

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



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ENGLISH

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PETITION FROM MESSRS. HAJ ALI MAHDIO, OTHMAN MOHAMED AND OTHERS
CONCERNING SOMALILAND UNDER ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION

Note by the Secretary-General: In accordance with rule 85 and supplementary rules F and L of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the Trusteeship Council, to the Government of Italy as the Administering Authority of the Trust Territory of Somaliland, and to the Governments of Colombia, Egypt, and the Philippines as members of the Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland, a communication dated 13 February 1953 from Messrs. Haj Ali Mahdio, Othman Mohamed and others concerning the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration.

This communication was transmitted to the Secretary-General by the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration.

To: The United Nations Advisory Council

Copy for information to: Dr. Spinelli, Chief of Cabinet

We the undersigned, leaders of Rer Hamar, Murisada and Averghidir, take the liberty to request enforcement of the agreement legally made before the "Sceria" and Judicial Authorities concerning the decision accepted by the parties in respect of Friday prayer. We ask that compacts and law be respected and not broken by malevolent and arrogant people.

The decision has been published in the newspaper and broadcast by radio throughout Mogadiscio and Somaliland. It reads as follows:

Friday prayers are not to be held in the mosque known as Maruas.

Instead they are to be held in the mosques Jama of Shingani, Hamaruen and Sceck Awes. However, Friday prayers shall continue to be held in Maruas Mosque for six consecutive Fridays while repair work in the Sceck Awes Mosque is being done.

It appears, however, that this decision is quite without value, in fact a mere fraud, because the Resident declared that prayers are to be said on Fridays in the Maruas Mosque, and transgressors will be confronted by the Administration with its might.

We take the liberty to request that the Resident be ordered to enforce the law against transgressors and arrogant people who do not want to obey either "Sceria" or law, abide by agreements or submit to the Authority, doing only what they wish with arrogance and intimidation.

We thank you in advance and beg to remain,

Very respectfully yours,

Haj Ali Mahdio,
Othman Mohamed,
Omar Mohamed Ali,
and others
(total of 15 signatures in Arabic)

Mogadiscio,
13 February 1953

Received by United Nations Advisory Council in Mogadiscio on 13 February 1953.
