

₦3,500



**BAUCHI STATE
PENAL CODE
(ESTABLISHMENT) LAW
2022**



Bauchi State 2022 Vol. 1 No. 3



Bauchi State of Nigeria Gazette

Published by Authority

No. 3

BAUCHI - 9TH DECEMBER, 2022

VOL. 1

Bauchi State Notice No. 3

BAUCHI STATE PENAL CODE (ESTABLISHMENT) LAW 2022

Printed by the Government Printer, Bauchi. 017/300

Annual subscriptions: Nigeria, N12,000 Overseas, N25,000 Post free, Present issue 7000 per copy. Applications for the purchase of Gazette and other Government publications should be submitted to the Government Printer, Bauchi. Remittances should be in money or postal orders, crossed and made payable to the Government Printer, Bauchi. Postage stamps are NOT acceptable.

**BAUCHI STATE
PENAL CODE
(ESTABLISHMENT) LAW 2022**

Enactment: *Enacted by* the Bauchi State House of Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Commencement: 9th day of December 2022

1. Short title

This Law may be cited as the Penal Code Law.

2. Establishment of Penal Code

The provisions contained in the Schedule to this Law shall be the law of Bauchi State with respect to the several matters therein dealt with and the said Schedule may be cited as, and is hereinafter called, the Penal Code.

3. Punishment of offences committed in the State

- (1) Every person shall be liable to punishment under the Penal Code for every act or omission contrary to the provisions thereof of which he shall be guilty within the State.
- (2) After the commencement of this Law no person shall be liable to punishment under any customary law.

4. Offences against laws of the State

- (1) Where by the provisions of any law of the State the doing of any act or the making of any omission is made an offence, those provisions shall apply to every person who is in the State at the time of his doing the act or making the omission.
- (2) Where any such offence comprises several elements and any acts, omissions or events occur which, if they all occurred in the State, would constitute an offence, and any of such acts, omissions or events occur in the State, although the other acts, omissions or events, which if they occurred in the State would be elements of the offence, occur elsewhere than in the State then-

- (a) if the act or omission, which in the case of an offence committed wholly in the State would be the initial element of the offence, occurs in the State, the person who does that act or makes that omission is guilty of an offence of the same kind and is liable to the same punishment as if all the subsequent elements of the offence occurred in the State; and
- (b) if that act or omission occurs elsewhere than in the State, and the person who does that act or makes that omission afterwards enters the State, he is by such entry guilty of an offence of the same kind, and is liable to the same punishment, as if that act or omission had occurred in the State and he had been in the State when it occurred.
- (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of **subsection (2)** it shall be a defence to the charge in any such case to prove that the defendant did not intend that the act or omission should have effect in the State.
- (4) The provisions of **subsection (2)** do not extend to a case in which the only material event that occurs in the State is the death of a person whose death is caused by an act or omission at a place outside, and at a time when that person was outside the State.

5. Civil remedies

- (1) When by the Penal Code any act is declared to be lawful, no action shall be brought in respect thereof.
- (2) Except as aforesaid, the provisions of this Law shall not affect any right of action which any person would have had against another if this Law had not been passed; nor shall the omission from the Penal Code of any penal provision in respect of any act or omission which before the time of the coming into operation of the Penal Code constituted an actionable wrong affect any right of action in respect thereof.

6. Contempt of court

Nothing in this Law or in the Penal Code shall affect the authority of courts of record to punish a person summarily for the offence commonly known as contempt of court; but a person cannot be so punished and also punished under the provisions of the Penal Code for the same act or omission.

7. Repeals

This Law hereby repeals:

- (a) The Penal Code Law, 1960 CAP. 108 Laws of Bauchi State;**
- (b) The Kidnapping, Theft of Cattle and Rape (Special Provisions Law) 2017, Laws of Bauchi State and;**
- (c) The Thug and Thuggery Prohibition Law, 2008 Laws of Bauchi State**

† The original numbering of the sections has been retained.

SCHEDULE
CHAPTER I

General Explanations and Definitions

1. Sense of expression once explained.
2. Gender.
3. Number.
4. Man, Woman.
5. Person.
6. Public.
7. Magistrate.
8. Court of justice.
9. Judicial proceedings.
10. Public servant.
11. Armed forces, military affairs.
12. Movable property.
13. Wrongful gain.
14. Wrongful loss.
15. Gaining wrongfully, losing wrongfully.
16. Dishonestly.
17. Fraudulently.
18. Reason to believe.

19. Likely, probable.
20. Property in possession of wife, clerk or servant.
21. Counterfeit.
22. Writing, document.
23. Document of title.
24. Words referring to acts include illegal omissions.
25. Act, omission.
26. Effect caused partly by act and partly by omission.
27. Voluntarily.
28. Offence.
29. Illegal.
30. Legally bound to do.
31. Injury.
32. Life, death.
33. Animal.
34. Vessel.
35. Year, month
36. Oath.
37. Good faith.
38. Provocation.
39. Invalid consents.
40. Harbour.
41. Government.
42. Foreign government.

CHAPTER II

Criminal Responsibility

43. Common knowledge.
44. Presumption of knowledge of an intoxicated person.
45. Act done by person justified by law.
46. Act of court of justice.
47. Act done pursuant to the judgment or order of court.
48. Accident in doing a lawful act.
49. Act likely to cause injury but done without criminal intent and to prevent other injury or to benefit person injured.

50. Act of child.
51. Act of a person of unsound mind.
52. Involuntary intoxication.
53. Act not intended to cause death or grievous hurt done by consent.
54. Act not intended to cause death done by consent for a person's benefit.

55. Correction of child or pupil.
56. Communication made in good faith.
57. Act to which a person is compelled by threats.
58. Act causing slight harm.
59. Things done in private defence.
60. Right of private defence.
61. Right of private defence against act of a person of unsound mind, etc.

62. General limit of right of private defence.
63. No right of private defence when protection of public authority available

64. Limitation of right of private defence against act of public servant.
65. When right of private defence of the body extends to causing death.

66. When right of private defence of property extends to causing death.

67. Right of private defence against deadly assault when there is risk of harm to innocent person.

CHAPTER III

Punishments and Compensation

68. Punishments
69. Limitation on punishments
70. Fractions of term of punishment
71. Special provision for juvenile offenders.
72. Amount of fine
73. Sentence of imprisonment for non-payment of fine
74. Imprisonment in default of payment of fine
75. Fine not discharged by death or service of sentence in default of payment.
76. Limit of punishment when act within definition of more than one offence or when offence made up of several offences.
77. Caning.
78. Compensation.

CHAPTER IV

Joint Acts

79. Acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention.
80. When such an act is criminal by reason of its being done with a criminal knowledge or intention
81. Co-operation by doing one of several acts constituting an offence.
82. Persons concerned in criminal act may be guilty of different offences.

CHAPTER V

Abetment

83. Abetment defined.
84. Abetment of offence defined
85. Abetment if the act abetted is committed in consequence and where no express provision is made for its punishment.
86. Abetment if person abetted does act with different intention from that of abettor.
87. Liability of abettor when one act abetted and different act done.
88. Abettor when liable to cumulative punishment for act abetted and for act done.
89. Liability of abettor for an effect caused by the act abetted different from that intended by abettor.
90. Abettor present when offence committed liable as principal.
91. Abetment of offence punishable with death or imprisonment for life if offence not committed.
92. Abetment of offence punishable with imprisonment if offence is not committed.
93. Abetting commission of offence by the public or by more than ten persons.
94. Administering unlawful oath.

CHAPTER VI

Attempts to Commit Offences

95. Attempting to commit offences punishable with imprisonment.

CHAPTER VII

Criminal Conspiracy

- 96. Criminal conspiracy defined.
- 97. Punishment for criminal conspiracy.
- 97A. Unlawful society defined.
- 97B. Management or membership of unlawful society

CHAPTER VIII

Breach of Official Trust

98. Breach of official trust defined.
99. Punishment for breach of official trust.

CHAPTER IX

Offences against the Public Peace

100. Unlawful assembly defined.
101. Member of unlawful assembly defined
102. Punishment for membership of unlawful assembly
103. Joining unlawful assembly armed with deadly weapon.
104. Joining or continuing in unlawful assembly knowing it has been commanded to disperse.
105. Rioting defined.
106. Punishment for rioting.
107. Rioting armed with deadly weapon.
108. Every member of unlawful assembly guilty of offence committed in prosecution of common object.
109. Promoter of an unlawful assembly liable as a member.
110. Joining or continuing in assembly of five or more persons knowing that it has been commanded to disperse.
111. Wearing and carrying of emblem, flag etc.
112. Assaulting or obstructing public servant when suppressing riot, etc.
113. Disturbance of public peace.
114. Inciting disturbance.

CHAPTER X

Offences by or relating to Public Servants

115. Public servants taking gratification in respect of official act.
116. Taking gratification in order to influence public servant.
117. Abetment by public servant of offence mentioned in section 116.
118. Offering or giving gratification to public servant.
119. Public servant obtaining valuable thing without consideration from person concerned in proceedings or business transacted by such public servant
120. Offering or giving valuable thing without consideration.
121. Third person profiting by gratification.
122. Public servant dishonestly receiving money or property not due.
123. Public servant disobeying direction of law with intent to cause injury or to save person from punishment or property from forfeiture.
124. Public servant framing incorrect document with intent to cause injury.
125. Public servant in judicial proceeding acting contrary to law.
126. Wrongful committal or confinement by public servant.
127. Public servant omitting to arrest or aiding escape.
128. Public servant omitting to arrest or permitting to escape.

- 129. Public servant causing danger by omitting to perform duty.
- 130. Abandonment of duty by public servant.
- 131. Public servant unlawfully purchasing property.
- 132. Personating a public servant.
- 132A Making or accepting wrong conferment of responsibility.
- 133. Wearing dress or carrying token used by public servant.

CHAPTER XI

Contempt of the Lawful Authority of Public Servants

134. Absconding to avoid service of summons, notice or order.
135. Preventing service or publication of summons, etc.
136. Failure to attend in obedience to an order from public servant.
137. Failure to produce document to public servant.
138. Failure to give notice or information to public servant.
139. Furnishing false information.
140. False information with intent to mislead public servant.
141. Refusing oath or affirmation when duly required by public servant to make it.
142. Refusing to answer public servant authorized to question.
143. Refusing to sign statement.
144. Resistance to taking of property by lawful authority of public servant.
145. Obstructing sale of property offered for sale by authority of public servant.
146. Removing property under lawful seizure.
147. Illegal purchase or bid for property offered for sale by authority of public servant.
148. Obstructing public servant in discharge of functions.

149. Obstructing public servant in discharge of duty under any written law.
150. Failing to assist public servant when bound by law to assist.
151. Contravention of residence order.
152. Disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant.
153. Threat of injury to public servant.
154. Threat of injury to induce person to refrain from applying for protection to public servant
155. Intentional insult or interruption to public servant sitting in judicial proceeding.

CHAPTER XII

False Evidence and Offences relating to the Administration of Justice Offence

156. Giving false evidence defined.
157. Fabricating false evidence defined.
158. Punishment for false evidence
159. Giving false evidence to procure conviction of capital offence.
160. Giving false evidence to procure conviction of offence punishable with imprisonment.
161. Using evidence known to be false.
162. Issuing or signing false evidence
163. Using as true a certificate known to be false.
164. False statement in declaration which is by law receivable as evidence.
165. False translation.
166. Destruction of document to prevent its production as evidence.

Screening of Offenders

167. Causing disappearance of evidence of offence or giving false information to screen offender.
168. Taking gratification to screen an offender from punishment.
169. Offering gratification in consideration of screening offender.
170. Penalty for harbouring robber or brigand.
171. Resistance or obstruction to lawful arrest of another person.
172. Resistance or obstruction by a person to his lawful arrest or escape.

173. Resistance or obstruction to lawful arrest or escape, in cases not provided for by section 172.

Fraudulent Dealings with Property

174. Fraudulent removal of property to prevent lawful seizure or execution.
175. Fraudulently suffering decree for sum not due.
176. Fraudulently obtaining decree for sum not due.
177. Dishonest or fraudulent execution of deed of transfer containing false statement of consideration.

Miscellaneous

178. Giving false information respecting an offence.
179. False personation.
180. False charge of offence made with intent to injure.
181. Taking gift to help to recover stolen property.
182. Influencing course of justice.

CHAPTER XIII

Public Nuisance and Thuggery

183. Public nuisance defined
184. Offence and Punishment for Thuggery
185. Adulteration of food or drink intended for sale.
186. Sale of food or drink not corresponding to description.
187. Sale of adulterated food or drink.
188. Sale of noxious food or drink.
189. Making atmosphere noxious to health.
190. Exhibition of false light, mark or buoy.
191. Obstruction in public way or line of navigation.
192. Negligent conduct causing anger to person or property.
193. Negligent conduct with respect to animal.
194. Punishment for public nuisance in cases not otherwise provided for.
195. Continuance of nuisance after injunction to discontinue.
196. Obscene or indecent acts.
197. Keeping a brothel.
198. Sale of obscene books, etc.
199. Obscene songs, etc.

CHAPTER XIV

Lotteries and Gaming Houses

- 200. Definitions in Chapter XIV.
- 201. Keeping gaming house or lottery office.
- 202. Offences relating to lotteries.

CHAPTER XV

Cruelty to Animals

- 203. Ill-treatment of domestic animals.
- 204. Over-riding and neglect of animal.
- 205. Power to order temporary custody or destruction of animal.

CHAPTER XVI

Offences relating to Religion

- 206. Insulting or exciting contempt of religious creed.
- 207. Injuring or defiling place of worship.
- 208. Disturbing religious assembly.
- 209. Committing trespass on place of worship or burial.

CHAPTER XVII

Offences relating to Ordeal, Witchcraft and Juju

- 210. Trial by Ordeal
- 211. Unlawful Juju
- 212. Offences relating to witchcraft and juju.
- 213. Criminal charms.
- 214. Cannibalism.
- 215. Unlawful possession of human parts

CHAPTER XVIII

Offences affecting the Human Body *Offences affecting Life*

- 216. Culpable homicide defined.
- 217. Culpable homicide punishable with death
- 218. When culpable homicide is not punishable with death.
- 219. Culpable homicide by causing death of person other than person whose death was intended.
- 220. Culpable homicide not punishable with death.
- 221. Death caused when intention is to cause hurt only.
- 222. Death caused in act of committing offence.
- 223. Abetment of suicide of child or insane person.
- 224. Abetment of suicide.
- 225. Attempts to commit culpable homicide.
- 226. Attempt to commit culpable homicide not punishable with death.
- 227. Attempt to commit suicide

Causing Miscarriage, Injuries to Unborn Children, Exposure of Infants, Cruelty to Children and Concealment of Births

- 228. Causing miscarriage.
- 229. Death caused by act done with intent to cause miscarriage.
- 230. Causing miscarriage unintentionally.
- 231. Act done with intent to prevent child being born alive or to cause it to die after birth.
- 232. Causing death of quick unborn child by act amounting to culpable homicide.

233. Abandonment of child under twelve years.

234. Cruelty to children.

235. Concealment of birth

Hurt

236. Hurt defined.

237. Grievous hurt defined.

238. Voluntary causing hurt defined

239. Voluntarily causing grievous hurt defined.

240. Voluntarily causing hurt on provocation.

241. Voluntarily causing grievous hurt on provocation.

242. Voluntarily causing hurt without provocation.

243. Voluntarily causing grievous hurt without provocation.

244. Voluntarily causing hurt or grievous hurt by dangerous means.

245. Causing hurt by means of poison with intent to commit an offence.

246. Voluntarily causing hurt to extort property or to constrain to an illegal act

247. Voluntarily causing hurt to extort confession or to compel restoration of property.

248. Voluntarily causing hurt or grievous hurt to deter public servant from his duty.

249. Causing hurt by act endangering life or personal safety of others.

Wrongful Restraint and Wrongful Confinement

250. Wrongful restraint defined.

251. Wrongful confinement defined.

252. Wrongful restraint.

253. Wrongful confinement.

- 254. Wrongful confinement after warrant or order or writ issued for production or liberation
- 255. Wrongful confinement in secret.
- 256. Wrongful confinement to extort property or constrain to illegal act.
- 257. Wrongful confinement to extort confession or compel restoration of property.

