Attachment A

Decree No.30 of 2011

On the establishment of a National Fund for the Compensation of Victims

We, Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of Bahrain

Having examined the Constitution,

And the Civil and Commercial Procedures Law promulgated by Decree No.12 of 1971 and its amendments,

And the Decree No.18 of 1973 on Public Gatherings, Meetings, and Demonstrations, amended by Law No.32 of 2006,

And the Penal Code promulgated by Law Decree No.15 of 1976, and its amendments,

And the Public Security Forces (PSF) Law promulgated by Law Decree No.3 of 1982 and its
amendments,

And the Civil Code promulgated by Law Decree No.19 of 2011,

And the Criminal Procedure Law promulgated by Decree No.46 of 2002 and amended by Law

No.41 of 2005,

And Law No.56 of 2006 approving Bahrain's joining of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

And the decision of the UN General Assembly No.147/60 issued on 16/12/2005,

And upon the presentation of the Prime Minister, And after the Cabinet's approval,

We decided the following:

Article 1:

The National Fund for the Compensation of Victims shall be established; it enjoys an independent personality and specializes in paying compensations for beneficiaries cited by

Article 3 of this decree, and will be referred to as (The Fund).

The Fund is subjected to the Minister of Human Rights and Social Development, or any other minister named by a decree and referred to as (The Minister).

Article 2

The Fund aims at providing compensations to entitled victims; its provisions comply with the basic and prescriptive principles related to the rights to remedies and reparation for victims of gross violations of international human rights law and serious violations of international humanitarian law, indicted by the UN General Assembly Decision No.147/60 on December 16, 2005.

Article 3

The following categories of victims are allowed to resort to the Fund to claim compensations for the violent events that occurred in February and March 2011 in Bahrain or other similar events that occurred after this date:

- 1) Any person inflicted with material, moral or physical damages caused by officers from the Public Security Forces (PSF) or governmental employees.
- 2) Any member of the Public Security Forces (PSF) or any governmental employee inflicted with material, moral or physical damages caused by any person during his duty or due to the accomplishment of his tasks.
- 3) Any other person inflicted with material, moral or physical damages because of these events or due to his interference in helping victims in their crises or to prevent them from being hurt.

The categories of beneficiaries cited above include victims, their relatives until the fourth degree, or people supporting them. All other categories are excluded and cannot resort to the Fund for compensations.

The payment of compensations conditions the issuance of a final criminal verdict from court

convicting the party responsible of the act.

Article 4

Stipulations cited in this law don't affect the rights of victims to compensations in compliance with the public rules acknowledged in effective laws

Article 5

The Minister represents the Fund in courts of law and in litigations against other persons.

Article 6

The Fund enjoys an independent budget, and its resources comprise of the following:

- 1) Financial credits dedicated to the Fund within the public budget
- 2) Money sums collected by the Fund from referring to parties responsible of the damage
- 3) Donations, grants received by the Fund and approved by the Minister
- 4) Investment revenues of the Fund's money

Article 7

The Fund must report its contributions in paying compensations to the party that caused the damage.

Article 8

Without prejudice of Article 1 of this law, a decree defines the work mechanisms of the Fund and nominates the party that assumes the management of its affairs, the roof of compensations according to each case, and the measures and restraints for the claiming/payment of compensations.

Article 9

The Prime Minister and ministers- each in his specialization- shall implement this law. It is effective from the second day of its publication at the Official Gazette

King of Bahrain

Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa

Prime Minister

Khalifa Bin Salman Al khalifa

Issued in the Riffa Palace

Date: 22 Shawal 1432 H (20 September 2011

Decree No.13 of 2012

On the regulation of the National Fund for Compensation of Incidents- Affected Victims

We, Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of the Kingdom of Bahrain,

having reviewed the constitution, decree law No. (30) for 2011 with respect to the establishment of a National Fund for Compensation of Incidents-Affected Victims,

and the report of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry especially articles (j) and (k) of recommendation No. 1722 in the commission's report,

and upon the submission of the Minister of Human Rights and Social Developments and with the approval of the Council of Ministers,

hereby decree the following:

Article 1

In applying the provisions of this Decree, the words and expressions shall have the meanings shown opposite them unless deemed otherwise by context thereof.

