

## **CONFIDENTIAL**

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### **PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PUNJAB REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION REGARDING THE PUNJAB COMPULSORY TEACHING OF THE HOLY QURAN BILL 2017 (BILL NO. 1 OF 2018) MOVED BY DR SYED WASEEM AKHTAR, MPA (PP-271)**

The Punjab Compulsory Teaching of the Holy Quran Bill 2017 (Bill No.1 of 2018) moved by Dr Syed Waseem Akhtar, MPA (PP-271) was referred to the Standing Committee on Education on 30 January 2018. The Committee considered the Bill in its meeting held on 29 March 2018.

2. The following were present:--

1.	Engineer Qamar-ul-Islam Raja, MPA (PP-5)	Chairman
2.	Ms Mehwish Sultana Parliamentary Secretary for Higher Education	<i>ex-officio</i> Member
3.	Mr Aamir Inayat Khan Shahani, MPA (PP-50)	Member
4.	Chodhary Muhammad Akram, MPA (PP-122)	Member
5.	Mrs Shameela Aslam, MPA (W-312)	Member
6.	Mrs Bushra Anjum Butt, MPA (W-354)	Member
7.	Dr Murad Raas, MPA (PP-152)	Member
8.	Dr Syed Waseem Akhtar, MPA (PP-271)	<i>Mover</i>
9.	Mr Abu Hafs Muhammad Ghias-ud-Din, MPA (PP-133)	Co-opted Member
10.	Mrs Nabira Indleeb, MPA (W-350)	Co-opted Member

3. Dr Allah Bakhsh Malik, Secretary to Government of the Punjab, Schools Education Department, Mr Abdul Qayoum, Managing Director, Punjab Curriculum and Text Book Board and Mr Mohsin Bukhari, Deputy Director, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Department represented their Departments. Mr Faiz-ul-Basit, Additional Secretary (Committees), Provincial Assembly of the Punjab, functioned as Secretary to the Committee.

4. Dr Syed Waseem Akhtar, MPA/Member-in-charge apprised the Committee about the aims and objects of the subject Bill. He stated that it was necessary to provide for making teaching of the Holy Quran compulsory for the Muslim students in all educational institutions in the Province of Punjab. He added that according to Article 25-A of the Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan 1973, it is the responsibility of the State to provide free and compulsory education to all children of Pakistan. The Holy Quran had the myths of successful life. So being an Islamic country, free and compulsory teaching of Holy Quran would definitely be a source of establishment of a society based on the teachings of Islam. He requested the Committee that the Bill, as introduced, may be recommended to be passed by the Assembly.

5. The Committee after hearing the Mover, Members, having view point of the Administrative as well as Law and Parliamentary Affairs Department and discussing various points, unanimously decided to recommend that the Bill may be passed by the Assembly subject to the following amendments:-

**AMENDMENTS IN THE BILL**

**(1) PREAMBLE**

Preamble be substituted as under:-

“Whereas it is expedient to provide for making teaching of the Holy Quran compulsory for Muslim students in all educational institutions in the Province of Punjab and for matters connected therewith and ancillary thereto;

Be it enacted by Provincial Assembly of the Punjab as follows:”

**(2) CLAUSE 1**

Clause 1 be substituted as under:-

“1. **Short title, application and commencement.**- (1) This Act may be cited as the Punjab Compulsory Teaching of the Holy Quran Act 2018.

(2) It shall apply only to Muslim students in all educational institutions in the Province of Punjab.

(3) It shall come into force at once.”

**(3) CLAUSE 5**

the letter “o” occurring in line 2, be substituted by the word “of”.

6. A copy of the Bill as introduced in the Assembly is at Annexure-A and a copy of the Bill as recommended by the Committee is at Annexure-B.

