

P.O. Box 252,  
New Brighton:  
Pool-Elizabeth  
85-12-17.



Statement.

Sir, Mr Chairman and honourable guests, in the first place, I thank God in Jesus Name, who has made it possible for us, through the Honourable Minister Dr Cyril Viljoen, to have a meeting of this nature this morning.

1. I don't want to make a lengthy statement, but I want the authorities to know that what we want is permission to go back to our land Tsitsikama, which we regard as our heritage, and which we had occupied for almost 150 years.

The land was given to our ancestors as a perpetual settlement.

2. When we were told that the  
Government

Government wants to move us to Keiskammahoek we refused to go to that land and leave our heritage. After several meetings were held we insisted that we cannot exchange our land with that land.

We were surprised when we were told by the Government officials that if we refuse to move we shall be forced at-gunpoint and arrested.

Eventually armed soldiers arrived in their numbers and told our people that those who refuse to leave will be arrested some were taken to custody including a young woman with her baby.

Other events will be explained by some of our <sup>people</sup> present in this meeting.

3 After that awful sight of demolishing buildings and loss of stock many of our people suffered heart attack and died soon after being moved. We wrote to the Honourable Dr. P. Koorhof and told him about this tragedy and asked to talk to him personally and had explained to him that we want to go back to our land and would rather go back at our own expense.

We even emphasised that we are prepared to suffer or die going back than to die in a place like Lister.

Isaac J. Tembari.