**THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN 1973**

PART I

Introductory

**The Republic and its territories:**

1. (1) Pakistan is a Federal Republic known as the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, often just called Pakistan.

(2) Pakistan includes:

* + The provinces of Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, and Sindh.
  + The Islamabad Capital Territory, which is our Federal Capital.
  + Any other areas or states that become part of Pakistan, whether they join or are added later.

(3) The Parliament can make rules to bring new states or areas into Pakistan, deciding the terms and conditions for their inclusion.

**Islam to be State Religion**

1. Islam is the official State religion of Pakistan.

2A. The principles and provisions stated in the Objectives Resolution (included in the Annex) are now an essential part of the Constitution. They will be followed and respected as such.

**Eliminating Exploitation**

1. The State must work to end all types of exploitation. It aims to gradually achieve the fundamental principle: everyone contributes based on their abilities, and everyone receives based on their work. The principle refers to free access to and distribution of goods, capital and services.

**Rights of Individuals Under the Law**

1. (1) Every citizen and anyone currently in Pakistan has the right to be protected by the law. This includes being treated fairly under the law, no matter where they are.

(2) Specifically:

* 1. No one can take actions that harm a person's life, freedom, body, reputation, or property unless it's according to the law.
  2. People shouldn't be stopped from doing something that isn't against the law.
  3. No one can be forced to do something that the law doesn't require them to do.

**Loyalty to State and obedience to Constitution and law**

5. (1) Loyalty to the State is the basic duty of every citizen.

(2) Obedience to the Constitution and law is the [inviolable] obligation of every citizen wherever he may be and of every other person for the time being within Pakistan.

**Punishment for High Treason**

1. (1) Anyone who tries to overthrow the Constitution using force or any unconstitutional means is committing high treason.

(2) People who help or support such actions are also guilty of high treason.

(2A) No court, including the Supreme Court and High Court, can validate these acts of high treason.

(3) The Parliament will create laws to punish those found guilty of high treason.

Means that while the Constitution mandates punishment for those found guilty of high treason, the specific laws detailing the punishment and procedures will be formulated and enacted by the Parliament.

In essence, the Constitution requires the Parliament to pass legislation that outlines the punishment, procedures, and other pertinent aspects related to individuals convicted of committing the severe offense of high treason. The Parliament is responsible for creating and passing the laws that define the nature and extent of punishment for individuals found guilty of high treason, in line with the constitutional provisions.

PART II

**Definition of the State**

1. In this section, unless there's a specific reason otherwise, "the State" refers to:

* The Federal Government,
* The Parliament (Majlis-e-Shoora),
* A Provincial Government,
* A Provincial Assembly,
* And any local or other authorities in Pakistan empowered by law to impose taxes or charges.

CHAPTER 1. – FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

**Laws Inconsistent with Fundamental Rights**

1. (1) Any law or custom that doesn't align with the rights given in this chapter will be considered void where it conflicts.

(2) The State cannot create laws that take away or limit these rights. If any law contradicts this, it will also be void to the extent of the contradiction.

(3) However, these rules don't apply to:

* 1. Laws related to Armed Forces, police, or forces ensuring public order, but only for their proper functioning and maintaining discipline among them.
  2. Specific laws mentioned in the First Schedule, either existing before or changed by laws in that Schedule, won't be void even if they clash with this Chapter.

(4) Yet, within two years from the start, the appropriate Legislature must align laws listed in Part II of the First Schedule with the rights given here. This period can be extended by up to six months through a resolution, especially for laws under the National Assembly.

(5) These rights cannot be suspended unless the Constitution specifically allows for it.

**Security of Person**

1. No one can be denied their life or freedom except as permitted by law.

**Safeguards for Arrest and Detention**

1. (1) When someone is arrested, they must be told the reasons for their arrest without delay. They also have the right to consult and be defended by a lawyer of their choice.

(2) Anyone arrested must be taken before a magistrate within twenty-four hours of their arrest, except for the time required to travel to the nearest court. They cannot be held in custody beyond this time without a magistrate's authorization.

(3) Clauses (1) and (2) don't apply to people arrested under preventive detention laws.

(4) Laws for preventive detention can only be made for specific reasons like endangering Pakistan's integrity, security, defense, public order, or vital services. Detention under these laws can't exceed three months unless a Review Board finds a valid reason for continued detention.