Law: The Decree-by-Law No. (30) for the year 2011 creating the National Fund for Compensation to Incidents-Affected Victims.

Ministry: The Ministry of Human Rights.

The Minister: The Minister of Human Rights.

The Fund: The National Fund for Compensation to Incidents-Affected Victims created by law. The

Committee: The Fund's management committee.

Article 2

A committee to be known as the "management committee of the National Fund for Compensation to Incidents-Affected Victims" shall be created to assume the fund's management, to deal with the applications submitted to it and to defray compensations to victims in compliance with the provisions of the law.

The committee comprises five members two of whom should be magistrates to be appointed upon a resolution of the Supreme Judiciary Council upon a request from the Minister and three members who should be well-known for their independence, subjectivity, efficacy and integrity, provided that two of them should be appointed from civil society organizations and one member from the government who shall be named upon a resolution of the Minister. The committee members shall assume their duties in their personal capacity and on voluntary basis.

Members of the committee shall elect one of them as Chairman of the committee and another as Vice Chairman to replace the chairman in his absence or if anything prevents the chairman from carrying out his duties.

The chairman shall assume coordinative responsibly for the committee's business. The tenure of membership shall be four years renewable for only term.

A member of the committee may not partake in considering any applications for compensation in which she/he, her/his spouse or children or any of her/his relatives or in-laws up-to the fourth degree or who are her/his own dependents, or under her/his guardianship have any personal interest.

Article 4

A member of the committee could be replaced if she/he violates any of her/his duties, or becomes incapable of carrying out his duties because of ailment, or whenever a final judicial verdict has been issued against her/him in any crime, all of that, in the same instrument and manner stipulated in the first paragraph of article (3) of this Decree. The tenure of a successor shall be complementary to that of her/his predecessor.

Article 5

The committee shall setup a regulatory code which organizes its own work provided that it includes the timing for considering applications for compensatiosn and how to report its decisions. The committee shall have its own sufficient assisting administrative staff members to be deputized by the Minister.

Article 6

The committee may seek assistance from any qualified expert it deems appropriate to help the committee in its duties.

Article 7

An application for compensation shall be submitted to the committee in writing from any victim or affected person as stipulated in article (3) of the Law or her/his legal attorney, accompanied with an official copy of a final court verdict issued from a competent court convicting those involved in the act which resulted in the damage, provided that an application shall include the following:-

- a- Name, address and capacity of the applicant.
- b- Description of material, moral or physical damages sustained by applicant. c- Amount and form of required compensation.

Applications for compensation may be submitted to the committee either separately or collectively. The committee shall consider multiple applications in one batch whenever they shared the same subject.

The committee may decide on a collective compensation whenever a claim is related to a group of persons.

Article 9

The committee may demand applicants to provide additional written or oral information or to submit documents and may hear witnesses' testimony.

Article 10

The committee shall decide whether an applicant is deemed as one of the categories specified in article (3) of the Law or not. The committee shall take into account the following factors regarding nature and amount of compensation, whichever may be appropriate:

- a- The nature of crime sustained by a victim.
- b- The amount of material, moral or physical damage sustained by a victim.
- c- The amount of lost income and material loss sustained by a victim.
- d- The necessary costs in order to obtain legal assistance, venire experts, medication and medical services, psychiatric and sociological rehabilitation.
- e- Any compensation which had earlier been granted to the victim; and,
- f- The number of victims whenever they are numerous.

Article 11

The committee may decide on any means for compensation such as refunding or financial compensation, rehabilitation, pleasantries, ensure non-recurrence, according to exigencies, whichever may be appropriate.

Article 12

The committee may, in order to evaluate the compensation, resort to the relevant legal rules and seek courts' opinion in this respect.

