	
Lecturers	10
Business men and women	15
Commercial Drivers	10
<b>Students</b>	
SHS Students	5
Tertiary	5
Unemployed Graduates	10
<b>Art Practitioners</b>	
Textile artist/Designers	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>

Ranjit (2005) asserts that observation is a persistent, logical and selective way of watching and listening to a conversation as it takes place. According to Best (1981), observation is in two forms, namely participant and non-participant. In a participant observation, the researcher is directly involved in the activities or situation which is being observed. This approach was employed by the researcher to observe certain techniques at the various studios visited which include Centre for National culture training centers (Kumasi and Sunyani), KNUST Textile Printing Studio and KNUST Painting and Sculpture Studio, in order to gain personal experience. However, non-participant observation was used by the researcher by visiting some selected galleries which are Savanna Centre for Contemporary Art (SCCA) in Tamale, Osu Art Centre (Accra), Centre

for National Culture (Kumasi and Sunyani) Blaxtaline (KNUST), Textile and Fashion gallery (KNUST) and Metal Design Gallery (KNUST) and also observing various forms of corrupt practices and this helped in establishing facts on the ground and through that ideas were developed. The subsequent pages discuss the outcome of the interview conducted.

### 3.2.1a. Discussion of Interview Results

In response to the question about the nature of corruption in Table 3.2, it was observed that, Fifty percent (50%) that is thirty (30) of the respondents stated “corruption is the act of taking or receiving money from a person before granting him or her favour.” Twenty percent (20%) of the respondents also said, “Corruption is the misappropriation of state resources for personal gains. In simple words, “embezzlement” while thirteen percent (13%) said corruption is about stealing. However, seventeen percent (17%) indicated that corruption is “hiding the truth or covering up wrong doing.

**Table 3.2: Respondents Understanding of Corruption**

<b>Nature of Corruption</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
The acting of talking or receiving money before helping them	30	50
Misappropriating public funds for personal gains/embezzlement	15	20
Stealing	5	13
Hiding the truth of covering up a wrong act	10	17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Field survey 2019**

In response to the forms of corruption in Ghana (Table 3.3). Ninety-seven point three percent (97.3%) mentioned money as the most form of corruption. Eight (8)

respondents representing one percent (1%) gave their views that corruption transcends taking money but take other forms like materials things, cars, and houses among others. While 1.2% pointed out that corruption can take other forms like sex.

**Table 3.3: The most common forms of corruption in Ghana**

<b>Forms of corruption</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Money/Cash	35	97.3
Materials (cars, houses, etc)	8	1
Favour	2	0.5
Others	15	1.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Field survey 2019**

Respondents' attitude towards corruption, in response to this question (Table 3.4), the researcher had two different views. Some of the respondents were of the view that, they will pay or accept bribe depending on the situation. Other respondents also said irrespective of the circumstances they will not accept or pay bribe. However, it was stated that, the "briber" and the "bribe" are both guilty of the offence. Thus, the person who gives bribe and the one who accepts are all victims of circumstances. About thirty-eight (38) of the respondents that is (58.6 %) are prepared to take or pay bribe because those who pay are of the view that in order to get into any public institution in Ghana, one need to offer bribe. Those who agreed to accept bribe also explained that this is because of the need for money. Strangely, it was deduced that, majority of the youth agreed on taking or paying bribe (SHS students, Tertiary Students and unemployment graduates) and this sends a bad signal as a country that our future is at stake.

However, wherever there are bad nuts, there are also good nuts. Not everyone in Ghana will take or pay bribe if given the nod. About fifteen (15) respondents representing (32%) said they will not pay or accept bribe because, the act is unacceptable and they want to eliminate corruption. Most of the respondents also mentioned the consequences involve when caught as a culprit. Interestingly, almost all the respondents mentioned imprisonment as a form of punishment for corrupt practices. Seven (7) respondents representing (9.4%) stated that they have not been a victim of circumstances before therefore they are not certain about that.

**Table 3.4: Altitude towards Corruption**

<b>Altitude toward Corruption</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Pay bribe	38	58.6
Will not pay bribe	15	32
Not certain	7	9.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Field survey 2019**

In response to how to reduce corruption (Table 3.5), 54.8% of respondents said that the role of citizens in the fight against corruption is to abstain from paying bribe to public officials. 16.7% also stated that they could use social media or the press as platform to expose any corrupt official, whereas 9.5% said citizens could also join or support anti-corruption campaign programmes. Regrettably, 11.9% expressed their opinions that, there is nothing they can do as an individual to reduce corruption in the country (Ghana).

**Table 3.5: Ways to Reduce Corruption**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Abstain from offering bribe	30	54.8
Expose corrupt officials through social media and press	15	16.7
Participate in awareness campaigns against corruption	5	9.5
There is nothing I can do as individual	10	11.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Field survey 2019**

Altitude on artistic imagery on corruption (Table 3.6), 60.5% said that it would be a very good and interesting idea. 25% also stated that it would be a good idea. However, 9.5% of the respondents expressed their views that, it would not be necessary.

