



UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



GENERAL

T/PET.2/119
3 October 1951

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PETITION FROM MR. ABDUL-BARY MUHAMMAD DIWAN AND OTHERS
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 30 August 1951 from Mr. Abdul-Bary Muhammad Diwan and others concerning the Trust Territory of East Africa.

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

c/o Mr. Abdul-Bary Muhammad Diwan.
P.O. Box 453,
Dar es Salaam.

30th August, 1951.

The Chairman and Members,
The United Nations Visiting Mission,
P.O. Private Bag,
DAR ES SALAAM.

Dear Sirs,

We, the undersigned, have the honour to submit the following for your kind consideration and onward transmission to whom it may concern please:

That we are land owners.

That we own freehold lands which were previously owned by our forefathers who lived in these parts approximately some eight-hundred years ago.

That by law of inheritance these lands passed down from one hand to another up to the present generation.

That the German Government surveyed these lands and fixed stone beacons to mark the boundaries of freehold land.

That some of these private lands were not surveyed because the First World War broke out and, through no fault of the owners, they remained unsurveyed up to the present moment. We do request that these lands be now surveyed and the owners given their freehold titles. Proof of ownership over such lands could easily be ascertained by affidavit and witnesses.

That now if a land owner wishes to sell his land or part thereof he is informed by the Government that the land belongs only to the Crown and the only thing that he could lay a claim on is the plants on that land.

That during the German time, when the Government wanted a certain piece of land which was private for public use, the Government bought it and paid proper price for it to the owner, while now the practice is that the land owner is given a small amount of cash as a compensation for the trees for which he took the trouble to plant.

That the German Government did not prevent or interfere with any land owner who wished to sell his land to anyone he pleased while the present law is that an African can only sell his land to a fellow African; the same applies to

/the Arabs

the Arabs while the Europeans and Indians are out of bounds of this law.

That in conclusion we shall be very grateful if immediate steps will be taken over this memorandum so that proper justice is administered to us.

We have the honour to be,

Sirs,

Your obedient servants: Mazalto Mabruk.

Signed by the following:

Abdul-Bary Muhammad Diwan
Mwinyihija Mwinshomari.
Mwinjuma Mwinyikambi.

Mtuma Maalim Mgeni Awadh
Mwinjuma Abubakar. Mwinjuma Marama.
Mahdi Mwinyijuma Rajab bin Yakub.
