IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF TANZANIA AT MWANZA

(CORAM: RUTAKANGWA, J.A., KILEO, J.A., And ORIYO, J.A.)

BK CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 3 OF 2011

DAUDA KANAGWA APPLICANT

VERSUS

1. IZAMU ABDUL]
2. BARIKIA AMRAN] RESPONDENTS

(Application to strike out a Notice of Appeal arising from decision of the High Court of Tanzania at Bukoba)

(Lyimo, J.)

dated the 28th day of January, 2010 in <u>Civil Appeal No. 2 of 2009</u>

RULING OF THE COURT

29th & 29th May, 2012

RUTAKANGWA, J.A.:

This application is brought under Rule 89 (2) of the Tanzania Court of Appeal Rules, 2009 (the Rules). The applicant, by notice of motion, is moving the Court to strike out the notice of appeal lodged by the 1st respondent in respect of the decree of the High Court sitting at Bukoba in Civil Appeal No. 2 of 2009, dated 28th January, 2010. The basis of the application is that although the notice of appeal was supposed to be lodged

within 14 days, then, of the impugned decree and a copy of the same served on him within 7 days, he has to date not been served with the same. This failure, he argues, renders the lodged notice of appeal liable to be struck out under Rule 89 (2) of the Rules.

On his part, the 1st respondent has vehemently argued that he served the applicant a copy of the notice of appeal on 6th February after duly lodging it on 5th February, 2010. He did not provide any proof of such alleged service, claiming that it was their accepted practice to serve each other informally.

The credibility of the 1st respondent's claim was put to test by the 2nd respondent. The latter told the Court that contrary to the allegation of the 1st respondent that they were serving each other informally, his own copy of the notice of appeal was served on him by dispatch by a clerk from the 1st respondent is firm of advocate.

We have dispassionately considered the rival claims between the applicant and the $\mathbf{1}^{\text{st}}$ respondent. For two goods reasons, we have reached

a conclusive finding that the 1st respondent never served the applicant with a copy of the notice of appeal. **One,** the 1st respondent is bare assertions are not supported by any document signed by the applicant acknowledging service on him. Furthermore, we are settled in our minds that the claim that service was made on 6th February, 2010 is an afterthought. Had it been true, this would have been reflected in his "counter affidavit" lodged on 24th May, 2012.

Two, the undisputed assertion of the 2^{nd} respondent that service on him was done formally by dispatch as already shown, reduces the defence of the 1^{st} respondent to a pack of lies. The 1^{st} respondent is trying to become wise after the event.

All said, we find merit in this application. As the 1st respondent failed to serve a copy of the notice of appeal at all, he contravened the mandatory provisions of Rule 77 (1) of the then Court Rules, 1979. We are constrained, therefore, to strike out the impugned notice of appeal with costs as urged by the applicant as we hereby do.

Order accordingly.

DATED at MWANZA this 29th day of May, 2012.

E.M.K. RUTAKANGWA JUSTICE OF APPEAL

E.A. KILEO JUSTICE OF APPEAL

K.K. ORIYO JUSTICE OF APPEAL

I certify that this is a true copy of the original.

E.Y. MKWIZU DEPUTY REGISTRAR