

Kofi Atta Annan is a Ghanaian diplomat who served as the seventh Secretary General of the United Nations from January 1, 1997, to January 1, 2007, serving two five-year terms. Annan was the co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in October 2001.

Kofi Annan was born on April 8, 1938, to Victoria and Henry Reginald Annan in Kumasi, Ghana. He is a twin, an occurrence that is regarded as special in Ghanaian culture. Efua Atta, his twin sister, shares the same middle name, which means 'twin'. As with most Akan names, his first name indicates the day of the week he was born: 'Kofi' denotes a boy born on a Friday. The name Annan can indicate that a child was the fourth in the family, but in his family it was simply a name which Annan inherited from his parents.

In 1962, Annan started working as a Budget Officer for the World Health Organization, an agency of the United Nations. From 1974 to 1976, he was the Director of Tourism in Ghana. Annan then returned to work for the United Nations as an Assistant Secretary General in three consecutive positions.

Person

Location

Organization

Date

Nationality

Title