

P.N.D.C.L. 179

**YENDI SKIN AFFAIRS (MATTERS CONSEQUENTIAL TO SUPREME
COURT JUDGMENT OF 17th DECEMBER, 1986) ACT, 1987**

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

SECTION

1. Enskinning of Adam Mahama and Yakubu Abdu-lai declared null.
2. Adam Mahama and Yakubu Abdu-lai not to purport to be chiefs.
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5. Adam Mahama and Yakubu Abdu-lai not to be recognised as chiefs.

P.N.D.C.L. 179

**YENDI SKIN AFFAIRS (MATTERS CONSEQUENTIAL TO SUPREME
COURT JUDGMENT OF 17th DECEMBER, 1986) ACT, 1987¹**

AN ACT to give effect to a judgment of the Supreme Court and to provide for related matters.

1. Enskinning of Adam Mahama and Yakubu Abdu-lai declared null

The nomination, selection and enskinning of

- (a) Adam Mahama as Karaga Na,
- (b) Yakubu Abdu-lai as Savelugu-Na,

of the Yendi Traditional Area is hereby declared null for all purposes, whether under customary law or otherwise.

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1. This Act was issued as the Yendi Skin Affairs (Matters Consequential to Supreme Court Judgment of 17th December, 1986) Law, 1987 made on 25th May, 1987 and notified in the *Gazette* on 5th June, 1987. The preamble reads,

“WHEREAS the Supreme Court by its Judgment of 17th December, 1986 in the case of MOHAMADU ABDULAI VERSUS NA YAKUBU II, inter alia, made the following orders that:

- (a) in accordance with Dagomba Constitution only sons of former Ya Nas should be appointed to the Gate Skins of Savelugu, Karaga and Mion;
- (b) all persons who have ever occupied the Nam of Yendi shall without regard to how they ceased to be Ya-Na be regarded as former Ya Nas and that their sons must qualify for appointment to the gate skins of Savelugu, karaga and Mion;
- (c) to give effect to the rotation system all the three gates should not be occupied by one family.

AND WHEREAS the Provisional National Defence Council deems it necessary in the interest of peace and public order in the Yendi Traditional Area to give effect to the Judgment of the Supreme Court by Law.”

2. Adam Mahama and Yakubu Abdu-lai not to purport to be chiefs

Adam Mahama and Yakubu Abdu-lai are hereby prohibited from exercising or purporting to exercise the functions of Karaga-Na and Savelugu-Na respectively of the Yendi Traditional Area, whether under customary law or otherwise.

3. Prohibition of Adam Mahama and Yakubu Abdu-lai from Karaga and Savelugu respectively

(1) Unless the President otherwise directs,

- (a) Adam Mahama is hereby prohibited from residing, entering or remaining in the town of Karaga or from residing, entering or remaining in any place within a radius of 86 kilometres from Karaga;
- (b) Yakubu Abdu-lai is hereby prohibited from entering, residing or remaining in the town of Savelugu or residing, entering or remaining in any place within a radius of 24 kilometres from Savelugu.

(2) Where Adam Mahama or Yakubu Abdu-lai without lawful excuse, the proof of which lies on him, contravenes subsections (1) he commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a term of imprisonment of not less than two years and not more than ten years, without the option of a fine.

4. Authorisation to take possession of skin property

(1) Until the time that a new Karaga-Na and a new Savelugu-Na are enskinned for Karaga and Savelugu respectively and the President in writing directs the restoration of the skin properties, the Regional Minister is hereby authorised to take possession of the Karaga and Savelugu skin properties.

(2) The Regional Minister shall as soon as practicable after taking possession of the skin properties prepare an inventory of those properties accompanied by a certificate of correctness signed

- (a) jointly by the Regional Minister and Adam Mahama in respect of the Karaga skin; and
- (b) jointly by the Regional Minister and Yakubu Abdu-lai in respect of the Savelugu skin.

(3) The Regional Minister shall forward a copy of the inventory together with the signed certificate of correctness to the Minister responsible for chieftaincy matters.

(4) A person who obstructs the Regional Minister from taking possession of the Karaga and Savelugu skin properties commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a term of imprisonment of not less than two years and not more than five years without the option of a fine.

5. Adam Mahama and Yakubu Abdu-lai not to be recognised as chiefs

(1) A person shall not

- (a) recognise or treat Adam Mahama as Karaga-Na or Yakubu Abdu-lai as Savelugu-Na of the Yendi Traditional Area whether under customary law or otherwise;

(b) in any manner support, encourage or canvass a claim of Adam Mahama to be Karaga-Na or Yakubu Abdu-lai to be Savelugu-Na of the Yendi Traditional Area.

(2) A person who contravenes a provision of subsection (1) of this section commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a term of imprisonment of not less than two years and not more than five years without the option of a fine.
