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**Widows and Orphans Movement
(WOM)**

PRESS RELEASE

WIDOWS AND ORPHANS MOVEMENT(WOM) CALLS ON THE GHANA EDUCATION SERVICE(GES) AND THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION TO ADDRESS EXORBITANT LEVIES IN THE UPPER EAST REGION

The Widows and Orphans Movement (WOM) is deeply concerned about reports from a number of schools in the Upper East Region charging Parent Teacher Association (PTA) fees of up to GHC400 and demanding an additional GHC900 from parents for furniture.

These demands are excessive and unaffordable, particularly for the guardians and surviving parents of complete and incomplete orphans who are already struggling to provide for these children. Such charges not only place an unfair financial burden on vulnerable families but also threaten to deny many children their right to education.

Introducing these fees undermines the government's efforts toward free and equitable access to education for all children. Many of our constituents are affected and are unable to pay such amounts. As a result, children are being excluded from school and/or learning under distressing conditions.

Therefore, we call on the Ghana Education Service (GES) and the Minister of Education to immediately investigate and halt these practices in schools across the Upper East Region. Or provide credible alternatives.

We further appeal for clear communication beyond Facebook posts to all schools to ensure that no child is denied access to education due to financial constraints imposed.

The Widows and Orphans Movement(WOM) stands ready to collaborate with education authorities to ensure that orphans and vulnerable children in the region and Ghana at large are not left behind in accessing quality education.

Reach us!

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