

GALIBA



Galiba is located about halfway between Mpantuaase to Aframsso on the main north-south road in the District (local authority area) of Sekyere Central.

We visited the village on 28 July 2015, and spoke to community members including Issahaku Fuseni, pictured below, the Chairman of the Unit Committee. He told us the village consisted some 700 inhabitants divided into 60 households, and that they were farmers growing crops including plantain, groundnut, yam, cassava, carrots, corn and mangoes. There was enough land for their needs – they very rarely ate meat or eggs - and the soil was fertile, he said.

Water and Sanitation

There are two boreholes in the village but both are broken so the community draws water from the Manyiwaye and Nkanfour Streams. The community told us this water was not polluted, but they probably did not understand what constitutes pollution. They also said the streams never dry up.

For sanitation, there is one communal latrine. Most people practise open defecation.

There are two rubbish tips.

Education and Health

The village children attend kindergarten, primary school and junior high school at the neighbouring village of Nkujua.

Mr Fuseni told us that the most common sickness was malaria and the nearest clinic was at Nsuta. He said there was also a problem for women giving birth in the village, which was far from Nsuta and the help of a midwife. Recently, the village arranged for some elderly women to receive training as midwives, since otherwise women in labour have to be transported to Nsuta by taxi or on a motorbicycle. One woman in labour was recently transported by motorbicycle and died of exhaustion on arrival.



Issahaku Fuseni

Organisation

There is an official Unit Committee in the village, which also covers Didaso, Odumase and Mantugwa.

This is much too large an area for an effective Unit Committee, however the present government has legislated to extend Unit Committees over four or five villages, and to provide that only members of its own political party should be members.

The village realised at the time of the legislation that such committees wouldn't work well. It therefore set up its own, internal, apolitical Development Committee. Committee functions include settling disputes, ensuring footpaths are kept clear, and providing for new communal latrine pits to be excavated when the existing one is full.

An Assemblyman (UK local authority councillor equivalent) represents the village at District level. He does not live in Galiba, and simultaneously represents four or five other villages.

Religion

Villagers belong to the Pentecostal and Roman Catholic churches, and some are Muslims.

History

The community came south from Burkino Faso to settle in Galiba. This is evident from the structure of their houses, which are unstable and made of mud bricks with wooden struts and thatched roofs.

The first man to arrive was called Galiba and, because land was available in the area, other people followed him, including Mr Fuseni.

Wish List

The village wished it could have more water, latrines, more schools for the children and a clinic.





