



**WIDOWS AND ORPHANS MOVEMENT  
(WOM)  
2017 ANNUAL REPORT**









# Table of **CONTENTS**

Director' Message	4
Board of Directors	5
Management and Staff	6
Partners	7
History and Background	8
Projects and Activities	9
Success Stories	12
Challenges	15
Way forward	15
Financials	17
Appendix	19





## Message from the **NATIONAL DIRECTOR**

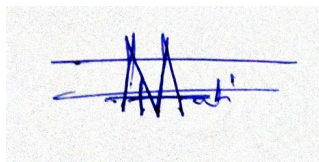
Once again, 2017 has come to an end and we remain most grateful to all our supporters both in kind and cash whose efforts continue to sustain us and help us grow. I choose to call them friends and brethren. Just as king solomon said “*A friend loveth at all times, A brother is born for adversity*”; Not only have you stood for and with us, we have also been helped to stand on our own through thick and thin.

WOM was privileged to secure two new projects in 2017, that will run for 2 to 3 years in addition to the existing projects. They include the young urban women’ project and the Adaptation fund project which will focus on empowering widows via the Baobab value chain.

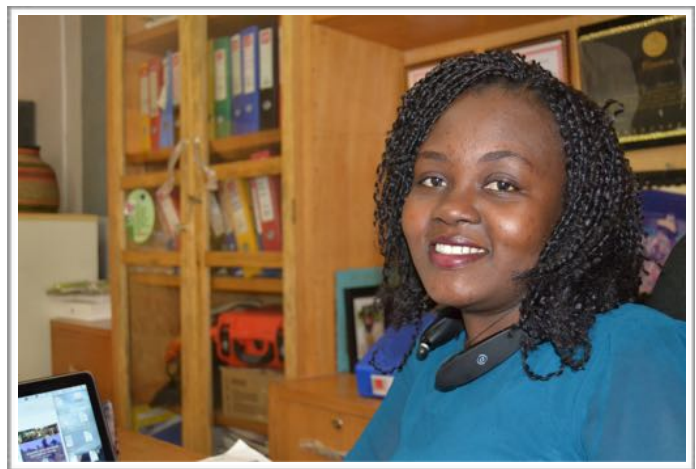
Unfortunately EDAIF ended their support for the mango plantation project. But we are determined to continue the project till we start reaping the benefits.

The ever-hard working Board and staff of WOM who make so many sacrifices to serve the vulnerable continued to put on their best ensuring that we put smiles on the faces of widows and orphans . We remain grateful for all the support that WOM has received in 2017 from partners, donors and volunteers from all over the world without whom, it would not have been possible for the great work accomplished.

Widows and Orphans must live a life of dignity and we are determined to ensure that this happens. Join the team to create the change that must happen.



Fati Abigail Abdulai



*“A friend  
loveth at all  
times, A  
brother is  
born for  
adversity”  
-King  
Solomon*



# Board of **DIRECTORS**

*WOM remains thankful to all members of the Board for their support and hard work over the years. Their dedication and guidance has been an great anchor.*

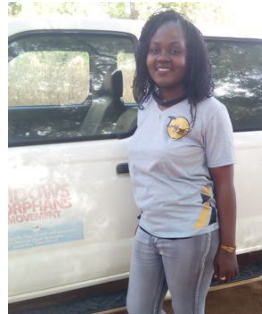
<b>Mr. Yen Nyeya</b> <i>Board Chair</i> <i>(Development consultant)</i>	<b>Ms. Fulera Limann</b> <i>Vice-Chair</i> <i>(Widow)</i>
<b>Rev. Christian Amedzrovi</b> <i>Board Member</i> <i>(PENSOS)</i>	<b>Dr. Rabiatu Eunice Abdulai</b> <i>Board Member</i> <i>(Health)</i>
<b>Florence S. Kuribila</b> <i>Board Member</i> <i>(Educationist)</i>	<b>Betty Ayagiba</b> <i>Board Member</i> <i>(Founder-WOM)</i>
<b>Nab A. Afulang Gilbert</b> <i>Board Member</i> <i>(Traditional Council)</i>	<b>Naomi Panwum</b> <i>Board member</i> <i>(NBSSI-REP)</i>
<b>Fati Abigail Abdulai</b> Secretary (National Director)	