Article 13

The committee shall pass its resolutions unanimously, and whenever this becomes impossible, by majority. The committee's meetings may not be held in public in order to protect victims and witnesses and to respect confidentiality of information, unless the committee has decided otherwise. The committee shall decide on applications for compensation within a reasonable duration.

Article 14

The committee shall be bound to submit an annual report on its business to the Ministry. The Ministry shall post an abstract of the committee's annual report on its website whilst observant to respecting confidentiality of information pertaining to the victims included in the report.

Article 15

The Minister of Human Rights and Social Development shall implement this Decree enforceable as from the day following its publication on the Official Gazette.

Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa

King of the Kingdom of Bahrain

Issued at Riffa Palace

On: Rabi I 3, 1433 Hijri Corresponding to: January 26, 2012

Attachment B

Decree No. 56 of 2002

With respect to the interpretation of certain provisions of Legislative Decree No. 10 of 2001 regarding a general amnesty for crimes affecting national security

We, Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of the Kingdom of Bahrain, Having reviewed the Constitution,

and Legislative Decree No. 10 of 2001 with respect to a general amnesty for crimes affecting national security,

and wishing to ensure the correct application of the provisions of Legislative decree No. 10 of 2001 in a manner consistent with its purpose and for the consolidation of social and political harmony and stability which underpin peaceful co-existence in the community,

and upon the recommendation of the Prime Minister,

and with the approval of the Council of Ministers,

hereby decree the following law:

Article 1

The expression "third party" appearing in the second paragraph of Article (3) of Legislative Decree No. (10) of the Year 2001 with respect to General Amnesty for Crimes Affecting National Security shall mean "every party injured by a crime in respect of which the general amnesty issued according to Article (1) of this Law".

The expression "Cases arising from the amnesty issued in pursuance of this Law, Decrees and Orders issued in this respect shall not be heard" that appears in the same paragraph shall mean "not hearing any case brought before any judicial authority by reason of or on the occasion of the crimes subject to the amnesty, whoever may be the person filing it and irrespective of the capacity against whom it is filed, whether he is an ordinary citizen or a civilian or military public servant and whatever may be the nature of his participation in such crimes, whether an original perpetrator or an accessory during the period prior to the effective date of this Law."

Article 2

This Law shall come into operation from the effective date of the provisions of Legislative Decree No. (10) of the Year 2001 with respect to General Amnesty for Crimes Affecting National Security and be published in the Official Gazette. It shall come into effect from the date of its publication.

King of the Kingdom of Bahrain

Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa

Issued at Riffa Palace

On: 17th Sha'aban, 1423 H

Corresponding to: 23rd October 2002 AD

Decree No. 10 of 2001

Regarding a general amnesty for crimes affecting national security

We, Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of the Kingdom of Bahrain,

Having reviewed Article 41 of the Constitution,

and Emiri Decree No. 4 of 1975,

and the Code of Criminal Procedure, as amended,

and the Penal Code promulgated by Legislative Decree No. 15 of 1976, as amended,

and complementing the Decrees issued with respect to the Special Amnesty for certain detainees and the Orders for releasing a number of prisoners,

and having decided to give the opportunity for the undertaking of actions beneficial to the nation by all citizens,

and with the approval of the Council of Ministers,

hereby decree the following law:

Article 1

A general amnesty shall be granted for crimes affecting national security which have been committed by citizens before the enactment of this Law and in respect of which the court has jurisdiction under Article (185) of the Penal Code.

Article 2

The amnesty shall not include crimes provided for in the previous Article if they resulted in the death of a person or if they are one of the crimes affecting human life provided for at Articles 333 and 336 of the Penal Code.

Article 3

The amnesty shall include detainees, defendants and convicts for which the provisions of this Law shall be applicable, and the amnesty shall be implemented in respect of citizens outside the country according to the applicable procedures.

Without prejudice to the rights of others, the cases resulting from the amnesty issued according to this Law, Decrees and Orders issued in this respect shall not be heard.