**Table 3.6: Views on Artistic Imagery on Corruption**

<b>Response</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Very good	30	60.5
Good	25	25
Not necessary	5	9.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: field Survey, 2019**

### **3.2.1b Main Findings**

This interview was done to solicit relevant information on corruption in order to assist the researcher to select and develop concept-based images on corruption and also to ascertain the respondents' level of understanding on corruption. The following are some of the main observations made:

1. The study revealed that, bribery (the act of taking or receiving from people before offering or granting them help of favour) is the most common form of corruption in Ghana.
2. From the findings it can be established that majority of the respondents were ignorant that demanding sex or any other materials aside money is also a form of corruption since 97.8% of the respondents identified cash payment as the most common form of corrupt practices.
3. The findings show that majority of the respondents asserted they will resort to paying bribe to get things done for them. Surprisingly, majority of the respondents who stated they will resort to paying bribe were youth and this sends a bad signal for the future of Ghana if corruption is not nip in the bud as early as possible.
4. Apparently, 54.8% of the respondents stated the best remedy to curtail corruption in Ghana is to abstain from paying bribe to corrupt officials whereas 16.7% asserted they would use social media like Facebook, twitter and Instagram as a platform to expose corrupt officials or report any corruption case and 9.5% said there is nothing they can do.
5. Responses obtained on considering textile art as an alternative means to campaign against corruption in Ghana revealed that majority of the respondents representing 85.5% said it will be very good and interesting idea whiles 9.5% of the respondents disagreed.

From the findings it can be deduced that there is an urgent need to curtail corruption in Ghana because the youth who are the future leaders of the country agreed to resort to paying or receiving bribe when given the nod. This explicitly means that, the future of the



country is at risk. Moreover, there should be mass education on the various forms of corruption as majority of the respondents were ignorant on some form of corrupt practices apart from cash or money. Additionally, the researcher observed that concept-based art works stands to be very low when it comes to the art praxis therefore there is a need to improve its practice in the field of textile or any art discipline.

The results obtained from the interview served the basis for the production of the art works to meet its intended purposes and afforded the researcher to select and developed concept-based images on corruption through the exploration of mixed media techniques.

### **3.3 Ideate**

This stage entails the conceptualization, generation and development of ideas. This is where suitable materials were selected, making of sketches and development of design concepts.

#### **3.3.1 Tools and Materials used for the Project**

A tool can be defined as an item or implement used for a specific purpose. The researcher employed the following tools and materials for the execution of the work.

**Table 3.7: Tools and Materials**

<b>Tools</b>	<b>Uses</b>
Stapler	Use for stretching the canvas onto the frames
Cutting knife	Carving of images
Jig saw	Cutting of wood into desirable sizes and the frames of the spectacles
Pair of Scissors	For cutting fabrics and papers
Pressing iron	For removing creases from the fabric
Hammer	Moulding of frames
Brushes	For painting
<b>Materials</b>	

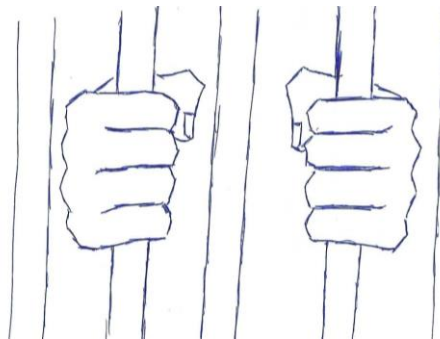
Colours	Act as a pigment for painting
Wood (2x2)	The material which was moulded into frame for8 the canvas to be stretched on.
Form	For cushioning
Plywood	Board onto which the spectacles were fixed on
Adhesives	For adhering fabrics onto the figures
Fabrics	For wrapping onto the figures and also as a support

### 3.3.2 Sketches of Concept-Based Images

Per the findings of the interviews conducted various visual images which are very communicative about corruption were illustrated and discussed below.

#### Behind Bars

The image in Figure 3.2 shows a hand holding metal rods. This explains a culprit behind bars and it is the consequences of wrong doing including corruption forms part. This is illustrated below.



**Figure 3.2: Behind Bars**

**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

#### Keep Quite

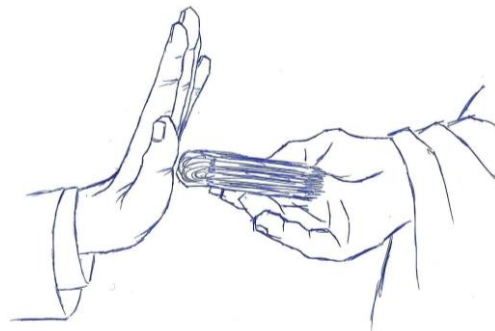
The image in Figure 3.3 shows a person whose fore finger is pointed up or a person who wants to say something but two hands are covering the mouth of the man.



**Figure 3.3: Keep Quite**  
(Source: Boateng, 2019)

### **My Integrity**

The illustration below shows two hands involved in communication. The hand on the left is refusing the offer by the giver on the right hand. The sketch depicts and fortifies the fight against corruption. As seen in Figure 3.4 below.



**Figure 3.4: My Integrity**  
(Source: Boateng, 2019)

### **My Vote, My Power**

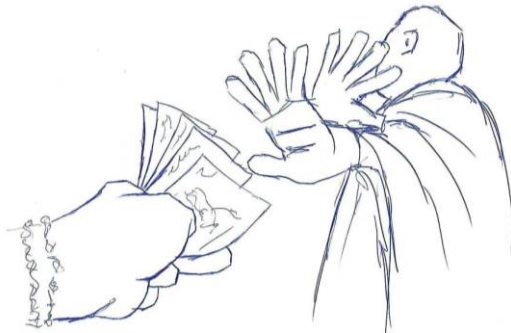
Figure 3.5 illustrated shows a person who is casting vote, but behind him he is holding something. This represents some electorates or delegates who collect money from politician before voting for them. People may assume this act is “normal” and does not cause any harm. However, it is also a form of corruption.



**Figure 3.5: My Vote, My Power**  
(Source: Boateng, 2019)

### **Resistance**

Figure 3.6 also defines a person who is rejecting money. It can be seen that, he does not even want to look at the money in order not to be persuaded. This indicates preventiveness and determination to defend one's integrity.



