

# Living after the dead

## Abstract

The attitude of mankind and the exemplary lifestyle that could contribute to long life on earth was examined. One's geographical location, the weather and climate of the place, among other things can influence how long one lives on earth. Pollution in any forms it atmospheric or biological affects human health. One has to know how to live, either in an urban or rural setting. On the other hand, colour, structure and attitude are some of the things that can easily be used to indicate the origin of a person. The study recommends ways that attempt to make life easy and satisfying. Resemblance is a key identification to human origin like tribe, race, ethnicity or nationality. Some children have physical features and attitudes that resemble their parents and grandparents, and these help easily in their identification.

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## Introduction

Once at a funeral and watching the obituary of a 102-year-old woman lying in state brought in mind to the fact that life still goes on. I tried to watch the faces of everyone present at the funeral to see if there is any resemblance with the permanently horizontal lying woman, and really there was. She was fair, smallish and cute. That is how I knew her from my childhood, very social, loving and caring, fairly inquisitive, which means that she would always like to engage herself in a conversation with you. I also became a little bit inquisitive and asked someone beside me, "Where are her children?" Those resembling faces were pointed at. I just said, that is why if you see Chinese people, nobody would tell you because they resemble themselves: they have a unique appearance. I have been saying that the Whites resemble themselves and I will find it difficult to differentiate one from the other. Someone also ever confessed that the Whites also complain the same way, whenever they come to Africa, that the Blacks resemble themselves.<sup>1</sup>

What it would mean is that anybody who knows this woman and happens to see any of her offspring anywhere around the world, that resemblance would cast his or her mind straight to the nationality of this woman and would say, 'this person looks like a Ghanaian', for instance. Apart from the resemblance, we have some unique way of doing things; even our speech and expressions can sometimes make people to easily predict our race or nationality. Our doings, including the type of work can all be the influence of our race. That is how life still goes on after death. A Whiteman's child would always be white, even if his wife is a Black or vice versa, to show that life still goes on. That is why we have the 'half casts'. Africans are mostly black so a combination of White and Black parents would never produce a pure colour; either the child would not be so black or not so white as compared to similar coloured parents, to show that the parents are of different races. A little statistics taken on fair coloured people in Ghana revealed that either their parents or grandparents are Whites. That is why they are not so dark like the original blacks.

In life, with all things being equal, death comes according to age. Parents are expected to die before the children, and the children are expected to bury the parents as nature requires. Parents are expected to take care of their children from their childhood. For these reasons,

parents are expected to advise and nurture their children in other not to put any burden on the community in which they live.<sup>2</sup>

Most of the time, the character of a person can determine how long a person can stay on earth, the locality can sometimes be a factor. Nowadays, in this 21st century, it has been realized, not statistically documented but something which most people express verbally, that the younger ones die most often than the elderly. Most of the obituaries have the headings 'What a shock', 'Gone too soon' and these are mysterious titles, and it is not even necessary to look out for the age on the obituary. That person could be about 27 years or less or slightly higher. The headings on the obituary mostly depend on the age, when the person is above or about 80 years, then it would be entitled 'Celebration of Life', 'Home Calling', among others. These are glorious titles. Life can easily be ended, depending on how you live it. In that same house where the burial took place, there lived a woman who had two children, a boy and a girl. That woman died with a mysterious title. Not too long after her death, her children also died mysteriously without producing any children. They grew up to stages that they could have had children but the kind of life they led could not permit them to achieve that goal. In our localities, there is a saying that 'charity begins at home'. If the mother does not like to work then definitely the children would also not like to work.