Article 4

The Minister for Justice and Islamic Affairs and the Minister for the Interior, each in his respective capacity, shall implement this Law which shall come into force from the date of its issue and be published in the Official Gazette.

Amir of the State of Bahrain

Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa

Issued at Riffa Palace

On: 11th ThulQeada, 1421 Hijra

Corresponding to: 5th February 2001AD

Attachment C

Law No 26 of 2014

on the Establishment of the National Institution for Human Rights

We Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of the Kingdom of Bahrain,

After reviewing the Constitution,

And Treaties and Conventions on human rights to which the Kingdom of Bahrain acceded or ratified,

And Royal Decree No. 46 of 2009 on the Establishment of the National Institution for Human Rights amended by the Royal Decree No. 28 of 2012;

And taking into account the Paris Principles on National Institutions to protect and promote human rights, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations resolution 48/134 of 20 December 1993;

The Nuwab Council and the Shura Council have decided on the following law and we have approved and promulgated it:

Article 1

In application of the provisions of this law, the following words and phrases shall have the meaning set out next to them, unless the provision states otherwise:

- (a) Institution the National Institution for Human Rights.
- (b) Council of Commissioners the Council of Commissioners of the National Institution for Human Rights.
- (c) Chairperson the chairperson (he/she) of the Council of Commissioners of the National Institution for Human Rights.
- (d) Vice Chairperson the vice chairperson (he/she) of the Council of Commissioners of the National Institution for Human Rights.
- (e) Member a member of the Council of Commissioners of the National Institution for Human Rights.
- (f) Members the members of the Council of Commissioners of the National Institution for Human Rights.
- (g) Committees the standing and ad-hoc committees of the National Institution for Human Rights.
- (h) Secretary General the secretary general of the National Institution for Human Rights.

An independent Institution is established named "The National Institution for Human Rights" responsible for promoting and protecting human rights, and consolidating its values and contributing to securing its practice. It shall be located in the city of Manama.

The Institution shall have independent legal personality, as well as financial and administrative independence, and shall carry out its duties freely, neutrality and independently.

Article 3

The Institution shall have a Council of Commissioners composed of eleven members, including the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson. They shall be known for their competence and integrity. They shall be selected from consultancy firms, academic organizations, civil society organizations, unions, social, economic and professional institutions, provided that woman and minorities are adequately represented.

Article 4

Individual appointed members of the Council of Commissioners shall fulfill the following conditions:

- (a) Holding Bahraini nationality.
- (b) Not under the age of thirty years.
- (c) Having familiarity and interest in Human Rights issues.
- (d) Being of good conduct and reputation.
- (e) Have not been convicted of a criminal punishment, or freedom restraining penalty in a crime related to moral baseness or dishonesty, unless (he/she) has been rehabilitated.

Article 5

- a) Members of the Council of Commissioners shall be appointed by Royal Decree for a period of four years, renewable for similar periods. Appointments shall take place after consultation with relevant bodies of civil society and various other organizations. The members shall undertake their work in their personal capacity.
- b) The Council of Commissioners shall convene its first meeting under the chairmanship of the most senior member to elect a Chairperson and vice Chairperson from amongst them for a similar period of their appointment. The position shall be elected by a relative majority of members present. If no one achieves a relative majority, the selection shall be done by casting lots. If the number of the candidates is not in excess of the number required, election will be declared by acclamation.
- c) The Chairperson of the Council of Commissioners shall represent the institution to the judiciary, and in its relationships with others. The Chairperson may delegate some of (his/her) function to other

members. The Vice Chairperson shall replace the Chairperson to undertake all (his/her) duties during (his/her) absence or any matter that prevent (him/her) from attending.