# Management and **STAFF**



**Betty Ayagiba**  
Founder



**Fati Abigail Abdulai**  
National Director



**Jonathan Alataaba**  
Finance officer



**Patricia Ayichuru**  
Women' Rights  
Officer



**Emmanuel Aboyadana**  
Programme  
Coordinator-Bongo



**Gifty Abalansah**  
Programme  
Coordinator-



**Esther Ayoogo**  
Child Sponsorship  
Officer



**Lovia Naya**  
Income  
generating



**Hannah Nyaba**  
Assistant Micro  
credit officer



**Collins Nyaaba**  
Driver

**Veronica Nyewieh**  
Care Taker  
Pusu-Namongo

**Kennedy Nobabong**  
Oil Extraction

**James Ondanini**  
Operator, Tractor

**Rita Agana**  
Cleaner

**Thomas**  
Care-taker-Farm

**Jerusalem Adongo**  
Oil Extraction



# List of **PARTNERS**

*We remain grateful to all our donors, partners and or collaborators for their contributions. To all our individual donors/contributors who wish to remain unknown, we say God bless you.*

## **List of Partners**

*ActionAid Ghana  
Bürgerkomitee Steinhagen  
Church of Pentecost (C.O.P)  
SWISSHAND  
Paul e. V  
Ghana Integrity Initiative (GII)  
CIKOD  
Stichting Zaare  
Water Aid Ghana  
ADRA  
Christy Taylor*

## **Academia and Research**

*Coady International Institute  
University of Development  
Studies (UDS)*

## **Networks**

*Network for Women's Rights in Ghana  
(NETRIGHT)  
Global Shea Alliance  
Shea Network Ghana*





## Background and **HISTORY**

*While working in the hospital as a nurse, Betty Ayagiba, a widow herself, noticed that many of those who could not afford to pay for their medical bills were widows and orphans. Unfortunately, no one was there to support widows and orphans both financially and emotionally.*

*Looking upon the plight of widows' suffering in the hospital and larger community, Betty took it upon herself to organize her colleagues into associate so that they could help solve some of the many problems that widows and orphans face.*

*In 1993, Betty successfully founded Widows and Orphans Movement (WOM) as a non-governmental organization (NGO) in Bolgatanga, the capital of the Upper East Region of Ghana.*

*As the organization has grown over the past 20 years, WOM has spread throughout not only the Region but across the country. The rapid spread through Ghana has known that there is a great need to support widows and orphans, and that the mission of WOM is embraced*

### **VISION:**

To see widows and orphans without tears and intimidation

### **MISSION:**

*To initiate and facilitate processes and programs to empower widows and Orphans economically, socially and spiritually*

### **FOCUS:**

- A. Human Rights(Widows, orphans &women)
- B. Health ( HIV/AIDS)
- C. Education and skills trainings
- D. Economic Empowerment



# Projects and ACTIVITIES

## Human Rights and Child Sponsorship

WOM and Action Aid Ghana (AAG), continued its work in advancing women's rights and promoting gender equality in 2017.

The widows network monitored the rate of widowhood rites in the Talensi district and came out with the findings that, the rate was virtually non-existent in communities WOM had engaged for over 10 years. But new communities needed more interventions to modify or reduce dehumanising widowhood practices.

Activities such as training of traditional leaders to monitor and report incidences of domestic violence cases; celebration of international widows day, Training and support of extension volunteers were carried out. Just to mention but a few.

With Support from Ghana Integrity Initiative (GII), an engagement meeting was organised with the regional house of chiefs in relation to widows access to land as well as a training of youth groups on land and corruption focussing on the case of the widows.

Water Aid Ghana (WAG) also engaged WOM to train 60 women leaders on women leadership and gender.

In partnership with AAG and BONATADO a local NGO focused on education, 60 new children were linked to sponsors, 123 new profiles were collected, while 18 communities were targeted.

