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**Decree No. (69) of 2022 Establishing the National Archives Centre**

We, Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Having reviewed the Constitution;

Law No. (22) of 2006 regarding the Protection of the Copyright and the Antecedent Rights, as amended;

Civil Service Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (48) of 2010, as amended;

Law No. (16) of 2014 regarding the Protection of State Information and Documents;

Royal Decree No. (18) of 2008 Establishing the Isa Cultural Centre, amended by Royal Decree No. (32) of 2008;

And Royal Decree No. (31) of 2015 Establishing and Organising the National Archives;

And upon the submission of the Prime Minister,

And after the approval of the Council of Ministers,

**Hereby Decree the following:**

**Article One**

A centre called the (National Archives Centre) shall be established under the authority of the Council of Ministers and a decree shall be promulgated to organise it, and in this Decree, it shall be referred to as (the Centre).

**Article two**

The Centre aims to collect public and historical documents and records related to the history of the Kingdom of Bahrain and to highlight their historical value. It shall supervise their preservation and archiving according to the scientific principles of archiving. The Centre shall also work to facilitate access to these documents for researchers and others interested in benefiting from them, while ensuring compliance with the laws and regulations applicable in this regard.

**Article Three**

The Centre shall be responsible for conducting all the necessary work and activities to achieve its objectives and taking the appropriate measures in this regard. This shall include, in particular, the following:

1- Collecting public documents and records with all means, classifying them, indexing them, and preparing data and guidelines about them, as well as organising their circulation.

2- Working on protecting documents and records from factors that may cause damage, repairing and restoring any damage that may occur, and using necessary maintenance and safety measures for this purpose.

3- Providing data and information about documents and records and facilitating research opportunities for researchers and others interested in benefiting from the informational material held by the archive.

4- Proposing archiving standards for documents and records.

5- Organising seminars, conferences, training programmes, and workshops related to the objectives of the Centre, or participating in any of them, in cooperation and coordination with the relevant authorities.

6- Undertaking any other tasks related to the Centre's objectives as assigned by the Council of Ministers.

The documents and archives of the Royal Court, the Crown Prince Court, and the military and security authorities in the Kingdom of Bahrain shall be excluded.

**Article Four**

The Centre shall have a President appointed by a decree who shall supervise the technical, administrative, and financial operations of the Centre. The President shall possess all necessary authorities to achieve the Centre's objectives in accordance with the provisions of this Decree.

**Article Five**

The President or his delegate shall determine the fees for consultations, studies, and seminars conducted by the Centre.

**Article Six**

The Centre shall have sufficient financial resources to enable it to achieve its objectives and fulfil its assigned tasks. These resources shall consist of:

1- Financial allocations allocated for the Centre in the general budget of the State.

2- Voluntary donations and aid that the Centre decides to accept, in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in the Kingdom.

**Article Seven**

The provisions of the Civil Service Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (48) of 2010 as well as the provisions of Law No. (13) of 1975 regarding the Regulation of Pensions and Retirement Gratuities for Government Employees shall apply to employees of the Centre.

**Article Eight**

All appropriations, rights, and obligations related to the National Archives shall be transferred to the Centre. The employees of the National Archives, along with their rights and job benefits, shall also be transferred to the Centre.

**Article Nine**

Every text that contradicts the provisions of this Decree shall be repealed.

**Article Ten**

The Prime Minister and the Ministers - each within his jurisdiction - shall implement the provisions of this Decree, and it shall come into force from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

**King of Kingdom of Bahrain**

**Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa**

**Prime Minister**

**Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa**

Issued at Riffa Palace:

On: 27 Rabi' al-Akhir 1444 A.H.

Corresponding to: 21 November 2022