Article 6

- a) The Council of Commissioners shall meet at least once every three months, on the basis of an invitation from the Chairperson. The Chairperson may, or on the basis of a request from a majority of the Members, call an exceptional meeting of the Council of Commissioners at any time.
- b) The Council of Commissioners meeting shall be considered valid if attended by the majority of its members, provided the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson is present. The resolutions of the Council of Commissioners shall be passed by the majority votes of members present, and in case of a tie, the Chairperson of the meeting shall have a casting vote.
- c) The Council of Commissioners may invite to attend its meeting anyone from whose opinion or experience it may benefit in relation to a topic proposed for a research or discussion, without giving them the right to vote.

Article 7

- a) TheCouncil of Commissioners shall form permanent Committees from its members to undertake the institution functions. It may from ad-hoc Committees, if necessary.
- b) The permanent Committees meet once every month at least.

A member of the Council of Commissioners shall undertake the chairmanship of each Committee and such Committee may seek the assistance of experts upon discussing any of the topics entrusted thereto without having a right to vote.

c) The Committees shall meet after being called to do so by their respective head. The Chairperson may also invite any of the Committees to convene to discuss an issue (he/she) deems important. (he/she) shall chair the meeting of Committees (he/she) attends. (he/she) may also entrust one of the members to research or investigate a certain subject.

Article 8

The Council of Commissioners shall promulgated Executive Statute to regulate and govern its meeting and the Committees and their competencies as well as other issues related to the affairs of the members. The Statute shall be promulgated on the basis of a resolution of the chairperson after the approval of a majority of the Members.

Article 9

A Member of the Council of Commissioners may not be held accountable for (his/her) opinion and ideas on issues that fall within the competence of the Institution. A member may not be questioned without

the consent of the Chairperson, and it must be done in the presence of the representative of the Council of Commissioners.

The headquarter of the Institution may not be searched except after obtaining a judicial order and in the presence of a representative of the Public Prosecution. The Chairperson must be notified of this and a representative for the Chairperson must be invited to be present during the search.

In all cases, any process that contravenes this will be considered null and void.

Article 10

First: Membership of the Council of Commissioners shall come to an end in any of the following circumstances:

- a) In case of death or disability preventing the performance of the Member's functions.
- b) Resignation.
- c) If the member no longer fulfill one of the conditions provided for in sub-paragraphs (a) or (e) of article 4 of this law.

Second: Membership may be brought to termination before the end of its term by a Royal Decree promulgated pursuant to a request from the Council of Commissioners passed by a two-third majority in the following circumstances:

- a) If (he/she) has contravened the provisions of this law or the regulations and decisions promulgated in implementation thereof.
- b) If (he/she) takes actions conflicting with the goals of the Institution, or if (his/her) action is intended to hinder its tasks and specialism.
- c) If (he/she) repeatedly fails to attend five meetings of the Council of Commissioners or the Committees without an excuse acceptable to the Chairperson despite the fact that (he/she) has been notified of it in writing in accordance with the executive statute.
- d) If the Member no longer fulfills the condition provided for in sub-paragraph (d) of Article 4 of this law.

In all circumstances, if the position of one of the Members is vacant for any of the preceding reasons, another member shall take over (his/her) place in accordance with the provisions of this law and the new member shall complete the term of (his/her) predecessor.

Article 11

The remuneration of the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Members shall be set by Royal Decree.

In pursuing its goals the Institution is free to comment on any question related to human rights, and to take any human rights issues, as it sees fit. It has the following competencies:

