

PETITION TO THE SENATE ON HISTORICAL LAND INJUSTICES AGAINST THE KIPSIGIS COMMUNITY

Honourable Senators,

1) I hereby report to the Senate that a Petition has been submitted, through the Clerk, by Mr. Joel Kimetto, a citizen of the Republic of Kenya on behalf of the Kipsigis Community Clans Organization.

2) As you are aware, Article 119 (1) of the Constitution states, and I quote.

*“every person has a right to petition Parliament to consider any matter within its authority, including enacting, amending or repealing any legislation”*

3) The salient issues raised in the Petition are –

- a) That the Colonial government forcefully took away Kipsigis ancestral land during the colonial period, following the enactment of laws that discriminated against indigenous African communities including – the Crown Land Ordinance Act (1902), the Removal of the Natives Ordinance Act (1909) and the Crown Land Ordinance Act (1915), which effectively evicted and displaced the Kipsigis Community from their land;
- b) That there was no form of compensation given to the Kipsigis community for the land taken for the settlement of the British. Instead, the Kipsigis community became squatters on their own land and forced to provide cheap labour to the white settlers.
- c) That the Kipsigis community is seeking redress in the form of compensation and a formal apology from the British government for the damage caused during the forceful eviction and use of ancestral land during the colonial period; and
- d) That upon gaining independence in 1963, no efforts have been made to return land that had been forcefully taken away from the Kipsigis community;

Hon. Speaker  
You may approve.  
MADGE  
12/11/19.

- 4) The Petitioners therefore pray that the Senate investigates the matter with a view to ensure that the Kipsigis community clans are resettled on the land that had been forcefully taken from them during the colonial period, appropriate compensation for the loss of property and livelihood for the affected communities is given.
- 5) Honourable Senators, pursuant to Standing Order 231, I shall now allow comments, observations or clarifications in relation to the Petition for not more than thirty (30) minutes.

(Upon expiry of the 30 minutes)

- 6) Honourable Senators, pursuant to Standing Order 232(1), the Petition is required to be committed to the relevant Standing Committee for consideration. In this case, I direct that the Petition be committed to the Standing Committee on Justice, Legal Affairs and Human Rights.
- 7) The Committee is required in not more than sixty (60) calendar days, from the time of reading the prayer, to submit a response to the Petitioner by way of a report to the Petitioner, and laid on the Table of the Senate, pursuant to Standing Order 232(2).
- 8) I thank you.