Criminal Force and Assault

- 258. Force defined.
- 259. Criminal force defined.
- 260. Assault defined.
- 261. Punishment for assault or criminal force without provocation.
- 261A. Punishment for assault or criminal force with provocation.
- 262. Assault or criminal force to deter public servant from discharge of his duty.
- 263. Assault or criminal force to woman with intent to outrage modesty.
- 264. Assault or criminal force in attempt to commit theft of property carried by a person.
- 265. Assault or criminal force in attempt wrongfully to confine a person.

Kidnapping, Abduction and Forced Labour

- 266. Kidnapping
- 267. Conspiracy, attempt and threat to commit kidnapping
- 268A. Aiding, abetting or assisting in kidnapping.
- 267B. Abduction

- 269. Harboursing a kidnapped person, knowing negotiating to obtain payment and knowingly receiving ransom
 - 270. Arranging for self's kidnap and raising representation as a kidnapped person
 - 271. Procuration of minor girl.
 - 272. Importation of girl from foreign country.
 - 273. Concealing or keeping in confinement kidnapped or abducted person.
 - 274. Buying or selling minor for immoral purpose.
 - 275. Buying or disposing of slave.
 - 276. Unlawful compulsory labour.
 - 277. Traffic in women.
- Rape and Unnatural and Indecent Offences against the Person*
- 278. Rape defined.
 - 278A. Punishment for rape.
 - 279 Unnatural offences
 - 280. Indecent Assault
 - 281. Unlawful detention with intent to have unlawful sexual intercourse
 - 282. Sexual Harassment
 - 283. Trans-Sexual Offences
 - 284. Intentional aiding or abetting trans-position into the opposite sex
 - 285. Attempt to trans-pose a person into the opposite sex
 - 285A. Forfeiture or destruction of property, facility or instrument used for transposition into the opposite sex.

CHAPTER XIX

Offences against Property

- 286. Theft defined.
- 287. Punishment for theft.
- 288. Theft in a dwelling place, etc.
- 289. Theft by clerk or servant of property in possession of master.
- 290. Theft after preparing to cause death, hurt or restraint in order to commit theft.
- 291. Theft of cattle
- 292. Extortion
- 292A. Punishment for extortion
- 293. Putting person in fear of injury in order to commit extortion
- 294. Extortion by putting a person in fear of death or grievous hurt
- 295. Extortion by threat of accusation of an offence punishable with death

Robbery and Brigandage

- 296. Robbery defined.
- 297. Brigandage defined.
- 298. Punishment for robbery.
- 299. Punishment for attempted robbery.
- 300. Voluntarily causing hurt in committing robbery.
- 301. Brigandage.
- 302. Brigandage with culpable homicide punishable with death.
- 303. Robbery or brigandage with attempt to cause death or grievous hurt.
- 304. Making preparation to commit brigandage.
- 305. Belonging to gang of brigands.

- 306. Belonging to gang of thieves.
- 307. Assembling for purpose of committing brigandage.

Criminal Misappropriation

- 308. Criminal misappropriation defined.
- 309. Punishment for criminal misappropriation
- 310. Criminal misappropriation of property possessed by deceased person at the time of his death.

Criminal Breach of Trust

- 311. Criminal breach of trust defined.
- 312. Punishment for criminal breach of trust.
- 313. Criminal breach of trust by carrier, etc.
- 314. Criminal breach of trust by clerk or servant.
- 315. Criminal breach of trust by public servant or by banker, merchant or agent

Receiving Stolen Property

- 316. Stolen property defined.
- 317. Dishonestly receiving stolen property.
- 318. Dishonestly receiving property stolen in the commission of brigandage.
- 319. Assisting in concealment of stolen property.
- 319A. Possessing thing reasonably suspected of having been stolen.

Cheating

- 320. Cheating defined.
- 321. Cheating by personation defined.
- 322. Punishment for cheating
- 323. Cheating person whose interest offender is bound to protect.

- 324. Cheating by personation.
- 325. Cheating and dishonestly inducing delivery of property.
- Mischief*
- 326. Mischief defined.
- 327. Punishment for mischief.
- 328. Mischief by killing or maiming animal.
- 329. Mischief by killing or maiming cattle, etc.
- 330. Mischief in relation to water supply.
- 331. Mischief by injury to public road, bridge, river or channel.
- 332. Mischief by inundation or obstruction to public drainage.
- 333. Mischief in relation to electricity, telegraphs and telephones.
- 334. Mischief by destroying or moving a public landmark.
- 335. Mischief by fire or explosive with intent to cause damage.
- 336. Mischief by fire or explosive with intent to destroy house, etc.
- 337. Mischief to vessel.
- 338. Mischief by fire to vessel.
- 339. Running vessel aground or ashore with intent to commit theft.
- 340. Mischief committed after preparation made for causing death or hurt

Criminal Trespass

- 341. Criminal trespass defined.
- 342. House trespass defined.
- 343. Lurking house trespass defined
- 344. Lurking house trespass by night defined.
- 345. House breaking defined.
- 346. House breaking by night defined.

- 347. Punishment for criminal trespass.
- 348. Punishment for house trespass
- 349. House trespass to commit offence punishable with death
- 350. House trespass to commit offence punishable with fourteen years' imprisonment
- 351. Punishment for lurking house trespass or house breaking
- 352. Lurking house trespass or house breaking by night
- 353. Joint liability for lurking house trespass or house breaking by night where death or grievous hurt caused
- 354. Breaking open receptacle containing property
- 355. Breaking open receptacle by person entrusted with custody
- 356 Lurking with house breaking implements
- 357 Fabrication of false key or instrument

CHAPTER XX

Forgery

- 358. Making a false document defined.
- 359. Forgery and forged document defined.
- 360. Punishment for forgery.
- 361. Forgery of public seals, etc.
- 362. Using as genuine a forged document.
- 363. Making or possessing counterfeit seal with intent to commit forgery.
- 364. Possession of forged record.
- 365. Counterfeiting device or mark used for authenticating documents.
- 366. Fraudulent cancellation or destruction of document of title.
- 367. Falsification of accounts.
- 368. Property mark defined
- 369. Using a false property mark defined.
- 370. Punishment for using a false property mark.
- 371. Counterfeiting a property mark used by another.
- 372. Counterfeiting a mark used by a public servant.
- 373. Making or possession of any instrument for counterfeiting a property mark.
- 374. Making a false mark upon any receptacle containing goods.
- 375. Making use of any such false mark.
- 376. Tampering with property mark.

CHAPTER XXI

Criminal Breach of Contracts of Service

- 377. Breach of contract of service during voyage or journey.
- 378. Breach of contract to attend on and supply wants of helpless person.

CHAPTER XXII

Offences relating to Marriage or Incest

- 379. Deceitfully inducing belief of lawful marriage
- 380. Marrying again during lifetime of husband or wife
- 381. Re-marriage with concealment of former marriage
- 382. Marriage ceremony fraudulently gone through without lawful marriage
- 383. Adultery
- 384. Enticing, taking away or detaining with criminal intent
- 385. Incest

CHAPTER XX III

Defamation

- 386. Defamation defined
- 387. Punishment for defamation
- 388. Injurious falsehood
- 389. Printing or engraving matter known to be defamatory
- 390. Sale of printed or engraved substance containing defamatory matter

CHAPTER XXIV

Criminal Intimidation, Insult, Annoyance and Drunkenness

- 391. Criminal intimidation defined
- 392. Punishment for criminal intimidation
- 393. Criminal intimidation by an anonymous communication
- 394. Use of insulting or abusive language.
- 395. Word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman
- 396. Intoxication in a public place
- 397. Intoxication in private place
- 398. Taking intoxicant
- 399. Effect of previous convictions under sections 397, 398 or 399

CHAPTER XXV

Vagabonds

- 400. Definitions in Chapter XXV
- 401. Penalty on conviction as idle person
- 402. Penalty on conviction as vagabond
- 403. Penalty on conviction as incorrigible vagabond
- 404. Evidence of intent to commit an offence

CHAPTER I

General Explanations and Definitions

1. **Sense of expression once explained**
Every expression, which is explained in any part of this Penal Code, is used in every part of this Penal Code in conformity with the explanation, unless the subject or sense of the context otherwise requires.
2. **Gender**
The pronoun "he" and its derivatives are used of any person whether male or female.
3. **Number**
Unless the contrary appears from the context the words importing the singular number include the plural number and words importing the plural number include the singular number.
4. **Man, woman**
The word "*man*" denotes a male human being of any age and the word "*woman*" denotes a female human being of any age.
5. **Person**
The word "*person*" includes any company or association or body of persons, whether incorporated or not.
- 5A. **Child.**
A child is a young human being below the legal age of maturity. A child becomes a person when it has been born alive whether it has breathed or not, and whether the umbilical cord is severed or not.
6. **Public**
The words "*the public*" include any class or section of the public.

7. **Magistrate**
The word "*magistrate*" denotes a magistrate under any law in force in the state.
8. **Court of justice**
"*Court of justice*" includes every civil or criminal court established by any Act or Law or deemed to be so established and every person or body of persons exercising judicial functions in the State by virtue of any Act or Law and shall also include every court martial held in the State under the military law in force in the State.
9. **Judicial proceedings**
"*Judicial proceedings*" includes any proceeding in the course of which it is lawful to take evidence on oath. .
10. **Public servant**
The words "*public servant*" denotes a person falling under any of the following descriptions.
- (a) every person appointed by the Government of the Federation or of a State while serving in the State or by any Local Government Council and every person serving in the State appointed by a servant or agent of any such Government or council for the performance of public duties whether with or without remuneration or for the performance of a specific public duty while performing that duty;
 - (b) Every person not coming within the description set forth in paragraph (a) who is in the service of the Government or of any local government council in a judicial or quasi-judicial, executive, administrative or clerical capacity;
 - (c) Every commissioned officer of the Nigerian armed forces;
 - (d) Every assessor or other person assisting a court of justice or a public servant exercising judicial or quasi-judicial functions, while acting in that capacity;
 - (e) Every arbitrator or other person to whom any cause or matter has been referred for decision or report by any court of justice or by any other competent public authority, while acting in that capacity

- (f) Every officer or other person not being a member who is appointed to perform any duty in connection with the discharge of its functions by anybody forming part of the Legislature of the State;
- (g) Every person who is in the service of any public corporation established by any Act or Law.

EXPLANATION 1. In this section public duties include duties to be performed for the protection, preservation or promotion of the public health, order, safety or convenience and duties to be performed for the protection of the pecuniary interest of or for carrying on the work of the Government or of any Local Government Council.

EXPLANATION 2. The expression “public servant” applies to every person who is in actual occupation of the post of a public servant whatever legal defect there may be in his right to hold such post.

- 11. Armed forces, military affairs**
The term "**armed forces**" includes army, naval and air forces and the term "**military affairs**" includes affairs relating to naval and air forces and defences.
- 12. Movable property**
The words "**movable property**" include corporeal property of every description except land and things attached to the earth or permanently fastened to anything which is attached to the earth.
- 13. Wrongful gain**
"**Wrongful gain**" is gain by unlawful means of property to which the person gaining is not legally entitled.
- 14. Wrongful loss**
"**Wrongful loss**" is the loss by unlawful means of property to which the person losing it is legally entitled.
- 15. Gaining wrongfully, losing wrongfully**
A person is said to "**gain wrongfully**" when such person retains wrongfully as well as when such person acquires wrongfully, and a person is said to "**lose wrongfully**" when such person is wrongfully kept out of any property as well as when such person is wrongfully deprived of property.

16. Dishonesty

A person is said to do a thing "**dishonestly**" who does that thing with the intention of causing a wrongful gain to himself or another or of causing wrongful loss to any other person.

17. Fraudulently

A person is said to do a thing "**fraudulently**" or "with intent to defraud" who does that thing with intent to deceive and by means of such deceit to obtain some advantage for himself or another or to cause loss to any other person.

18. Reason to believe

A person is said to have "reason to believe" a thing if he has sufficient cause to believe that thing but not otherwise.

19. Likely, probable

(1) An act is said to be "**likely**" to have a certain consequence or to cause a certain effect if the occurrence of that consequence or effect would cause no surprise to a reasonable man.

(2) An effect is said to be a "**probable**" consequence of an act if the occurrence of that consequence would be considered by a reasonable man to be the natural and normal effect of the act.

20. Property in possession of wife, clerk or servant

When "property is in the possession of a person's wife, clerk or servant" on account of that person, it is in that person's possession within the meaning of this Penal Code.

EXPLANATION. A person employed temporarily or on a particular occasion in the capacity of a clerk or servant, is a clerk or servant within the meaning of this section.

21. Counterfeit

A person is said to "counterfeit" who causes one thing to resemble another thing intending by means of that resemblance to practice deception or knowing it to be likely that deception will thereby be practiced.

EXPLANATION 1. It is not essential to counterfeiting that the resemblance should be exact.

EXPLANATION 2. When a person causes one thing to resemble another thing and the resemblance is such that a person might be deceived thereby, it shall be presumed until the contrary is proved, that the person so causing the one thing to resemble the other thing intended by means of that resemblance to practice deception or knew it to be likely that deception would thereby be practiced.

22. Writing, document

The word "**writing**" denotes any marks made upon paper or other substance to express words or ideas, and includes marks made by printing, lithography, photography, engraving or any other process; and the word "**document**" signifies any writing intended to be used or which may be used as evidence of the matter thereby expressed.

23. Document of title

The words "**document of title**" denote a document which is or purports to be a document whereby a legal right is created, extended, transferred, restricted, extinguished or released, or whereby the existence or the extinction of a legal right is acknowledged or established.

24. Words referring to acts include illegal omission. In every part of this Penal Code, except where a contrary intention appears from the context, words which refer to acts done extend also to illegal omissions.

25. Act, omission

The word "**act**" denotes a series of acts as well as a single act and the word "**omission**" denotes a series of omissions as well as a single omission.

26. Effect caused partly by act and partly by omission

Wherever the causing of a certain effect or an attempt to cause that effect by an act or by an omission is an offence, it is to be understood that the causing of that effect or the attempt to cause that effect partly by an act and partly by an omission is the same offence.

- 27. Voluntarily**
A person is said to cause an effect "**voluntarily**" when he causes it by means whereby, he intended to cause it or by means which, at the time of employing those means, he knew or had reason to believe to be likely to cause it.
- 28. Offence**
Except where otherwise appears from the context, the word "**offence**" includes an offence under any law for the time being in force.
- 29. Illegal**
Everything which is prohibited by law and which is an offence, or which furnishes ground for a civil action is said to be "**illegal**".
- 30. Legally bound to do**
A person is said to be "**legally bound to do**" not only whatever he is bound by law to do but also everything which the omission to do by him is an offence or furnishes ground for a civil action.
- 31. Injury**
The word "**injury**" denotes any harm whatever illegally caused to any person, in body, mind, reputation, or property.
- 31A. Violence**
"**Violence**" in this law unless the context otherwise requires means any act or attempted act which causes or may cause any physical, sexual, psychological, verbal, emotional or economic harm whether this occurs in private or public life, in peace time and in conflict situation.
- 32. Life, death**
The words "**life**" and "**death**" denote the life or death of a human being unless it otherwise appears from the context.
- 33. Animal**
The word "**animal**" does not include a human being.
- 34. Vessel**
The word "**vessel**" denotes anything made for the conveyance by water of human beings or of property.

35. Year, month

Wherever the word “**year**” or the word “**month**” is used, it is to be understood that the year or the month is to be reckoned according to the Gregorian calendar.

36. Oath

The word “**oath**” includes a solemn affirmation substituted by law for an oath, and any declaration required or authorized by law to be made before a public servant or to be used for the purpose of proof, whether in a court of justice or not.

37. Good faith

Nothing is said to be done or believed in good faith which is done or believed without due care and attention.

