



## CARIBBEAN COURT OF JUSTICE

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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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#### **CCJ DELIVERS JUDGMENT IN GUYANA MATTER JAFARALLY ALI V CHOONG ORS**

**CCJ, Port of Spain.** On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2013 the CCJ handed down a judgment in the Appellate Jurisdiction matter Jafarally Ali v Choong Ors. The matter originated in Guyana.

This appeal involved a claim to obtain a possessory title by twelve years' adverse possession.

In 1965, Basil Ramnarine became the tenant of John Gilbert Choong. Ramnarine built a house on the land. In 1981, the Appellant became a licensee of Ramnarine in respect of the house. Ramnarine left the Appellant in the house and emigrated to the U.S.A. in 1983.

The question was whether 22 years later the Appellant had extinguished the title of Choong and/or extinguished the title of Ramnarine to the house.

The Court held that the Appellant could not rely on the occupation of Ramnarine, who acknowledged the owner's title as late as 1999.

Nor could the Appellant rely on his own occupation since he recognized Ramnarine's ownership of the house when he sought to purchase the house and the land from Ramnarine as late as 2000.

The judgment of the Court and an executive summary of the same may be found on the Court's website.

**END**