- (a) To participate in the production and implementation of a national plan for the promotion and protection of Human Rights in the Kingdom.
- (b) To Study legislation and regulations enforced in the Kingdom which come under the human rights areas together with recommending amendments it deems fit in this respect particularly those consistent with such legislations and the Kingdom's international obligations in the human rights field. The Institution shall be empowered to recommend issuing new legislation related to human rights.
- (c) To study the conformity of legislation and organization of regional and international treaties related to human right, submit proposals and recommendations to concerned authorities in any matter that re-inforces and protect human rights, support and develop to a better level including recommendations to join regional and international conventions and treaties concerned with human rights.
- (d) To submit parallel reports, and participate in the drafting and discussion of the reports which the Kingdom is obliged to periodically submit for the implementation of regional and international conventions concerning human rights together with notifying about such reports in the proper media means.
- (e) To monitor violations of human rights, conduct the necessary investigation, draw the attention of the competent authorities and provide them with proposals on initiatives to put an end to such violations and, where necessary, to express an opinion on the reactions and positions of the competent authorities.
- (f) To receive, examine and research complaints related to human rights and refer them, if necessary, to the relevant authorities with effective follow-up, or enlightening those concerned with most-follow procedures and help them to implement them, or asset in the settlement with relevant authorities.
- (g) To conduct field visits in accordance with applicable practice, to monitor human rights situation in reform institutes, detention centers, labor gathering, health and education centres, or any other public place in which it is suspected that human rights violations are taking place.
- (h) To cooperate with competence authorities concerned with cultural, media and educational affairs, to submit proposals and recommendations in any matter in order to spread, propagate and strengthen a culture of awareness and respect for human rights.
- (i) To cooperate with national bodies and regional and international organizations, as well as relevant institutions in other countries that work for the promotion and protection of human rights.

- (j) To host conferences and to organize training and educational events in the field of human rights and conduct related research and studies.
- (k) To participate in national and international forums, as well as in meetings of regional and international bodies concerned with human rights issues.
- (I) To issue newsletters, printed material, data and special reports, and upload them on the Institution website. It is entitled to directly approach the public opinion or through the any of the media.

The King and any Constitutional State Authorities may refer to the Institution any issues they see fit and which come within its competency for its consideration and opinion.

Article 14

- (a) The Institution may request any information, reports or documents which it considers necessary for the attainment of its goals or the performance of its functions from the ministries and relevant bodies in the Kingdom. These ministries and bodies shall cooperate with the Institution in the pursuit of its tasks and facilitate the conduct of its competency and provide it with what it requests in this regard in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations.
- (b) The Institution may inform the competent authorities in case the ministries and bodies fail to cooperate and provide the Institution with the requested information, reports and documents or prevent it from examining them, so that the competent authorities take the necessary steps in accordance with the law.

Article 15

The administrative body of the Institution shall consist of a General Secretariat which shall act as its executive organ and a sufficient number of consultants, experts, researchers and others shall be in the General Secretariat. They shall be appointed by resolution of the Chairperson on the basis of a request from the Secretary- General.

Article 16

The Secretary General shall be appointed by resolution of the Chairperson on the basis of the agreement of a majority of the Members. The appointment shall be for a period of four years and eligible for renewal similar terms. The candidate shall be an individual's known for competence, integrity and independence who have obtains at least a bachelor's degree or equivalent and who has relevant experience, in addition to fulfilling the conditions required of Member under Article 4 of this law.

The Secretary General shall supervise and oversee the affairs of the General Secretariat. (he/she) shall be directly responsible to the Chairperson for the performance of these duties, which shall include:

- (a) General supervision over the General Secretariat, the affairs of the employees and financial and administrative matters in accordance with this law and the rules and regulations promulgated in implementation of it.
- (b) Attendance at meetings of the Council of Commissioners, without having the right to vote, and the implementation of its decisions, as well as the drafting of periodic reports every three months which incorporate the activities of the Institution and the work of the General Secretariat, including which work has been completed according to plans and programs.
- (c) Attendance at meetings of Committees, following up on their work and giving them the requisite support to pursue their specialisms, without having the right to vote.

The Secretary General may delegate, in writing, some of (his/her) tasks and responsibilities to employees in the General Secretariat.

Article18

The Institution shall have internal statute promulgated by a resolution of the Chairperson on the basis of the agreement of a majority of the Members. It shall include, in particular, the organizational structure of the General Secretariat and it shall regulate the affairs of its employees, according to the related laws and regulations in force in the Kingdom.

The Institution shall also have a financial statute regulating its accounting and financial affairs.

Article 19

The Council of Commissioners Members and those working in the General Secretariat shall maintain the confidentiality information, reports and documents they receive or see in the course of their work unless otherwise ordered by the Public Prosecution or a competent court. This provision shall continue to apply even after the end of the membership or service.