38. Provocation

Such grave and sudden “**provocation**” as under any section of this Penal Code modifies the nature of an offence or mitigates the penalty which may be inflicted shall not be deemed to include -

- (a) provocation sought or voluntarily provoked by the offender as an excuse for committing an offence;
- (b) provocation given by anything done in obedience to the law or by a public servant in the lawful exercise of the powers of such public servant;
- (c) provocation given by anything done in the lawful exercise of the right of private defence.

39. Invalid consents

A consent is not such a consent as is intended by any section of this Penal Code, if the consent is given-

- (a) by a person under fear of injury, or under a misconception of fact, and if the person doing the act knows, or has reason to believe, that the consent was given in consequence of such fear or misconception; or
- (b) by a person who, from unsoundness of mind or intoxication, is unable to understand the nature and consequence of that to which he gives his consent; or

(c) by a person who is under eighteen years of age.

40. Harbour

A person is said to "**harbour**" another person who has committed or intends to commit an offence or who is seeking to evade arrest when he supplies that other with shelter, food, drink, money, clothes, arms, ammunition, or means of conveyance, or assists that other in any way to evade arrest.

41. Government

The word "**Government**" means the Government of the State.

42. Foreign government

The words "**foreign government**" mean any government other than any government within the Federation of Nigeria.

CHAPTER II

Criminal Responsibility

- 43. Common knowledge**
A person is presumed, unless the contrary is proved, to have knowledge of any material fact if such fact is a matter of "**common knowledge**".
- 44. Presumption of knowledge of an intoxicated person**
A person who does an act in a state of intoxication is presumed to have the same knowledge as he would have had if he had not been intoxicated.
- 45. Act done by person justified by law**
Nothing is an offence which is done by any person who is justified by law, or who by reason of a mistake of fact and not by reason of a mistake of law, in good faith believes himself to be justified by law in doing it.
- 46. Act of court of justice**
Nothing is an offence which is done by a person when acting judicially as a court of justice or as a member of a court of justice in the exercise of any power which is or which in good faith, he believes to be given to him by law.
- 47. Act done pursuant to the judgment or order of court of justice**
Nothing which is done in pursuance of or which is warranted by the "judgment" or order of a court of justice, if done whilst such judgment or order remains in force, is an offence, notwithstanding that the court may have had no jurisdiction to pass such judgement or order, provided the person doing the act in good faith believes that the court had such jurisdiction.
- 48. Accident in doing a lawful act**
Nothing is an offence which is done by accident or misfortune and without any criminal intention or knowledge in the course of doing a lawful act in a lawful manner by lawful means and with proper care and caution.

- 49. Act likely to cause injury, but done without criminal intent and to prevent other injury or to benefit person injured**
(1) Nothing is an offence by reason of an injury which it may cause or be intended by the doer to cause or be known by the doer to be likely to cause, if it be done without any criminal intention to cause injury and in good faith for the purpose of preventing or avoiding other injury to person or property or of benefitting the person to whom injury is or may be caused provided.
- (i) that, having regard to all the circumstances of the case, the doing of the thing was reasonable; and
- (ii) that, where the circumstances so require, the thing is done with reasonable care and skill.
- (2) This section shall not apply to the intentional causing of death or to the attempting to cause death in order to prevent or avoid injury to property only except as is provided for in section 66.
- (3) The death of a person shall under no circumstances be deemed to be for the benefit of that person.
- (4) Mere pecuniary benefit is not benefit within the meaning of this section.
- 50. Act of child**
No act is an offence which is done-
- (a) by a child under seven years of age; or
- (b) by a child above seven years of age but under twelve years of age who has not attained sufficient maturity of understanding to judge the nature and consequence of such act.
- 51. Act of a person of unsound mind**
Nothing is an offence which is done by a person who, at the time of doing it, by reason of unsoundness of mind, is incapable of knowing the nature of the act, or that he is doing what is either wrong or contrary to law.
- 52. Involuntary intoxication**
Nothing is an offence which is done by a person who, at the time of doing it, is, by reason of intoxication caused by something

administered to him without his knowledge or against his will, incapable of knowing the nature of the act, or that what he is doing is either wrong, or contrary to law.

53. Act not intended to cause death or grievous hurt done by consent

(1) No act is an offence by reason of the injury it has caused to the person or property of any person who being above the age of eighteen years, has voluntarily and with understanding given his consent express or implied to that act.

(2) This section shall not apply to acts which are likely to cause death or grievous hurt, nor to acts which constitute offences independently of any injury which they are capable of causing to the person who has given his consent or to his property.

54. Act not intended to cause death done by consent for a person's benefit

Nothing, which is not intended to cause death, is an offence by reason of any harm which it may cause, or be intended by doer to cause, or be known by the doer to be likely to cause, to any person for whose benefit it is done in good faith, and who has given a consent, whether express or implied, to suffer that harm, or to take the risk of that harm.

55. Correction of child or pupil.

(1) Nothing is an offence which does not amount to violence or an abuse upon any person and which is done-

(a) by a parent or guardian for the purpose of correcting his child or ward such child or ward being under eighteen years of age; or

(b) by a schoolmaster for the purpose of correcting a pupil under eighteen years of age entrusted to his charge; or

(c) by a trainer for the purpose of correcting his apprentice such apprentice being under eighteen years of age;

(2) No correction is justifiable which is unreasonable in kind or in degree, regard being had to the age and physical and mental condition of the person on whom it is inflicted; and no correction is justifiable in the case of a person who, by reason of tender years or otherwise, is incapable of understanding the purpose for which it is inflicted.

56. Communication made in good faith

No communication made in good faith is an offence by reason of any harm to the person to whom it is made, if it is made for the benefit of that person.

57. Act to which a person is compelled by threats

Except culpable homicide and offences against the state punishable with death, no act is an offence which is done by a person who is compelled to do it by threats which at the time of doing it reasonably cause the apprehension that instant death to that person will otherwise be the consequence:

Provided that the person doing the act did not, of his own accord or from apprehension of harm to himself short of instant death, place himself in the situation by which he became subject to such compulsion.

58. Act causing slight harm

Nothing is an offence by reason that it causes or that it is intended to cause or that it is likely to cause any injury if that injury is so slight that no person of ordinary sense and temper would complain of such injury.

The Right of Private Defence

59. Things done in private defence

Nothing is an offence which is done in the lawful exercise of the right of private defence.

60. Right of private defence

Every person has a right, subject to the restrictions hereinafter contained, to defend-

(a) his own body and the body of any other person against any offence affecting the human body;

(b) the property whether movable or immovable of himself or of any other person against any act, which is an offence falling under the definition of theft, robbery, mischief, or criminal trespass or which is an attempt to commit theft, robbery, mischief or criminal trespass.

61. Right of private defence against act of a person of unsound mind, etc.

When an act, which would otherwise be a certain offence is not that offence by reason of the youth, the want of maturity or understanding, the unsoundness of mind or the intoxication of the person doing that act or by reason of any misconception on the part of that person, every person has the same right of private defence against that act which he would have if the act were that offence.

62. General limit of right of private defence

The right of private defence in no case extends to the inflicting of more harm than it is necessary to inflict for the purpose of defence.

63. No right of private defence when protection of public authorities available

There is no right of private defence in cases in which there is time to have recourse to the protection of the public authorities.

64. Limitation of right of private defence against act of public servant

There is no right of private defence against an act which does not reasonably cause the apprehension of death or of grievous hurt, if done or attempted to be done-

(a) by a public servant doing an act justifiable in law and in good faith; or

(b) by the direction of a public servant acting lawfully and in good faith.

EXPLANATION. A person is not deprived of the right of private defence against an act done or attempted to be done-

(a) by a public servant as such unless he knows or has reason to believe that the person doing that act is such public servant; or

(b) by the direction of a public servant, unless he knows or has reason to believe that the person doing the act is acting by such direction or unless such person states the authority under which he acts or, if he has authority in writing, unless he produces such authority if demanded.

65. When right of private defence of the body extends to causing death

The right of private defence of the body extends, under the restrictions mentioned in sections 62 and 63, to the voluntary causing of death only when the act to be repelled is of any of the following descriptions, namely-

(a) an attack which causes reasonable apprehension of death or grievous hurt; or

(b) rape or an assault with the intention of gratifying unnatural lust; or abduction and kidnapping.

66. When right of private defence of property extends to causing death

The right of private defence of property extends, under the restrictions mentioned in sections 62 and 63, to the voluntary causing of death only when the act to be repelled is of any of the following descriptions, namely-

(a) robbery; or

(b) housebreaking by night; or

(c) mischief by fire committed on any building, tent or vessel, which building, tent or vessel is used as a human dwelling or as a place for the custody of property; or

(d) theft, mischief, or house-trespass in such circumstances as may reasonably cause apprehension that, if such right of private defence is not exercised, death or grievous hurt will be the consequence.

67. Right of private defence against deadly assault when there is risk of harm to innocent person

If, in the exercise of the right of private defence against an assault which reasonably causes the apprehension of death, the defender be so situated that he cannot effectually exercise that right without risk of harm to an innocent person, his right of private defence extends to the running of that risk.

CHAPTER III

Punishments and Compensation

68. Punishments

(1) The punishments to which offenders are liable under the provisions of this Penal Code are--

- (a) death;
- (b) forfeiture of property
- (c) imprisonment;
- (d) detention in a reformatory;
- (e) fine;
- (f) caning.
- (g) community service
- (h) parole
- (i) probation
- (j) restoration

(2) Offenders who are of the Moslem faith may in addition to the punishments specified in subsection (1) be liable to the punishment of Haddi lashing as prescribed by Islamic law for offences contrary to sections 387, 388, 392, 393, 401, 402, 403, and 404 of this Penal Code.

(3) Nothing in this section shall prevent a court dealing with an offender in accordance with the Probation of Offenders Law.

69. Limitation on punishments

No sentence of imprisonment shall be passed on any person who in the opinion of the Court is under fourteen years of age.

70. Fractions of term of punishment

In calculating fractions of terms of punishment, imprisonment for life shall be reckoned as equivalent to imprisonment for life.

71. Special provision for juvenile offenders

When a defendant who has completed his seventeenth but not completed his eighteenth year of age is convicted by a court of any offence the court may, instead of passing the sentence prescribed by law, deal with such defendant in accordance with extant laws.

72. Amount of fine

Where no sum is expressed to which a fine may extend, the amount of fine to which the offender is liable is unlimited but shall not exceed the jurisdiction of the court imposing it and shall not be excessive.

73. Sentence of imprisonment for non-payment of fine

Whenever an offender is sentenced to a fine whether with or without imprisonment under this Penal Code the court which sentences the offender may direct by the sentence that, in default of payment of the fine, the offender shall be committed to correctional center for a certain term, which term shall be in excess of any other term of imprisonment to which he may have been sentenced or to which he may be liable under a commutation of a sentence.

74. Community Service or Imprisonment in default of payment of fine

If an offence is punishable with fine or with imprisonment and fine the court may direct that in default of payment the offender may be sentenced to community service or be imprisoned for any term not exceeding the maximum fixed in the following *scale*, that is to say-

Where the fine	.....	The period of Community Service or imprisonment shall not exceed
Does not exceed ten thousand Naira	.....	two months Community Service or one month imprisonment
Exceeds ten thousand Naira and does not exceed twenty thousand Naira	.....	four months Community Service or two months imprisonment
Exceed twenty thousand Naira and does not exceed thirty thousand Naira	.....	six months Community Service or three months imprisonment
Exceed thirty thousand Naira and does not exceed fifty thousand Naira	.....	eight months Community Service or four months imprisonment
Exceed fifty thousand Naira and does not exceed two hundred thousand Naira	.....	12 months Community Service or 2 years imprisonment.

75. Fine not discharged by death or service of sentence in default of payment

Where a fine or, any part thereof remains unpaid, the offender or his estate, if he is dead, is not discharged from liability to pay the fine or the unpaid part thereof notwithstanding that he has served a term of imprisonment in default of payment of the fine.

76. Limit of punishment when act within definition of more than one offence or when offence made up of several offences

When the same act falls within the definition of more than one offence or when an offence consists of a series of acts each of which or any one or more of which constitutes the same or some other offence, the offender shall not, unless it be otherwise expressly provided, be punished with a more severe punishment than the court which tries him could award for any one of such offences.

77. Caning

(1) A sentence of caning may be passed by any court whether trying a case summarily or otherwise on any male offender in lieu of or in addition to any other punishment to which he might be sentenced for any offence not punishable with death.

(2) Without prejudice to the provisions of this Law, a sentence of caning shall not be passed on a female offender.

78. Compensation

Any person who is convicted of an offence under this Penal Code may be adjudged to make compensation to any person injured by his offence and such compensation may be either in addition to or in substitution for any other punishment.

CHAPTER IV

Joint Acts

79. Acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention

When a criminal act is done by several persons in furtherance of the common intention of all, each of such persons is liable for that act in the same manner as if it were done by him alone.

80. When such an act is criminal by reason of its being done with a criminal knowledge or intention

Whenever an act, which is criminal only by reason of its being done with a criminal knowledge or intention, is done by several persons, each of such persons who joins in the act with such knowledge or intention is liable for the act in the same manner as if the act were done by him alone with that knowledge or intention.

81. Co-operation by doing one of several acts constituting an offence

When an offence is committed by means of several acts, whoever intentionally cooperates in the commission of that offence by doing any one of those acts, either singly or jointly with any other person, commits that offence.

82. Persons concerned in criminal act may be guilty of different offences

Where several persons are engaged or concerned in the commission of a criminal act each person may be guilty of a different offence or offences by means of that act.

CHAPTER V

Abetment

83. Abetment defined

A person abets the doing of a thing, who-

(a) instigates any person to do that thing; or

(b) Engages with one or more other person or persons in any conspiracy for the doing of that thing; or

(c) intentionally aids or facilitates by any act or illegal omission the doing of that thing

EXPLANATION. A person who by willful misrepresentation or by willful concealment of a material fact which he is bound to disclose voluntarily causes or procures or attempts to cause or procure a thing to be done instigates the doing of that thing within the meaning of this chapter.

84. Abetment of offence defined

A person abets an offence who abets either the commission of an offence or the commission of an act which would be an offence, if committed with the same intention or knowledge as that of the abettor by a person capable by law of committing an offence.

EXPLANATION 1. The abetment of the illegal omission of an act may amount to an offence although the abettor may not himself be bound to do that act.

EXPLANATION 2. To constitute the offence of abetment, it is not necessary that the act abetted should be committed or that the effect requisite to constitute the offence should be caused.

EXPLANATION 3. It is not necessary that the person abetted should be capable by law of committing an offence or that he should have the same guilty intention or knowledge as that of the abettor or any guilty intention or knowledge.

EXPLANATION 4. The abetment of an offence being an offence, the abetment of such an abetment is also an offence.

EXPLANATION 5. It is not necessary to the commission of the offence of abetment by conspiracy that the abettor should consent to the offence with the person who commits it; it is sufficient if he engages in the conspiracy in pursuance of which the offence is committed.

85. Abetment if the act abetted is committed in consequence and where no express provision is made for its punishment

Whoever abets any offence shall, if the act abetted is committed in consequence of the abetment and no express provision is made by this Penal Code or by any other law for the time being in force for the punishment of such abetment, be punished with the punishment provided for the offence.

EXPLANATION. An act or offence is said to be committed in consequence of abetment when it is committed in consequence of the instigation or in pursuance of the conspiracy or with the aid which constitutes the abetment.

86. Abetment if person abetted does act with different intention from that of abettor

Whoever abets the commission of an offence shall, if the person abetted does the act with a different intention or knowledge from that of the abettor, be punished with the punishment provided for the offence which would have been committed if the act had been done with the intention or knowledge of the abettor and with no other.

87. Liability of abettor when one act abetted and different act done

When an act is abetted and a different act is done and the act done was a probable consequence of the abetment and was committed under the influence of the instigation or in pursuance of the conspiracy or with the aid which constitutes the abetment, the abettor is liable for the act done in the same manner and to the same extent as if he had directly abetted it.

