



UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



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PETITION FROM MR. AHMED HUSSEIN NUR CONCERNING SOMALILAND UNDER ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85 and supplementary rules F and L of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council)

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

From: Ahmed Hussein Nur, Bardera, Somaliland.

29 September 1954

To the members of the United Nations Visiting Mission

I wish to inform you of the trouble which has been caused me. One day I went to the office of the Mohammedan judge and he asked me to pay a fine of two somalos, but after taking the fine refused to listen to my complaint. I then took the matter to the Resident but he refused to hear us. I later sent a telegram to the Administrator about my case.

As a result of the telegram the authorities ordered me to appear before the Italian judge in May last. I went on foot to see him in Baidoa a distance of some 200 kilometres, at great trouble and expense, but the judge was not there on the appointed date and I returned here on foot.

The Italian judge then arrived here and I attended court, but he refused to hear me and I was ordered to pay 40 somalos costs. I had a donkey and sold it [word illegible]. I was also ordered not to engage in propaganda for my party for five years and was threatened repeatedly.

Even now the judge, whose name is Sheikh Abdullah, attacks me every day and threatens me.

If you are the defenders of justice, examine and consider my case. Sheikh Abdullah, the judge, is not versed in Mohammedan law and it seems to me he bases his judgments on the opinions of the Resident rather than on the law of Islam. There is no democracy. I beg you to relieve me of these fetters and examine my case.

(signed)

Ahmed Hussein Nur

Member of the Municipal Council, Bardera,
and Secretary of the Somali Democratic Party

Four other signatures

Carabinieri Group, Somali Police Force,
Bardera Section

Received from the native Ahmed Hussein Nur the sum of [figures illegible]
as court costs.

• (signed)

Angelo Brugalotta

(Officer in charge of station)

Bardera, 14 September 1954