

**The political development and conflicts in the history of Chagga council from 1928 – 1963:
a case study of Chagga council from 1928 – 1963**

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The objective of this study is to assess the political development and conflicts in the history of the Chagga Council. Various sources of information were used. These sources include the library sources, the national archives, interviews which were conducted in former Chagga council namely Hai, Vunjo and Rombo. Documentary information was obtained from above mentioned sources, while oral interviews were recorded by using a recorder. The sampling procedure was such that three specific individuals were identified from the three former divisions of Chagga council mentioned above later the recorded information was extracted and written down ready for this research purpose. The pre-colonial Chagga Society was not homogeneous, each society under a particular Chiefdom considered itself a complete political unity. However, the imposition of German and later British colonial rule in Kilimanjaro from 1892 altered in a fundamental way the trend of political centralization. Due to indirect rule system, the period from 1920s to 1960 was a period of intense political changes, conflicts and developments. The most outstanding changes to the people of Kilimanjaro came through the introduction of indirect rule system. The system blurred the political consciousness of the people since it was not designed to foster progressive institutions or to further the cause of self-government. Its main purpose was to reduce the cost of government administration by using tribal institutions as a way of winning the loyalty of natives thus avoiding insurrection against rulers.