88. Abettor when liable to cumulative punishment for act abetted and for act done

If the act for which the abettor is **liable** under section 87 is committed in addition to the act abetted and constitutes a distinct offence, the abettor is liable to punishment for each of the offences.

89. Liability of abettor for an effect caused by the act abetted different from that intended by abettor.

When an act is abetted with the intention on the part of the abettor of causing a particular effect and an act for which the abettor is liable in consequence of the abetment causes a different effect from that intended by the abettor, the abettor is liable for the effect caused in the same manner and to the same extent as if he had abetted the act with the intention of causing that effect..

90. Abettor present when offence committed liable as principal

Whenever any person who if absent would be liable to be punished as an abettor is present when the act or offence for which he would be punishable in consequence of the abetment is committed, he shall be deemed to have committed such act or offence.

91. Abetment of offence punishable with death or imprisonment for life if offence not Committed.

(1) Whoever abets the commission of an offence punishable with death or imprisonment for life shall, if that offence be not committed in consequence of the abetment and no express provision is made by this Penal Code or by any other Act or Law for the time being in force for the punishment of such abetment, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to fine.

(2) If the abettor is a public servant whose duty it is to prevent the commission of such offence, he shall be liable to imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to fine.

92. Abetment of offence punishable with imprisonment if offence is not committed

- (1) Whoever abets an offence punishable with imprisonment shall, if that offence is not committed in consequence of the abetment and no express provision is made by this Penal Code or by any other Act or Law for the time being in force for the punishment of such abetment, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one fourth part of the longest term provided for that offence or with such fine as is provided for that offence or with both.
- (2) If the abettor is a public servant whose duty it is to prevent the commission of such offence, he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one half of the longest term provided for that offence or with such fine as is provided for the offence or with both.

93. Abetting commission of offence by the public or by more than ten persons

Whoever abets the commission of an offence by the public generally or by any member thereof or class of persons exceeding ten, **shall** be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

94. Administering unlawful oath

Whoever administers, or takes, or is present at and consents to the administering of, any oath or engagement in the nature of an oath, purporting to bind the person who takes it to commit any offence shall be punished-

- (a) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years or with fine or with both; and
- (b) if the offence is an offence punishable with death, with imprisonment for life or for any less term or with fine or with both

CHAPTER VI

Attempts to Commit Offences

95. Attempting to commit offences punishable with imprisonment

Whoever attempts to commit an offence punishable with imprisonment or to cause such an offence to be committed and in such attempt does any act towards the commission of the offence shall, where no express provision is made by this Penal Code or by any other Act or Law for the time being in force for the punishment of such attempt, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one half of the longest term provided for that offence or with such fine as is provided for the offence or with both.

CHAPTER VII

Criminal Conspiracy

96. Criminal conspiracy defined

(1) When two or more persons agree to do or cause to be done-
(a) an illegal act; or
(b) an act which is not illegal by illegal means, such an agreement
is called a *criminal conspiracy*.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of **Sub-Section (1)**, no agreement except an agreement to commit an offence shall amount to a criminal conspiracy unless some act besides the agreement is done by one or more parties to such agreement in pursuance thereof.

EXPLANATION 1. It is immaterial whether the illegal act is the ultimate object of such agreement, or is merely incidental to that object.

EXPLANATION 2. This section shall not apply to an agreement of two or more persons to do or cause to be done any act in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute if such act committed by one person would not be punishable as an offence.

97. Punishment for criminal conspiracy

(1) Whoever is a party to a criminal conspiracy to commit an offence punishable with death or with imprisonment shall where no express provision is made in this Penal Code for the punishment of such a conspiracy be punished in the same manner as if he had abetted such offence.

(2) Whoever is a party to a criminal conspiracy other than a criminal conspiracy to commit an offence punishable as

aforesaid shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or with fine or with both.

97A. Unlawful Society defined

A society is an unlawful society if declared by an order of the Governor based on the advice of the State Security Council to be a society dangerous to the good government of the State or any part thereof.

97B. Management or membership of unlawful society

Whoever manages or is a member of an unlawful society shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years or with fine or with both.

CHAPTER VIII

Breach of Official Trust

98. Breach of official trust defined

Whoever, by reason or by means of his employment as a public servant acquires any information in respect of which he is under an obligation of secrecy express or implied and at any time communicates or attempts to communicate such information to any person to whom the same ought not in the public interest to be communicated at that time, is said to commit a breach of official trust.

99. Punishment for breach of official trust

Whoever commits a breach of official trust shall-

- (a) if the communication is made or attempted to be made to the agent of a foreign government, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine; and
- (b) in any other case shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

CHAPTER IX

Offences against the Public Peace

100. Unlawful assembly defined

An assembly of five or more persons is designated an unlawful assembly if the common object of the persons composing that assembly is-

- (a) to intimidate by criminal force or show of criminal force the Government or the Government of the Federation or any Government of Nigeria or any public servant in the exercise of his lawful powers; or
- (b) to resist the execution of any law or of any legal process; or
- (c) to commit any mischief or criminal trespass or other offence of any kind whatsoever; or
- (d) by means of criminal force or show of criminal force to enforce any right or supposed right; or
- (e) by means of criminal force or show of criminal force to compel any person to do what he is not legally bound to do or to omit to do what he is legally entitled to do.

EXPLANATION. An assembly which was not unlawful when it assembled, may subsequently become an unlawful assembly.

101. Member of unlawful assembly defined

Whoever being aware of facts which render any assembly an unlawful assembly intentionally joins that assembly or continues in it is said to be a member of an unlawful assembly.

102. Punishment for membership of unlawful assembly

Whoever is a member of an unlawful assembly shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, community service and or fine.

- 103. Joining unlawful assembly armed with deadly weapon**
Whoever being a member of an unlawful assembly is armed with any deadly weapon or with anything which used as a weapon of offence is likely to cause death, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.
- 104. Joining or continuing in unlawful assembly knowing it has been commanded to disperse**
Whoever joins or continues in an unlawful assembly knowing that such unlawful assembly has been lawfully commanded to disperse, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.
- 105. Rioting defined**
Whenever force or violence is used by an unlawful assembly or by any member thereof in prosecution of the common object of such assembly, every member of such assembly is guilty of the offence of rioting.
- 106. Punishment for rioting.**
Whoever is guilty of rioting shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.
- 107. Rioting armed with deadly weapon**
Whoever is guilty of rioting being armed with a deadly weapon or with anything which used as a weapon of offence is likely to cause death, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.
- 108. Every member of unlawful assembly guilty of offence committed in prosecution of common object**
If an offence is committed by any member of an unlawful assembly in prosecution of the common object of that assembly, every person, who at the time of the committing of that offence is a member of the assembly, is guilty of that offence.
- 109. Promoter of an unlawful assembly liable as a member**
Whoever promotes or does any act with intent to assist the promotion of an unlawful assembly, shall be punishable as a

member of such unlawful assembly and for any offence which may be committed by any member thereof in the same manner as if he had himself been a member of such unlawful assembly.

110. Joining or continuing in assembly of five or more persons knowing that it has been commanded to disperse

Whoever joins or continues in any assembly of five or more persons likely to cause a disturbance of the public peace knowing that such assembly has been lawfully commanded to disperse, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine or with both.

EXPLANATION. If the assembly is an unlawful assembly within the meaning of section 100, the offender will be punishable under section 104.

111. Wearing and carrying of emblem, flag, etc.

Whoever wears, carries or displays in public any emblem, flag, article of clothing or other token or device in such manner or on such occasion or in such circumstances as-

(a) to constitute an offence under any other section of this Penal Code, or of any other subsisting Act or Law; or

(b) to cause or to be likely to cause annoyance to the public or any section thereof, or a breach of the peace, or disturbance of the public peace, or the commission of an offence,

Shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to **one year** or with fine or with both, and in addition the emblem, flag, **article** of clothing or other token or device in respect of which an offence under this section has been committed shall be liable to forfeiture.

112. Assaulting or obstructing public servant when suppressing riot, etc.

Whoever assaults or threatens to assault or obstructs or attempts to obstruct any public servant in the discharge of his duty as such public servant in endeavoring to disperse an unlawful assembly or to suppress a riot or affray, or uses or threatens or attempts to use

criminal force to such public servant, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

113. Disturbance of public peace

Whoever in a public place disturbs the public peace shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine which may extend to one hundred and fifty thousand Naira or with both.

114. Inciting disturbance

Whoever does any act with intent to cause or which is likely to cause a breach of the peace or disturb the public peace shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to three years or with fine which may extend to **one hundred and fifty thousand Naira** or with both.

CHAPTER X

Offences by or relating to Public Servants

115. Public servants taking gratification in respect of official act

Whoever being or expecting to be a public servant accepts or obtains or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain from any person for himself or for any other person any gratification whatever whether pecuniary or otherwise, other than lawful remuneration, as a motive or reward-

(a) for doing or forbearing to do any official act; or

(b) for showing or forbearing to show in the exercise of his official functions favour or disfavour to any person; or

(c) for rendering or attempting to render any service or disservice to any person with any department of the public service or with any public servant as such,

Shall be punished-

(i) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years or with fine or with both;

(ii) if such public servant is a public servant in the service of the Government of the State or of the Government of the Federation acting in a judicial capacity or carrying out the duties of a police officer, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years or with fine or with both.

EXPLANATION 1. If a person not expecting to be in office obtains a gratification by deceiving others into a belief that he is about to be in office and that he will serve them, he may be guilty of cheating but he is not guilty of an offence under this section.

EXPLANATION 2. A public servant who receives a gratification as a motive for doing what he does not intend to do or as a reward for doing what he has not done, is guilty of an offence under this section.

116. Taking gratification in order to influence public servant

Whoever accepts or obtains or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain from any person for himself or for any other person any gratification whatever whether pecuniary or otherwise as a motive or reward for inducing by corrupt or illegal means any public servant-

(a) to do or forbear to do any official act; or

(b) in the exercise of the official functions of such public servant to show favour or disfavor to any person; or

(c) to render or attempt to render any service or disservice to any person with any department of the public service or with any public servant as such, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

117. Abetment by public servant of offence mentioned in section 116

Whoever being a public servant, in respect of whom an offence under section 116 is committed, abets the offence, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

118. Offering or giving gratification to public servant

Whoever offers or gives or agrees to give any gratification whatever whether pecuniary or otherwise in the circumstances and for any of the purposes mentioned in sections **115 and 116** shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

119. Public servant obtaining valuable thing without consideration from person concerned in proceeding or business transacted by such public servant

Whoever being a public servant accepts or obtains or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain for himself or for any other person any valuable thing without consideration or for a consideration which he knows to be inadequate-

(a) from any person whom he knows to have been or to be or to be likely to be concerned in any proceeding or business transacted or about to be transacted by such public servant or having any connection with the official functions of himself or of any public servant to whom he is subordinate; or

(b) from any person whom he knows to be interested in or related to the person so concerned, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both

120. Offering or giving valuable thing without consideration

Whoever in any of the circumstances mentioned in section 119 offers or gives or agrees to give to any public servant or to any person, in whom a public servant is interested or to whom he is related, any valuable thing without consideration or for a consideration which he knows to be inadequate, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

121. Third person profiting by gratification

Whoever knowingly profits by any gratification or benefit obtained in any of the circumstances mentioned in sections 115, 116 or 119 but does not take any active part in obtaining such gratification or benefit, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, community service or with fine.

122. Public servant dishonestly receiving money or property not due

Whoever being a public servant in his capacity as such dishonestly receives from any person any money or other property which he is not authorized to receive or which is in excess of the amount which he is authorized to receive, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

123. Public servant disobeying direction of law with intent to cause injury or to save person from punishment or property from forfeiture

Whoever being a public servant knowingly disobeys any direction of the law as to the way in which he is to conduct himself as such

public servant intending thereby or knowing himself to be likely thereby-

(a) to cause injury to any person or to the public; or

(b) to save any person from legal punishment or to subject him to a less punishment than that to which he is liable or to delay the imposition on any person of any legal punishment; or

(b) to save any property from forfeiture or from any seizure or charge to which it is liable by law or to delay the forfeiture or seizure of any property or the imposition or enforcement of any charge upon any property, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

124. Public servant framing incorrect document with intent to cause injury

Whoever, **being** a public servant, and being as such public servant charged with the preparation or translation of any document, frames or translates that document in a manner which he knows and believes to be incorrect, intending thereby to cause or knowing it to be likely that he may thereby cause injury to any person, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

125. Public servant in judicial proceeding acting contrary to law

Whoever being a public servant knowing that he is likely to cause injury to any person or intending unlawfully to give any person an advantage makes or pronounces in any stage of a judicial proceeding any report, order, judgment or decision which he knows to be contrary to law, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years or with fine or with both.

126. Wrongful committal or confinement by public servant

Whoever, being a public servant authorized by law to commit persons for trial or to confinement or to keep persons in confinement, commits any person for trial or to confinement or keeps any person in confinement-

(a) knowing that he is acting contrary to law; and

(b) knowing that he is likely to cause injury to any person or

intending unlawfully to give any person an advantage, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years or with fine or with both.

127. Public servant omitting to arrest or aiding escape

Whoever, being a public servant whose duty it is as such public servant to arrest any person or to keep any person in confinement or custody, intentionally omits to arrest such person or intentionally suffers such person to escape or intentionally aids such person in escaping or attempting to escape from such confinement or custody, shall be punished as follows, that is to say:

(a) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years with or without fine, if such a person is under sentence of death; or

(b) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years with or without fine, if such person is under sentence of imprisonment for a term of ten years or upward or is charged with or liable to be arrested for an offence punishable with death or;

(c) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both, if such person is under sentence of imprisonment for a term not extending to ten years or is charged with or liable to be arrested for an offence punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years; or

(d) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both, in any case not above specified.

128. Public servant omitting to arrest or permitting to escape

Whoever, being a public servant whose duty it is as such public servant to arrest any person or to keep any person in confinement or custody, negligently omits to arrest that person or negligently suffers that person to escape from confinement or custody, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

129. Public servant causing danger by omitting to perform duty

Whoever being a public servant willfully omits to perform any duty pertaining to his office which he is legally bound to perform shall, if such omission causes or tends to cause danger to human life, health or safety or causes or tends to cause a riot, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

130. Abandonment of duty by public servant

Whoever being a public servant wrongfully abandons his duties in pre-arranged agreement with one or more other such public servants shall, if the intention or effect of such abandonment is to interfere with the performance of a public service to an extent which will cause injury or damage or grave inconvenience to the community, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

131. Public servant unlawfully purchasing property

(1) Whoever, being a public servant and being legally bound as such public servant not to purchase or bid for certain property, purchases or bids for that property in his own name or in the name of another or jointly or in shares with others, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

(2) Upon conviction, the property so acquired and or the proceeds therefrom shall be forfeited to the State.

132. Personating a public servant

(1) Whoever pretends to hold any particular office as a public servant knowing that he does not hold such office, or falsely personates any other person holding such office, and in such assumed character does or attempts to do any act under colour of such office, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

(2) Making or accepting wrong conferment of responsibility

(a) Whoever purports to appoint, assign or confer any post, function or responsibility to any person which is within the power of the Government or Local Government to appoint, assign or confer shall be punished with imprisonment for a term

which may extend to three years and shall be liable to a fine of two hundred thousand Naira.

(b) Whoever accepts any post, discharges any responsibility or exercises any function which is within the powers of the Government or Local Government to appoint, assign or confer, from any other person shall be punishment with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years and shall also be liable to a fine of two hundred thousand Naira.

133. Wearing dress or carrying token used by public servant

Whoever not belonging to a certain class of public servant wears any dress or carries any token resembling any dress or token used by that class of public servant with the intention that it may be believed that he belongs to that class of public servant, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, one month community service or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand Naira or with both.

CHAPTER XI

Contempts of the Lawful Authority of Public Servants

134. Absconding to avoid service of summons, notice or order

Whoever absconds in order to avoid being served with a summons, notice or order proceeding from any public servant legally competent as such public servant to issue such summons, notice or order, shall be punished-

- (a) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month, one month community service or with fine which may extend to ten thousand Naira; or
- (b) if the summons or notice or order is to attend in person or by agent or to produce a document in a court of justice, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, six months community service or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand Naira.

