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[~~TO BE~~ INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE]

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further to amend the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. Short title and commencement.- (1) This Act may be called the Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2021.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Insertion of new Article 24A in the Constitution.- In the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, after Article 24, the following new Article shall be inserted, namely:-

"24A. Right of Women to inheritance.- No Women shall be deprived of her share from inheritance in Pakistan."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Islam has prescribed well-defined shares for the male and female descendants of a deceased person. The Quran clearly states: "Men shall have a share in what parents and kinsfolk leave behind, and women shall have a share in what parents and kinsfolk leave behind." (Quran, Surah Al-Nisha 4:7) Islamic law (Shariah) entitles women to inherit immovable and movable property, yet the practice has been to deny women their share in inheritance, particularly, in the matter of landed estates where their entire claim is often denied and male heirs tend to enjoy the right of receiving almost all the assets of the deceased. It is an undeniable reality, and unjustified practice that it has become a norm that women either do not receive legal inheritance, or are obliged to surrender their legal rights. The purpose of this amendment is to acknowledge, declare, and assert the right of women in inheritance as a Fundamental Right in consonance with Principles of Islam and Article 23, and Article 24 of Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

**SENATOR SADIA ABBASI
MEMBER-IN-CHARGE**