



EAST AFRICA
38985

38985
21-11-10

1910
previous Paper

Land on Tana River granted to United Methodist Free Church Mission

Call attention to acquisition in 1882 of 100 sq. m. by mission for the Falls Lake, & submit question whether Certificate of Title shd be given to the mission for a large area

Mr Read

Mr P. Girouard asks that this may be printed & brought before the Congress Committee at the meeting fixed for Friday the 30th of Dec. Mr. Puley or Mr. Cox might like to consider the legal point involved. (See paras. 3 & 4) Hub Dec 23

I don't think that there is enough for them to do. 70% of the way can show any light on the matter. They have not yet the present history of the subject at once to get 23/11

C/O
38985

COLONIAL OFFICE,

L O N D O N.

20th December 1910.

422



SIR:

In the year 1884, the United Methodist Free Church Mission acquired an area of approximately One hundred square miles from the Galla tribe, then pasturing their ^{stock} upon the Tana River. The price paid was 300 dollars, or about 200. A deed, dated 26th May 1884 was registered at the Consulate, Zanzibar, on the 27th July ^{the following} of that year.

2. The question has now arisen as to whether Certificate of title should be given to this Mission for such a large area of land. It has always been understood that the Galla were a pastoral people who do not recognise property in land, and were certainly not in a position to realize the consequences of the alienation of this area.

3. The Provincial Commissioner reports that as far as he is aware, the Galla have not and never had any claim to the district in question except for the purpose of grazing. Their occupation of it was dependent upon their relations with the Somalis or any other tribes they might be in contact with. There is no doubt

H. M. UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE

FOR THE COLONIES.

L O N D O N.

doubt whatever that the Mission in question cannot require this land for purely Mission purposes.

4. I am not aware of our legal obligations in this matter as the land was granted in an area outside the dominions of the Sultan of Zanzibar and at a time when I understand the British Government had assumed no rights in the Hinterland.

5. I should be glad to receive instructions as to the course which should be pursued with regard to this so-called concession.

I have the honour to be,

Your most obedient

humble servant,


GOVERNOR.

East
38985

24
24 Dec 1900



124

I am etc to the account

DRAFT.

to 80/10
to

135/11
to you, to the last before
Secretary Sir E. Smith the
administration of the

MINUTE.

- Mr. H. B. 24/10
- Mr. Butler 23
- Mr. Fiddes ~~23~~
- Mr. Just.
- Mr. Cox.
- Sir G. Lucas.
- Sir F. Hopwood.
- Col. Seely.
- Lord Curzon.
- Mr. Harcourt.

letter from Sir P. Parnell
was the subject of the
in 1884
agreement by the British
Methodist Free Church
mission of an area of
approximately 100 square
miles from the father
to the son pastoring
this stock in the

to 1/10/100 20/100
+ No 38985

269-25 Java River
2 of an to require

whether the records
of your dept. throw

any light on this
matter. I am sure
that Sir M. J. [unclear]

is a standard. So I may say
as an opinion upon
the obligation of the
Government to the
people of the transaction

State that a deed
dated 26th of May 1884

was registered at the
Consulate General
on the 7th of July

J. [unclear]

George E. RIDDER