135. Preventing service or publication of summons, etc.

Whoever in any manner-

- (a) intentionally prevents the serving on himself or on any other person of any summons, notice or order proceeding from any public servant legally competent as such public servant to issue such summons, notice or order; or
- (b) intentionally prevents the lawful affixing to any place of any such summons, notice or order; or
- (c) intentionally removes any such summons, notice or order from any place to which it is lawfully affixed; or
- (d) intentionally prevents the lawful making of any proclamation under the authority of any public servant legally competent as such public servant to direct such proclamation to be made, shall be punished-

- (i) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month, community service or with fine which may extend to ten thousand Naira; or
- (ii) if the summons, notice, order or proclamation is to attend in person or by agent or to produce a document in a court of justice with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, community service or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand Naira.

136. Failure to attend in obedience to an order from public servant

Whoever, having been required by a summons, notice, order or proclamation proceeding from any public servant legally competent as such public servant to issue the same to attend in person or by agent at a certain time and place, intentionally and without reasonable cause refuses or omits to attend at the place and time or departs from that place before the time at which it is lawful for him to depart, shall be punished-

- (a) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month, community service or with fine which may extend to ten thousand Naira ; or
- (b) if the summons, notice, order or proclamation is to attend in person or by agent in a court of justice, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, community service or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand Naira.

137. Failure to produce document to public servant

Whoever, having been required by a summons, notice, order or proclamation proceeding from a public servant legally competent as such public servant to issue the same to produce or deliver up any document or other thing, intentionally omits so to produce or deliver up the same, shall be punished-

- (a) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month, community service or with fine which may extend to ten thousand Naira; or
- (b) if the document is to be produced or delivered up to a court of

justice, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, community service or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand Naira.

138. Failure to give notice or information to public servant

Whoever, being legally bound to give any notice or to furnish information on any subject to any public servant as such, intentionally omits to give such notice or to furnish such information in the manner and at the time required by law, shall be punished-

- (a) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month, community service or with fine which may extend to ten thousand Naira; or
- (b) if the notice or information required to be given is in respect of the commission of an offence or is required for the purpose of preventing the commission of an offence or in order to arrest an offender, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, community service or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand Naira.

139. Furnishing false information

Whoever, being legally bound to furnish information on any subject to any public servant as such, furnishes as true information on the subject which he knows or has reason to believe to be false, shall be punished-

- (a) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, community service or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand Naira; or
- (b) if the information which he is legally bound to give is in respect of the commission of an offence or is required for the purpose of preventing the commission of an offence or in order to arrest an offender, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend to one hundred thousand Naira or with both.

140. False information with intent to mislead public servant

Whoever gives to any public servant any information which he knows or believes to be false, intending thereby to cause or knowing it to be likely that he will thereby cause such Public Servant.

- (a) to do or to omit anything which such public servant ought not to do or omit if the true state of facts respecting such information is given were known by him; or
- (b) to use the lawful power of such public servant to the injury or annoyance of any person, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, community service or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand Naira.

141. Refusing oath or affirmation when duly required by public servant to make it

- (1) Whoever refuses to bind himself by an oath or affirmation to state the truth when required so to bind himself by a public servant legally competent to require that he shall so bind himself, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, community service or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand Naira.
- (2) The provisions of this section shall not apply to a witness in a judicial proceeding who, having been called upon to take an oath or make a solemn affirmation that he will speak the truth.

142. Refusing to answer public servant authorized to question

Whoever, being legally bound to answer questions put to him on any subject to any public servant in the exercise of the lawful powers of such public servant, refuses to answer any such question, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, community service or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand Naira.

143. Refusing to sign statement

Whoever refuses to sign any statement made by him when required to sign that statement by a public servant legally competent to require that he shall sign that statement, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months, community service or with fine which may extend to twenty five thousand Naira.

144. Resistance to taking of property by lawful authority of public servant

Whoever offers any resistance to the taking of any property by the lawful authority of any public servant knowing or having reason to believe that he is such public servant, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, community service or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand Naira.

145. Obstructing sale of property offered for sale by authority of public servant

Whoever intentionally obstructs any sale of property offered for sale by the lawful authority of any public servant as such shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month, community service or with fine which may extend to ten thousand Naira.

146. Removing property under lawful seizure

Whoever, when any property has been attached or taken by the lawful authority of any public servant, knowingly and with intent to hinder or defeat the attachment or process receives, removes, retains, conceals, or disposes of such property, shall be punished with imprisonment for three years or with fine which may extend to one hundred and fifty thousand Naira or with both.

147. Illegal purchase or bid for property offered for sale by authority of public servant

Whoever at any sale of property held by the lawful authority of a public servant as such purchases or bids for any property on account of any person whether himself or any other, whom he knows to be under a legal incapacity to purchase that property at that sale, or bids for such property not intending to perform the obligations under which he lays himself by such bidding, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month, community service or with fine which may extend to ten thousand Naira..

148. Obstructing public servant in discharge of functions

Whoever voluntarily obstructs any public servant in the discharge of his public functions shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months, community service or with fine which may extend to twenty five thousand Naira.

149. Obstructing public servant in discharge of duty under any written law

Whoever voluntarily obstructs any public servant in the discharge of his public functions under any written law or voluntarily obstructs any person engaged in the discharge of any duty imposed on him by any written law shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend to one hundred thousand Naira or with both.

150. Failing to assist public servant when bound by Law to assist

Whoever, being legally bound to render or furnish assistance to any public servant in the execution of his public duty, intentionally omits to give such assistance, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, community service or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand Naira.

151. Contravention of residence order

Whoever being legally prohibited from residing in any district, or being legally ordered to reside in any district, intentionally disobeys any such prohibition or Order shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, community service or with fine which may extend to one hundred and fifty thousand Naira.

152. Disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant

Whoever, knowing that by an order promulgated by a public servant legally empowered to promulgate such order he is directed to abstain from a certain act, or to take certain action with respect to certain property in his possession or under his management, disobeys such direction, shall-

(a) if such disobedience causes or tends to cause obstruction, annoyance or injury or risk of obstruction, annoyance or injury to any person lawfully employed, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months, community service or with fine which may extend to twenty five thousand Naira;

(b) if such disobedience causes or tends to cause danger to human life, health or safety or causes or tends to cause a riot or affray, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, community service or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand Naira..

153. Threat of injury to public servant

Whoever holds out any threat of injury to any public servant or to any person in whom he believes that public servant to be interested, for the purpose of inducing that public servant to do any act or to forbear or delay to do any act connected with the exercise of the public functions of such public servant, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend to one hundred thousand Naira or with both.

154. Threat to injury to induce person to refrain from applying for protection to public servant

Whoever holds out any threat of injury to any person for the purpose of inducing that person to refrain or desist from applying for protection against any injury to any public servant legally empowered as such to give such protection or to cause such protection to be given, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, community service or with fine which may extend to one hundred thousand Naira.

155. Intentional insult or interruption to public servant sitting in judicial proceeding

Whoever intentionally offers any insult or causes any interruption to any public servant while such public servant is sitting in any stage of a judicial proceeding shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, community service and or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand Naira.

CHAPTER XII

False Evidence and Offences relating to the Administration of Justice Offences

156. Giving false evidence defined

Whoever, being legally bound by an oath or by any express provision of law to state the truth or being bound by law to make a declaration upon any subject, makes any statement, verbally or otherwise, which is false in a material particular and which he either knows or believes to be false or does not believe to be true, is said to give false evidence.

EXPLANATION 1. A false statement as to the belief of the person attesting is within the meaning of this section and a person may be guilty of giving false evidence by stating that he believes a thing which he does not believe, as well as by stating that he knows a thing which he does not know.

EXPLANATION 2. A material particular within the meaning of this section means a particular which is material to any question then in issue or intended to be raised in that proceeding.

157 Fabricating false evidence defined

Whoever causes any circumstance to exist or makes any false entry in any book or record or makes any document containing a false statement intending that such circumstance, false entry or false statement may appear in evidence or be used in a judicial proceeding or in a proceeding taken by law before a public servant as such or before an arbitrator and that such circumstance, false entry or false statement so appearing in evidence or so used may cause any person, who in such proceeding is to form an opinion upon the circumstance, entry or statement, to entertain an erroneous opinion touching any point material to the result of such proceeding, is said to fabricate false evidence.

158. Punishment for false evidence

(1) Whoever intentionally gives false evidence in any stage of a judicial proceeding or fabricates false evidence for the purpose of its being used in any stage of a judicial proceeding shall be

punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.

- (2) Whoever intentionally gives or fabricates false evidence in any other case, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to fine.

159. Giving false evidence to procure conviction of capital offence

- (1) Whoever gives or fabricates false evidence intending thereby to cause or knowing it to be likely that he will thereby cause any person to be convicted of an offence which is punishable with death shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to imprisonment for life and shall also be liable to fine.

- (2) If an innocent person is convicted and executed in consequence of such false evidence the person who gave or fabricated such false evidence shall be punished with death.

160. Giving false evidence to procure conviction of offence punishable with imprisonment

Whoever gives or fabricates false evidence intending thereby to cause or knowing it to be likely that he will thereby cause any person to be convicted of an offence which is not punishable with death but is punishable with imprisonment for a term of seven years or upwards shall be punished as a person convicted of that offence would be liable to be punished

161. Using evidence known to be false

Whoever uses or attempts to use as true or genuine evidence any evidence which he knows to be false or fabricated, shall be punished in the same manner as if he gave or fabricated false evidence.

162. Issuing or signing false evidence

Whoever issues or signs any certificate required by law to be given or signed or relating to any fact of which such certificate is legally admissible in evidence knowing or believing that such certificate is false in any material point, shall be punished in the same manner as if he gave false evidence.

163. Using as true a certificate known to be false

Whoever uses or attempts to use any certificate mentioned in section 162 as a true certificate knowing the same to be false in any material point, shall be punished in the same manner as if he gave false evidence.

164. False statement in declaration which is by law receivable as evidence.

(1) Whoever in any declaration made or subscribed by him, which declaration any court of justice or any public servant or other person is bound or authorized by law to receive as evidence of any fact, makes any statement, which is false and which he either knows or believes to be false or does not believe to be true, touching any point material to the object for which the declaration is made or used, shall be punished in the same manner as if he gave false evidence.

(2) Whoever uses or attempts to use as true any such declaration knowing the same to be false in any material point, shall be punished in the same manner as if he gave false evidence.

EXPLANATION. A declaration, which is admissible merely upon the ground of some informality, is a declaration within the meaning of this section.

165. False translation

Whoever knowingly makes a false translation of the evidence of a witness or of the statement of a defendant or of a party to a civil suit or makes a false translation or copy of any document with the intention that such translation or copy shall be used in any manner in any judicial proceeding or knowing that it is likely to be so used, and whoever knowingly uses such translation or copy in any manner in any judicial proceeding, shall be punished in the same manner as if he gave false evidence.

166. Destruction of document to prevent its production as evidence

Whoever secretes or destroys any document, which he may be lawfully compelled to produce as evidence in a court of justice or in any proceeding lawfully held before a public servant as such, or obliterates or renders illegible the whole or any part of

such document with the intention of preventing the same from being produced or used as evidence before such court or public servant as aforesaid or after he shall have been lawfully summoned or required to produce the same for that purpose, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend to one hundred thousand Naira or with both.

Screening of Offenders

167. Causing disappearance of evidence of offence or giving false information to screen offender

Whoever, knowing or having reason to believe that an offence has been committed, causes any evidence of the commission of the offence to disappear with the intention of screening the offender from legal punishment, or with a like intention of intending to prevent his arrest gives any information respecting the offence which he knows or believes to be false or harbors or conceals a person whom he knows or has reason to believe to be the offender, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years and shall also be liable to fine.

EXPLANATION. In this section the word "*offence*" includes any act done outside the State which if done in the State would be an offence and the punishment for the offence shall be deemed to be the same as the punishment would be if the act were done in the State.

168. Taking gratification to screen an offender from punishment

(1) Whoever accepts or attempts to obtain or agrees to accept any gratification for himself or any other person or any restitution of property to himself or any other person, in consideration of his concealing an offence or of his screening any person from legal punishment for any offence or of his not proceeding against any person for the purpose of bringing him to legal punishment, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years and shall also be liable to fine.

(2) This section shall not extend to any case in which the offence may lawfully be compounded.

EXPLANATION. In this section the word “*offence*” includes any act done outside the State which if done in the State would be an offence and the punishment for the offence shall be deemed to be the same as the punishment would be if the act were done in the State.

169. Offering gratification in consideration of screening offender

(1) Whoever gives or causes or offers or agrees to give or cause any gratification to any other person or to restore or cause the restoration of any property to any other person, in consideration of that other person's concealing an offence or of his screening any person from legal punishment for any offence or of his not proceeding against any person for the purpose of bringing him to legal punishment, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to fine.

(2) This section shall not extend to any case in which the offence may lawfully be compounded.

EXPLANATION. In this section the word “*offence*” includes any act done outside the State which if done in the State would be an offence and the punishment for the offence shall be deemed to be the same as the punishment would be if the act were done **in** the State.

170. Penalty for harbouring robber or brigand

Whoever, knowing or having reason to believe that any person(s) are about to commit or have recently committed robbery or brigandage, harbours them or any of them with the intention of facilitating the commission of such robbery or brigandage or of screening them or any of them from punishment, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to fine.

EXPLANATION. For the purposes of this section it is immaterial whether the robbery or brigandage is intended to be committed or has been committed within the State or elsewhere.

Resistance to Arrest and Escape

171. Resistance or obstruction to lawful arrest of another person

Whoever intentionally offers any resistance or illegal obstruction to the lawful arrest of any other person or rescues or attempts to rescue any other person from any confinement or custody in which that person is lawfully detained, shall be punished-

(a) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years or with fine or with both; and

(b) if such other person is under sentence of death, shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to imprisonment for life and shall also be liable to fine.

172. Resistance or obstruction by a person to his lawful arrest or escape

Whoever intentionally offers any resistance or illegal obstruction to the lawful arrest of himself for any offence with which he is charged or of which he has been convicted or escapes or attempts to escape from any custody in which he is lawfully detained for any such offence, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years or with fine or with both.

173. Resistance or obstruction to lawful arrest or escape, in cases not provided for by section 172

Whoever in any case not provided for in Section 172 intentionally offers any resistance or illegal obstruction to the lawful arrest of himself or escapes or attempts to escape from any custody in which he is lawfully detained, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

Fraudulent Dealings with Property

174. Fraudulent removal of property to prevent lawful seizure or execution

Whoever, with intent to prevent any property of himself or any other person or any interest therein-

- (a) from being taken as a forfeiture or in satisfaction of a fine under a sentence which has been pronounced or which he knows to be likely to be pronounced by a court of justice or other competent authority; or
- (b) from being taken in execution of a decree or order, which has been made or which he knows to be likely to be made by a court of justice; or
- (c) from being distributed according to law amongst the creditors of himself or such other person; or
- (d) from being available according to law for payment of the debts of himself or such other person, dishonestly or fraudulently removes or conceals or assists in removing or concealing such property or dishonestly or fraudulent transfers, delivers or releases such property or any interest therein to any person or practices any deception touching the same or accepts or dishonestly or fraudulently accepts, receives or claims such property or any interest therein, knowing that he has no right or rightful claim thereto, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

EXPLANATION. In this section "property" includes rights of action and property of every other description whether movable or immovable and whether corporeal or incorporeal.