In the church, during the burial ceremony of the 102-year-old woman, it was read that she was a farmer and lived in a village. She took very good care of her children, even though she was not educated; she made sure all her children went to school. One of her children who most people knew and used his name to call the woman was a graduate, and a lecturer at a University. Most of her life was spent in the village, once in a while; she comes to town for the celebration of festivals. I could easily testify that this woman had not been exposed to so much pollution from radiations and atmospheric fossil fuels as compared to the other woman who travelled to the cities, and was exposed to pollutions, abuses, and other forms of tragedies, which I suppose most people go through in the cities. These things that she was exposed to, could have contributed to the ending of her life mysteriously. The house where she was laid in state belonged to her late husband. A very big house which could reflect the status of that man. He could be a rich man or a principled person, who also had a

focus in life. I believe the character and attitude of the woman also made it possible for her to be able to stay with that man, while the other woman had no husband. She was most of the time seen with different men, either seeing them off or standing at the street corners bargaining. I am sure that discouraged any man from asking of her hand in marriage. She was very beautiful, tall and fair in complexion which could attract any man who sees her for the first time.

Most people died young because of their behavior and where they reside. Some of them had fighting spirits and others had stealing spirits. In a particular locality, it came to a time when almost all the young men in the town died. They died in succession. Almost every week or two there would be a funeral, until all those characters were wiped off completely from the area. Nobody would confess to you that those people who are still alive are pure and free from mischief. There was a farmer around who always complains of his missing animals that he was rearing from his premises, including his farm produce. He kept on warning the people in the community that they should stop doing that to him or else those responsible will die mysteriously.<sup>3</sup> Lo and behold, after those mysterious deaths that man had never complained of any missing items, and nobody also complained again of any missing items again, so life is how you make it. It came to a time that when you do not see anyone you knew for a long period of time, and then it is not even necessary to ask of the person. That person might be no more. Some of the funeral announcements were not even made so publicly because maybe in the same house, about three or four consecutive weeks there were fresh corpses to be buried. Mostly young ones, which seem so embarrassing. Young girls travelled to the bigger cities of neighbouring countries for prostitution and eventually come back to die or even die there while their counterparts still live on in the villages.

Gradually, due to the way people were dying, those left behind began to live up to some kind of expectation. No one would have to give an advice again because a “word to the wise is enough”. Academic education has been the main aim of most people now, and for those who could not afford it, they took to other alternatives such as trading and other forms of hand works. Most of the times exposure can determine how long we live. It has been realized psychologically that whenever the rate of employment rises, the rate of deaths also rises. It could be through accidents or other forms of infections. This is because there would be a lot of money and one could easily move from one place to the other through which other forms of life losing activities could easily be met. Some could be through road accidents and others could be through the acquisition of infectious diseases. These would not have happened if one stayed at his or her original place of living. Encounters with other forms of tragedies like greedy

armed robbers who will jealous your wealth and rob you, and even kill to end lives mysteriously, are also unavoidable.

People, depending on their race, have some peculiar types of behavior; that is why we have things like Chinese movies, American movies, Ghanaian movies and Nigeria movies, amongst a lot. In these movies, there are certain characters which we look out for, including certain cultures that make the movie to be complete or unique and hence, the name. Some people are noted for fighting with guns while others use sticks and limbs. In others, we mostly see idol worships and reliance on the true Almighty God.

Others are noted for war because of the resources they have in their localities. Mass destructions made them the leaders of the universe. They control the affairs of others, and when they are resisted it results into conflicts. All of these life styles depend on the race. The climate and weather of a place will permit certain resources to thrive and can influence the lives of the people. The type of weather will influence the dress code which can also influence the lives of people, so care must be taken on how to live life to the best maximum. Some people wear mini dresses which attracts people emotionally and can lead to victimization, others would also not allow any part of their bodies to be seen. Some people have come to study nature and tried to adjust their life styles in other to avoid tragedies and live longer on Earth. Because of these awkward behaviors, universal laws have been made to guide mankind so that people could live peacefully. For security sake, people from some countries and certain races have been banned from entering into other countries just because of their usual behavior. Some don't fear to die; they can carry bombs on them to die with others in the form of retaliation.

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## Conflict of interest

The author declared that there are no conflicts of interest.

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