**Figure 3.6: Resistance**  
(Source: Boateng, 2019)

### **Consequences**

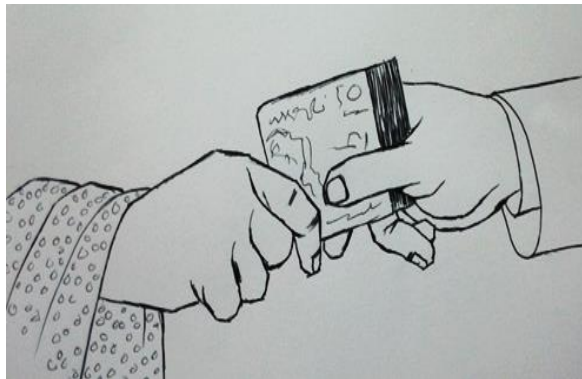
Figure 3.7 shows a person who is behind bars with handcuffs on his two hands. This interprets the result of wrong practices because the Bible says “a man reaps what he sows” so any choice which a person makes has its consequences.



**Figure 3.7: Consequences**  
(Source: Boateng, 2019)

### **Mutuality**

Figure 3.8 illustrates two hands in the act of giving and taking. This act can qualify to be called bribery which is a form of corruption. Bribe according to Tanzi (1993), is the act of taking or receiving money.



**Figure 3.8: Mutuality**  
(Source: Boateng, 2019)

### **Percentage**

The figure below defines a person who is signing a document in an exchange for an envelope. This shows what normally happens in Ghana. Before a contract is being awarded, the contractor has to buy the contract before he will be given the work.



**Figure 3.9: Percentage**  
**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

### **Wrong Benefits**

The last sketch also shows a person who is looking through a document, but at the same time has the other hand under a table collecting some amount of money (Figure 3.10). This indicates a person in higher authority who is using the public interest for private gain.



**Figure 3.10: Wrong Benefits**  
**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

### **Adinkra Symbols Used**

Figure 3.11 is an Adinkra symbol which is called “*Mate masie*”. The literal meaning of the word is “I have heard and kept silence”. This symbol represents the prudence of taking into consideration the conspiracy about a person.



**Figure 3.11: “Mate masie”**  
**([www.adinkrasymbols.org](http://www.adinkrasymbols.org))**

The Adinkra symbol “*Akobon*” (Figure 3.12) which literally means “war horn” symbolising faithfulness, commitment and service “*Akobon*” is a communicative instrument which is used to summon warriors to war. It connotes watchfulness and keenness.



**Figure 3.12: “Akoben”**  
**([www.adinkrasymbols.org](http://www.adinkrasymbols.org))**

The Adinkra symbol “*Akofena*” (Figure 3.13) which is sword is a symbol of authority. It represents dedication and services.



**Figure 3.13: “Akofena”**

([www.adinkrasymbols.org](http://www.adinkrasymbols.org))

The Adinkra symbol below (Figure 3.14) is known as “*Boa me na mmoa wo*” which literally means lets help each other. It is a symbol of solidarity and inter-dependence.



**Figure 3.14: “Boa me na mmoa wo”**

([www.adinkrasymbols.org](http://www.adinkrasymbols.org))

The Adinkra symbol shown in Figure 3.15 is called “*nsa kɔ,na nsa aba*” which literally means hand go and hand come. This symbol encourages the citizens to lend a helping hand to those in need. It represents the cooperation and support shown by people who are together to offer help towards the promotion of a good goal.





**Figure 3.15: “Nsa kɔ, na nsa aba”**

([www.adinkrasymbols.org](http://www.adinkrasymbols.org))

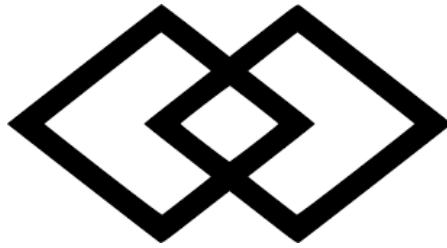
The Adinkra symbol is called “*Nyansapo*” (Figure 3.16) which literally means “wisdom knot. This symbol is a reserved symbol of the Akans and is a symbol of wise leadership, ingenuity and intelligence.



**Figure 3.16: “Nyansapo”**

([www.adinkrasymbols.org](http://www.adinkrasymbols.org))

“Epa” which means “handcuff”. It symbolises bondage. This symbol (Figure 3.17) reminds people that the law has no respecter of person, irrespective of who you are, if you offend, the law will deal with you.



**Figure 3.17: “Epa”**

([www.adinkrasymbols.org](http://www.adinkrasymbols.org))

### **3.3.3 Selection and Development of Concept-Based images on corruption**

#### **3.3.3a Idea Development (Design 1)**

The idea behind this design was chosen and developed by considering the various forms of corruption. In order to fully convey a message about the forms of corruption, the researcher found it prudent to use visual images which are communicative about corruption that is people looking through a document before signing the document, there are some exchange activities on going. There is also a police man who is collecting money from a civilian and a hand which is taking or receiving money on top of the police man. Adinkra symbols with conceptual meanings are depicted behind these corruptive acts to expose these negative practices. As illustrated below in Figure 3.18 (a &b)



**a**

**b**

**Figure 3.18(a,b): Composition of Design One**

(Source: Boateng, 2019)

### 3.3.3b Idea Development (Design 2)

The concept stemmed from this design is to draw the attention of the public that, corruption is not “*norm*” as it is termed in Ghana. However, every citizen has a role to play in combating corruption. Therefore the figures as seen below are refusing to resort to bribe. There are also adinkra symbols which have been attached to the design to buttress the statement. The selected figures for this design are Figure 3.3 and 3.4 as well as Figure 3.11 and 3.15 respectively as indicated in the composition (Figure 3.19).