175. Fraudulently suffering decree for sum not due

Whoever fraudulently causes or suffers a decree or order to be passed against him at the suit of any person for a sum not due or for a larger sum than is due to such person or for any property or interest in property to which such person is not entitled or fraudulently causes or suffers a decree or order to be executed against him after it has been satisfied or for anything in respect of which it has been satisfied, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

176. Fraudulently obtaining decree for sum not due

Whoever fraudulently obtains a decree or order against any person for a sum not due or for a larger sum than is due or for any

property or interest in property to which he is not entitled or fraudulently causes a decree or order to be executed against any person after it has been satisfied or for anything in respect of which it has been satisfied or fraudulently suffers or permits any such act to be done in his name, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

177. Dishonest or fraudulent execution of deed of transfer containing false statement of consideration

Whoever dishonestly or fraudulently signs, executes or becomes a party to any deed or instrument, which purports to transfer or subject to any charge any property or any interest therein and which contains any false statement relating to the consideration for such transfer or charge or relating to the person or persons for whose use or benefit it is really intended to operate, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

Miscellaneous

178. Giving false information respecting an offence

Whoever, knowing or having reason to believe that an offence has been committed, gives any information respecting that offence which he knows or believes to be false, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

179. False personation

Whoever falsely personates another, whether that other is an actual or fictitious person, and in such assumed character makes any admission or statement, or causes any process to be issued or becomes bail or security, or does any other act in any suit or criminal prosecution, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

180. False charge of offence made with intent to injure

Whoever with intent to cause injury to any person institutes or causes to be instituted any criminal proceeding against that person or falsely charges any person with having committed an offence knowing that there is not just or lawful ground for such proceeding or charge against that person, shall be punished-

- (a) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both; and
- (b) where such criminal proceeding is instituted on a false charge of an offence punishable with death or imprisonment for seven years or upwards, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years or with fine or with both.

181. Taking gift to help to recover stolen property

Whoever takes or agrees or consents to take any gratification under pretense or on account of helping any person to recover any movable property of which he shall have been deprived by any offence, shall, unless he uses all means in his power to cause the offender to be brought to justice, be punished with imprisonment for a term of not less than seven years or with fine or both.

EXPLANATION. In this section the word "**offence**" includes any act done outside Bauchi State of Nigeria which if done in Bauchi State of Nigeria would be an offence.

182. Influencing course of justice

Whoever with intent to influence the course of justice in any civil or criminal proceeding does any act whereby the fair hearing, trial or decision of any matter in that proceeding may be prejudiced shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

CHAPTER XIII

Public Nuisance and Thuggery

183. Public nuisance defined

- (1) A person is guilty of a public nuisance who does an act or is guilty of an illegal omission which causes any common injury, danger or annoyance to the public or to the people in general who dwell or occupy property in the vicinity or which must necessarily cause injury, obstruction, danger or annoyance to persons who may have occasion to use any public right.
- (2) Where premises on which a public nuisance has occurred are occupied by two or more persons in common each of such persons shall be liable to conviction on account of the nuisance in the absence of sufficient evidence that he has not been guilty of the offence.

EXPLANATION 1. A public nuisance does not cease to be an offence because it causes some convenience or advantage.

EXPLANATION 2. Whether an act or omission is a public nuisance is a matter of fact, which may depend on the character of the neighborhood.

184 Offence and Punishment for Thuggery

- (1)(I) Thuggery means any or violent act capable of disturbing public peace or threatening the peace and liberty of an individual.
- (ii) Thugs means any person or group of persons who commits the offence of thuggery
- (iii) Sponsors of thuggery means any person or group of persons who commits the offence of thuggery under Sub-Section (4) of this section
- (iv) Weapon means dangerous articles such as cutlass, machetes, knife, axe, hoe, daggers, rakes, spear, bows and arrows, scissors, needles, piece of wood, horns or any metal by whatever name called, that is capable of causing bodily harm.

- (2) whoever acts as a thug and threatens public or individual peace without any weapon commit an offence of thuggery and shall be punished with imprisonment for a period which may extend to fourteen years imprisonment with no option of fine.
- (3) whoever, uses any weapon and threaten any individual or public either privately or in a public place commit the offence of thuggery and shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend up to fourteen year
- (4) whoever, aids, abate, instigates, facilitates or conspires with any other person or group of persons to cause public disturbance or threaten any person or group of persons commit the offence of sponsoring thuggery.
- (5) whoever alone or in a group commits an offence under Sub-Section (3), be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 14 years with no option of fine.
- (6) Whoever is found in unlawful possession of weapons commit an offence and shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years with no option of fine
- (7) Any person found in violation of any provision of this section shall be tried by a Chief Magistrate.

185. Adulteration of food or drink intended for sale

Whoever adulterates any article of food or drink or abstracts from any article of food or drink any part thereof so as to affect injuriously the quality, substance or nature, intending to sell such article as food or drink without notice to the purchaser or knowing that it is likely that the same will be sold as food or drink without notice to the purchaser, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine not exceeding two hundred and fifty thousand Naira or both.

186. Sale of food or drink not corresponding to description

Whoever sells any article of food or drink which is not of the nature, substance and quality demanded by the purchaser or the article which the seller represents it to be, shall be punished with

imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to one hundred thousand Naira..

187. Sale of adulterated food or drink

Whoever sells or offers or exposes for sale any article of food or drink, with which any admixture has been fraudulently made to increase the bulk, weight or measure of such article or to conceal the inferior quality thereof, or any article of food or drink, from which any part has been intentionally abstracted so as to affect injuriously its quality, substance or nature, without notice to the purchaser, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine not exceeding one hundred thousand Naira or with both.

188. Sale of noxious food or drink

Whoever sells or offers or exposes for sale as food or drink any article which has been rendered or has become noxious or is in a state unfit for food or drink, knowing or having reason to believe that the same is noxious as or unfit for food or drink, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

189. Making atmosphere noxious to health

Whoever voluntarily vitiates the atmosphere in any place so as to make it noxious to the health of persons in general dwelling or carrying on business in the neighborhood or passing along a public way, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

190. Exhibition of false light, mark or buoy

Whoever exhibits any false light, mark or buoy intending or knowing it to be likely that such exhibition will mislead any navigator, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years or with fine or with both.

191. Obstruction in public way or line of navigation

Whoever by doing any act or by omitting to keep in order any property in his possession or under his charge causes obstruction to any person in any public way or public line of navigation, shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

- 192. Negligent conduct causing danger to person or property**
Whoever does any act in a manner so rash or negligent as to endanger human life or to be likely to cause hurt or injury to any person or property, or knowingly or negligently omits to take such order with any property or substance in his possession or under his control or with any operations under his control as is sufficient to guard against probable danger to human life from such property, substance or operations, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend to one hundred thousand Naira or with both.
- 193. Negligent conduct with respect to animal**
Whoever knowingly or negligently omits to control any animal in his possession sufficiently to guard against any probable danger to human life or any probable danger of grievous hurt from such animal, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to one hundred thousand Naira or with both.
- 194. Punishment for public nuisance in cases not otherwise provided for**
Whoever commits a public nuisance in any case not otherwise punishable by this Code, shall be punished with imprisonment for one year or with fine or with both.
- 195. Continuance of nuisance after injunction to discontinue**
Whoever repeats or continues a public nuisance, having been ordered by any public servant who has lawful authority to give such order not to repeat or continue such nuisance, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.
- 196. Obscene or indecent acts**
Whoever to the annoyance of others does any obscene or indecent act in a public place, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.
- 197. Keeping a brothel**
Whoever keeps or manages a brothel shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to fourteen years or with fine of N500,000 or with both.

198. Sale of obscene books, etc.

Whoever sells or distributes, imports or prints or makes for sale or hire or willfully exhibits to public view any obscene book, pamphlet, paper, gramophone record or similar article, drawing, painting, representation or figure or attempts or offers so to do or has in his possession any such obscene book or other things for the purpose of sale, distribution or public exhibition, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both

199. Obscene songs, etc.

Whoever to the annoyance of others sings, recites, utters or reproduces by any mechanical means any obscene song or words in or near any public place, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months or with fine or with both.

CHAPTER XIV

Lotteries, Gaming Houses and Gambling

200. Definitions in Chapter XIV

In this chapter-

"Lottery" includes any game, method or device whereby money or money's worth is distributed or allotted in any manner depending upon or to be determined by chance or lot;

"Lottery ticket" includes any paper, ticket, token or other article whatsoever, which either expressly or tacitly entitles or purports to entitle any person to receive any money or money's worth on the happening of any event or contingency connected with any public lottery;

"Public lottery" means a lottery to which the public or any class of the public has, or may have, access, and every lottery shall, until the contrary is proved, be deemed to be a public lottery.

201. Keeping gaming house or lottery office

(1) Whoever keeps any house or place to which the public are admitted for the purpose of betting or playing any game of chance or keeps any office or place for the purpose of drawing any lottery or assists in the conduct of any such house or place or office, shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to two years or with fine or with both:

Provided always that nothing herein contained shall make illegal the use of totalisator by a race club recognized by the Government at a race meeting, with the approval of the Commissioner.

(2) In this section the word **"totalisator"** means the instrument, machine or contrivance, commonly known as a totalisator, and any other instrument, machine or contrivance of a like nature, or any scheme for enabling any number of persons to make bets with one another on the like principles.

202. Offences relating to lotteries

(1) Whoever-

(a) gives or sells or offers for sale or delivers any lottery ticket or pays or receives directly or indirectly any money or money's worth for or in respect of any chance in or event or contingency connected with a public lottery; or

(b) draws, throws, declares or exhibits expressly or otherwise the winner or winning number, ticket, lot, figure, design, symbol or other result of any public lottery; or

(c) writes, prints, publishes, or causes to be written, printed, or published any lottery ticket or any announcement relating to a public lottery; or

(d) advances, furnishes or receives money for the purpose of a public lottery, shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to six months or with fine or with both.

(2) Nothing in this section shall apply-

(a) to the sale by raffle or lottery of articles exposed for sale at any gathering held for the purpose of raising funds in aid of any institution of a public character where permission for such sale have been given in writing by the Governor;

(b) to any lottery or sweepstake organized or controlled at or in connection with any race meeting held under the auspices of any race club or association in the State which has been exempted from the provisions of this section by the Governor by notice in the State Gazette;

(c) to any club to which the Governor has granted a license authorizing a lottery to be promoted as an incident of entertainment by members of the club on the premises of the club and subject to any conditions contained in the license;

(d) to any lottery or sweepstake organized and controlled by any race club in the State to which the Governor may by notice in the State Gazette extend the provisions of this section, at or in connection with any race meeting held under the auspices of any such club or association.

CHAPTER XV

Cruelty to Animals

203. Ill-treatment of domestic animals

Whoever cruelly beats, tortures or otherwise willfully ill-treats any tame or domestic animal or any wild animal which has previously been deprived of its liberty or arranges, promotes or organizes fights between cocks, rams or other domestic animals shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to one hundred thousand Naira or with both.

204. Over-riding and neglect of animal

Whoever wantonly over-rides, over-drives or over-loads any animal or wantonly employs any animal, which by reason of age, sickness, wounds or infirmity is not in a condition to work, or neglects any animal in such a manner as to cause it unnecessary suffering, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to one hundred Naira or with both.

205. Power to order temporary custody or destruction of animal

On conviction of an offence under section 203 or section 204 the court may in addition to or in substitution for any other penalty make an order for the temporary custody by the police of the animal in respect of which such offence has been committed and may order the person convicted to pay such sum meanwhile as the Court thinks fit for the maintenance and treatment of such animal and such sum shall be recoverable in the same manner as a fine inflicted under this Code; or, if such animal is suffering from incurable disease or injury, may order it to be destroyed

CHAPTER XVI

Offences relating to Religion

- 206. Insulting or exciting contempt of religious creed**
Whoever by any means publicly insults or seeks to incite contempt of any religion in such a manner as to be likely to lead to a breach of the peace, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.
- 207. Injuring or defiling place of worship**
Whoever destroys, damages or defiles any place of worship or any object held sacred by any class of persons with the intention of thereby insulting the religion of any class of persons or with the knowledge that any class of persons is likely to consider such destruction, damage or defilement an insult to their religion, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.
- 208. Disturbing religious assembly**
Whoever voluntarily causes disturbance to any assembly lawfully engaged in the performance of religious worship or religious ceremonies, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine or with both.
- 209. Committing trespass on place of worship or burial**
Whoever, with the intention of wounding the feelings of any person(s) or of insulting the religion of any person(s) or with the knowledge that the feelings of any person are likely to be wounded or that the religion of any person(s) is likely to be insulted thereby, commits any trespass in any place of worship or in any place of burial or offers any indignity to any human corpse or causes disturbance to any person(s) assembled for the performance of funeral ceremonies, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

CHAPTER XVII

Offences relating to Ordeal, Witchcraft and Juju

220. Trial by ordeal

Whoever presides or is present at any unlawful trial by ordeal shall be punished-

(a) with imprisonment which may extend to ten years or with fine or with both; and

(b) if such trial results in the death of any party to the proceeding shall be punished with death

EXPLANATION. The trial by any ordeal which is likely to result in the death of or bodily injury to any party to the proceeding is unlawful.

211. Unlawful juju

The Governor may by order declare the worship or invocation of any juju to be unlawful.

212. Offences relating to witchcraft and juju

Whoever-

(a) by his statements or actions represents himself to be a witch or to have the power of witchcraft; or

(b) accuses or threatens to accuse any person with being a witch or with having the power of witchcraft; or

(c) makes or sells or uses, or has in his possession or represents himself to be in possession of any juju, drug or charm which is intended to be used or reported to possess the power to prevent or delay any person from doing an act which such person has a legal right to do, or to compel any person to do an act which such person has a legal right to refrain from doing, or which is alleged or reported to possess the power of causing any natural phenomenon or any disease or epidemic; or

- (d) presides at or is present at or takes part in the worship or invocation of any juju which has been declared unlawful under the provisions of section 215; or
- (e) is in possession of or has control over any human remains which are used or are intended to be used in connection with the worship or invocation of any juju; or
- (f) makes or uses or assists in making or using, or has in his possession anything whatsoever the making, use or possession of which has been declared unlawful under the provisions of section 215, shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

213. Criminal charms

Whoever knowingly has in his possession any fetish or charm which is pretended or reputed to possess power to protect a person in the committing of any offence shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

214. Cannibalism

Whoever knowingly eats or receives for the purpose of eating any part of a human corpse shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

215. Unlawful possession of human parts

Whoever receives or has in his possession a human head, skull or other human parts with the intention that such head or skull shall be possessed by any person as a trophy, juju or charm shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to ten years without option of fine.

CHAPTER XVIII

Offences affecting the Human Body *Offences affecting Life*

216. Culpable homicide defined

Whoever causes death;

(a) by doing an act with the intention of causing death or such bodily injury as is likely to cause death; or

(b) by doing an act with the knowledge that he is likely by such act to cause death;
or

(c) by doing a rash or negligent act,

Commits the offence of culpable homicide.

EXPLANATION 1. A person who causes bodily injury to another who is labouring under a disorder, disease or bodily infirmity and thereby accelerates the death of that other, shall be deemed to have caused his death.

EXPLANATION 2. Where death is caused by bodily injury, the person who causes such bodily injury shall be deemed to have caused the death, although by resorting to proper remedies and skillful treatment the death might have been prevented.

EXPLANATION 3. The causing of the death of a child in the mother's womb is not homicide; but it may amount to culpable homicide to cause the death of a living child, if any part of that child has been brought forth, although the child may not have breathed or been completely born.

217. Culpable homicide punishable with death

Except in the circumstances mentioned in section 222 culpable homicide shall be punished with death-

- (a) if the act by which the death is caused is done with the intention of causing death; or
- (b) if the doer of the act knew or had reason to know that death would be the probable and not only a likely consequence of the act or of any bodily injury which the act was intended to cause.

EXPLANATION Whether death was the probable or only a likely consequence of an act or of any bodily injury, is a question of fact.

218. When culpable homicide is not punishable with death

- (1) Culpable homicide is not punishable with death if the offender whilst deprived of the power of self-control by grave and sudden provocation causes the death of the person who gave the provocation or causes the death of any other person by mistake or accident.

EXPLANATION. Whether the provocation was grave and sudden enough to prevent the offence from amounting to culpable homicide punishable with death is a question of fact.

