

STATEMENT BY ZAMNGOONDO GINGANA EVICTED FROM THE FARM BELL ROCK

My name is Zamnggondo Gingana and I was born in 1939 in the Kei Rd district on the farm Rockdale. My family and I left this farm in 1957 when my father and I went to work for Rupert Swarts in the Mcleantown area and we worked for him for 8 years until 1965.

My father and I then went to work for Mr Wally Roach on the farm "Bell Rock" and have been there since 1965. My father died in December 1989. His funeral was taken by the Catholic Priest Fr. Bill Buckley and he was buried on the farm. At the end of January 1990 Mr. Roach told me and my aunt who had worked for Mrs. Roach in the kitchen since 1965 that our services were no longer required and that they and our family would have to leave the farm by the end of February 1990. He did not tell me the reason. Thus my family and I, and my aunt Jane in all 21 persons had to leave our home on the farm on 28th February 1990.

Mr. W. Roach was paying me R50,00 per month plus a 25 kg bag of mieliemeel (R18,00) at the time of my dismissal. I had 2 head of cattle and 7 goats which I had to sell when we left the farm to pay for building materials for a shelter at the Bisho location. I also had some chickens.

I was told that the Kei Road township in South Africa is too expensive and I believed I could not afford to pay the rent there (in the Kei Rd township) as the money I got from selling our cattle would have to be used for the building of some form of shelter.

I have a sister who lives in the Bisho township in the Ciskei and we got permission from the headman to move in with her. The house consists of two small rooms built out of timber off-cuts and we are very crowded as there are 21 persons in my family. We are all South African Citizens.

My aunt Jane, who is one of my father's sisters came to live with us when her husband died I think round about 1955. She lived in a small hut near mine. She had worked for Mrs. Roach as a cook since 1965 and she received R40,00 per month plus 25kg mieliemeel (R18,00) plus food from the kitchen. When Jane was told to go Mrs. Roach employed a young woman from Devan Location (Ciskei) to take over Jane's duties.

I am now trying to find a job.