

The Gazette of Pakistan

The coat of arms of Pakistan is centered between the words 'Gazette' and 'of Pakistan'. It features a shield with four quadrants: top-left shows a lion, top-right shows a galloping horse, bottom-left shows a bull, and bottom-right shows an elephant. Above the shield is a crescent moon and a five-pointed star. The shield is flanked by two cotton branches and sits atop a scroll.

**EXTRAORDINARY
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY**

ISLAMABAD, MONDAY, JULY 30, 1973

PART I

Acts, Ordinances, President's Orders and Regulations

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF PAKISTAN

Islamabad, the 30th July, 1973

The following Acts of the National Assembly received the assent of the President on the 28th July, 1973, and are hereby published for general information :—

ACT No. LIV OF 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 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,—

(a) "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 in 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;

(e) "standard copy" means a copy of the Holy Quran authenticated by the Committee as correct and free from errors of printing.

3. **Registration of publishers.**—Any publisher who intends to publish the Holy Quran shall get himself 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, photostat, 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 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 verse (*Ayah*) is inserted within the sign of conclusion (◉) of every verse (*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 penalised for non-compliance with the provisions of paragraphs (a) and (c).

(5) No translation of the Holy Quran shall be published without its Arabic text.

6. Penalty.—(1) A printer or publisher who contravenes any provision of this Act or the rules made thereunder shall, on a complaint made in this behalf by the Federal Government or the Auqaf Department of a Provincial Government or an officer authorised in this behalf by any such Government, be liable to imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine amounting to not less than one thousand rupees, or with both.

(2) The registration under section 3 of a publisher who is convicted of an offence under sub-section (1) may be cancelled.

7. Offences by corporations.—If the person guilty of an offence under sub-section (1) of section 6 is a company or other body corporate, every director, manager, secretary or other officer thereof shall, unless he proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge or that he exercised all due diligence to prevent the commission thereof, be deemed to be guilty of such offence.

8. Power to make rules.—(1) The Federal Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for—

- (a) the inspection of the copies of the Holy Quran printed before the commencement of this Act ; and
- (b) the prohibition of the sale of copies containing errors.

THE SCHEDULE

[See section 5 (4) (c)]

Illustration

Upper side of the page

Serial number of Surah with caption as “البقرة - ٢”	Page number ٢	Serial number of Para with opening words as “تلك الرسل - ٣”
--	------------------	---

Lower side of the page

Serial number of Surah with serial number of the conclu- ding Ayah on the page as “٢ - آية - ٩”	Manzil	Serial number of Surah with opening Ayah on the page as “سورة - آية - ٥”
--	--------	---