

# BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

No. 21 of 1927.

[Promulgated 20th May, 1927.]

## PROCLAMATION

BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

Amending the law relating to prisons in the Bechuanaland Protectorate.

Whereas it is expedient to amend the law relating to prisons in the Bechuanaland Protectorate (herein after referred to as "the territory");

Now therefore under and by virtue of the powers in me vested, I do hereby declare, proclaim, and make known as follows:—

1. Proclamation No. 12 of 1897 is hereby repealed.

2. The High Commissioner may make, alter, and repeal regulations for the territory not inconsistent with this Proclamation, for all or any of the following purposes, and such regulations may provide penalties for the breach thereof:—

- (a) Prescribing the powers of the Resident Commissioner in respect of prisons.
- (b) Prescribing the duties and powers of magistrates in respect of prisons.
- (c) Prescribing the duties and powers of medical officers in respect of prisons.
- (d) Prescribing the duties and powers of officers of prisons.
- (e) Prescribing the conduct of officers of prisons.
- (f) For the general government and good management of prisons, the maintenance of discipline therein, and for defining the acts or omissions which shall be deemed to be offences against discipline, and for the treatment of prisoners.
- (g) Prescribing the mode of supplying food and determining the scales of diet and quantity of clothing and necessaries for prisoners, and prohibiting the disposal by any officer of any articles of kit or equipment.
- (h) For the safe custody of prisoners when at labour or otherwise, including the taking of such steps as the medical officers may think necessary for the preservation of the health of prisoners.
- (i) As to the receipt detention and custody of money, valuables, or other articles belonging to any prisoner and defining the conditions under which payment deposit or delivery of such money or other articles shall be made during the period of imprisonment of any prisoner.
- (j) Regulating the introduction into or conveyance out of any prison of any food, drink, clothing, letters, documents, or any other article.
- (k) Prohibiting the supply to any prisoner of any article or thing.
- (l) For the searching of prisoners.

- (m) For the confiscation or destruction of all articles illicitly introduced into any prison, and of all clothing belonging to prisoners, which, by reason of its condition or for any other valid reason it is undesirable to keep.
- (n) As to the admission to any prison of any person other than the officers thereof, and the persons who are or may be detained therein.
- (o) As to the right to petition for, and the procedure for, obtaining mitigation or remission of sentences, and for providing for the supply of food or means of travelling to prisoners on their discharge.
- (p) As to the grant and withdrawal of indulgencies and privileges to prisoners, and the days and hours during which work or labour by prisoners may be suspended.
- (q) For the medical examination, measuring, and photographing or taking of other records of prisoners, including detailed personal statistics and histories, and for requiring full and truthful answers to all questions put to such persons with the object of obtaining such statistics and histories.
- (r) As to the manner in which sentences of hard labour, spare diet, corporal punishment, solitary confinement, or any other sentences are to be carried out.
- (s) As to the treatment of persons condemned to death, and the admission or exclusion of any persons from executions and as to the disposal of the bodies of prisoners who have suffered death by execution, or have died in prison.
- (t) As to the disposal by sale or otherwise of the effects of any prisoner who has escaped, died or failed to claim or receive the same.
- (u) As to the temporary detention of any sick prisoner whose sentence has expired but whose discharge or release is certified by a medical officer to be likely to result in his death, or in serious injury to his health, or to be a source of infection to others.
- (v) As to the care and maintenance of paupers and destitute persons or any other persons temporarily lodged in any prison.

And generally as to any other matter which may be dealt with by prison rule.

3. This Proclamation shall have force and take effect from the date of its publication in the *Gazette*.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

Given under my Hand and Seal at Capetown this Eleventh day of May One thousand Nine hundred and Twenty-seven.

ATHLONE,  
High Commissioner.

By Command of His Excellency the  
High Commissioner.

SHIRLEY EALES,  
Acting Imperial Secretary.