

Name : Kwamena Ahwoi
Government Administration : J.J. Rawlings (2nd Admin)
Designation: Local Government Minister
Duration : 1997-2001



Kwamena Ahwoi was born on October 13, 1951 at South Suntreso, Kumasi in the Ashanti Region. He pursued his 'O level' at the Okuapeman School at Akropong Akuapem and later continued to Opoku Ware School.

From 1971 to 1974, Prof. Ahwoi was enrolled at the faculty of law at the University of Ghana. He studied Bachelor of Civil Law (BCL) on a Rhodes scholarship at Oxford University as his post-graduate course in 1975.

He became a full-time lecturer at the University of Ghana in the faculty of law from 1982 to 1993. On 31 December 1981, he was moderating a New Year class in Legon when Jerry John Rawlings asked him to report to the Gonda Barracks of the Ghana armed Forces to join the PNDC. After spending time in politics he went back into academia and lectured at the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration, a tertiary institution in Ghana.

Between January and August 1982, he acted as the special aid to Chairman Jerry John Rawlings and his first major assignment was to join a delegation and negotiate with President Shehu Shagari of Nigeria to restore oil supply to Ghana. President Shehu Shagari had truncated oil supplies to Ghana in protest of the 4 June revolution.

From 1982 to 1987, he managed the Judicial, and Quasal arms of the 4 June Revolution. He was among 27 people selected to develop a roadmap for development as the country was preparing to move into its Fourth Republic. They developed the District Political Authority and Modalities for District Level Election which was popularly called the 'Blue Book'.

He served as Director of the Office of Revenue Commissioners, Investigations and Tribunals between 1982 and 1988.

He was Secretary (Minister) for Local Government and Rural Development and also acted as the acting secretary for Foreign Affairs during the PNDC regime. During his term in the office of Foreign Affairs, he attempted to unify the NDC with the National Reform Party, and he sent troops to join the Nigerian-led ECOMOG in quelling the Sierra Leone Civil War after a coup in 1997. After the NDC lost in the election of 2000, Ahwoi was critical of the New Patriotic Party government, and worked to reduce factionalism in the NDC. In 2005, he resigned as Director of Research for the NDC.

As an academic and a knowledgeable politician Ahwoi has written four books in relation to local governance, decentralization and history in Ghana's politics.

Books

- Decentralization in Ghana: A Collection of Essays.
- Enhancing the Decentralization Programme: District Assemblies and Sub-structures as Partners in Governance.
- Local Government and Decentralization in Ghana Working with Rawlings

Kwamena Ahwoi is married with 4 children.

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