

THE GENERAL CLAUSES ACTS

(Federal & Provincial)

[Upto date including all amendments and case law]

Containing:-

1. The General Clauses Act, 1897.
2. The Baluchistan General Clauses Act, 1956.
3. The Punjab General Clauses Act, 1956.
4. The Sind General Clauses Act, 1956.
5. The West Pakistan General Clauses Act, 1956
(*Khyber Pakhtunkhwa*).

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Appendices

By

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PREFACE

The General Clauses Act is considered a very important legislative document in the present day judicial world. A thorough knowledge of the Act is of vital importance for the interpretation the laws. The drafters and framers of laws also derive immense assistance from the Act, because their task is made easier in the preparation the Draft Bills.

Interpretation of legislative enactments is a frequently arising phenomenon before courts of law. Hence, an interpretation statute becomes an absolute necessity in order to avoid repetition and ensure uniformity in respect of expressions commonly found in various statutes. The purpose of the General Clauses Act, 1897 is to shorten the language of statutory enactments and to provide for uniformity of expression in cases where there is identity of subject-matter. The one hundred and thirteen years old General Clauses Act has fully achieved the above objectives.

The book in your hands is a compilation containing extensively up to date Federal and Provincial General Clauses Acts with proper referencing and footnotes along with comments based on case law of the Superior Courts.

It is for the first time that Provincial General Clauses Acts are presented separately province-wise. In 1956 West Pakistan General Clauses Act was passed by the Assembly of West Pakistan and after dissolution of one-unit the Act of West Pakistan was adopted by all four provinces with some amendments. At present no book is available in the market which contains the latest Provincial General Clauses Acts.

I have incorporated all the Provincial amendments and latest cases of the Superior Courts of Pakistan and India. In (Federal) General Clauses Act, 1897 case-law has been discussed in detail which may be relevant for corresponding sections of Provincial General Clauses Acts. At the end four appendices are given which contains Report of the Select Committee on the Bill; Statement of Objects and Reasons; Notes on clauses; and Principle of *Locus Poenitentiae*.

It is hoped that this book will be very useful for legal practitioners, scholars, academicians, researchers, students, concerned persons and all other users. Although it may not be an ideal or perfect work in all respects or according to wishes of users or concerned persons, it is hoped that it will meet the needs of most. Being the first effort of its kind, it may require improvement, and I welcome all suggestions and proposals for such improvement, additions and corrections for serving legal fraternity in a better way and be thankful for such guidance and cooperation.

Every effort has been made to make this publication error-free but there is possibility of mistakes, errors and omissions. I shall be thankful if you could point out, for the benefit of others, such mistakes, errors, or omissions for rectification in future editions. Your cooperation and guidance will be of tremendous benefit for me.

Muhammad Abdul Basit

Rawalpindi

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