

## **Official Gazette**

### **Law No 93 of Year 1995**

Regarding the Amendment of certain Legal Provisions of the Penal Code; Penal Procedural Law; and, Law No 76 of 1970 regarding the Establishment of Journalists Syndicate

In the name of the People and the President of the Republic;

The People's Assembly hereby approves the passage of the present Law. The respective Law is hereby promulgated.

#### **Article One**

Article (188); Paragraph (2) of Article (302); Article (303); Article (306 A bis); Article (307); and Article (308) of the Penal Code shall hereby be amended, as follows:

##### **Article 188**

A penalty of imprisonment and a fine not less than EGP 5,000 and up to EGP 10,000 shall hereby be imposed on individuals who shall malevolently propagate or diffuse, via any of the previously stated mediums, false or tendentious news, statements, or rumours; or who shall propagate instigating or exciting publicity, fabricated or misrepresented documents, or documents fallaciously attributed to others, which may disturb the public security or order; arouse horror or panic among the people; cause harm or damage to the public interest; or demonstrate contempt or disrespect towards the state institutions or the employees thereof.

The penalty shall be a prison sentence for a term not less than five (5) years and a fine of a minimum of 10,000 EGP and a maximum of 20,000 EGP, in the event that the published or propagated news referred to under the preceding paragraph shall be made with a malicious intent to cause harm or damage to the national economy or national interest, or if such news shall be deemed as detrimental to the national interest.

##### **Article (302) (Paragraph 2)**

Published or propagated news deemed as 'defamatory' or 'slandorous' against the conduct or performance of a civil servant, a parliamentarian representative, or a public employee shall not be subject to the provisions set forth under the preceding paragraph, if the publishing or propagation of such news is made on a bona fide basis, and with good intentions, provided that such alleged offences or crimes ascribed to a civil servant, public employee, or parliamentarian representative shall be substantiated and validated thereby.

### **Article (303)**

Acts of libel or insult shall be subject to a prison sentence for a term of no less than one year and/ or a fine no less than 5,000 EGP and up to 15,000 EGP.

In the event that such libel or insult shall discredit or disparage a civil servant, a parliamentary representative, or a public employee, on account of their professional conduct or performance, and in their official capacity, a prison sentence of no less than two (2) years and up to five (5) years and/ or a mandatory payment of a fine no less than 10,000 EGP and up to 20,000 EGP shall hereby be imposed.

### **Article (306 A bis)**

A penalty of imprisonment for a term not more than (1) year and/or a fine not less than 200 EGP shall hereby be imposed on individuals who shall make improper advances or engage in indecent acts against a female, or who shall do or say anything to a female that shall offend her modesty.

The provisions set forth under the preceding paragraph shall hereby apply in the event that such improper advances or acts shall be committed against a female through the telephone. In the event that such crimes or offences, provided for under the two preceding paragraphs, shall be repeated within one year as of the date of imposing a penalty in consequence of committing a similar offence or a crime, a prison sentence and/ or a fine not less than 500 EGP and up to 3,000 EGP shall hereby be imposed.

### **Article (307)**

In the event that any of the crimes or offences provided for under Articles (182); (183); (184); (185); (303); and (306) shall be perpetrated by means of propagating or diffusing such news in a newspaper or publication, the minimum and maximum fines stipulated therein shall hereby be doubled.

### **Article (308)**

In the event that the dignity or honor of individuals or reputation of families shall be attacked or discredited, or if the private life of an individual shall be compromised as a result to an act of insult, slander, or defamation, a minimum prison sentence and a mandatory fine shall hereby be imposed, within the limits established under Article (179), (181), (182), (303), (306), and (307). In the event that such news shall be published in a newspaper or a publication, the penalty shall be no less than half the maximum fine identified therein, and the prison sentence shall be no less than two (2) years.

## **Article Two**

The penalty shall be a prison sentence for a term not less than one year in such crimes and offences provided for under Article (172), (176), (178 – Item 3), (179), and (181), and Paragraph (3) of Article (309 – A bis) of the Penal Code.

The penalty shall be a prison sentence and/or payment of a fine no less than 5000 EGP and up to 10,000 EGP in such crimes provided for under Article (178), (182), (184), (185), (186), (189), (190), (193), (194), and (306) of the Penal Code.

Crimes and offences provided for under Articles (174) and (201) of the Penal Code shall be subject to a minimum penalty of 5000 EGP and a maximum of 10,000 EGP.

### **Article Three**

The title of Chapter (14) of Section (2) of the Penal Code shall hereby be 'Crimes and Offences Perpetrated by Newspapers and Others'.

### **Article Four**

The last paragraph of Article (178), Paragraph (3) of Article (178 – Item 3), and Article (306 B bis) of the Penal Code shall hereby be repealed.

### **Article Five**

Article (135) of the Penal Procedural Law and Article (67) of Law No (76) of 1970 on the Establishment of Journalists Syndicate shall hereby be repealed.

### **Article Six**

The present Law shall hereby be published in the official Gazette, and shall be enforced as of the date of the promulgation thereof.

The present Law shall hereby be stamped by the State Seal, and shall be fully enforced.

Issued at the Presidency, on May 28<sup>th</sup>, 1995

Hosni Mubarak