**Figure 3.19: Composition of Design Two**  
(Source: Boateng, 2019)

### 3.3.3c Idea Development (Design 3)

The concept behind this idea generation was taking from the Book of Galatians (6:7) which says, “Whatever a person may sow, he or she will reap it”. The person behind bars teaches the consequences of practicing bad social vices such as corruption. Beneath the bars is an Adinkra symbol “*epa*” which literally means handcuff which has been attached to the design and it explains the uncompromising nature of the law. As shown in design 3 (Figure 3.20).



**Figure 3.20: Composition of Design Three**  
(Source: Boateng, 2019)

#### **3.3.3d Idea Development (Design 4)**

The concept deduced from this design portrays how sometimes the “society” suppresses loyal people from voicing out corrupt practices. This design shows a person who is trying to say something but he is being suppressed by authorities. This is depicted in Figure 3.21.

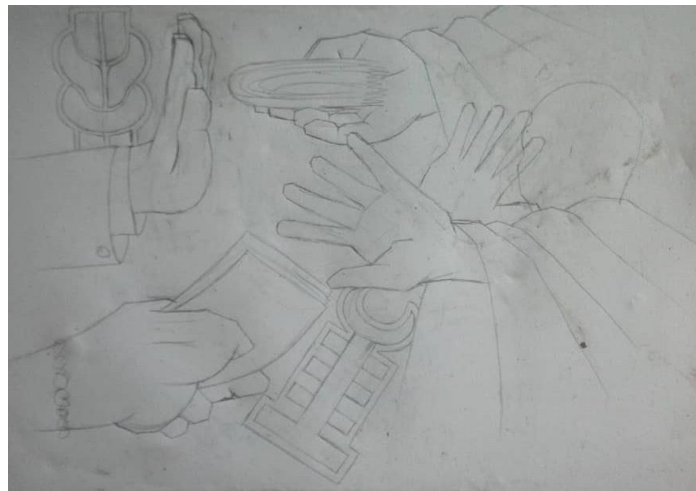


**Figure 3.21: Composition of Design Four**  
(Source: Boateng, 2019)

### 3.4 Prototype and Testing

According to Tarrar (2018), a prototype can be anything which takes physical form, be it a space, a model, an interface or even a storyboard. The researcher made a prototype to solicit information from the public whether the topic under consideration has achieved its intended purpose and also to know the feasibility of non-conventional textile materials intended for the work.

The prototype work is titled “Me man nti, enye menti” which literally means “For the sake of my country, not for my sake”. An illustration of people rejecting bribe were drawn on paper. The techniques employed were adhesive bonding, painting, carving and applique. The materials used were canvas fabric, fabric scraps, Styrofoam and papers. Shown in Figure 3.22.



**Figure 3.22: An Illustration of the Prototype (design 2)**

**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

In the exploration to achieve a three dimensional effect, a thick styrofoam was used for the skins of all the figures. The transferred skins were then traced onto the styrofoam for carving. From the fore going, the skins were carved out by the use of a cutting knife and then adhered onto the canvas in Figure 3.23.



**Figure 3.23: Adhering of figures onto the Canvas**  
**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

The figures as well as the background of the work were painted. The paintings reveal middle tones, the high lights and the reflected lights as shown in Plate 3.1 (a, b, c & d).



**a**



**b**



**c**



**d**

**Plate 3.1 (a, b, c & d): Painting of Figures**

The fabrics were cut to conform to the design of the Adinkra symbols which were fixed onto the canvas with the help of an adhesive. The figures were all wrapped with fabrics and then left to dry.



**Plate 3.2: Fixing of fabrics to the various figures**

**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

The monies were cut out from brown papers and were painted using the concept of simulation for Ghanaian currency specifically fifty cedis (C50).



**Plate 3.3: “Me man nti, ε nyε men nti” (Final work)**

**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

### **3.4 Evaluate**

Evaluation according to Maheshwari (2017) is the act or process that gives one the opportunity to make a general judgment about the value of a thing through, observations, interviews, and questionnaires among others. The researcher after prototyping tested the work by posting it on Facebook to seek the views of the audience as to whether the objective for the project has been achieved. Majority were overwhelmed and stated that, it is a very interesting art piece and powerful means of education since a work of art attracts viewers' attention. Interestingly, the title of the work is among some of the suggested titles from the audience. Some gave their critics and expressed their opinions concerning the work and these criticisms and suggestions aided the researcher to get in-depth ideas for the subsequent works.

However, the researcher observed that, the art pieces can be used interiorly but not exteriorly. The reason being that, glue (adhesive) is a water solution object and for that matter if the works are displayed outside and it comes into contact with rain, the glue will lose its adhesive and cohesive power. Carving of a Styrofoam needs skills and patience and it is a very time consuming process.

In spite of this negative analysis, the art piece is very communicative and has been able to serve its intended purpose. It has also revealed that every waste material can be recycled into a useful product. The study utilizes fabric scraps and abandoned Styrofoam in the execution of the art pieces which to some extent is helping in finding a lasting solution to sanitation problems which is confronting the country. Additionally, the use of these materials has created the possibilities of using other materials for textile artwork.

