

Local Government Minister Eulogises the Founding Director of ILGS, the Late Prof. S. N. Woode



29th August, 2025: The Minister for Local Government, Chieftaincy and Religious Affairs, Hon. Ahmed Ibrahim has eulogized the late Prof. Samuel Nunoo Woode, praising his commitment to honesty, accountability and service to humanity. He made these observations at the 2nd

Memorial Biennial Lecture of Prof. S.N. Woode, who served as the founding Director of the Institute of Local Government Studies (ILGS).

The Memorial Biennial Lecture has been institutionalized by the Institute together with the family of the late Prof. S. N. Woode as well as the Public Services Commission (PSC) and the University of Ghana Business School (UGBS), to preserve the legacies and service excellence of Prof. Woode. The maiden lecture was held on 21st July, 2023 to coincide with the 20th Anniversary of the promulgation of the Institute of Local Government Studies Act, 2003 (Act 647). It is envisaged that the series of lectures would help fashion out solutions for the betterment of society and create a platform to encourage conversations on public administration and ethics.

The theme for the Second Memorial Lecture is: “Building capacity for professionalism and ethical conduct in Ghana’s local governance system”, which was delivered by the renowned Prof. Kwamena Ahwoi on Friday, 29th August, 2025.



In delivering his remarks as the Special Guest of Honour, Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim espoused the legacies of Prof. Woode and indicated that while serving in public life, the late Prof. Woode stood as a model for persons who aspired to serve with dignity in public life. Hon. Ahmed Ibrahim indicated that

despite efforts made in ensuring effective service delivery, public trust and confidence in the local governance system continue to wane. If this problem persists, the country will be failing to protecting the remarkable legacies and values championed by Prof Woode. He therefore reminded local government practitioners about the importance

of upholding and adhering to the highest ethical standards and professional conduct in the discharge of their public duties.

He commended the Institute of Local Government Studies (ILGS) for preserving the memory of Prof S.N. Woode through the biennial lectures and entreated management to reconsider instituting other lecture series to honour compatriots who have and continue to work tirelessly in ensuring effective decentralisation and local governance in Ghana.

To this end, he pleaded that the contributions and legacies of Prof. Kwamena Ahwoi, a man he described as a distinguished professor and father of Ghana's decentralization and local governance ought to be commemorated by the ILGS as well.