## Facts & Accomplishments

**3**  
widows in 2  
communities. who were  
once homeless now  
have rooms thanks to  
the Sticking Zaare  
project

**3**  
Rooms were rented for  
three (3) Home-less  
Widows for a period of  
one year.

## Education and vocational skills

10 Widows and Orphans undergoing a one year training in cloth weaving through the support of Church of Pentecost (COP)

### Facts and Achievement

**60** clients served

**40** female; **20** male

*Christine Taylor, COP and individual donors*





# Projects and ACTIVITIES

## **Economic Empowerment**

### Small ruminant project

Through the support of TOBINCO, Two widows groups (Siniesi & Nia Navrongo) comprising 10 women each benefitted from 20 nanny goats each. Each woman was privileged to obtain 2 nanny goats. and will intern pass two new nanny goats to other women within their group over the next two years till all members benefit.



## Facts & Accomplishments of the PROMIC Microcredit supported by SWISSHAND

259 women benefitted from the Bolgatanga  
Microcredit project amounting to 153,600.00

women benefitted from the Bongo Micro-credit 283  
project, amounting to 126,900



16  
communi-  
ties  
384  
women  
reached



### Atarrah Ghana Limited

In 2017, WOM officially registered the income generating wing of the organisation as a social enterprise under the name **Atarrah Ghana Limited**. "Atarrah" which means "wealth" in the Grune language signifies the desire to see widows and orphans prosper. With a grant from the COMART foundation through CIKOD, production was increased to meet demand. Again, they supported us to conduct a market research study with support from St. Francis Xavier university in Canada, which will inform our strategy for 2018.



# Projects and ACTIVITIES

## Mango Plantation

Funding from the Export Development and Agricultural Investment fund (EDAIF) ceased in 2017. Hence managing the farm became very difficult. However, from the kind support of Paul e. V, replanting of the burnt portions (1and half acre) of the farm as well as the general operations were carried out.



## **Basket Trainings**

Fifteen widows were trained to weave a new basket design know as “the pot” under the EMPOWER project which comprise CIKOD, SWOPA,CECIK and WOM. It is expected that, the women will earn more income margins from the skill attained.



# Achievements & SUCCESS STORIES

Linda Adongo, who is currently 40 years old lost her husband 7 years ago. Trained as a hairdresser, she started work under a tree with just a table since she was left with the responsibility of caring for 6 children.

Linda who lives at Atulbabisi in the Bolgatanga Municipality got introduced to WOM and subsequently accessed a loan of Eighty Ghana cedis (GHC 80.00) which grew to Two thousand Ghana cedis( GHC 2,000.00) within 4 years after benefiting from trainings on entrepreneurship and marketing.

From her humble beginnings, she is now the proud owner of a salon which is fully stocked with weave-ons, products of pedicure and manicure, dresses.etc.



SWISSHAND/  
WOM-Micro-  
credit



After benefiting for 4 years, she is no longer in need of a loan and is able to run her business with her current capital.

Paulina Ayamga, a 42 year old widow with 3 children accessed her first loan of (GHC200.00) from WOM in 2010 after receiving some trainings

on  
entrepreneurship  
and marketing



**Azumah Ayingura**, a 26 year old widow is a basket weaver at Apuwongo in the Bongo District. After benefiting from training on Marketing and entrepreneurship accessed GHC200.00 loan to expand her trade. she says: *'I used to weave 3 to 4 baskets in a month but with the loan facility, I was able to buy enough straw and now weave 6 to 7 baskets in a month. My profit margin has increased. It helps me cater for my children and also to pay back my loan instalments on time'*



# Achievements & SUCCESS STORIES



35 year old **Azoya Apokoke** and her husband have 6 dependants and hail from Dapoore in the Talensi District. **Apokoke** is part of the Zamsataaba Yem Group that benefitted from the POWER project that aims at recognising, redistributing and reducing Unpaid Care work (UCW) to enable women have time to engage in economic and social activities.

**Apokoke** says, “*what saved me was the sensitisation in my community and the use of the Time Diary cards to demonstrate the amount of time women spend on UCW. My husband who participated in the process, started appreciating my work and now takes part in fetching water, grinding flour cooking, etc*”. All the work in the house has been shared among the children too. This has given me free time to perfect my basket weaving skills. Now i weave 7 baskets in a month instead of the 3 i used to weave within the same period.



