

**Law no. 24 for the year 2010 A.D.  
on the Provisions of Libyan Nationality**

**The General People's Congress:**

- In implementation of the resolutions of the basic People's Congresses in their annual sessions for the year 2009 A.D.
- And upon reviewing the declaration of the establishment of the people's authority.
- And the Great Green Document of Human Rights in the Jamahiriya Era.
- And Law no. 20 for the year 1991 A.D. on the Reinforcement of Freedom.
- And Law no. 1 for the year 2007 A.D. on the Modus Operandi of the People's Congresses and Committees.
- And Law no. 17 for the year 1987 A.D. on Nationality.
- And Law no. 18 for the year 1980 A.D. on the Provisions of the Nationality Law and the Amendments thereof.

**Has promulgated the following law**

**Article 1**

Libyan nationality is the nationality of the citizens of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

**Article 2**

A person shall be considered Libyan in accordance with the provisions of the latter article if he was a regular resident of Libya on 10/07/1951 A.D. and did not hold a foreign nationality, provided he complied with any of the following conditions:

- a. He was born in Libya.
- b. He was born outside Libya, provided either of his parents were born therein.
- c. He was born outside Libya and resided therein as a regular resident for a period of no less than ten consecutive years prior to 10/07/1951 A.D.

**Article 3**

The following persons shall be considered Libyan:

- a. Any person born in Libya to a Libyan father, if the nationality of his father had been acquired by virtue of his birth therein or by naturalization.
- b. Any person born outside Libya to a Libyan father, in which case the son's birth must have been registered within a year with the People's Bureau or the Brethren's Bureau abroad or with any party approved by the Secretary of the General People's Committee for Public Security, and if the person to whom this provision applies had acquired a foreign nationality by virtue of birth on foreign soil, he shall not lose his Libyan nationality, but may choose the foreign nationality that he had acquired, upon adulthood.
- c. Any person born in Libya to a Libyan mother and a father whose nationality was unknown, or who was without a nationality, or if his parents were unknown. Criteria pertaining to the execution of this article shall be specified by regulations.

**Article 4**

Any person may elect Libyan nationality based upon the provisions of this law, provided such person was of Libyan origin, was born prior to 10/07/1951 A.D., and was not a resident of Libya on said date, provided he complies with either of the two following conditions:

- a. He was born in Libya.
- b. He was born outside Libya and his father or first grandfather from his father's side was born in Libya.

#### **Article 5**

A person shall lose Libyan nationality if he voluntarily obtains a foreign nationality without the approval of the General People's Committee for Public Security.

Criteria pertaining to the execution of this article shall be specified by regulations.

#### **Article 6**

Nationality committees shall be established by resolution of the secretary of the General People's Committee for Public Security, whose responsibility shall be as follows:

- a. To state their opinion as to the truth of Libyan Nationality applicants' claim of having Libyan origins, with respect to those residing in its area of authority, pursuant to the provision of Article 4 of this law.
- b. To receive and examine applications for Libyan nationality submitted by foreigners residing in its area of authority.

#### **Article 7**

Libyan origin of applicants electing Libyan nationality pursuant to the provisions of Article 4 of this law shall be established according to the following criteria:

- a. Proof of Libyan origin shall be on the basis of legal documents establishing the truth thereof.
- b. A resolution shall be issued by the secretary of the General People's Committee for Public Security specifying the documents required as proof of Libyan origin, and in any case, witness testimony may not be accepted as proof of origin.
- c. An applicant for Libyan nationality must be registered at the registries of the Brethren's Bureaux or People's Bureaux in the country in which he had relocated and settled.

#### **Article 8**

A Libyan immigrant who was naturalized into the nationality of the country to which he had immigrated may retrieve his Libyan nationality upon presentation of the required documents establishing the truth of his Libyan origin.

#### **Article 9**

Libyan nationality may be granted to those desiring to obtain it, by resolution of the General People's Committee, based upon a proposal by the secretary of the General People's Committee for Public Security, if the applicant complies with the following conditions:

1. He is a fully competent adult.
2. His entry to the Great Jamahiriya was lawful, and by means of a valid travel document issued by the official authorities of the country of his nationality.
3. He has been lawfully residing in Libya for a consecutive period of no less than ten years from the date of entry thereto, and that he has a legitimate, steady source of income.
4. He is of sound conduct and behavior, never been convicted of a crime or misdemeanor breaching honor or security, insomuch as he had not been exonerated.
5. He is free of infectious or communicable diseases.

6. He was not older than fifty years of age at the time of making the application.

Further conditions may be added as the public interest may require as specified by the regulations to this law.

In any case, Palestinians may not be granted nationality, except for Palestinian women married to Libyans.

#### **Article 10**

Individuals of the following groups are exempted from the terms stated in sub-articles 2-6 of article 9 of this law:

1. Persons with special expertise and high qualifications required by Libya.
2. A foreign woman married to a Libyan national, provided that the marital relationship endured no less than two years prior to filing the application.
3. Widows and divorced women of Libyan nationals.
4. Children who have reached adulthood and have not been listed in their father's certificate of nationality.
5. A person who offered significant or exceptional services to the Great Jamahiriya.

#### **Article 11**

Children of female Libyan nationals married to non-Libyans may be granted Libyan nationality and the regulations shall specify the criteria required for the purpose of executing this article.

#### **Article 12**

A person holding the Libyan nationality shall lose it if he had obtained it based upon false information or details, or false or forged documents, or if he had concealed facts related to nationality, and if the person deprived of nationality was the father, his children shall be treated similarly.

#### **Article 13**

Libyan nationality may be withdrawn from any non-Libyan who had entered Libya pursuant to the provisions of this law within ten years from obtaining it, in the following cases:

1. If said person committed actions infringing upon Libya's security or any of its interests.
2. If said person resided outside Libya for a period of two consecutive years within the ten years following his naturalization, without justification acceptable by the General People's Committee for Public Security.

#### **Article 14**

A resolution of withdrawal shall be issued by the General People's Committee based upon a proposal by the secretary of the General People's Committee for Public Security, and such resolution shall entail the revocation of all rights and effects subsequent to naturalization.

#### **Article 15**

Libyan nationality of Libyan nationals shall be established by a Libyan nationality certificate in accordance with the provisions of this law, and granting Libyan nationality to others shall be by resolution of the General People's Committee based upon a proposal by the secretary of the General

People's Committee for Public Security, and a Libyan nationality certificate shall be issued according to a form prepared for this purpose.

**Article 16**

A person obtaining Libyan nationality by naturalization according to the provisions of this law shall enjoy the rights of a Libyan national and shall commit to the duties thereof in accordance with the legislations in effect, except for appointment in high administration offices or for secretaries of the basic people's Congresses or people's committees or unions or labor organizations or professional associations, provided such prohibition remains valid for a period of ten years as of the date of obtaining Libyan nationality.

**Article 17**

Regulations for this law shall be promulgated by resolution of the General People's Committee, based upon a proposal by the secretary of the General People's Committee for Public Security.

**Article 18**

Law no. 17 for the year 1954 A.D. concerning Libyan Nationality and Law no. 18 for the year 1980 A.D. concerning the Provisions of the Nationality Law shall be cancelled, and so shall any other provision that is inconsistent with the provisions of this law.

**Article 19**

This law shall be published in the Journal of Legislations, and shall be applicable as of the date of publication.

**The General People's Congress**

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