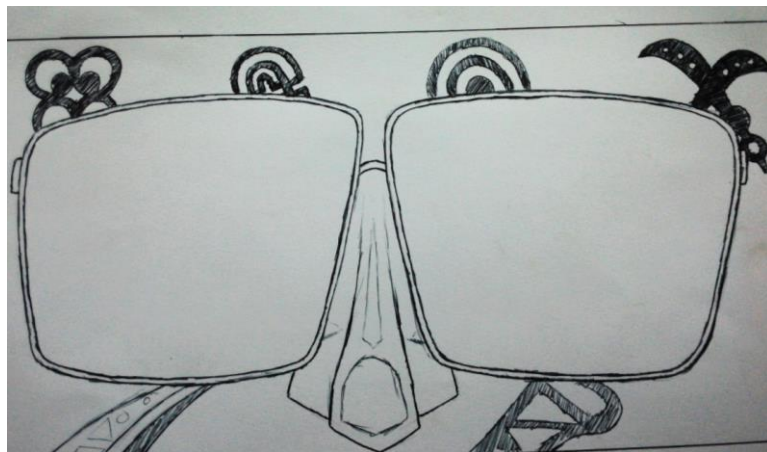


### **3.5 Produce**

This stage explains the production stage of the work. After prototyping and testing the work, the researcher was then certain on the appropriate choice of support and materials to use as well as visual images which were very communicative to meet the objective of the study. Different kinds of base materials (fabrics) were used for the works which were of different dimensions. A base material with a dense width was used for the project to ensure that the background of the work is stable. In this unit, the researcher describes the orderly processes followed in producing each project work.

#### **3.5.1 Project One (The Perspective of Corruption)**

A skeletal framework was sketched on a paper to ascertain the outcome of the final piece, as seen in Figure 3.24.



**Figure 3.24: A Skeletal Layout**

**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

Materials used in executing this project includes: plywood, fabrics, foams (Styrofoam and normal foam) and papers. The techniques employed were carving, adhesive bonding, painting and applique. Critically, observing the sketch, the researcher decided to use plywood as the spectacle's glasses. A black velvet material was be used to

cover the plywood which will serve as the spectacle glasses. To begin the construction of the spectacle, the spectacle glasses outline was made on plywood to the appropriate size desired. The sketched glasses were cut out from the plywood with the help of a gig saw machine. As seen in Plates 3.4.



**Plate 3.4: Carved Plywood.**

**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

In order to get a raised surface and a concave effect of the spectacles, flat foam was fixed on the plywood and then covered with a black velvet material. This is shown in Plate 3.5.



**Plate 3.5: Covering the Glass Frame with Velvet.**

**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

The composed idea from the above was transferred onto the prepared spectacle glasses which were made. After this, portions to be carved were then traced onto a Styrofoam and carved out. The carved images were then fixed onto the spectacle with an adhesive. The illustration is shown in Plate 3.6.



a



b

**Plate 3.6 (a & b): Transferring of Carved Images onto Substrate**

**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

The background as well as the carved images were painted with acrylic paint and bristle brush to give the work a special touch and appeal. The colours were carefully arranged from dark tones, middle tones to light tones. The reflected lights were also indicated on the figures to bring the 3-dimensional view of the work. These are captured in Plate 3.7 (c, d, e & f).



c



d



e



f

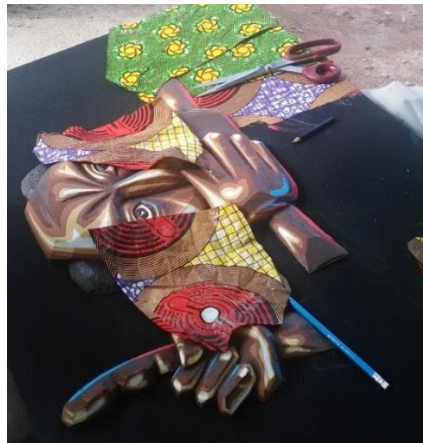
**Plate 3.7 (c, d, e & f): Painting of Background and Images**

**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

After drying the paintings, the next target was the clothes for the figures. The clothes were carefully selected based on the background colours and the role that a particular figure is playing in the composition. Contrast and harmony were the key principles which guided the selection of the fabrics for the work. The fabrics were ironed neatly and then glued on each figure. These are shown in Plate 3.8(g & h).



g



h

**Plate 3.8 (g & h): Arrangement of fabric onto the various figures**

**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

From then, the pieces of fabrics were cut out to suite their confined area with a pair of scissors. The Adinkra symbols too were not left out. These cut out clothes were fixed

car of Boateng (2019). Design of the artwork is shown in Plate 3.9 (I & J).



i

j

**Plate 3.9 (i & j): Wrapping of Fabrics onto the Various Images.**

**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

The monies, documents and envelopes depicted in the work were all cut and pasted. The monies were then painted to suite the current currency in Ghana. These can be seen in Plates 3.10 (k & l).



k

l

**Plate 3.10 (k & l): Progress of Work**

**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

Finally, the canvas on which the spectacle would be mounted and fixed was prepared by priming and painting. In order to achieve a sharp contrast, pale colours were used for the canvas to make the work stand out vividly. Since spectacles were have frames by using a flexible bending plastic rode.



**Plate 3.11“The Perspective of Corruption” (Final Work)**

**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

**3.5.2 Project Two (Behind the Scenes)**

Project two is titled “Behind the scenes”. The sketch was transferred onto the canvas to the appropriate size. After that, the transferred sketch was traced onto a Styrofoam for carving. The sketch on the Styrofoam was carved out and fixed onto their various positions with glue. The materials used were fabric scraps of different colours, paint, canvas, glue, and Styrofoam. The fabric scraps was used for the ‘Adinkra symbol” in the design, the paints was use to paint the hands holding the metals as well as painting

of the metal rods and the background. The canvas serves as the base materials for the project and the Styrofoam was the materials from which the figure was carved.



**Figure 3.25: Fixing of Carved Image onto Canvas**  
(Source: Boateng, 2019)

The background was painted first followed by the main figures with a dark brown colour. After drying, the middle tones were painted followed by the high lights and the reflected lights. The prison bars too were later on painted to reveal the realistic view of prison bars. This is captured in Plates 3.12 (a & b).