(5) People detained under preventive laws must be informed of the grounds for their detention within fifteen days and given a chance to make their case against the order, although some information can be withheld in the public interest.

(6) All relevant documents related to the case must be given to the Review Board, except when it's against public interest, as certified by a government official.

(7) No person detained under preventive laws can be held for more than eight months (for public order issues) or twelve months (for other cases) within a twenty-four month period, unless they are involved in actions prejudicial to the country's integrity, security, defense, or commit anti-national activities as defined by Federal law.

(8) The Review Board decides where detained persons are held and provides reasonable financial support for their families.

(9) These rules don't apply to enemy aliens or people considered enemies of the state for the time being.

**Right to Fair Trial**

10A. In any matter involving a person's civil rights, obligations, or a criminal charge against them, that person has the right to a fair trial and due process.

**Prohibition of Slavery and Forced Labor**

1. (1) Slavery is strictly prohibited in Pakistan, and no law can allow or support its introduction in any form.

(2) All forms of forced labor and human trafficking are prohibited.

(3) No child below the age of fourteen years can be employed in any factory, mine, or hazardous work.

(4) This Article doesn't impact compulsory service:

* 1. By someone undergoing punishment for breaking the law.
  2. Required by any law for a public purpose.

However, no compulsory service should be cruel or against human dignity.

**Protection against Retrospective Punishment**

1. (1) No law can allow punishing a person:
   1. For an action or inaction that wasn't against the law when it occurred.
   2. For an offense with a penalty greater than or different from what the law prescribed when the offense occurred.

(2) However, these rules don't apply to any law making acts of abrogation or subversion of a Constitution in force in Pakistan since March 23, 1956, an offense.

**Protection against Double Punishment and Self-Incrimination**

1. (1) No person can:
   1. Be prosecuted or punished multiple times for the same offense.
   2. Be forced to act as a witness against themselves when accused of an offense.

**Protection of Human Dignity and Privacy**

1. (1) The dignity of every individual and, as long as it follows the law, the privacy of their home, must be respected and protected.

(2) No person can be tortured to obtain evidence.

**Freedom of Movement**

1. Every citizen has the right to stay in Pakistan. They can, within reasonable limits set by the law in the public interest, freely enter, move around, reside, and settle in any part of Pakistan.

**Right to Peaceful Assembly**

1. Every citizen has the right to peacefully assemble without weapons, except when reasonable restrictions imposed by law are necessary to maintain public order.

**Right to Form Associations and Political Parties**

1. (1) Every citizen has the right to create associations or unions, with reasonable restrictions imposed by law in the interest of Pakistan's sovereignty, integrity, public order, or morality.

(2) Citizens not in Pakistan's service can form or join political parties, with reasonable restrictions imposed by law in the interest of Pakistan's sovereignty or integrity. If the Federal Government declares a political party prejudicial to Pakistan's sovereignty or integrity, the matter will be referred to the Supreme Court for a final decision within fifteen days.

(3) Every political party must disclose the source of its funds as per the law.

**Right to Trade, Business, and Profession**

1. Every citizen has the right to engage in any lawful profession or occupation and conduct any lawful trade or business, subject to qualifications set by law.

However, this right doesn't prevent:

* Regulating trades or professions through licensing systems.
* Regulating trade, commerce, or industry to ensure fair competition.
* The Federal Government, Provincial Government, or their controlled corporations engaging in trade, business, industry, or services, even to the exclusion of other individuals partially or completely.

**Freedom of Speech, Expression, and Information**

1. Every citizen has the right to freedom of speech and expression. There's also freedom of the press, except when reasonable restrictions, guided by law, are necessary in the interest of Islam's glory, Pakistan's integrity, security, defence, friendly relations with other countries, public order, decency, morality, contempt of court, commission of an offense, or incitement to an offense.

19A. Additionally, every citizen has the right to access information about matters of public importance, subject to regulation and reasonable restrictions imposed by law.

**Freedom of Religion and Management of Religious Institutions**

1. Every citizen has the right to profess, practice, and spread their religion, subject to the law, public order, and morality.

Every religious denomination and its sects have the right to create, uphold, and oversee their religious institutions.