- (2) Culpable homicide is not punishable with death if the offender, in the exercise in good faith of the right of private defence of person or property, exceeds the power given to him by law and causes the death of the person against whom he is exercising such right of defence without premeditation and without any intention of doing more harm than is necessary for the purpose of such defence.
- (3) Culpable homicide is not punishable with death if the offender, being a public servant acting for the advancement of public justice or being a person aiding a public servant so acting exceeds the powers given to him by law and causes death by doing an act which he in good faith believes to be lawful and necessary for the due discharge of his duty as such public servant or for assisting such public servant in the due discharge of such duty and without ill will towards the person whose death is caused.
- (4) Culpable homicide is not punishable with death if it is committed without premeditation in a sudden fight in the heat of passion upon a sudden quarrel and without the offender having taken undue advantage or acted in a cruel or unusual manner.

EXPLANATION. It is immaterial in such cases which party first provokes the other or commits the first assault.

(5) Culpable homicide is not punishable with death when the person whose death is caused, being above the age of eighteen years, suffers death or takes the risk of death with his own consent.

(6) Culpable homicide is not punishable with death where a woman intentionally causes the death of her child being a child under the age of twelve months, but at the time of the act or omission the balance of her mind was disturbed by reason of her not having fully recovered from the effect of giving birth to the child or by reason of the effect of lactation consequent upon the birth of the child.

(7) Culpable homicide is not punishable with death when a person causes the death of another by doing any rash or negligent act.

219. Culpable homicide by causing death of person other than person whose death was intended

If a person by doing anything which he intends or knows to be likely to cause death commits culpable homicide by causing the death of any person whose death he neither intends nor knows himself to be likely to cause, the culpable homicide committed by the offender is of the description of which it would have been if he had caused the death of the person whose death he intended or knew himself to be likely to cause.

220. Culpable homicide not punishable with death

Whoever commits culpable homicide not punishable with death, shall be punished with imprisonment for life or for any less term or with fine or with both.

221. Death caused when intention is to cause hurt only

Whoever causes the death of any person by doing any act not amounting to culpable homicide but done with the intention of causing hurt or grievous hurt, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years or with fine or with both.

222. Death caused in act of committing offence

Whoever causes the death of any person by doing any act not amounting to culpable homicide which constitutes an offence punishable with imprisonment for one year or with any greater punishment or by any act done in committing such an offence, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years or with fine or with both.

223. Abetment of suicide of child or insane person

If any person under eighteen years of age, any insane person, any delirious person, any idiot or any person in a state of intoxication commits suicide, whoever abets the commission of such suicide shall be punished with death.

224. Abetment of suicide

If any person commits suicide, whoever abets the commission of such suicide shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to fine.

225. Attempts to commit culpable homicide

(1) Whoever does any act not resulting in death with such intention or knowledge and in such circumstances that if he by that act caused death, he would be guilty of culpable homicide punishable with death shall be punished with imprisonment for life or for any less term or with fine or with both.

(2) When any person being under sentence of imprisonment for life commits an offence under this section, he shall, if hurt is caused, be punished with death.

226. Attempt to commit culpable homicide not punishable with death

Whoever does any act with such intention or knowledge and in such circumstances that, if he by that act caused death, he would be guilty of culpable homicide not punishable with death, shall be punished-

(a) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both; or

(b) if hurt is caused to any person by such act with imprisonment which may extend to seven years or with fine or with both.

227. Attempt to commit suicide

Whoever attempts to commit suicide and does any act towards the commission of such offence, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine or with both.

Causing Abortion, Injuries to Unborn Children, Exposure of Infants, Cruelty to Children and Concealment of Births

228. Causing abortion

Whoever voluntarily causes a woman with child to abort shall, if such abortion be not caused in good faith for the purpose of saving the life of the woman, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years or with fine or with both.

EXPLANATION. A woman who causes herself to abort is within the meaning of this section.

229. Death caused by act done with intent to cause abortion

Whoever with intent to cause the abortion of a woman with child does any act which causes the death of such woman, shall be punished

(a) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine; and

(b) if the act is done without the consent of the woman, with imprisonment for life or for any less term and shall also be liable to fine.

EXPLANATION. It is not essential for an offence under this section that the offender should know that the act is likely to cause death.

230. Causing abortion unintentionally

Whoever uses force to any woman and thereby unintentionally causes her to abort her pregnancy shall be punished-

(a) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both; and

(b) if the offender knew that the woman was with child, he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

231. Act done with intent to prevent child being born alive or to cause it to die after birth

Whoever before the birth of any child does any act with the intention of thereby preventing that child from being born alive or causing it to die after its birth and does by such act prevent that child from being born alive or causes it to die after its birth, shall, if such act be not caused in good faith for the purpose of saving the life of the mother, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years or with fine or with both.

232. Causing death of quick unborn child by act amounting to culpable homicide

Whoever does any act in such circumstances that, if he thereby caused death, he would be guilty of culpable homicide, and does by such act cause the death of a quick unborn child, shall be punished with imprisonment for life or for any less term and shall also be liable to fine.

233. Abandonment of child under twelve years

Whoever being the father or mother or having the care of a child under the age of twelve years exposes or leaves such child in any place with the intention of wholly abandoning such child, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years or with fine or with both.

EXPLANATION. This section does not prevent the trial of the offender for culpable homicide if the child dies in consequence of the exposure or abandonment.

234. Cruelty to children

Whoever having the charge or care of a child under age of fifteen years or being in a position of authority over him willfully ill-treats or neglects him in such a way as to cause him unnecessary suffering, shall be punished-

(a) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both; and

(b) if the ill-treatment or neglect results in serious injury to the health of such child, the offender shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

235. Concealment of birth

Whoever, by secretly burying or otherwise disposing of the dead body of a child whether such child dies before or after or during its birth, intentionally conceals or endeavors to conceal the birth of such child, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

Hurt

236. Hurt defined

Whoever causes bodily pain, disease or infirmity to any person is said to cause hurt.

237. Grievous hurt defined

The following kinds of hurt only are designated as grievous

- (a) emasculation;
- (b) permanent deprivation of the sight of an eye, of the hearing of an ear or the power of speech;
- (c) deprivation of any member or joint;
- (d) destruction or permanent impairing of the powers of any member or joint;
- (e) permanent disfiguration of the head or face;
- (f) fracture or dislocation of a bone or tooth;
- (g) any hurt which endangers life or which causes the sufferer to be during the space of twenty days in severe bodily pain or unable to follow his ordinary pursuits.

238. Voluntarily causing hurt defined

Whoever does any act with the intention of thereby causing hurt to any person or with the knowledge that he is likely thereby to cause hurt to any person and does thereby hurt any person is said voluntarily to cause hurt.

239. Voluntarily causing grievous hurt defined

Whoever voluntarily causes hurt, if the hurt which he intends to cause or knows himself to be likely to cause is grievous hurt and if the hurt which he causes is grievous hurt, is said voluntarily to cause grievous hurt.

EXPLANATION. A person is not said voluntarily to cause grievous hurt except when he both causes grievous hurt and intends or knows himself to be likely to cause grievous hurt. But he is said voluntarily to cause grievous hurt if intending or knowing himself to be likely to cause grievous hurt of one kind he actually causes grievous hurt of another kind.

240. Voluntarily causing hurt on provocation

Whoever voluntarily causes hurt on grave and sudden provocation, if he neither intends nor knows himself to be likely to causes hurt to any person other than the person who gave the provocation, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month, community service or with fine which may extend to ten thousand Naira or with both.

241. Voluntarily causing grievous hurt on provocation

Whoever voluntarily causes grievous hurt on grave and sudden provocation, if he neither intends nor knows himself to be likely to cause grievous hurt to any person other than the person who gave the provocation, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to **four years** or with fine which may extend to two hundred thousand Naira or with both.

242. Voluntarily causing hurt without provocation

Whoever, except in the case provided for by section 240, voluntarily causes hurt, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to one hundred thousand Naira or with both.

243. Voluntarily causing grievous hurt without provocation

Whoever, except in the case provided for by section 241, voluntarily causes grievous hurt, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to fine.

244. Voluntarily causing hurt or grievous hurt by dangerous means

(1) Whoever, except in the case provided for by section 240, voluntarily causes hurt by means of any instrument for shooting, stabbing or cutting or any instrument, which is used as a weapon of offence is likely to cause death, or by means of fire or any heated substance or by means of electricity or by

means of any corrosive or explosive substance or by the administration of any poisonous or deleterious substance or by means of any animal, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

- (2) Whoever, except in the case provided for by section 241, voluntarily causes grievous hurt by any of the means mentioned in subsection (1) shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.

245. Causing hurt by means of poison with intent to commit an offence

Whoever administers to or causes to be taken by any person any poison or any stupefying, intoxicating or unwholesome drug or thing with intent to cause hurt to that person or with intent to commit or to facilitate the commission of an offence or knowing it to be likely that he will thereby cause hurt, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to fine.

246. Voluntarily causing hurt to extort property or to constrain to an illegal act

(1) Whoever voluntarily causes hurt for the purpose of extorting from the person hurt or from any person interested in the person hurt any property or document of title or of constraining the person hurt or any person interested in the person hurt to do anything which is illegal or which may facilitate the commission of an offence, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to fine.

(2) Whoever for the like purpose voluntarily causes grievous hurt, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall be liable to fine.

247. Voluntarily causing hurt to extort confession or to compel restoration of property

(1) Whoever voluntarily causes hurt for the purpose of extorting from the person hurt or any person interested in the person

hurt any confession or any information which may lead to the detection of an offence or misconduct or for the purpose of constraining the person hurt or any person interested in the person hurt to restore or to cause the restoration of any property or document of title or to satisfy any claim or demand or to give information which may lead to the restoration of any property or document of title, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to fine.

- (2) Whoever for the like purpose voluntarily causes grievous hurt, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to fine.

248. Voluntarily causing hurt or grievous hurt to deter public servant from his duty

- (1) Whoever voluntarily causes hurt to any person being a public servant in the discharge of his duty as such public servant or with intent to prevent or deter that person or any other public servant from discharging his duty as such public servant or in consequence of anything done or attempted to be done by that person in the lawful discharge of his duty as such public servant, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

- (2) Whoever in the like circumstances with the like intent or for like reason voluntarily causes grievous hurt to any person being a public servant, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to fine.

249. Causing hurt by act endangering life or personal safety of others

- (1) Whoever causes hurt to any person by doing any act so rashly or negligently as to endanger human life or the personal safety of others, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine or with both.

- (2) Whoever in like manner causes grievous hurt to any person, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

Wrongful Restraint and Wrongful Confinement

250. Wrongful restraint defined

(1) Whoever voluntarily obstructs any person so as to prevent that person from proceeding in any direction in which that person has a right to proceed, is said to restrain that person wrongfully.

(2) The obstruction of a private way over land or water which a person in good faith believes himself to have a lawful right to obstruct, is not within the meaning of this section.

251. Wrongful confinement defined

Whoever wrongfully restrains any person in such a manner as to prevent that person from proceeding beyond certain circumscribing limits, is said to confine that person wrongfully.

252. Wrongful restraint

Whoever wrongfully restrains any person, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month or with fine which may extend to ten thousand Naira or with both.

253. Wrongful confinement

Whoever wrongfully confines any person, shall be punished-

(a) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to one hundred thousand Naira or with both; and

(b) if the wrongful confinement continues for three days or more with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

254. Wrongful confinement after warrant or order or writ issued for production or liberation

Whoever keeps any person in wrongful confinement knowing that a warrant or order or writ for the production or liberation of that person has been duly issued, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years in addition to any term of imprisonment to which he may be liable under any other section of this Law.

255. Wrongful confinement in secret

- (1) Whoever wrongfully confines any person in such manner as to indicate an intention that the confinement of such person may not be known to any person interested in the person so confined or to any public servant or that the place of such confinement may not be known to or discovered by any such person or public servant as herein before mentioned, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to **two years** in addition to any other punishment to which he may be liable for such wrongful confinement.
- (2) Where the wrongful confinement in secret continues for seven days or more, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years.

256. Wrongful confinement to extort property or constrain to illegal act

Whoever wrongfully confines any person for the purpose of extorting from the person confined or any person interested in the person confined any property or document of title or of constraining the person confined or any person interested in such person to do anything illegal or to give any information which may facilitate the commission of an offence, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years and shall also be liable to fine.

257. Wrongful confinement to extort confession or compel restoration of property

Whoever wrongfully confines any person for the purpose of extorting from the person confined or any person interested in the person confined any confession or any information which may lead to the detection of an offence or misconduct or for the purpose of constraining the person confined or any person interested in the person confined to restore or to cause the restoration of any property or document of title or to satisfy any claim or demand or to give information which may lead to the restoration of any property or document of title, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years and shall also be liable to fine.

Criminal Force and Assault

258. Force defined

A person is said to use force to another if he causes motion, change of motion or cessation of motion to that other or if he causes any substance to come into contact with any part of that other's body or with anything which that other is wearing or carrying or with anything so situated that such contact affects that other's sense of feeling where the person causing any effect above-mentioned, causes it-

(a) by his own bodily power; or

(b) by disposing any substance in such a manner that the effect takes place without any further voluntary act on his part or on the part of any other person; or

(c) by means of any animal.

259. Criminal force defined

Whoever intentionally uses force to any person without that person's consent:

(a) while preparing to commit any offence; or

(b) in the course of committing any offence; or

(c) intending by the use of such force to cause or knowing it to be likely that by the use of such force he will cause injury, fear or annoyance to the person to whom the force is used, is said to use criminal force to that other.

260. Assault defined

Whoever makes any gesture or any preparation intending or knowing it to be likely that such gesture or preparation will cause any person present to apprehend that he who makes that gesture or preparation is about to use criminal force to that person, is said to commit an assault.

EXPLANATION. Mere words do not amount to assault, but the words which a person uses may give to his gestures or preparations such a meaning as may make those gestures or preparations amount to an assault.

- 261. Punishment for assault or criminal force without provocation**
Whoever assaults or uses criminal force to any person otherwise than on grave and sudden provocation given by that person, shall be punished-
- (a) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine or with both; and
- (b) if grievous hurt is caused to any person by such assault or criminal force, with imprisonment which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.
- 261A. Punishment for assault or criminal force with provocation**
Whoever assaults or uses criminal force to any person on grave and sudden provocation given by that person, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months or with fine which may extend to twenty five thousand Naira or with both.
- 262. Assault or criminal force to deter public servant from discharge of his duty**
Whoever assaults or uses criminal force to any person being a public servant in the execution of his duty as such public servant or with intent to prevent or deter that person from discharging his duty as such public servant or in consequence of anything done or attempted to be done by such person in the lawful discharge of his duty as such public servant, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.
- 263. Assault or criminal force to woman with intent to outrage modesty**
Whoever assaults or uses criminal force to any woman intending to outrage or knowing it to be likely that he will thereby outrage her modesty, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.
- 264. Assault or criminal force in attempt to commit theft of property carried by a person**
Whoever assaults or uses criminal force to any person in attempting to commit theft of any property which that person is then wearing or carrying, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

265. Assault or criminal force in attempt wrongfully to confine a person

Whoever assaults or uses criminal force for any person in attempting wrongfully to confine that person, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

Kidnapping, Abduction and Forced Labour

266. Kidnapping

(1) Whoever unlawfully seizes, confines, indulges, decoys, instills fears, tricks, abducts or carries away and holds for ransom or reward or otherwise any person with or without any weapon commits the offence of kidnapping.

(2) Whoever is guilty of the offence of kidnapping shall be punished with imprisonment for life.

(3) If death of any person occurs as a result of committing the offence of kidnapping, the offender shall be punished with death.

267. Conspiracy, attempt and threat to commit kidnapping

(1) Where two or more persons conspire to commit kidnapping and one or more of such persons do any overt act to affect the object of the conspiracy, each shall be guilty of conspiracy to commit kidnapping and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment for thirty (30) years without option of fine.

(2) Where a person intending to commit the offence of kidnapping begins to manifest his intention by some overt act, but does not fulfill his intention to such an extent as to commit the offence, shall be guilty of the offence of attempt to commit kidnapping and is liable on conviction to life imprisonment.