Nsoh Azoya husband of Apokoke helping in the kitchen

AAG/WOM



**FELICIA ZANAB** a 33 year old member of the Kpale group says:” *Based on the trainings we received from WOM-AAG, our group decided to contact the community leaders and demand for land.*

*Some members from our group were selected to pay a courtesy call to the chief and the custodian of the land (Tindan) to request for land since we were unemployed. Our Chief commended us for the effort but said it was unfortunate that he did not have a piece of land to give to us but pledged to support us. He encouraged us to seek our request from the various landowners in the community. We contacted various landowners and were fortunate to be given five (5) acres of land close to the main road. We planted groundnut and harvested almost two bags though we started late coupled with bad weather. She concludes; “we are happy that we will from now be using our time to work and earn income for ourselves on our farm, thanks to WOM and AAG, we the women now can access land!!!”*



# Achievements & SUCCESS STORIES

Atarrah  
Ghana limited



43 year old Ayinga Abota, a widow with 4 children shares the impact of Atarrah Ghana Limited on her life.

Ayinga Abota says *“it was not easy to feed my children and pay their school fees with my small rice business. most times, we ate once a day”*. *WOM trained me as a baobab seed and powder mobiliser in 2016 and provided capital for me to carry out the mobilisation whiles I earn a commission for meeting the standards .*

*“, I now mobilise up to 100 bags when the season sets in and this has earned me enough money to invest in my rice business as well. Now I am also able to buy and sell up to 2 bags of rice per a week as compared to the 12 bowls previously*

Ayinga also expressed joy in the fact that she is even able to save some money for future emergencies and mould cement blocks which she plans to build with so her family can replace their current mud house.



Stichting  
Zaare project



Alenyoreke Ayambire, a 55 year old widow from Zaare in the Bolgatanga municipality standing near her newly built room by the kind support of the Stichting Zaire Project



# Challenges

Mobility remains one of our greatest challenges as an organisation. We are in dire need of at least four (4) new motorbikes and four (4) laptops to facilitate our work.

In addition, Pusu-namongo is in need of a fence to avoid theft and damage of WOM's property.

## Way FORWARD

WOM looks forward to a prosperous 2018 which involves the: piloting of the baobab garden concept in at least two communities; increased production from Atarrah Ghana limited and resultant sale of all produce; the promotion the cultivation of sesame seeds as well as other indigenous species that will economically empower the widows and the orphans while fighting for the rights of widows and orphans.

We look forward to being more innovative in our ideas and strategies to increase impact .



# Information on WOM's FINANCIALS

## *Source of Donated Funds, 2017*

*Below is a representation of only funds donated to WOM during the year of 2017.*

<i>Name of Organization/Institution/Donor</i>	<i>Amount (Ghana Cedis)</i>	<i>% of Funds</i>	<i>Activitites</i>
<b>ActionAid Ghana</b>	<b>141,901.93</b>	<b>24%</b>	See Appendix 1
<b>PROMIC Microcredit Projects</b>			
<i>Bolgatanga Project</i>	0.00		Microcredit
<i>Bongo Project</i>	0.00		Microcredit
<b>Total PROMIC Microcredit Projects</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0%</b>	
<b>Other Organizations/Institutions</b>			
<i>Paul e. V</i>	31,080.00	5%	
<i>Water Aid Ghana</i>	70,789.23	12%	leadership trainings
<i>CIKOD-COMART FOUNDATION</i>	48,300.00	8%	See Appendix 2
<i>stitching Zaare</i>	17,609.70	3%	Shelter for widows
<i>Aissa Boodhoo - Coady Institute</i>	10,000.00	2%	3 groups
<i>Tobinco pharmaceutical</i>	10,000.00	2%	2 groups
<i>Church of Pentecost</i>	70,000.00	12%	See Appendix 3
<b>Total Other Organizations/Institutions</b>	<b>257,778.93</b>	<b>44%</b>	
<b>Total Individual Donors</b>	<b>16,366.46</b>	<b>3%</b>	
<b>Total Funds and Donations</b>	<b>416,047.32</b>		

