



# THE PUBLICATION OF THE HOLY QURAN (ELIMINATION OF PRINTING ERRORS) ACT, 1973



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### THE SCHEDULE.

**THE PUBLICATION OF THE HOLY QURAN (ELIMINATION OF PRINTING ERRORS)  
ACT, 1973**

<sup>1</sup>ACT NO LIV OF 1973

[28<sup>th</sup> July, 1973]

**An Act to ensure publication of the text of the Holy Quran free from errors of printing.**

WHEREAS it is expedient to ensure publication of the text of the Holy Quran free from errors of printing, and matters connected therewith;

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

**1. Short title, extent and commencement.**—(1) This Act may be called the Publication of the Holy Quran (Elimination of Printing <sup>2</sup>[and Recording] Errors) Act, 1973.

\* (2) It extends to the whole of Pakistan.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

**2. Definitions.** In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,—

- <sup>3</sup>[(a) “Ayah” means a sentence, clause or verse of the Holy Quran at the end of which the sign “O” is given in the standard copy;
- (aa) “Committee” means the Committee of Ulema appointed under section 4;]
- (b) “Holy Quran” means the Holy Quran in the Arabic text, published in complete form, or the form of parts (*paras*) or Chapters (*Surahs*), but does not include extracts published in text-books or prayer-books or religious treatises;
- (c) “prescribed” means prescribed by rules made under this Act;
- (d) “publisher” means a person or an association of persons, registered under section 3 as publisher of the Holy Quran;
- <sup>4</sup>[(dd) “record of the Holy Qur’an” means the Holy Qur’an recited in human voice and recorded by any modern means of recording conforming to the text thereof contained in the standard copy;
- (ddd) “recording company” means a person, or an association of persons, registered under section 3 as a recording company;]
- (e) “standard copy” means a copy of the Holy Quran authenticated by the Committee as correct and free from errors of printing.

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<sup>1</sup> For Statement of Objects and Reasons, see Gaz. of P., 1973, Ext., Pt. III, p. 1188.

<sup>2</sup> Ins. by the Publication of the Holy Quran (Elimination of Printing Errors) (Amdt.) Act, 1987 (10 of 1987), s. 2.

<sup>3</sup> Subs. by the Publication of the Holy Quran (Elimination of Printing Errors) (Amdt.) Act, 1976 (38 of 1976), s. 2, for the original cl. (a).

\* Not extends to Punjab vide Pb Act No. XIII of 2011, s. 12 dated 2-5-11.

<sup>4</sup> Ins. and subs. by the Publication of the Holy Quran (Elimination of Printing Errors) (Amdt.) Act, 1987 (10 of 1987), ss. 3 and 4.

**3. Registration of publishers**<sup>1</sup>[and recording companies.]. Any publisher who intends to publish<sup>1</sup>[and any recording company which intends to record, the Holy Qur'an shall get himself or itself] registered with the Auqaf Department of the Provincial Government within whose jurisdiction he is carrying on his business in such manner, on payment of such fee and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed.

**4. Committee of Ulema.**—(1) The Federal Government shall appoint a Committee of Ulema comprising prominent Ulema, *Huffaz* and *Qaris* of all schools of thought amongst Muslims.

(2) The Federal Government shall cause a copy of the Holy Quran to be prepared and forward it to the Committee for authentication.

(3) After authentication by the Committee, the standard copy shall be kept in the Government archives for safe custody.

**5. Publishing of the Holy Quran.**—(1) A publisher may print the Holy Quran in off-set, photostate, photo-block or any other modern system of printing but he shall not print it in litho process.

(2) In printing the Holy Quran, a publisher shall use paper the use of which is not prohibited by the Federal Government.

(3) Every publisher shall get his specimen copy<sup>1</sup>[and every recording company shall get its specimen record,] of the Holy Quran compared with the text of the standard copy by a person holding a diploma from a religious institution or a certificate of *Moulvi Fazil* or a qualified *Qari* who is also a *hafiz* or a person trained in the job of proof reading in Arabic and have a certificate recorded by such person at the end to the effect that the text and references do not contain any error.

(4) The publisher shall ensure—

- (a) that the serial number of every Chapter (*Surah*) is printed on every page and the serial number of every<sup>2</sup>[*Ayah*] is inserted within the sign of conclusion (O) of every<sup>2</sup>[*Ayah*];
- (b) that the cover page of every edition of the Holy Quran clearly bears the name of the publisher, the name of the printing press, and the year of publication;
- (c) that every page of the Holy Quran bears the indication given in the illustration in the Schedule; and
- (d) that on detection of any error or omission in the printed Holy Quran the leaf on which it occurs is replaced by a fresh leaf free from such error and omission in each copy:

Provided that he shall not be penalized for non-compliance with the provisions of paragraphs (a) and (c).

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<sup>1</sup> Ins. and subs. by the Publication of the Holy Quran (Elimination of Printing Errors) (Amdt.) Act, 1987 (10 of 1987), ss. 3 and 4.

<sup>2</sup> Subs. by the Publication of the Holy Quran (Elimination of Printing Errors) (Amdt.) Act, 1976 (38 of 1976), s. 3, for "verse (*Ayah*)".