**Plate 3.12 (a & b): Progress of Work**  
(Source: Boateng, 2019)

An “Adinkra symbol” was traced onto a piece of fabric scrap and cut out to the conformed image and glued to give a finished touch to the work. A black wire was then framed around the work to give it a special effect. The techniques which were adopted were applique, carving, adhesive bonding and painting.



**Plate 3.13 : “Behind the Scenes” (Final Work)**

**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

### **3.5.3. Project Three (The Oppressors Rule)**

The sketch was transferred onto the canvas to the appropriate size. The portions which were meant to protrude were transferred onto the Styrofoam and then carved out. The carved out figures were then fixed onto the canvas. This is shown in Figure 3.26.





**Figure 3. 26: Transferring the Image onto Canvas**  
**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

The figures were then painted with dark brown colour. The middle tone was detailed out followed by the high lights and reflected lights. This can be seen in Plates 3.14.



**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

Fabrics were finally cut to conformed respective images sizes and were fixed onto the figures as seen in Plate 3.15.



**Plate 3.15: “The Oppressors Rule” (Final Work)**  
**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

In a nut shell, four works were produced. The sizes of project two and three are 4 x 2 feet respectively. Project one measures 6 x 8 feet while the prototype design also measures 4 x 2. These works can function as textiles mural and can be done on the interior walls of various ministerial offices in Ghana and museums as well as tourist site. They can also be used as wall hangings in art gallery, offices, theatres and auditoriums to serve as a communicative tool to create awareness on the danger of corruption and also to show case the practical feasibility of using mixed-media in textile art.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### 4.0. Overview

This chapter presents and appreciate (discuss) the final works made to campaign against corruption in Ghana. Four works were produced and they reveal concepts generated from some corrupt practices. These concept generated images portrayed the negative effects of corruption as well as the various forms or types of corruption. It also discusses the significance of the projects and their respective places to be mounted.

#### 4.1: Project One



Plate 4.1: “Me man nti”

(Source: Boateng, 2019)

The work labelled Plate 4.1 is titled “*Me man nti, enye me nti*” which literally means, “For the sake of my country, not my own”. This is one of the Akans proverbial sayings and it teaches dedication, truthfulness, intelligence and honesty as recited in the Ghana pledge “I pledge myself to uphold and defend the good name of Ghana, so help me God”. This is a very short statement but very powerful, upholding in other words means to cherish, to value and to protect, so if one loves and cherish something he or she will not mishandle it. “To defend” also means, no matter the circumstances, he or she will be patriotic. The main focus was on the monetary aspect of corruption since most of the corrupt practices are in the form of money. It is said that where there are bad nuts, there are also good nuts. While some will resort to collecting bribe, others will reject it. Considering the multi-coloured bright background of the design, it connotes, irrespective of our background or the type of job we do, corruption can be avoided. Moreover, most corrupt practices are done in the dark, so this multi-coloured bright background tells us that, the true nature of corruption can be revealed. This evidently confirms (John 1:5) which says, “The light will shine in darkness and darkness will not understand it” (The Good News Bible).

It could be identified in the work that corruption can emerge from anywhere, any person and in any discipline. The figure on top in political suit represents few politicians who are patriotic to their country and who also reject bribe. When corruption is mentioned, it is mostly attributed to politicians with the notion that all politicians are corrupt. However, according to (Psalm 139: 14), human beings are fearfully and wonderfully made. Thus each individual has a unique character or behaviour. It is not every politician who is corrupt or is involved in corruption practices. The other figure also illustrates a person trying to

influence a traditional leader with money. Nevertheless, the traditional leader being mentally strong has objected and do not even want to have a look at it in order not to be persuaded because Apostle Paul (n.d) stated that. “For the love of money is the root of all evil” (New Living Translation). As already stated by the researcher, corruption can occur in any discipline, so the cloth on the figure rejecting the money can be interpreted that, he is a traditional leader or ruler. According to Howard, Sarpong and Amakwah (2015), the patterns in African prints can symbolise proverbs, poems and traditional African stories whereas the colours can also symbolise the status of a person and ethnic group. The way in which the cloth has been wrapped around him also indicates a traditional ruler. There have been instances where a chief can sell a piece of land to three or four people. Most politicians also bribe most of the traditional rulers during election time in other to gain their favour.

The researcher fixed two Adinkra symbols in the design to strengthen the idea of campaigning against corruption. Abissah (2004) asserts that, Adinkra symbols have proverbial meanings and proverbs play a significant role in Asante’s culture. Some adinkra symbols also portray historical events, human behaviour and altitudes. The first Adinkra symbol from the top is called “*Nyansapɔ*” which literally means “wisdom knot”. This symbol is a reserved symbol of the Akans and is a symbol of good leadership, ingenuity and intelligence. It teaches that, a person has the ability to choose the best means to accomplish a goal. The second adinkra symbol known as “*Akobɛn*” which means “War Horn”. This sign according to Amoah (2019), is used to sound a battle cry. The sound warns others of impending danger so they can prepare for an attack and set up defence to

protect their territory from the enemy. Corruption is an enemy to a nation, society or a state and every citizen have to rise up to fight against it from all disciplines.

#### 4.3: Project Two - The Perspective of Corruption



**Plate 4.2: The Perspective of Corruption**

**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

Plate 4.2 is titled “perspective of corruption”. It indicates the forms of corruption. The researcher chose to work on a spectacle as a base material. This metaphorically implies that, one must be very vigilant in perceiving something. This work reveals the types of corruption which according to Andvig (2001) are grand corruption, petty corruption and private corruption. The various types of corruption are depicted in the work. The activities on the right side of the spectacles identify two types of corruption which are political and grand corruption”. Elaine (2009) posits, political corruption is similar to grand corruption in the sense that, both involve decision makers and law enforcers abusing their power or

using their office to acquire wealth. It can be observed that, some top officials are seen taking bribe before awarding contracts.

