

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT KHORIXAS

National Archives  
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SUBMISSION TO THE NATIONAL LAND REFORM CONFERENCE

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We are very concern about the development and self-reliance, and for teaching the people to stand on their own on their two psychological feet.

Communal Areas were and is still like a prison without any intension of rehabilitation. For the man's awareness of himself as a thinking being and to reach new hights have died.

People were taken from towns and resettled on farms without any training. Most of these people where untrained stock-farmers who, after their stock have been exhausted moved to the greater towns-, like Khorixas, in our case - to find some jobs or new sources of food. The people have never learnt to control their environment by planting, harvesting and fertilizing.

The Authorities allocated farms mostly to their relatives but only to their friends. There were and is still not sufficient maintenance team to service the existing engines. Some engines have been removed to the farms owned by the headman or relatives. Some people have tried very hard to persist through this difficult periods and sometimes succeed in bringing their stock to the auction.

Prizes were and is still very low but they were usually forced to sell because of the hunger.

The people are, in the most cases afraid to make changes, to move to new place, but these things can be overcome. There<sup>fore</sup> we want to make our proposals.

1. The Communal areas can keep on exist for beginners, but a skilled and modern body must be established to allocate the farms.
2. The farmers who have the ability to produce food by means of agriculture and stockfarming can be encouraged to move to the Commercial farms.
3. The production of food by means of Agriculture and Stock-farming will lead to a series of specialized skills and will also help us to develop technology to help us control our environment. This will include the architecture and engineering (dams, roads) townplannings ect.
- 3.1 Therefore we want to reopen the inservice training school<sup>the</sup> in Khorixas and the effective administration of the Braunfels Agriculturer school near Khorixas.
4. There was a tendency that people do not want to work. It's a <sup>lie</sup> ~~no~~.

Our services were not payed for. Its why people were unwilling to do their best. Standard prizes for our products will encourage us for beter productivity.

5. That we are not skilled is also not 100 % true. It's us who do the skilled work, while the people with the papers are in the towns reaping our products. Acknowledge our skills by providing us with papers.
6. The headmen are afraid of losing their Authority if the people is moving and living and working in other places. The headmen were getting a salary from the government and their families were well fortunated. Give the people the necessary opportunity to farm in rainfall areas.
7. Every person can not be force to be under a headman, because they have already proved that they are just carring for their relatives, their responsibilities over us must be taken over by the state for example food distribution in certain areas like Sesfontein or Garden administration in Fransfontein or allocating of plots and move rights by people from one farm to another farm.
8. Town planning: Our residencial areas were neglected in the past.
  - a) Our yards are very small - in comparison with those formal white areas - Standard measures must be used, so that we can also do home gardening or our children can have enough space to play, or so that we can have privacy.
  - b) The streets are very narrow. It is very dangerous for our children.
  - c) We all buy furniture at the same places but the building societies forget standard measures of homes. Please build standard houses with standard prizes.
9. Selfsufficiency can be developed by teaching us technics in ploughs, spinning and weaving. Sewage-water is just running in the rivers. Cotton can be planned there for the above mentioned purposes.
10. Pottery and metal-work can also be encourage to create jobs.

If the people get also the treatment the whites got in the past they will also develop self-reliance, selfsufficiency. We are ready <sup>for the</sup> change, just give us a push.

11. The salaries have not yet changed but the farm prizes have raised. So also have the school and the hostel fees. For a better future those schools with the better facilities is a great need. Pay good for our Agriculture and stock-farming products and we will controbute in the economic stream of our Country.

Yours

D.D. HERERO  
SECRETARY