IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA IN THE DISTRICT REGISTRY OF BUKOBA AT BUKOBA

LAND APPEAL No. 60 OF 2019

(Appeal from the District land and Housing tribunal for Muleba in Application No. 03/2019)

MOHAMED SAGAIKA......APPELLANT

VERSUS

NYAKATARE GOHAZAVISE & 7 OTHERSRESPONDENTS

JUDGMENT

12th and 12 July 2021

Kilekamajenga, J.

In this case, the appellant one Mohamed Sagaika, purchased 10 acres of land from Nyakatare Gohazavise on 30th July, 2012. The total sale price of the 10 acres was Tshs. 2,400,000/=. The appellant paid Tshs. 750,000/= promising to pay the rest of the money later. Until on 26th October 2012, the appellant never paid the whole sale price. He only paid Tshs. 1,090,000/=. The parties later agreed that the 1st respondent should refund the appellant Tshs. 1,090,000/= or else the appellant should be given 6 acres which were equivalent to the value of Tshs. 1,090,000/= at that time. The 1st respondent opted to refund Tshs. 1,090,000/= to the appellant but he (appellant) refused to receive the money. The refund was done before the District Land and Housing Tribunal for Muleba before Hon. Kitungulu, E (Chairman) and features in the order of the tribunal in Misc. application No. 04 of 2017.

Sometimes in 2019, the appellant filed a case against the 1st respondent and 5 other respondents before the District Land and Housing Tribunal for Muleba vide application No. 3of 2019. The application was objected on the reason that the value of the property did not exceed the pecuniary jurisdiction of the Ward Tribunal and therefore the dispute ought to be filed before the Ward Tribunal. As a result, the application No. 3 of 2019 was dismissed. The appellant appeared before this Court armed with two grounds of appeal thus:

- 1) That the learned chairman grossly erred in law and fact by dismissing instead of strucking out an application
- 2) That the trial tribunal erred in law and fact when holding that the tribunal lacks pecuniary jurisdiction while the substantive claims in the suit at hand is under the jurisdiction of the trial tribunal.

When the appeal was fixed for hearing, the appellant appeared in person and without representation whereas the 1st respondent was present and represented by the learned advocate Mr. Mbekomize (Advocate). In his oral submission, the appellant urged the Court to conclude this matter because it has taken time. He further prayed from the 1st respondent to give him a piece of land equivalent to the amount of money he paid. On the other hand, the counsel for the 1st respondent informed the Court about the nature of the dispute and urged the Court to dismiss the appeal with costs.

In considering the merits or otherwise in this appeal, the appellant before this Court prayed exactly what was ordered by the District Land and Housing Tribunal in Misc. Application No. 04 of 2017. In that case, the 1st respondent refunded Tshs. 1,090,000/= to the appellant but he refused to take it and further refused to vacate from the suit land. The record further shows that the appellant signed an agreement consenting to the refund of Tshs. 1,090,000/=. It is surprising to learn that he later refused to receive the money. On whether or not the application No. 03 of 2019 was rightly dismissed; throughout the application, the appellant indicated the value of the property (land) to be below Tshs. 3,000,000/=. Therefore, the dispute ought to commence at the Ward tribunal. In addition, it is unfortunate that the same dispute initially commenced at the Ward Tribunal and finally reached the District land and Housing tribunal in 2017 before resurfacing again in 2019. In my view the appellant is employing some delaying tactics or abusing the Court process the practice which this Court has to stop it. A party must be stopped from abusing Court processes especially where he/she initiates endless litigations for no good reasons. I have taken a holistic view of this matter and found out that the appellant had no genuine claim against the respondents. For that reason therefore, I hereby dismiss the appeal with costs. As the refund of Tshs. 1,090,000/= was deposited at the District Land and Housing Tribunal in 2017, the appellant should make efforts to claim it from the tribunal. I further order the appellant to vacate from the disputed land as soon as possible. It is so ordered.

Ntemi N. Kilekamajenga

JUDGE
12/07/2021

Court:

Judgment delivered this 12th July 2021 in the presence of the appellant present in person and the counsel for the 1st respondent and the respondent present in person.

Ntemi N. Kilekamajenga

JUDGE

12/07/2021