



THE LITERACY ORDINANCE, 1985



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THE LITERACY ORDINANCE, 1985

ORDINANCE No. XXVII OF 1985

[31st March, 1985]

An Ordinance to encourage Literacy

WHEREAS Islam assigns great importance to the acquisition of knowledge and makes its pursuit incumbent upon every Muslim ;

AND WHEREAS the literacy ratio in Pakistan is very low which is a matter of great concern for the Government ;

AND WHEREAS the President is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary to take immediate action ;

NOW, THEREFORE, in pursuance of the Proclamation of the fifth day of July, 1977, and in exercise of all powers enabling him in that behalf, the President is pleased to make and promulgate the following Ordinance:-

1. Short title, extent, application and commencement.—(1) This Ordinance may be called the Literacy Ordinance, 1985.

(2) It extends to the Islamabad Capital territory and also applies to the establishments and institutions under the control of the Federal Government throughout Pakistan.

¹[(3) It shall come into force on such ²date as the Federal Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, appoint.]

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

- (a) "literate person" means a person who is certified by an authority to be able to read a newspaper and write a simple letter in any language;
- (b) "passport" has the same meaning as in the Passports Act, 1974 ([XX of 1974](#)) ;
- (c) "driving licence" means a licence issued under the Motor Vehicles Ordinance, 1965 (W. P. Ordinance XIX of 1965), which authorizes the holder thereof to drive a motor vehicle;

¹Subs. and shall be deemed always to have been so subs. by Act VII of 1987, s.2.

²i.e. 1-1-93, vide Ministry of Education's Notification No. F.5-4/91-NFE-II, dt. 15-8-1991, see Gaz. of Pak. Ext. Pt. III, K-1991, p. 419.