This scenario is one of the many examples which normally happens before a contract is awarded. One has to pay a certain percentage of money before giving a work. Furthermore, an Adinkra symbol "*Nsa kɔ na, nsa aba*" which literally means hand go and hand come. This symbol encourages and teaches the citizens to lend a helping hand to those in need. It also represents the cooperation and support shown by people who are together to offer help towards the promotion of a cause but contextually, this Adinkra symbol connotes that one has to offer something before he or she can also get something in return. Another adinkra symbol can also be seen beneath the figures, "*Boa me na me mmoa wo*" which literally means "help me to help you". It is a symbol of collaboration and inter-dependency.

The symbol actually represents the need to transform the world by creating a space that promotes inter-dependency and cooperation among a group of people towards a greater goal. However, the researcher chose to fix this Adinkra symbol in this context to enlighten the popular saying "you scratch my back, I scratch your back" which implies "give what you have, to get what you want. These practices have diverse effect and eat deep into the economic fabric of a nation resulting in roads which are in deplorable state and misallocation of resources. Elaine (2001) confirms, political and grand corruption distort decision making and also leads to misallocation of resources.

The left eye of the spectacle explains another type of corruption which is petty or minor corruption. Petty corruption which is also known as bureaucratic corruption is the day-to-day corruption in which bureaucrats demand or take money from the civilians to

satisfy their basic needs. Riley (1999) affirms, petty corruption is the contribution of small monies that aids junior officials in the public service. Although it is called petty and the amounts involved are often small, the accumulated amount often reaches billions of dollars (Matsheza, 2007). This affirms the quotation from (Songs of Solomon 2:15) “catch all the foxes because little foxes spoil the vine” (New Living Translation). This means petty corruption should be nip in the bud because its pettiness will later grow to become grand. At a critical look, it can be seen that, a police officer who is a law enforcer seen as focused but is indirectly accepting a bribe. The Adinkra symbols “*Mmra krado*” and “*Nokore*” rendered in the work speak of how people or citizens see police officers and judiciary as epitome of enforcement and peace making. The symbol “*mmra krado*” represents justice and authority and the symbol “*Nokore*” is a symbol of truth. These symbols inspire truth and transparency in everything we do as citizens in a country. However, these institutions been seen as epitome of law enforcement and peace making according to IEA report (2015) indicates, the police institution is ranked as the most corrupt institution in Ghana followed by the Judiciary. Evidently, a renowned journalist in Ghana by name Anas Aremeyaw Anas exposed some corrupt magistrates in Ghana who were caught accepting bribe.

The spectacles were then fixed on a board to act as a support to hold them together. In between the spectacles is a nose which metaphorically is a road full of pot holes. This shows some negative effects of corruption. Tanzi and Davoodi (1997) showed that, corruption leads to misappropriation of resources and also affects economic growth by diverting state properties for a personal gain. Abstracted Adinkra symbols were also used which include “*akofena*” (symbol of authority), “*akoben*” (readiness and preparedness for action), “*mmra krado*” (symbol of justice) and “*Metemmasie*” (symbol of knowledge and



wisdom) on the supporting canvas. This art piece can be mounted in art galleries to act as a communicative tool and it will also help textile artist to also used similar materials or method to tackle other social issues.

#### **4.3: Project Three - The Oppressors Rule**



**Plate 4.3: The Oppressors Rule**

**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

The title of this work is “The Oppressors Rule”. This work meant to generate many thoughts and ideas. Its intended purpose is to generate many thoughts in the minds of viewers which are one characteristic feature of contemporary art. An oppressor is a ruler or superior who compels his people; a tyrant or an autocratic person. Ghana is believed to be among the top countries which practice democracy and according to the anthem of Ghana, there is a portion which reads “to resist oppressors rule “meaning dictatorship rule

is not encouraged in the country. Moreover, Ghana's constitution calls for a system where there are checks and balances, share of power between a president, a single-house parliamentary system, a council of state and an independent judiciary which are being put into practices.

The perception for portraying this is based on the oppression in corruption. It is believed that, people are seen practicing corruption in work places but due to some circumstances we cannot voice it out. Holmes (1993) reveals, fear is a factor which facilitates people to act corruptly. For instance, a junior staff may fear to loose his or her job if he or she does not act as his or her corrupt superior. Under this circumstance, it is either you join them or stay away. The figure in the Plate 4.3 is an elderly person who is trying to comment on a wrong social act but he is being silenced by the strong and powerful hands of leading figures. Arguably, there have been some instances where some media personalities have been persecuted in their attempt to unveil bad practices in their society.

Holmes (1993) suggests that, "*nepotism* is another factor which contributes to corruption. Thus "blood is thicker than water" syndrome is a factor which contributes to corruption and there is also an Akan adage which supports the above statement, "*Bebia a ye didi ko no, yennsei ho*", which literally means the hands that feeds you should not be condemned". So it will be very difficult to expose a person who helped or is helping you. So in a nut shell, oppression and superiority are great factors of corruption. The work is suitable for wall hangings, and can also be adopted by the media to educate the public during Press Freedom Day.

#### 4.4: Project Four - “Behind the Scenes”



**Plate 4.4. “Behind the Scenes” (Final Work)**

**(Source: Boateng, 2019)**

The overall concept behind Plate 4.4 is just to draw the attention of viewers on the consequences of corrupt practices. In life, every choice has its consequences. In supporting this statement, (Galatians 6:7), says “any person will reap what he sows” (The Good News Bible). This composition is a person behind bars creating the awareness on the consequences of practicing corruption. The two hands holding the iron bars represent the end of the corruption journey for each individual. The researcher decided to paint the background of the work with black paint to symbolize out of sight. When there is a black out in one’s life, everything comes to a standstill.

