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PETITION FROM MR. WARSAMA HAYU GUTALE AND OTHERS CONCERNING  
SOMALILAND UNDER ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85 and supplementary rule D  
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 Advisory Council for the Trust Territory  
of Somaliland under Italian Administration.

13 May 1956

To: the Gentlemen of the United Nations

Protest against Egypt

We extend to you our sincere greetings which come from hearts which towards you are pure and from souls which eagerly wish to see you.

Oh, United Nations, we submit to you this short appeal concerning the Egyptian Government which claims to work for the freedom of the Somali people. We are referring to the Egyptian members who are present in this town (Mogadiscio), that is to say all Egyptians present in this town whether as Consul or teachers, or Member of the Advisory Council, without any distinction.

The reason why we are presenting this complaint is that the above-mentioned members have established and undertaken in this town political activities in which they ought not to be involved, especially since each group of them has declared, at its arrival in this town, that it would help the Somali people and would make all possible efforts so that the Somali people obtain freedom and independence.

On the contrary, however, these Egyptian members constantly fail to carry out their promise and contradict their words and fight against the freedom of this people by making every effort to demolish and destroy them.

We do not know whether they receive order from the Egyptian Government urging them to adopt this policy or whether they do so of their own accord.

This policy of interference has three aspects: First: among the sons of Somalia they have chosen some deceitful old men which our people call "the pilgrims (Hadjadj) of deceit". Those "Hadjadhs" are well known for their deceitful acts and lack of good faith, and this is known by everybody. In spite of this, the abovementioned members preferred them to all of us and have chosen them as intermediaries between Somali and Egypt. This is evidence that Egypt not only is not acting fairly but also that it will not come near to acting fairly, since it does not allow any other intermediary but the "Hadjadjs".

Secondly, in their eloquent speeches, which easily impress the minds of the ignorant, they have spread the idea that the new Legislative Assembly for Somalia will conform to European laws and Western opinion and that this will cause the end of the Islamic doctrine and of the law of Prophet Mohammed in Somali Territory, since the Legislative Assembly uses an European language. Therefore, the Sons of Islam in Somalia must work against this Assembly. This is what the Egyptians are telling the Somalis, in their own way, by using a veiled language which is nevertheless quite clear to any intelligent person. This proves that their mission is to form us into fanatical groups opposed to the new Legislative Assembly, asserting that these are Islamic groups acting in the interest of religion.

They also say: the Somali Government has no need to rely on the language of the infidels, that is to say an European language; these are the words of the Egyptians.

No and no again!!! We shall not cease to stay under the Trusteeship of Europe until we are able to rely on ourselves and are independent.

Thirdly: the Egyptian mission does not cease to consult one tribe after another, telling them: if you support our policy today, we shall help you to obtain independence. It is for that reason that it is today possible to see that certain tribes claim to use only the Arabic language to the exclusion of any other language. If there had been a party, this would at least have been justified.

To sum up, Oh Assembly of United Nations, we submit to you this complaint and we apply to you so that you will examine it carefully, and will know that which is hidden.

The United Nations are the shelter of our life and the artisan of our freedom through whose agency we have reached this freedom, and they are also responsible for it until it has been realized. We have no intention of making a retrograde step and returning to colonial status.

Greetings.

(These lines have been written by the undersigned persons whose chief is Warsama Hayu)

Warsama Hayu Gutale

Ibrahim Sheik Ahmed

Ali Ahmed Mahadi

Abdulle Sobrie Haile

Signatures  
in latin  
characters

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