Article 20

The Institution shall have sufficient financial resources to enable it to promote its aims and tasks assigned to it in the best possible way, and these resources shall consist of:

- (a) Financial resources allocated to the Institution in a separate ledger on the general state budget; and
- (b) Donation and aid that the Council of Commissioners decides to accept in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in the Kingdom.

The Institution shall manage and control its financial resources with complete independence. Its accounts shall subject to the supervision of the National Audit Office.

Article 21

The Council of Commissioners shall produce an annual report on the efforts, activities and work streams of the Institution, as well as any observations and comments within its competency, identifying any obstacles to the Institutions performance and the solutions adopted to circumvent them. The Council of Commissioners shall present the report to the King, the prime Minister, the Nuwab Council, and the Shura Council. The report shall be presented to the public in parallel.

Article 22

Royal Decree No. 46 of 2009 for the Establishment of the National Institution for Human Rights, as amended by Royal Decree No. 28 of 2012, shall be cancelled, as well as all provision conflicting with the provisions of this law.

Article 23

The Prime Minister and the Ministers, within their competence, shall implement this law, which shall come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette.

Signed:

Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa,

King of the Kingdom of Bahrain

Attachment D

Law No. 52 of 2012

For the amendment of certain provisions of the Penal Code as ratified by Legislative Decree No. 15 of 1976

We, Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of Bahrain

Having reviewed the Constitution,

and The Penal Code, issued by Legislative Decree No. (15) of 1976, as amended,

and Law No. (56) of 2006 approving the accession of the Kingdom of Bahrain to theInternational Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and in Particular, Article (7) of theInternational Covenant,

The following law was approved by the Shura Council and the Council of Representatives, and ratified and decreed by us:

Article 1

The provisions of Articles (208) and (232) of the Penal Code, issued by Legislative DecreeNo. (15) of 1976, shall be replaced as follows:

Article (208):

A public servant or person assigned to provide a public service who intentionally inflicts severe pain or severe suffering, whether physical or psychological, on a person detained in his/her care or under his/her control, for the purpose of obtaining from that person or from any other person information or confession, or for the purpose of punishing that person for an act he/she or any other person had committed or is suspected to have committed, or to intimidate or coerce that person or any other person, for any reason whatsoever, based on any form of discrimination, shall be punished by imprisonment.

A public servant or person assigned to provide a public service who threatens a person detained in his/her care or under his/her control, by any of the acts stated in the first paragraph of this Article, or if such acts are committed by a third party with his/her incitement, approval or consent, shall be punished by imprisonment.

The punishment shall be life in prison if torture results in the death of the victim.

The provisions of this Article shall not apply to cases of pain or suffering resulting, arising from or associated with, lawful punishment.

The statute of limitations does not apply to crimes of torture as provided in this Article.

Article (232):

A public servant or person who intentionally inflicts severe pain or severe suffering, whetherphysical or psychological, on a person detained in his/her care or under his/her control, forthe purpose of obtaining from that person or from any other person information orconfession, or for the purpose of punishing that person for an act he/she or any other personhad committed or is suspected to have committed, or to intimidate or coerce that person orany other person, for any reason whatsoever, based on any form of discrimination, shall bepunished by imprisonment.

A public servant or person who threatens another person detained in his/her care or underhis/her control, by any of the acts stated in the first paragraph of this Article, or if such acts are committed by a third party with his/her incitement, approval or consent, shall be punished by imprisonment.

The punishment shall be life in prison if torture results in the death of the victim.

The statute of limitations does not apply to crimes of torture as provided in this Article.

Article 2

The Prime Minister and Ministers – each where concerned – shall implement the provisions of this Law. This Law shall go into effect on the day following the date of its publication in the official gazette.

King of Bahrain

Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa

Issued at Riffa Palace:

On 23 DhulQida 1433H

Corresponding to 9 October 2012AD