Lahore  
29 March 2018

**(ENGINEER QAMAR-UL-ISLAM RAJA)**  
Chairman  
Standing Committee on Education

Lahore  
29 March 2018

  
**(RAI MUMTAZ HUSSAIN BABAR)**  
Secretary

**ANNEXURE – A**

**(BILL AS INTRODUCED IN THE ASSEMBLY)**  
**PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PUNJAB**

**Bill No. 1 of 2018**

**THE PUNJAB COMPULSORY TEACHING OF THE HOLY QURAN  
BILL 2017**

A  
Bill

*to provide for making compulsory teaching of the Holy Quran to Muslim students in  
all educational institutions*

Whereas it is expedient to provide for making compulsory teaching of the Holy Quran to Muslim students in all educational institutions in the Province of Punjab and in all the public sector educational institutions owned and controlled by the Provincial Government wherever they may be and for matters connected therewith and ancillary thereto;

It is hereby enacted as follows:

**1. Short title, application and commencement.-** (1) This Act shall be call the Punjab Compulsory Teaching of the Holy Quran Act, 2017.

(2) It shall apply to only Muslim students in all educational institutions.-

(a) In the Province of Punjab; and

(b) Owned and controlled by the Provincial Government wherever they may be.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

**2. Definitions.-** Unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context-

(a) "Government" means the Government of the Punjab.

(b) "Educational institutions" means any school, college, institute, or otherwise by whatever name called for, established and setup in public or private sector for imparting education to students irrespective of its status whether registered or not registered with the Government or any other body;

(c) "Naazrah Quran" means recitation by sighting of the Arabic text;

(d) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act,; and

(e) "rules" means rules made under this Act.

**3. Compulsory teaching of the Holy Quran.-** (1) There shall be, in all educational institutions, compulsory teaching of -

(a) the Naazrah Quran in classes, grades or, as the case may be, levels I to V in prescribed manner; and

(b) the translation of the Holy Quran in classes, grades or, as the case may be, levels VI to XII in such prescribed manner so that the entire Holy Quran is completed upto class, grade or, as the case may be, level XII.

(2) The Government shall ensure implementation of the Act in the manner as may be prescribed.

**4. Power to make rules.-** The Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

**5. Act not to be derogatory to any other law.-** The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to, and not in derogation o, any other law for the time being in force.

**Statement of Objects and Reasons**

According to the Article 25 A, it is the responsibility of the State to provide free and compulsory education to all children of Pakistan. The Holy Quran has the myths of successful life. So being an Islamic country, the free and the compulsory teaching of Holy Quran will definitely be a source of establishment of a society based on the teachings of Islam.

Hence this Bill.

**DR SYED WASEEM AKHTAR  
MPA (PP-271)  
MEMBER INCHARGE**

**Lahore:  
30 January 2018**

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**RAI MUMTAZ HUSSAIN BABAR  
Secretary**

## ANNEXURE - B

### (BILL AS RECOMMENDED BY THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION)

A  
Bill

*to provide for making compulsory teaching of the Holy Quran to Muslim students in  
all educational institutions*

Whereas it is expedient to provide for making teaching of the Holy Quran compulsory for  
Muslim students in all educational institutions in the Province of Punjab and for matters  
connected therewith and ancillary thereto:

Be it enacted by Provincial Assembly of the Punjab as follows:

**1. Short title, application and commencement.-** (1) This Act may be cited as  
the Punjab Compulsory Teaching of the Holy Quran Act 2018.

(2) It shall apply only to Muslim students in all educational institutions in  
the Province of Punjab.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

**2. Definitions.-** Unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context-

- (a) "Government" means the Government of the Punjab.
- (b) "Educational institutions" means any school, college, institute, or otherwise by whatever name called for, established and setup in public or private sector for imparting education to students irrespective of its status whether registered or not registered with the Government or any other body;
- (c) "Naazrah Quran" means recitation by sighting of the Arabic text;
- (d) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act; and
- (e) "rules" means rules made under this Act.

**3. Compulsory teaching of the Holy Quran.-** (1) There shall be, in all educational institutions, compulsory teaching of -

- (a) the Naazrah Quran in classes, grades or, as the case may be, levels I to V in prescribed manner; and
- (b) the translation of the Holy Quran in classes, grades or, as the case may be, levels VI to XII in such prescribed manner so that the entire Holy Quran is completed upto class, grade or, as the case may be, level XII.

(2) The Government shall ensure implementation of the Act in the manner as may be prescribed.

**4. Power to make rules.-** The Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

**5. Act not to be derogatory to any other law.-** The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to, and not in derogation of, any other law for the time being in force.

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