A Catholic priest yesterday received death threats in a letter mailed to him.

Father Gabriel Dolan of the Kitale Peace and Justice Commission said the letter, written in Kiswahili, demands that he leaves Trans-Nzoia District or else he will be killed.

The priest, who has been involved in civic education in the North Rift, said he was trailed by unknown people for three days before he received the threats.

The letter reads in part: “Tunasikitika sana kwamba wewe unahusika kwa kupeana vyakula, pesa, mabunduki na marisasi iii Wakenya waweze kufanya vita vva wenyelt'e kwa wenvewe. Chagua ufe ama uishi kwa Wakenya ama utakumbuka Kenya siku zote ukiwa kaburinti.” (We are sad that you are involved in giving relief food, money, guns and ammunition so that Kenyans can fight one another. Choose death or a peaceful life with Kenyans; otherwise you will remember Kenya in your grave).

Yesterday, a shaken Fr Dolan reported the matter to the Kitale police station. Local police boss Alfred N'etic is investigating the matter.

The developments come barely a week after Cherangany MP. Kipruto Kirwa said that threats to kill Fr Dolan and evict another priest in Keiyo, Fr Michael Rop, should not be taken lightly.

Mr Kirwa demanded the arrest of a nominated councillor, Mr Pius Kauka, who had threatened to lead Sabot youth in killing Fr Dolan over a disputed 2,000-acre farm.

Meanwhile, two church leaders in West Pokot have welcomed Mr Moroto's decision to work with Fr Dolan.

The Rev John Lodinyo of the Baptist Church and the Rev Julius Murgor of the African Inland Church said the development would bring peace in the district.