

**Public interest litigation and its role in good governance: a study of the laws and practices
in Tanzania**

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It is common knowledge that public interest litigation remains to be a means for the disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in the society to seek social justice. This is simply so because constitutionally based public interest litigation encourages governments to make their human rights obligations meaningful to all segments of society and thus improving the lives and access to court by the disadvantaged members in the societies. Despite its importance, public interest litigation still faces hurdles and is yet to be accepted as part and parcel of the Tanzanian legal tradition. Public interest litigation poses unique problems in governance relations. The question at the heart of the study is whether public interest litigation promotes or hinders good governance. Chapter one gives the general introduction. It provides the background, states the problem and the objectives of the study. It also explains the hypothesis, research methodology and sums up the literature review. Chapter two gives conceptual framework of public interest litigation. Chapter three outlines the legal framework for the conduct of public interest litigation in Tanzania. Chapter four presents the research findings, while chapter five provides the conclusion and recommendations.