

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF GHANA 1969

ARRANGEMENT OF ARTICLES

CHAPTER ONE  
THE CONSTITUTION

*Article*

1. The Supremacy of the Constitution
2. Enforcement of the Constitution
3. Defence of Constitution

CHAPTER TWO  
THE TERRITORIES OF GHANA

4. Territories of Ghana

CHAPTER THREE  
CITIZENSHIP

5. Citizens of Ghana
6. Persons born in or outside Ghana
7. Foundlings
8. Persons entitled to be registered as citizens
9. Dual citizenship
10. Citizenship laws by Parliament
11. Interpretation

CHAPTER FOUR  
LIBERTY OF THE INDIVIDUAL

*Fundamental Human Rights*

12. Fundamental rights and freedoms of the individual
13. Welfare of the family

CHAPTER THREE

CITIZENSHIP

5. Every person who, on the coming into force of this Constitution, is a citizen by law of Ghana shall continue to be such a citizen.

CITIZENS OF GHANA.

6. Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, every person born in or outside Ghana after the coming into force of this Constitution shall become a citizen of Ghana at the date of his birth if either of his parents is or was a citizen of Ghana.

PERSONS BORN IN OR OUTSIDE GHANA.

7. A child of not more than seven years of age found in Ghana whose parents are not known shall be presumed to be a citizen of Ghana by birth.

FOUNDINGS.

8. (1) Any woman who, on the coming into force of this Constitution, is or has been married to a person,

PERSONS ENTITLED TO BE REGISTERED AS CITIZENS.

(a) who is or becomes a citizen of Ghana by virtue of the provisions of article 5 of this Constitution, or

(b) who, having died before the coming into force of this Constitution would, but for his death, have become a citizen of Ghana by virtue of that article,

may, upon making an application therefor in such manner as may be prescribed by Parliament, be registered as a citizen of Ghana.

(2) Any woman who is married to a person who subsequently becomes a citizen of Ghana may, upon making an application therefor in such manner as may be prescribed by Parliament, be registered as a citizen of Ghana.

(3) Any woman who, after the coming into force of this Constitution, marries a citizen of Ghana may, upon making an application therefor in such manner as may be prescribed by Parliament, be registered as a citizen of Ghana.

and made and registered such declaration of his intentions concerning residence as may be prescribed by Parliament.

(4) Where the law of a country, other than Ghana, requires a person who marries a citizen of that country to renounce his citizenship of his own country by virtue of that marriage, any citizen of Ghana who is deprived of his citizenship of Ghana by virtue of any such marriage shall, on the dissolution of that marriage if he thus loses his citizenship acquired by the said marriage, become a citizen of Ghana.

(5) Any person who

(a) becomes a citizen of Ghana by registration under the provisions of article 8 of this Constitution, and

(b) is, immediately after the day upon which he becomes a citizen of Ghana, also a citizen of some other country,

shall, subject to the provisions of clause (7) of this article, cease to be a citizen of Ghana upon the specified date unless he has renounced his citizenship of that other country, taken the oath of allegiance and made and registered such declaration of his intentions concerning residence as may be prescribed by Parliament.

(6) For the purposes of this article, the expression "specified date" means, in relation to a person,

(a) to whom clause (1) of this article refers, the date on which he attains the age of twenty-one years or the date of the coming into force of this Constitution whichever is later; or

(b) to whom paragraph (b) of clause (3) and clause (5) of this article refer, the date on which his citizenship will ordinarily operate; or in the case of a person of unsound mind, such later date as may be prescribed by or under an Act of Parliament.

(7) Provision may be made by or under an Act of Parliament for extending beyond the specified date the period in which any person may make a renunciation of citizenship, take an oath or make or register a declaration

(4) Where the marriage of any woman as is referred to in the preceding provisions of this article is annulled, any such woman having registered as a citizen of Ghana by virtue of the said marriage shall cease to be a citizen of Ghana.

9. (1) Any person who, upon the attainment of the age of twenty-one years, is a citizen of Ghana and also a citizen of some country other than Ghana shall, subject to the provisions of clause (7) of this article, cease to be a citizen of Ghana upon the specified date unless

(a) he has renounced his citizenship of that other country; and

(b) he has, in the case of a citizen of Ghana born outside Ghana, made and registered such declaration of his intentions concerning residence as may be prescribed by Parliament.

(2) Any person who

(a) has attained the age of twenty-one years on the coming into force of this Constitution, and

(b) becomes a citizen of Ghana on that day by virtue of the provisions of article 5 of this Constitution, and

(c) is on or after that day also a citizen of some country other than Ghana,

shall, subject to the provisions of clause (7) of this article, cease to be a citizen of Ghana upon the specified date unless he has renounced his citizenship of that other country and taken the oath of allegiance.

(3) A citizen of Ghana shall cease to be a citizen of Ghana if, having attained the age of twenty-one years,

(a) he acquires the citizenship of some country other than Ghana by voluntary act, other than marriage; or

(b) he otherwise acquires the citizenship of some country other than Ghana and has not, by the specified date, renounced his citizenship of that other country, taken the oath of allegiance

for the purposes of this article; and if such provision is made that person shall not cease to be a citizen of Ghana upon the specified date but shall cease to be such a citizen upon the expiration of the extended period if he has not then made the renunciation, taken the oath or made or registered the declaration, as the case may be.

CITIZEN-  
SHIP LAWS  
BY PAR-  
LIAMENT.

10. (1) Parliament may make provision for the acquisition of citizenship of Ghana by persons who are not eligible or who are no longer eligible to become citizens of Ghana under the provisions of this Chapter.

(2) Save as otherwise provided in article 8 of this Constitution, no person shall be registered to be a citizen of Ghana unless at the time of his application for registration he is able to speak and understand a Ghanaian language.

(3) The High Court of Justice may, on an application made in that behalf by the Attorney-General, deprive any person who is a citizen of Ghana, otherwise than by birth, of that citizenship on the ground that the activities of any such person are inimical to the security of the state or prejudicial to public morality or the public interest.

(4) Parliament may make provision for the renunciation by any person of his citizenship of Ghana.

11. Any reference in this Chapter to the national status of the father or mother of a person at the time of the birth of that person shall, in relation to a person born after the death of the father or mother, be construed as a reference to the national status of the father or mother at the time of the father's or mother's death; and accordingly, where that death occurred before the coming into force of this Constitution, the national status that the father or mother would have had if he or she had died on the coming into force of this Constitution shall be deemed to be his or her national status at the time of his or her death.

INTERPRE-  
TATION.