

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



RESTRICTED

T/PET.2/R.1
1 March 1951

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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ANONYMOUS PETITION FROM MZIGUA CONCERNING TANGANYIKA

Note by the Secretary-General: In accordance with rule 85 of the rules of procedure and the decision taken by the Trusteeship Council at the sixth meeting of its fourth session, on 31 January 1949, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit herewith to the members of the Trusteeship Council, as a restricted document, an anonymous petition, dated 20 February 1951, and signed Mzigua, concerning Tanganyika.

Mzigua is merely the singular of Wazigua, which is the name of a tribe, and therefore Mzigua means a member of the Wazigua tribe. Furthermore, there is no indication in the petition of the address of the petitioner. In view of these facts, this petition has been considered as anonymous.

/Tanganyika
T/PET.2/R.1

COPY

Tanganyika Territory,
20th February, 1951.

The Secretary-General
Department of Trusteeships,
United Nations Organisation,
Lake Success,
New York,
U.S.A.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to inform you that in the Trusteeship Territory of Tanganyika there is a large part of land known as "Zigualand" with tribal population of about 75,000 men and women. The indigenous people of that part of land are called Wazigua.

The Wazigua are governed under eight separate Administrative centres, namely Pangani, Bagamoyo, Same, Lushoto, Tanga, Morogoro, Kilosa and Handeni Districts. The latter is inhabited exclusively by the Wazigua themselves while the other districts are inhabited by the Wazigua and other tribes, that is to say, each of the seven districts has taken a small part of land from the main Zigualand.

The natives have long been crying to the government to have their country joined up under one administrative centre and they gave reasons that by joining up their land under one district they would be able to cope successfully with certain local difficulties that confront them since:

- (a) they will have their own one native treasury (at present they rely on eight native treasuries)
- (b) they will have one Zigua native Council for the whole of Zigualand (there is at present one Council for Handeni District only)
- (c) they will have one District Commissioner through whom they will jointly submit their petitions to the Central government regarding the development and progress of Zigualand as a whole for without tribal unity in a land as this progress becomes a driving struggle, but all these cries were regarded as hopeless in the eyes of the government and received no favourable attention, the government only held that the land should be under separate districts, and no clear reasons as to why such should be so.

/I, the writer

I, the writer of this letter, being a member of the Zigua tribe, do feel that being divided into small groups like that our voice to the central government will ever be unheard and we will never be able to accomplish anything for the betterment of the whole tribe. Now it remains the duty of the Trusteeship Council to urge the Administering Authority to join up these parts of land into one main district (preferably Handeni) so that the tribe may be able to solve its own domestic problems with ease if at all the way to self-government means to make the indigenous people start right away from now standing on their feet.

Yours truly,

(Signed) MZIGUA

Received at United Nations Headquarters: 27 February 1951