

The Bangladesh Jatiya Jadughar Ordinance, 1983

(Ordinance NO. LIII OF 1983)

An Ordinance to provide for the establishment of the Bangladesh Jatiya Jadughar.

WHEREAS, it is expedient to provide for the establishment of the Bangladesh Jatiya Jadughar and for matters ancillary thereto;

NOW, THEREFORE, in pursuance of the Proclamation of the 24th March, 1982, and in exercise of all powers enabling him in that behalf, the Chief Martial Law Administrator is pleased to make and promulgate the following Ordinance:-

Short title

1. This Ordinance may be called the Bangladesh Jatiya Jadughar Ordinance, 1983.

Definitions

2. In this Ordinance, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,-

(a) "antiquity" means-

(i) any ancient movable product of human activity illustrative of art, architecture, craft, custom, literature, morals, politics, religions, warfare, science or of any aspect of civilisation or of culture;

(ii) any ancient movable object of historical, ethnological, anthropological, biological, geological, military or scientific interest;

(iii) any gate, door, window, panelling dados, ceiling, inscription, wall-painting, wood work, iron work, or sculpture or other thing which is attached or fastened to an immovable antiquity; and

(iv) any other ancient object or class of such objects declared by the Government, by notification in the official Gazette, to be an antiquity for the purposes of this Ordinance;

(b) "Board" means the Board of Trustees of the Jadughar;

(c) "Jadughar" means the Bangladesh Jatiya Jadughar established under section 3;

(d) "Mahaparichalak" means the Mahaparichalak appointed under section 11;

(e) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules or regulations made under this Ordinance;

(f) "Sabhapati" means the Sabhapati of the Board;

(g) "Sachib" means the Sachib of the Jadughar appointed under section 12; and

(h) "Trustee" means a Trustee of the Board.

Establishment of Jadughar

3. (1) On the commencement of this Ordinance, there shall be established a National Museum to be called the Bangladesh Jatiya Jadughar.

(2) The Jadughar shall be a body corporate, having perpetual succession and a common seal, with power to acquire, hold and dispose of property, both movable and immovable, and shall by the said name sue and be sued.

General direction

4. The General direction and administration of the affairs of the Jadughar shall vest in a Board of Trustees which may exercise all powers and do all acts or things which may be exercised or done by the Jadughar.

Patron-in-Chief

5. The President shall be the Patron-in-Chief of the Jadughar.

Board

6. The Board shall consist of the following Trustees, namely:-

(a) an eminent person from the field of education or culture to be appointed by the Government, who shall also be the Sabhapati of the Board;

¹[(b) the Secretary of the Ministry or Division dealing with finance, ex-officio, or any officer thereof not below the rank of Deputy Secretary to be

nominated by it;

(bb) the Secretary of the Ministry or Division dealing with cultural affairs, ex-officio, or any officer thereof not below the rank of Deputy Secretary to be nominated by it;]

(c) two professors of Universities of Bangladesh, one from the subjects of humanities and the other from the subjects of science, to be appointed by the Government;

(d) the Mahaparichalak of the Jadughar, who shall also act, as Secretary of the Board;

²[(e) the Director, Directorate of Archives and Libraries, ex-officio;]

(f) the Director, Department of Archaeology, ex-officio;

(g) the Principal, Bangladesh College of Arts and Crafts, Dhaka, ex-officio;

³[* * *]

⁴[(gg) a representative of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, Dhaka, to be appointed by the Government;]

(h) five persons to be appointed by the Government from amongst the donors of antiquities and works of arts, and from amongst persons interested in arts, antiquities and museum activities.

Terms of office of Trustees, etc.

7. (1) A Trustee, other than an ex-officio Trustee, shall hold office for a period of three years from the date of his appointment and shall be eligible for reappointment.

(2) A Trustee, other than an ex-officio Trustee may, at any time, resign his office by a letter addressed to the Sabhapati.

(3) No act or proceedings of the Board shall be invalid merely on the ground of the existence of a vacancy in, or defect in the constitution of, the Board.

Functions of the Board

8. The functions of the Board shall be-

(a) to administer and develop the Jadughar;

(b) to collect, preserve and display the antiquities, works of art, ethnological specimens, relics connected with the liberation struggle of Bangladesh, specimens of flora and fauna, traditional crafts and artifacts, products of intellectual activities, audio-visual documentary evidence, and such other objects and items related to the cultural and natural heritage of Bangladesh;

(c) to collect, preserve and display material evidence of different aspects of various world civilisations;

(d) to make arrangements for research on the collections of the Jadughar;

(e) to publish and sell periodicals, books, anthologies and reproductions of objects;

(f) to organise exhibitions, conferences, lectures, seminars and assemblies on the cultural and natural heritage of Bangladesh;

(g) to organise, with prior approval of the Government, exhibitions outside the country in order to project cultural and natural heritage of Bangladesh;

(h) to assist, encourage and promote development of other museums in Bangladesh;

(i) to take over and administer a museum on such terms or conditions as may be agreed upon between the Board and the museum committee concerned;

(j) to take over and administer any museum established by the Government, or execute any scheme or project prepared by the Government, if so directed by the Government, on such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between the Board and the Government;

(k) to engage individuals or organisations of specific work for the Jadughar and to pay remuneration for the same;

(l) to register, organise, administer, regulate and supervise the movable antiquities in Bangladesh, other than those belonging to the Department of Archaeology, in such manner as may be determined by the Board;