

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
JUDICIARY  
IN THE HIGH COURT OF TANZANIA AT DODOMA  
DISTRICT REGISTRY  
AT DODOMA**

**MISC. CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 8 OF 2021**

*(Originating from Civil Appeal No.11 Iramba District Court and Civil  
Case No.22 of 2020 Shelui Primary Court)*

**ABEL SELEMANI** ..... **APPLICANT**

**VERSUS**

**SILIVESTER SUPA**..... **RESPONDENT**

**RULING**

*Date of last order: 05.08.2021*

*Date of Ruling; 18.08.2021*

**MAMBI, J.**

This Ruling emanates from an application filed by the applicant. In his application supported by an Affidavit. The applicant filed an application (**MISC. LAND APPLICATION NO. 8 OF 2021**) for an application for an extension of time to file application for review to this court out of time. In his application the applicant has prayed to this court to allow him to application to file his appeal out of time.

During hearing, both the applicants were unrepresented.

The applicant briefly submitted that he is seeking for an order for extension of time to file his appeal out of time. He argued

that he has stated his reasons for delay under the affidavit. He also argued that he was sick and attended different hospitals that is why he delayed to appeal.

In response, the respondent briefly submitted that the applicant has not indicated any good reasons.

I have considerably perused the application supported by an affidavit. I have also keenly considered the submissions made by both parties to find out whether this application has merit or not. The main issue to be determined is whether the applicant has advanced sufficient reasons for this court to consider his application for an extension of time to file his appeal out of time. In other words, the question to be determined is whether the applicant has properly moved this court in his application and whether there are any good causes for his delay or not. It is trite law that any party seeks for an extension of time to file an appeal or application out of time he is required to advance sufficient reasons in his affidavit before the court can consider and allow such application. This is the position of the law with and case studies. In this regard, I wish to refer the decision of the Court of Appeal of Tanzania in **REGIONAL MANAGER, TANROADS KAGERA V. RUAHA CONCRETE COMPANY LTD CIVIL APPLICATION NO.96 OF 2007 (CAT unreported)**. The court in this case observed that;

*“the test for determining an application for extension of time, is whether the applicant has established some material amounting sufficient cause or good cause as to why the sought application is to be granted”.*

'This means that in determining an application for extension of time, the court has to determine if the applicant has established some material amounting sufficient cause or good cause as to why the sought application is to be granted. This means that the court needs to consider an issue as to whether the applicants in their affidavit have disclosed good cause or sufficient reasons for delay. In other words, the court needs to take into account factors such as reasons for delay that where the applicant is expected to account of cause for delay of every day that passes beyond the aforesaid period, length of the delay that is shown such reasons were operated for all the period of delay.

in **MEIS INDUSTRIES LTD AND 2 OTHERS VERSUS TWIGA BANK CORP; Misc Commercial Cause No. 243 of 2015**

(Unreported) where it was held that:

*"(i) An application for extension of time is entirely in the discretion of the Court to grant or to refuse it, and that extension of time may only be granted where it has been sufficiently established that the delay was with sufficient cause. ."*

Reference can also be made to the decision of the court in **BARCLAYS BANK TANZANIA LTD VERSUS PHYLICIAN HUSSEIN MCHENI**; Civil Application No 176 of 2015 Court of Appeal of Tanzania at Dar es Salaam (Unreported) underscored that;

*"Among factors to be considered in an application for extension of time under Rule 10 of the Court of Appeal Rules, 2009 are:-*

- (a) The length of the delay*
- (b) The reason of the delay – whether the delay was caused or contributed by the dilatory conduct of the applicant?*
- (c) Whether case such as whether there is a point of law or the illegality or otherwise of the decision sought to be challenged.”*

Worth also at this juncture referring the decision of the court

Looking at the application before this court, the applicant in his affidavit has clearly indicated that he had sufficient reasons for their delay. It is clear from the affidavit and other records that the applicant has clearly stated the sufficient reasons including the point of illegality for his delay. My perusal from the records especially affidavit and submission have revealed that the applicant has established that there is a point of law or the illegality as indicated under para 5, 6 and 7 of his affidavit. It also on the records that the applicant was not supplied with the records timeously. In my view, these were good causes and sufficient reasons for his delay. My perusal on the applicant's documents including his affidavit (para 4, ,5 ,6 and 7)in line with their submission has found that the applicant has indicated reasonable or sufficient cause to enable this court to consider and grant his application. Indeed, the question as to what it amounts to “sufficient cause” was underscored in **REGIONAL MANAGER TANROADS KAGERA VS RUAHA CONCRETE CO LTD CIVIL APPLICATION NO 96 of 2007**, where the court observed the following:-

*“What constitutes sufficient reasons cannot be laid down by any hard or fast rules. This must be determined by reference to all the circumstances of each particular case. This means **the applicant must place before the court material which will move the court to exercise judicial discretion in order to extend time limited by rules**”(emphasis supplied).*

Reference can also be made to the decision of Court of Appeal in **MOBRAMA GOLD CORPORATION LTD Versus MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND MINERALS, AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, AND EAST AFRICAN GOLDMINES LTD AS INTERVENOR, TLR, 1998** in which the court at **Page 425** held that

*“It is generally inappropriate to deny a party an extension of time where such denial will stifle his case; as the respondents’ delay does not constitute a case of procedural abuse or contemptuous default and because the applicant” . will not suffer any prejudice, an extension should be granted.*

Similarly, The Court in **TANGA CEMENT AND ANOTHER CIVIL APPLICATION NO 6 OF 2001** clearly held that:

*“What amounts to sufficient cause has not been defined. From decided cases a number of factors has to be taken into account including whether or not the application has been brought promptly; the absence of any or valid explanation for delay; lack of diligence on the part of the applicant”.*

The argument by the respondents that the applicant has failed to show sufficient reasons in his affidavit has no merit. I agree with the applicant that he has advanced and presented sufficient reasons for delay and the extent of such delay in

their application and he has also indicated that there a point of law on illegality and technicality involved. I also wish to refer the Law of Limitation Act. The relevant provision is section 14 (1) of the Law of Limitation Act Cap.89 [R.E. 2019] which provides as follows:-

*"14-(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of this Act, the court may, **for any reasonable or sufficient cause**, extend the period of limitation for the institution of an appeal or an application, other than an application for such execution of a decree, and **an application for such extension may be made** either before or after the expiry of the period of limitation prescribed for such appeal or application (emphasis mine)".*

I am of the considered view that this application has merit and this court finds proper the applicants to be granted an extension of time to appeal to file leave to appeal out of time. The applicant shall file his application within 21 days from the date of this ruling.



**Dr. A.J. MAMBI**

**JUDGE**

**18.08. 2021**

Ruling delivered this **18<sup>th</sup>** day of **August, 2020** in presence of both parties.



**Dr. A.J. MAMBI**

**JUDGE**

**18.08. 2021**

Right of appeal explained.



**Dr. A.J. MAMBI**

**JUDGE**

**18.08. 2021**