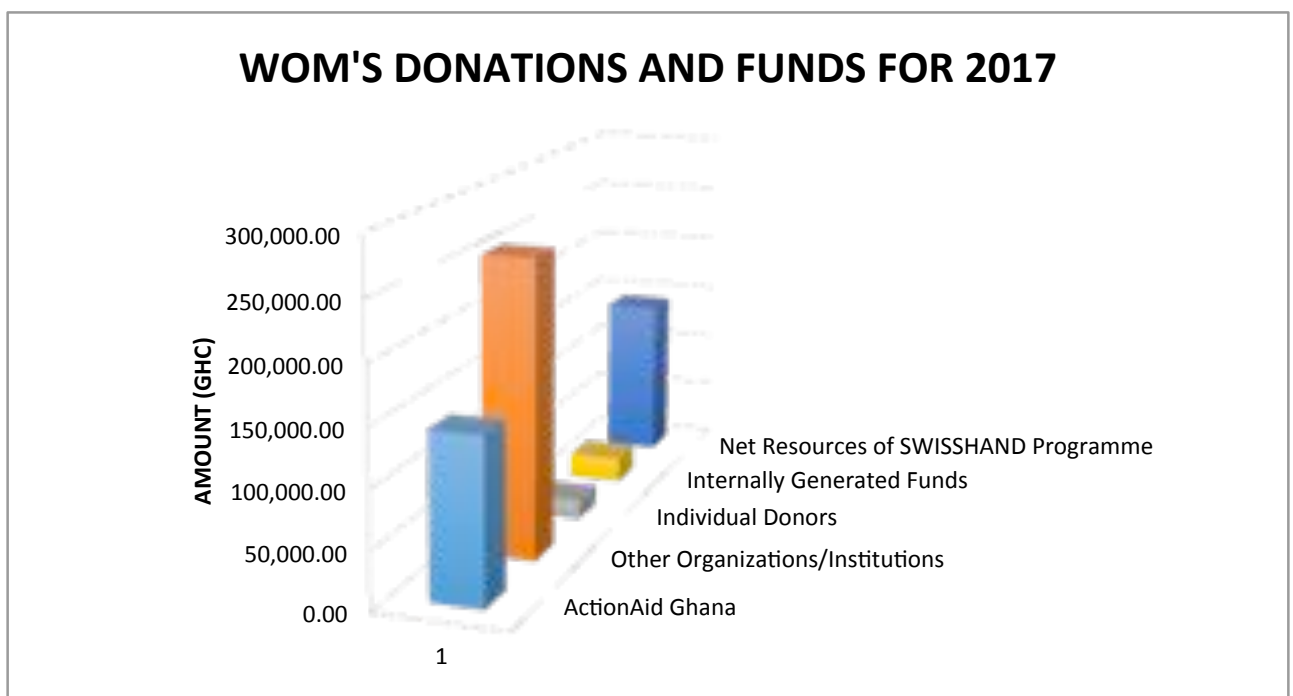
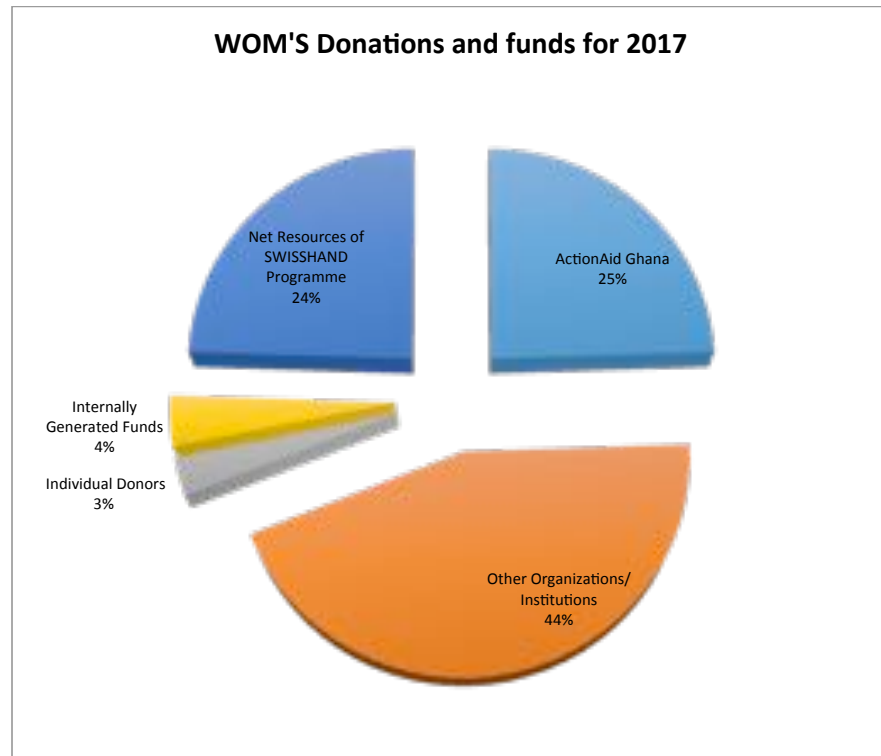
## *Internally Generated Funds, 2017*

