

**THE BALOCHISTAN CHILD MARRIAGES
RESTRAINT ACT, 2025**

(BALN. ACT NO. XXXIII of 2025)

CONTENTS

SECTIONS

- Preamble.**
- 1. Short title and commencement.**
- 2. Definitions.**
- 3. Punishment for male adult marrying a Child.**
- 4. Punishment for solemnizing a child marriage.**
- 5. Requirement of computerized National Identity card for registration of marriage**
- 6. Cognizance of offence and trial.**
- 7. Marriage of a Child Shall be void ab initio.**
- 8. Offences to be cognizable and non-compoundable.**
- 9. Act to override all other law.**
- 10. Appeals.**
- 11. Power of Government to make Rules.**
- 12. Application of the Code of Criminal Procedure Code 1898.**
- 13. Removal of difficulties.**
- 14. Repeal and Savings.**

**¹THE BALOCHISTAN CHILD MARRIAGES RESTRAINT
ACT, 2025**

(BALN. ACT NO. XXXIII of 2025)

[18th November, 2025]

**AN ACT to restrain the solemnization of child
marriage**

Preamble.

WHEREAS, it is expedient to restrain the solemnization of child marriages and matters incidental or ancillary thereto.

It is hereby enacted as follows:

Short title and commencement.

1. (1) This Act may be called the “Balochistan Child Marriages Restraint Act, 2025”.

(2) It shall extend to the whole of Balochistan.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

Definitions.

2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,

(a) **“Act”** means the Balochistan Child Marriages Restraint Act, 2025;

(b) **“Adult”** means a person of either sex who is eighteen or above eighteen years of age;

(c) **“Child”** means the Board of Governors constituted under Section 4 of this Act;

Explanation: For the application this Act the appearance of the person or the start of puberty shall be no ground to consider any person adult or minor.

(d) **“Child marriage”** means a marriage to which both or either of the contracting parties is a child;

¹ This Act was passed by the Provincial Assembly of Balochistan on 14th November 2025, and assented to by the Governor Balochistan, on 14th November 2025.

- (e) **“Court”** means court exercising the powers of First Class Judicial Magistrate;
- (f) **“Contracting party”** means either of the parties whose marriage is, or about to be solemnized;
- (g) **“Complainant”** Can be any person or organization; and
- (h) **“Government”** means the Government of Balochistan.

Punishment for male adult marrying a Child.

3. (1) Whoever, being a male above eighteen years of age, contracts a child marriage shall be punished with rigorous imprisonment which may extend up to three years but shall not be less than two years and with fine which may extend up to two hundred thousand rupees but shall not be less than one hundred thousand rupees.

Notwithstanding anything contained In section 25 of the Balochistan General Clauses Act, 1956, or section 64 of the Pakistan Penal Code, a Court sentencing an offender shall be competent to direct that, In default of payment of the fine Imposed, he shall undergo a term of three months of imprisonment.

Punishment for solemnizing a child marriage.

4. (1) Whoever performs, conducts, directs or promotes or abets any child marriage shall be punishable with rigorous imprisonment which may extend to three years but not less than two years and shall be liable to fine which may extend up to two hundred thousand rupees but not less than one hundred thousand rupees.

Notwithstanding anything contained in section 25 of the Balochistan General Clauses Act, 1956, or section 64 of the Pakistan Penal Code, a Court sentencing an offender shall be competent to direct that, in default of payment of the fine imposed, he shall undergo a term of three months of imprisonment.

Requirement of

5. The Nikah Khawan, Nikah Registrar and Secretary of

**computerized
National Identity
card for
registration of
marriage**

Union Council shall be bound to take a copy of Computerized Nation Identity Card/ proof of registration issued by NADRA of both parties to the marriage at the time of solemnization and registration of Nikah. Any omission or negligence on the part of Nikah Khawan, Nikah Registrar and Secretary of Union Council shall amount to criminal offence under this Act and shall be punishable with rigorous imprisonment which may extend up to one year and shall also be liable to fine which may extend up to one hundred thousand rupees.

**Cognizance of
offence and trial.**

6. (1) No court other than the court of Judicial Magistrate of first class shall take cognizance of an offence punishable under this Act.

**Marriage of a
Child Shall be
void ab initio.**

7. (1) Marriage of child shall be void ab initio if-

- (a) Where a child is taken or enticed out of the keeping of the lawful guardian; or
- (b) Where a child s by force compelled, or by any deceitful means induced to go from any place; or
- (c) Where a child is sold for the purpose of marriage; and made to go through a form of marriage or if the child is married after which the minor is sold or trafficked or used for immoral purposes, such a marriage shall be null and void ab initio.
- (d) If during such marriage a child is born shall be considered legitimate and his/ her maintenance shall be responsibility of the father.

Explanation.- The persons involved in such activities shall also be punished as provided in Chapter XVI-A of Pakistan Penal Code of 1860 (Act No. XLV of 1860).

**Offenses to be
cognizable and
non-
compoundable.**

8. Notwithstanding anything contained In the Code of Criminal Procedure, (Act V of 1898), an offence punishable under this Act shall be cognizable, non-bailable and non-compoundable.

- Act to override all other law.** **9.** The Provisions of this Act shall have overriding effect notwithstanding anything contained In any other law for the time being In force.
- Appeals.** **10.** (1) Any person aggrieved by any judgment, sentence or order passed under this Act, may within thirty days of such judgment, sentence or final order prefer an appeal to the Court of District and Session Judge.
- Power of Government to make Rules.** **11.** (1) The Government shall, by Notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the provision of this Act within six months of passing of this law
- Application of the Code of Criminal Procedure Code 1898.** **12.** (1) The Code of Criminal Procedure 1898 shall be fully applicable in the matters of trials, balls, sentences, appeals etc.
- Removal of difficulties.** **13.** (1) If any difficulty arises In giving effect to any of the provisions / section of this Act the Government may, by the Notification in the Official Gazette make such provisions as it may think fit for removing such difficulty.
- Repeal and Savings.** **14.** (1) The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 (Act No. XIX of 1929) is hereby repealed In its application to the extent of Balochistan Province.
- (2) Notwithstanding such repeal, all cases and other proceedings pending or continued under the said Act at the commencement of this Act shall be continued and disposed of in accordance with provisions of the repealed Act.
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