Additionally, the researcher fixed an Adinkra symbol beneath the bars with African print to symbolize the originality of the work and the end users as well. The Adinkra symbol known as “*Epa*” which means handcuff, a symbol of bondage is there to create an awareness that there is punishment for any person who falls victim of being corrupt.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 5.1 Summary

Textile art serves as a means of communicating events, beliefs, practices and identity amongst others to the general public. Textile art has played significant roles in contributing to consumers satisfaction and admiration because of their meaning and aesthetic qualities. Textile art also acts as a therapy by promoting self-management of many illness related problems including fatigue, pain and worry (Reynolds, 2004). This project has unearthed the possibility of using non-conventional textile materials (such as Styrofoam and wood) and techniques (painting and Carving) in the production of textile art. The objective of the study was to select and develop suitable concept-based images of corruption and to produce textile art forms with developed concept-based images of corruption using non-conventional and conventional textile materials and techniques. According to Dowuona-Hammond (2015), creation of concept-based art with non-conventional and conventional textile materials is a very tightfitting exercise; however, every bit of it is remarkable.

This project began with an introduction, followed by the review of related literature on the topic under discussion. Libraries were also visited for the review of related literature so as to set the foundation for the project to be carried out. Other information were also gathered from the internet, journals and magazines to support the project. The primary source of information was gathered from Lecturers, commercial vehicle drivers, businessmen and businesswomen, students and practitioners in the field of textiles. This helped to develop suitable images which are very communicative to help achieve the set

objectives for this project. Research instruments adopted for the study were interview and observation. A step-by step procedure in the execution of the study has also been presented.

## **5.2. Conclusion**

Corruption is an enemy to any state and for that matter should not be entertained. Corruption has caused the down fall of many countries and has also led many stakeholders failed completely. In Ghana, many presidents and various institutions have tried their best to solve or bury corruption but to no avail. But the study revealed that art communicates ideas and expresses feeling, therefore art can be used as alternative medium to help create awareness in the fight against corruption.

The researcher sought to communicate his ideas and feelings through visual images to contribute his quota on this national menace because many contemporary artists have done similar things to help develop their countries. The outcome of the project revealed that, textile art can be developed from verbal themes by converting them into visual images. This can be possible by using concepts through idea development.

Communication is said to be complete when the message being carried across is understood by the recipient. Harper and Douglas (2018) confirm communication is the act relaying information from one person to another by using mutually understood symbols and signs. Based on the findings, the researcher deduced that in order to achieve this form of communication which was the main objective of this research, images that have direct meaning and relationship with corruption have to be utilized. Most of the images that were generated and used for the project were developed by the researcher as a result of brainstorming and also soliciting other views from friends, the general public as well as the internet.

The outcome of this research would be very useful because concept-based textile works were produced to educate the public on dangers associated with corruption. This research has also enlightened most people on various forms of corruption because from the findings, it was observed that, majority thought corruption is all about bribery without knowing the other forms of corruption.

### **5.3 Recommendations**

The believe that, bribery (corruption) is a “norm “and for that everyone practices it should be discourage. The study recommends the following:

1. The fight against corruption is not the duty of only president, the law enforcement agencies, the judiciary and the media house but citizens also has a role to play. Therefore, the researcher recommends that citizens should expose anybody who engages in corrupt practices irrespective of the person being a family member, friend and a superior.
2. The researcher recommends that the media should be given the maximum cooperation in their operation because the exposure of corrupt practices in the country cannot be complete without the role of the media.
3. It is recommended that, the local textile industries should veered into textile art production so as to foster creativity and sustainability.
4. Textile art producers should also consider concept-based textile art to help deal with some social menace.
5. The teaching of concept generation or idea development should be encouraged in secondary, technical and tertiary institutions in Ghana so as to enhance the level of creativity among students.

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## **APPENDICES**

### **Appendix 1: Interview Guide for Lecturers**

1. What is your name?
2. What course do you teach?
3. What is corruption?
4. Are you familiar with some types or forms of corruption?
5. What are some of the causes of Corruption?
6. What is your attitude towards corruption
7. Do you think representing the imagery of corruption artistically can help educate people?

## **Appendix 2: Interview guide for students/Unemployed Graduates**

1. What is your name?
2. What programme are you offering/offered?
3. Have you heard of corruption? If yes, what idea do you have about corruption?
4. What do you think are some of the causes of corruption?
5. Will you pay bribe when you are requested to in order to get a job or gain admission into any institution?
6. Do you think corruption can be curtailed in Ghana?
7. Do you think educating the public on corruption through art will be necessary?
8. What are some of the negative effects of corruption?

### **Appendix 3: Interview Guide for Commercial Vehicle Drivers**

1. What is your name?
2. What type of vehicle do you drive?
3. How do you understand corruption?
4. Have you offered bribe before?
5. What do you kind are some of the causes of corruption?
6. Do you think corruption can be eradicated?
7. What role can you play as a citizen in eradicating corruption in Ghana?
8. Do you think representing the imagery of corruption artistically can help educate people?

#### **Appendix 4: Interview for Businessmen and Businesswomen**

1. What is your name?
2. What kind of “goods’ do you normally trade in?
3. Are you familiar with the term “Corruption?  
If yes, how do you understand corruption?
4. Have you in any case offered or pay bribe for a favour before?  
If yes, what form did it take?
5. What are some of the possible causes of corruption in Ghana?
6. Do you kind corruption can be stopped in Ghana
7. Do you think painting images that speak against corruption will be relevant?