

## **COMPLETION OF HIS BEATITUDE'S OFFICIAL VISIT TO GHANA**

**On 29<sup>th</sup> June 2008, our Orthodox brothers and sisters in Ghana celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of the dynamic presence of Orthodoxy in Ghana in their own inimitable way in the presence of His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa. There was also a significant participation by the local tribal leaders even in the newly built church of the Apostles Peter and Paul in Larteh and in the adjacent stadium.

The Leader's defining words were: "I wish that Orthodoxy had spread to even more places in Ghana ". He then gave grateful thanks for all that the Orthodox Church has done. The local inhabitants, dressed in their traditional garments had filled the church.

**"We thank the Orthodox Church,** not only for the church that they have built, but also for the creation of the first primary school which they built for us, and which has been developed into a high school too, and has given the opportunity to many locals, especially the youth, to achieve places even in the universities in our country, and holding down important positions now:, said the local leader, thereby officially recognizing the contribution of the ancient Patriarchate of Alexandria. His Beatitude justifiably expressed praise for the local Bishop of Ghana, His Grace Damaskinos.

During the entire duration of his stay in Ghana , His Beatitude was accompanied by His Eminence Alexandros of Nigeria.

**With the celebrations** of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Orthodoxy in Ghana , His Beatitude's visit to Ghana came to an end. He will return to the Patriarchal See in Alexandria on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2008.