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**Child labour in the cocoa producing area of Gomoa Ofaso,  
Winneba District, Ghana, 1874-1940**

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# **Child Labour in the Cocoa Producing Area of Gomoa Ofaso, Winneba District, Ghana, 1874-1940**

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geboren te Korlebu-Accra  
in 1983

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## DEDICATION

To my family

## ABSTRACT

The thrust of this thesis is the use of child labour as an important source of labour in producing bountiful supply of cocoa in the cocoa-producing area of Gomoa Ofaso in the Winneba District from 1874 when there was labour shortage up to 1940 when colonial Ghana was the principal producer of cocoa globally. The study of child labour is relevant in this district because the documentary evidence pointed to the prevalence of child labour in cocoa production in the Winneba District in this period. Further, this thesis has been divided into six chapters. The first chapter is the methodology and sources of the thesis. The chapter two is based on the introduction of cocoa to Gomoa Ofaso from 1874 to 1940. The chapter three of this thesis will focus on child labour in cocoa production from 1876 to 1940. The chapter four will focus on the transportation of cocoa by child labourers from 1891 to 1940. The chapter five is based on the interventions that were made to end child labour from 1912 to 1940. Then, the sixth chapter will be the concluding chapter of this thesis. This thesis will demonstrate that market forces after the abolition of domestic slavery in 1874 together with the introduction and export of cocoa intensified the use of child labour in this District due to the shortage of labour. The research of child labour in cocoa production in the colonial period is important because it has often been categorised as an example of the worst forms of child labour, yet it has not been adequately studied. The qualitative research method was used in obtaining information for this thesis. It is worth mentioning that this thesis contributes to the discourse on child labour in the colonial period and how the colonial labour problem was dealt with in cocoa production.

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