

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



GENERAL

T/PET.2/137
8 October 1951

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PETITION FROM THE CHAGGA COUNCIL
CONCERNING TANGANYIKA

Note by the Secretary-General: In accordance with rule 84 and supplementary rule F of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the Trusteeship Council and to the Government of Italy as the Administering Authority of the Trust Territory of Somaliland a communication dated 12 September 1951 from the Chagga Council concerning the Trust Territory of Tanganyika.

This communication was transmitted to the Secretary-General by the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa.

C O P Y

MEMORANDUM TO BE PLACED BEFORE U.N.O. TRUSTEESHIP VISITING MISSION
BY THE CHAGGA COUNCIL.

It is with very great pleasure that we meet again the U.N.O. Mission since the year 1948.

We have every confidence in His Majesty's Government and U.N.O. and that we shall not welcome any change that would sever the existing links between us or in any way interfere with His Majesty's protection and guidance through the British Parliament, until such time as the inhabitants of this Territory are ready for self-government.

As we have seen what is happening down in South Africa and continues to happen there, and in the neighbouring Territories, the Chagga Council is worried lest His Majesty's Government be persuaded into agreeing to a federation of East and Central Africa. We pledge ourselves to mutual understanding and cooperation with all the other races for the future progress of this country in which all of us must live for all time.

Here today you are meeting the three Divisional Councils of the Chagga tribe under the new constitution taking place now as you must have known all about it from the Central Government Officials. In short, councils with elected unofficial majority have been or are being established at three levels, that is, at Mangi's level, Mwitori's level and at the District level all under a Paramount Chief. It has been the wish and agitation of most of the Wachagga to have a Paramount Chief and kindly enough the Central Government has accepted, and he is to be elected by all the Wachagga tax payers this year. We all hope that the new constitution will be a success and will bring prosperity, progress, peace and good native authority to our glorious mountain.

We beg to lay before you some problems which we have constantly and incessantly petitioned before the Administering Authority and also before the previous U.N.O. Mission, some of which have been solved, for which we are very grateful.

EDUCATION:

1. It is a universal truth that education is the sole key to civilization. If at all Tanganyika is to be civilized and to have self-government, which we believe is the chief aim of the Administering Authority, as well as of the

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United Nations Trusteeship Council, education is the only solution.

2. At present we all feel distressed and discontented to find that educationally Tanganyika is the most backward country among the East African Territories. We entrust this fate of this Territory into the hands of both the Administering Authority and of the U.N.O. The foundation of any education is primary education, and so it is our greatest desire that primary education in this country becomes compulsory, and facilities for secondary education and higher education increased. We can say with confidence that the facilities and doors are deliberately restricted according to the present educational policy of this Territory. We do grave for higher and better education for both sexes, education in all branches of life-technical, professional, commercial and economics.

3. We would therefore like to obtain a more assurance for the Chagga Council by having the Chagga Council officially gaxetted as the Local Education Authority for Moshi District and further extention be given to other District in the Territory where such education Authority seeme practicable.

LAND:

1. With regard to the question of land in Kilimanjaro, the policy is that the needs of the African inhabitants must have priority. As a result of our last petition some of the alienated lands or estates have already been reverted to the landless Wachagga. As far as the opening up of the lower areas is concerned little or nothing much has been done. The Chaggas are increasing rapidly, the mountain slopes are now full, and people have no where else to expand into the lower plains.

2. We ask the Government to hurry up with the development scheme for the lower areas to provide water, roads, dispensaries, schools, trading centres, and other necessary facilities and also to eradicate the tsetse; and such developments will give incentive to Wachagga to live there according to their traditional land-tenure and customary law.

CONCLUSION:

Honourable members there are so many problems and grievances to air before you, such as colour prejudice and equal pay for equal work, and very many others which you have or will hear during the course of your tour. We wonder who will

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start the move to eradicate colour discrimination, now that there is no legislation for, or against it.

We wish you a safe tour back to your homes and we beg you to convey our heart-felt compliments and our gratification of being under the British Government and U.N.O.

(signature) M. H. Abdiel Shangali
Sgd/ M.H.Abdiel Shangali, M.B.E., Chief of Hai
(signature) P. Itosi Marealle
Petro Itosi Marealle, B.E.M., Chief of Vunjo
(signature) John N. Maruma
John N. Maruma, Chief of Rombo.

12th September, 1951.

Chagga Council.

MCSHI

T.T.
