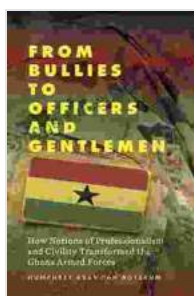


How Notions of Professionalism and Civility Transformed the Ghana Armed Forces

The Ghana Armed Forces (GAF) has undergone a remarkable transformation over the past few decades. Once a highly politicized and unprofessional institution, the GAF is now a respected and professional military organization. This transformation is due in large part to the adoption of democratic principles, the establishment of civilian control over the military, and the implementation of professional development programs.

Democratic Principles and Civilian Control

The adoption of democratic principles in Ghana in 1992 was a watershed moment for the GAF. For the first time, the military was subject to civilian control. This meant that the military could no longer interfere in politics or use its power to suppress dissent. The GAF also had to adapt to a new set of values, including respect for human rights and the rule of law.



From Bullies to Officers and Gentlemen: How Notions of Professionalism and Civility Transformed the Ghana Armed Forces

by Hassan Abbas

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
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Print length : 371 pages
Screen Reader : Supported



The establishment of civilian control over the military was a gradual process. It began with the creation of a new constitution that enshrined the principle of civilian supremacy. The constitution also established a National Security Council, which is responsible for overseeing the military. The GAF also underwent a series of reforms that aimed to reduce its political influence and increase its professionalism.

Professional Development

In addition to adopting democratic principles and establishing civilian control, the GAF also implemented a number of professional development programs. These programs were designed to improve the skills and knowledge of military personnel. They also aimed to instill in military personnel a sense of professionalism and ethics.

The GAF's professional development programs have been very successful. They have helped to improve the quality of military personnel and have also contributed to the GAF's transformation into a more professional and respected organization.

Challenges

Despite the progress that the GAF has made, it still faces a number of challenges. These challenges include:

- **Corruption:** Corruption is a major problem in Ghana, and it also affects the GAF. Military personnel have been involved in a number of corruption scandals, which have damaged the GAF's reputation.
- **Human rights abuses:** The GAF has also been accused of human rights abuses. These abuses include arbitrary detention, torture, and

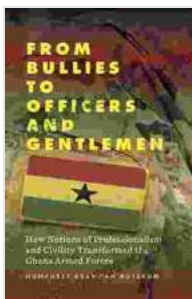
extrajudicial killings. The GAF has taken steps to address these abuses, but more needs to be done.

- **Lack of resources:** The GAF is also facing a number of challenges due to a lack of resources. The military has not been able to keep pace with the growing demands of its personnel. This has led to a number of problems, including low morale and a lack of training.

The Ghana Armed Forces has undergone a remarkable transformation over the past few decades. The adoption of democratic principles, the establishment of civilian control, and the implementation of professional development programs have all contributed to this transformation.

However, the GAF still faces a number of challenges. Continued efforts are needed to address these challenges and maintain the GAF's professionalism and civility.

By meeting these challenges, the GAF can continue to play a vital role in Ghana's democracy and development. The GAF can also serve as a model for other militaries in Africa and around the world that are seeking to achieve similar goals.



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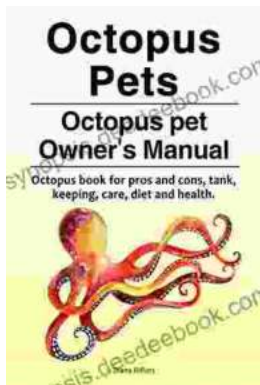
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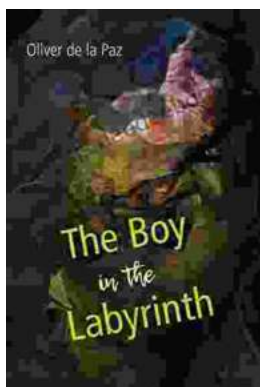
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