

**THE BALOCHISTAN PROHIBITION OF PUBLIC MEETINGS (ON
PUBLIC THOROUGHFARES)
ACT, 1973**

(Baln Act XI of 1973)

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**¹THE BALUCHISTAN² PROHIBITION OF PUBLIC MEETINGS
(ON PUBLIC THOROUGHFARES)
ACT, 1973**

(Balochistan Act XI of 1973)

[10th October, 1973]

An Act to provide for prohibition of holding of Public Meetings on Public Thoroughfares in the interest of public order and security.

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is expedient to prohibit holding of public meetings on public thoroughfares in the interest of public order and security;

It is hereby enacted as follows: —

Short title, extent and application.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Balochistan Prohibition of Public Meetings (on Public Thoroughfares) Act, 1973.

(2) It shall extend to the whole of the Province of Balochistan except Tribal Areas.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

Definitions.

2. For the purpose of this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context: —

(a) ³[*Omitted*]

(b) "Meeting" means a meeting held for the purposes of discussion of matters of public interest, or, for the purpose of expression of views on such matters;

(c) "Public Meeting" includes any meeting which the public or any section thereof are permitted to attend whether on payment or otherwise;

(d) "Public thoroughfare" means any high-way, any public bridge, road, including foot way, square to

¹ This Act, was passed by the Balochistan Assembly on 29th September, 1973, assented to by the Governor of Balochistan on 5th October, 1973; published in the Balochistan Gazette (Extraordinary) No. 56, dated 10th October, 1973.

² Spelling of the word "Baluchistan", wherever it appears in this Act, is corrected by insertion of letter "o" instead of "u"; as per Government of Balochistan, S&GAD's Notification No. SORI (4) 6/ S&GAD-89, dated 18th June, 1989.

³ Omitted by the Balochistan Ordinance XXXIX of 2001; made by the Governor Balochistan on 27th October, 2001; and published in the Balochistan Gazette (Extraordinary) No. 173, dated 30th October, 2001. Declared continue in force by clause (2) of Article 270-AA of the Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973.

which the public have or are permitted to have access whether on payment or otherwise;

(e) "promoter" means a person or class of persons who call, hold, arrange or address a public meeting.

¹[(f) "Zila Nazim" means the Zila Nazim as defined in the Local Government Ordinance, 2001 (XVIII of 2001).]

Power to prohibit public meetings on public thorough-fares.

3. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any other law, a ²[Zila Nazim] may, by order, prohibit holding of a public meeting on any thoroughfare.

Offences to be cognizable and non-bailable.

4. Notwithstanding anything in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (Act V of 1898) an offence under this Act shall be cognizable and non-bailable.

Penalty.

5. A promoter of a public meeting who violates an order issued under section 3 shall be liable to punishment with imprisonment which may extend to 6 months or fine which may extend to rupees one thousand or both.

Repeal of Balochistan Ordinance No. II of 1973.

6. The Prohibition of Public Meetings (on Public Thoroughfares) Ordinance, 1973³, is hereby repealed.

¹ New clause (f) inserted by Balochistan Ordinance XXXIX of 2001, made by the Governor Balochistan on 27th October, 2001; and published in the Balochistan Gazette (Extraordinary) No. 173, dated 30th October, 2001. *See* also footnote 3 under section 2 (a).

² Substituted for the words "District Magistrate", *ibid.*

³ An Ordinance made by the Governor Balochistan; and published in the Balochistan Gazette (Extraordinary), dated 21st of March, 2001. Now repealed. S. 6.