



HIROSHIMA UNIVERSITY

Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences  
The International Peace & Coexistence Programme

# Nima-Maamobi in Ghana's Postcolonial Development Migration, Islam and Social Transformation

How do slum dwellers in West Africa navigate the challenges of marginality and vulnerability, while also leveraging social bonds to address economic hardships? Can social and spatial order be identified within the apparent disorder of urban slums? How did interactions between 14th-century Muslim traders and 15th-century European merchants, mercenaries, and missionaries shape West African slums' cultural evolution and migration patterns? What norms govern gender relations in these areas? Drawing on archival and auto-ethnographic sources—including personal immersion as an urban dweller since the early 1980s—this presentation examines migration, religion, gender, and urban governance in inner-Muslim areas of Accra, historically known as the Zongos. It highlights Agnes Amoah's leadership, as the first woman to lead the community during Ghana's decentralization in the 1980s, integrating Nima and Maamobi into Accra's governance.



A LECTURE BY

**Dr. Charles Prempeh**

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology

Dr. Charles Prempeh is a visiting associate professor at the African Studies Center, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, and a Research Fellow at the Centre for Cultural and African Studies, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana. He holds a PhD from the University of Cambridge and an MPhil in African Studies from the University of Ghana. His interdisciplinary research covers migration, gender, and religion in African societies, as seen in his recent publications: *Youth Activism in Modern Politics in Ghana* (2024); *The Political Economy of Heaven and Earth in Ghana* (2023); *Gender, Sexuality and Decolonisation in Postcolonial Ghana* (2023); and *Nima-Maamobi in Ghana's Postcolonial Development* (2022).

**The 38th International  
Peace & Coexistence Seminar**

Co-organized with the African Studies Center,  
Tokyo University of Foreign Studies

**Thursday, 21 November 2024  
16:20–17:50**

**IDEC Large Conference Room**

For inquiries or more information, contact Prof Mari Katayanagi at [marikat@hiroshima-u.ac.jp](mailto:marikat@hiroshima-u.ac.jp)