*Below is a representation of funds that WOM generated by herself internally for the year of 2017.*

<i>Funds</i>	<i>Amount (Ghana cedis)</i>	<i>Notes</i>	
<i>Ghana Intergrity Initiative</i>	1,000.00		
<i>Monica Lent-Coady Institute</i>	5,770.00		
<i>Net Sales of Products</i>	15,000.00		
<b>Total Internally Generated Funds</b>	<b>21,770.00</b>		<b>4%</b>
<i>Net Resources of Existing SWISSHAND Project</i>			
<i>Bongo programme</i>	51,905.90		
<i>Bolgatanga Programme</i>	89,972.77		
<b>Total Net Resources of SWISSHAND PROJECT</b>	<b>141,878.67</b>		<b>24%</b>
<b>Total Donations and Funds</b>		<b>579,695.99</b>	



# Information on WOM's FINANCIALS





# APPENDIX

## Appendix: Source of Funds and Donations, 2017

Activity	Amount (Ghana Cedis)	% of Funds
<b>Appendix 1 - ActionAid Ghana Activities</b>		
<b>ActionAid Ghana</b>		
<i>POWER Project</i>	89,290.93	62.92%
<i>Women's Right</i>	30,055.00	21.18%
<i>Sponsorship</i>	15,029.00	10.59%
<i>Inspirator</i>	7,527.00	5.30%
<b>Total ActionAid Ghana</b>	<b>141,901.93</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Appendix 2 - CIKOD/COMART foundation</b>		
<i>Oil screw press</i>	14,000.00	30.24%
<i>filtering press</i>	12,300.00	26.57%
<i>Raw material and certifications</i>	20,000.00	43.20%
<b>Total CIKOD/COMART foundation</b>	<b>46,300.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Appendix 3 - Paul e. V</b>		
<i>Economic Empowerment Activities</i>	18,000.00	56.60%
<i>Overhead Costs</i>	13,800.00	43.40%
<b>Total Paul e.V</b>	<b>31,800.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Appendix 4 - Church of Pentecost Activities</b>		
<b>Church of Pentecost (C.O.P)</b>		
<i>cloth weaving training</i>	22,000.00	62.86%
<i>Overhead Costs</i>	6,000.00	17.14%
<i>Education Fund</i>	7,000.00	20.00%
<b>Total C.O.P</b>	<b>31,000.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

### Appendix 5: Individual Donors

<i>Fabulous Women Network</i>	<i>Education/Vocational Skills</i>	<i>2,147.00</i>
<i>Otiko Afisa Djaba</i>	<i>Education/Vocational Skills</i>	<i>2,000.00</i>
<i>Anonymous</i>	<i>Education/Vocational Skills</i>	<i>1,000.00</i>
<i>leda limann</i>	<i>Education/Vocational Skills</i>	<i>4,350.00</i>
<i>TB. Dankwa</i>	<i>Education/Vocational Skills</i>	<i>500.00</i>
<i>Christy Taylor</i>	<i>Education/Vocational Skills</i>	<i>2,300.00</i>
<i>Mr. Paul Abonee</i>	<i>Education/Vocational Skills</i>	<i>600.00</i>
<i>Elizabeth ABoakye</i>	<i>Education/Vocational Skills</i>	<i>200.00</i>
<i>Mad. Esme</i>	<i>Education/Vocational Skills</i>	<i>518.00</i>
<i>Christy Taylor</i>	<i>Education/Vocational Skills</i>	<i>2,751.46</i>
<b>Total Individual Donors</b>		<b>16,366.46</b>





## WIDOWS AND ORPHANS MOVEMENT(WOM)

*Ministries Block D  
Bolgatanga, Upper East Region  
Ghana, West Africa  
P.O.BOX 582*

*[womghana2000new@gmail.com](mailto:womghana2000new@gmail.com)/+233 050 654 9796*



*Atarrahghana*

*Womghana*



*Womghana*