(3) Whoever intends to commit kidnapping and causes extreme fear to, or threatens any person by means of a letter, fax, e-mail, text message, telephone call or any other method of communication is guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to imprisonment for twenty (20) years.

268A. Aiding, abetting or assisting in kidnapping

- (1) Whoever instigates any person to kidnap a person intentionally aids, abets or facilitates by any act or omission the commission of the offence of kidnapping is guilty of an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for twenty (20) years.
- (2) Where the offender in sub-section (1) of this section is a corporate body it shall be liable to pay fine of not less than ten million Naira (N10,000,000).

268B. Abduction

- (1) Whoever by force compels or by any deceitful means induces any person to go from any place, is said to abduct that person.
- (2) Whoever is guilty of the offence of abduction shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years and shall be liable to fine.

269. Harboursing a kidnapped person, knowingly negotiating to obtain payment and knowingly receiving ransom.

- (1) whoever allows or permits his premises, building or place belonging or occupied by him or has control over, or a person in Lawful possession or occupation by the owner's authority, allows or permits the use of the premises, building or place for the purposes of keeping a kidnapped or abducted person is guilty of an offence and is liable on conviction to life imprisonment and in addition the said premises, building or place be demolished and the land shall revert to the State.
- (2) Whoever knowingly negotiates to obtain any ransom for the release of any person who has been kidnapped is guilty of an offence and is liable on conviction to be punished with imprisonment for a term of twenty (20) years.
- (3) Whoever receives, has possession of or disposes of any money, property or any proceeds thereof, which has at any time been delivered as ransom in connection with the offence of kidnapping, knowing that the money or property has at any time been delivered as such ransom, is guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to be punished with imprisonment for twenty (20) years.

270. Arranging for one self-kidnap and raise representation as a kidnapped or abducted person

- (1) Whoever puts forward himself overtly or covertly to another to be kidnapped or abducted for the purpose of extracting money, ransom, or for any other reason is guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a term of imprisonment for twenty (20) years.
- (2) Whoever under false pretence or in any other manner represents himself to be the person kidnapped, or who has influence, power or ability to obtain the release of person kidnapped for the purposes of obtaining any ransom or reward, or to extort or extract from another person anything of value, or other consideration, is guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a term of imprisonment for fourteen (14) years.
- (3) Nothing in this section shall prohibit person from acting in good faith who believes that he can rescue or obtain the release of a person who has been kidnapped.

271. Procurement of minors

Whoever, by any means whatsoever, induces any child under the age of eighteen years to go from any place or to do any act with intent that such child may be, or knowing that it is likely that he or she will be, forced or seduced to illicit intercourse with another person shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to fine.

272. Importation of children from foreign country

Whoever imports into the State from any country outside Nigeria any child under the age of eighteen years with intent that he or she may be, or knowing it to be likely that he or she will be, forced or seduced to illicit intercourse with another person shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to fine.

273. Concealing or keeping in confinement kidnapped or abducted person

Whoever knowing that any person has been kidnapped or has been abducted wrongfully conceals or confines such person, shall be punished in the same manner as if he had kidnapped or abducted such person.

274. Buying or selling minor for immoral purpose

Whoever buys, sells, hires, lets to hire or otherwise obtains possession or disposes of any person under the age of eighteen years with intent that such person shall be employed or used for the purpose of prostitution or for any unlawful or immoral purpose or knowing it to be likely that such minor will be employed or used for any such purpose, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to fine.

275. Trafficking in persons

Whoever imports, exports, removes, buys, sells, disposes, traffics or deals in any person, or accepts, receives or detains against his will any person shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.

276. Unlawful compulsory labour

Subject to the provisions of the Trade Unions Act, 1973, whoever unlawfully compels any person to labour against the will of that person, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine or with both.

277. Traffic in women

Whoever, in order to gratify the passions of another person, procures, entices or leads away, even with her consent, any woman or girl for immoral purposes shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to fine.

278. Rape

(1) A person is said to commit rape who, save in the case referred to in sub-section (2), has sexual intercourse with a person in any of the following circumstances:-

(a) against his or her will; or

(b) without his or her consent; or

(c) with his or her consent, when his or her consent has been obtained by intimidation, putting him or her in fear of death or of hurt; or

- (d) with his or her consent, when the person knows that he or she is not the person's spouse and that the consent is given because the person believes that he or she is another person to whom he or she is or believes himself or herself to be lawfully married; or
 - (e) with or without his or her consent, when he or she is of unsound mind.
- (2) (a) Sexual intercourse by a person with his or her own spouse is not rape.
- (b) Penetration is not limited only to penetration by penile shaft, but includes penetration by any object including the use of finger(s).

278A. Punishment for rape

- (1) Whoever commits rape, shall upon conviction be punished with imprisonment for life.
- (2).When a court is trying the offence of rape medical corroboration shall be immaterial.

279. Unnatural Offences

Whoever has sexual intercourse against the order of nature with any man, woman or animal, shall be punished with imprisonment for term which shall not be less than fourteen (14) years and shall also be liable to fine of not less than Two Hundred Thousand Naira (N200,000).

280. Indecent Assault

Whoever commits an act of indecent assault upon the person of another without his consent or by the use of force or threats compels a person to join with him in the commission of such act, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than fourteen (14) years and shall also be liable to fine of not less than Two Hundred Thousand Naira (N200,000) or with both.

Provided that a consent given by a child to such an act when done by any person, his teacher, guardian or any person entrusted with his care or education shall not be deemed to be a consent within the meaning of this section.

281. Unlawful detention with intent to have unlawful sexual intercourse

- (1) Any person who detains another person against such person's will or on any premises for the purposes of unlawful sexual intercourse with the person detained, is guilty of an offence and is liable to imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than five years and not exceeding ten years or with fine of not less than Five Hundred Thousand Naira (N500,000) and not exceeding One Million Naira (N1, 000, 000) or with both.
- (2) A person is deemed to detain another person in or on the premises for the purpose of unlawful sexual intercourse if, with intent to compel or induce the person to remain in or on the premises, the person puts the other person in a state or condition which makes it impracticable or by use of a substance for the person to leave.
- (3) It is lawful for any person to take any such wearing apparel as may be necessary to enable the person to leave a brothel or any premises upon which the person had been unlawfully detained.

282. Sexual Harassment

- (1) Sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favours, and other visual, verbal or physical conduct of sexual nature which when submitted to or rejected:-
 - (a) Implicitly or explicitly affects a person's employment or educational opportunity or unreasonably interferes with the person's work or educational performance;
 - (b) Implicitly or explicitly suggests that submission to or rejection of the conduct will be a factor in academic or employment decision; or
 - (c) creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive learning or working environment.
- (2) Any person who sexually harasses another is guilty of an offence and shall be liable to imprisonment for a term of not less than five years or with fine of not less than Five Hundred Thousand Naira (N500,000) or with both.

283. Trans-Sexual Offences

Whoever, being a male or female, by any scientific means or medical operation transposes or trans-sexes himself into the opposite sex to make him look, feel or behave like the opposite sex is guilty of an offence, and shall be punished with imprisonment for twenty (20) years.

284. Intentional aiding or abetting trans-position into the opposite sex

Whoever intentionally uses any scientific instrument or medical facility to aid or abet any person in transposing himself into the opposite sex by whatever means or method, is guilty of an offence, and shall be punished with imprisonment for twenty (20) years.

285. Attempt to transpose a person into the opposite sex

Whoever intentionally attempts to transpose himself into the opposite sex or causes the transposition of any person into the opposite sex is guilty of an offence, and shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than ten (10) years or with fine of not less than One Million Naira (N1,000,000) or with both.

285A. Forfeiture or destruction of property, facility or instrument used for transposition into the opposite sex

Whoever supplies, provide or allows any medical instrument or medical facility or any landed property to be used for the purpose of transposition of a person into the opposite sex, is guilty of an offence, and shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than fifteen (15) years and the medical instrument or medical facility or the landed property shall be subject to destruction or demolition by or forfeiture to the Government.

CHAPTER XIX

Offences against Property Theft

286. Theft defined

- (1) Whoever, intending to take dishonestly any movable property out of the possession of any person without that person's consent, moves that property in order to take it is said to commit theft.
- (2) Whoever dishonestly abstracts, diverts, consumes or uses any electricity or electric current belonging to another is said to commit theft.

287. Punishment of theft

- (1) Whoever commits theft shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years.
- (2) Where-
 - (a) the value of the property stolen is below the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand Naira; and
 - (b) the theft is not committed in any building or dwelling house; the punishment shall be ten strokes of the cane or five days community service for the first offence and a fine which may extend to five thousand Naira for subsequent offences.

288. Theft in a dwelling place, etc.

- (1) Whoever commits theft in or from any building, tent or vessel which building, tent or vessel is used as a human dwelling, for the custody of property or as a place of worship, or in or from any railway carriage, motor vehicle or aircraft used for the conveyance of passengers or goods, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years or with fine or with both.
- (2) For the purpose of this section "**building**" means a structure of any kind whether permanent or temporary and includes a hut, store, granary, pound and a compound completely enclosed by a wall or other structure.

289. Theft by clerk or employee of property in possession of employer

Whoever, being a clerk or employee or being employed in the capacity of a clerk or employee, commits theft in respect of any property in the possession of his employer, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years or with fine or with both.

290. Theft after preparing to cause death, hurt or restraint in order to commit theft

Whoever commits theft having made preparation for causing death or hurt or restraint or fear of death or of hurt or of restraint to any person in order to commit such theft or in order to effect his escape after the committing of such theft or in order to retain property taken by such theft, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.

291. Theft of Cattle

(1) (a) Whoever forcefully or otherwise takes over, deprives or unlawfully converts to his benefit any cattle from the owner or rearer of such cattle is said to commit the offence of theft of cattle;

(b) Any person who commits the offence of theft of cattle shall on conviction be liable to imprisonment for a term which may extend to fifteen (15) years.

(2) Where the offender in sub-section (1) of this section being armed with offensive weapon or in company of any person so armed attacks or uses any personal violence to take away any cattle shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment for life.

(3) Whoever in order to commit theft of cattle, demands money or put any person in fear of death or fear of any injury or of grievous hurt, to that person or to any other, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to thirty five (35) years or with fine or with both.

(4) In this section “cattle” includes any domestic animal kept or reared for the use and benefit of the owner.

292. Extortion

Whoever intentionally puts any person in fear of any injury to that person or to any other and thereby dishonestly induces the person so put in fear to deliver to any person any property or document of title or anything signed or sealed which may be converted into a valuable security, commits extortion.

292A. Punishment for extortion

Whoever commits extortion shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

293. Putting person in fear of injury in order to commit extortion

Whoever in order to commit extortion puts any person in fear or attempts to put any person in fear of any injury to that person or to any other, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

294. Extortion by putting a person in fear of death or grievous hurt

Whoever commits extortion by putting any person in fear of death or of grievous hurt to that person or to any other, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.

295. Extortion by threat of accusation of an offence punishable with death

Whoever commits extortion by putting any person in fear of an accusation against that person or any other of having committed or attempted to commit any offence punishable with death or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years or having attempted to induce any other person to commit such offence, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.

Robbery and Brigandage

296. Robbery defined

(1) In all robbery there is either theft or extortion.

(2) Theft is robbery if, in order to commit the theft or in committing the theft or in carrying away or attempting to carry away property obtained by the theft, the offender to that end

voluntarily causes or attempts to cause to any person death or hurt or wrongful restraint or fear of instant death or of instant hurt or of instant wrongful restraint.

- (3) Extortion is robbery, if the offender at the time of committing the extortion is in the presence of the person put in fear and commits the extortion by putting that person in fear of instant death, of instant hurt or of instant wrongful restraint to that person or to some other person and by so putting in fear induces the person so put in fear then and there to deliver up the thing extorted.

EXPLANATION. The offender is said to be present if he is sufficiently near to put the other person in fear of instant death, of instant hurt or of instant wrongful restraint.

297. Brigandage defined

When five or more persons conjointly commit or attempt to commit a robbery or where the whole number of persons conjointly committing or attempting to commit a robbery and persons present and aiding such commission or attempt amount to five or more, every person so committing, attempting or aiding is said to commit brigandage.

298. Punishment for robbery

Whoever commits robbery shall be punished-

- (a) with imprisonment for twenty-one (21) years with caning, without option of fine ; and
- (b) if the robbery is committed by any person armed with any dangerous or offensive weapon or instrument, to imprisonment for life, with or without caning.

299. Punishment for attempted robbery

Whoever attempts to commit robbery shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of fourteen years, with or without fine and caning.

300. Voluntarily causing hurt in committing robbery

If any person in committing or in attempting to commit robbery voluntarily causes hurt, such person and any other person jointly

concerned in committing or attempting to commit such robbery, shall be punished with imprisonment for twenty-one years with or without fine and caning.

301. Brigandage

Whoever commits brigandage shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of twenty-one years with or without fine and caning.

302. Brigandage with culpable homicide punishable with death

If any one of five or more persons, who are conjointly committing brigandage, commits culpable homicide punishable with death in so committing brigandage, every one of these persons shall be punished with death.

303. Robbery or brigandage with deadly weapon or with grievous hurt

(1) If, at the time of committing or attempting to commit robbery or brigandage-

(a) the offender uses any deadly weapon or causes grievous hurt to any person; or attempts to cause death or grievous hurt to any person, such offender shall be punished with the imprisonment which shall not be less than fourteen years, with or without fine and caning;

(b) *With service uniform or equipment*—

(i) wears any article of clothing or equipment, or uses or bears any article of equipment, being or resembling an article of clothing or equipment supplied to any of the uniformed services; or

(ii) *With service weapon*

uses or attempts or offers to use, or bears, any weapon being or resembling a weapon supplied to any of the uniformed services; or

(iii) *With fire arm*

uses or attempts or offers to use, or bears, any firearm or anything resembling a firearm, such offender shall be punished with the imprisonment which shall not be less than life, with or without caning.

(2) In this section-
"article or equipment" includes vehicle;

"firearm" means any barreled weapon of any description from which any shot, bullet or other missile can be discharged;

"the uniformed services" include the Nigeria Army, the Nigeria Navy, the Nigeria Air Force, any police force and any armed para-military or security outfit

304. Making preparation to commit brigandage

(1) Whoever makes any preparation for committing brigandage, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.

(2) Whoever makes any preparation for committing brigandage punishable under any of the provisions of paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 303, shall be punished with imprisonment of not less than twenty-one years, with or without fine and caning.

305. Belonging to gang of brigands

(1) Whoever belongs to a gang of persons associated for the purpose of habitually committing brigandage, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.

(2) Whoever belongs to a gang of persons associated for the purpose of habitually committing brigandage punishable under any of the provisions of paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 303, shall be punished with imprisonment of not less than twenty-one years, with or without fine and caning.

306. Belonging to gang of thieves

(1) Whoever belongs to any wandering or other gang of persons associated for the purpose of habitually committing theft or robbery and not being a gang of brigands, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to fine.

(2) Whoever belongs to any wandering or other gang of persons associated for the purpose of habitually committing robbery

punishable under any of provisions of paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of **section 303** and not being a gang of brigands, shall be punished with imprisonment for not less than fourteen years, with or without fine and caning.

307. Assembling for purpose of committing brigandage

(1) Whoever is one of five or more persons assembled for the purpose of committing brigandage, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to fine.

(2) Whoever is one of five or more persons assembled for the purpose of committing brigandage punishable under any of the provisions of paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 303, shall be punished with imprisonment of not less than fourteen years, with or without fine and caning.

308. Criminal misappropriation defined

Whoever dishonestly misappropriates or converts to his own use any movable property, commits criminal misappropriation.

EXPLANATION. A dishonest misappropriation for a time only is a misappropriation within the meaning of this section.

EXPLANATION. A person, who finds property not in the possession of any other person and takes such property for the purpose of protecting it for or of restoring it to the owner, does not take or misappropriate it dishonestly and is not guilty of an offence; but he is guilty of criminal misappropriation if he appropriates it to his own use, when he knows or has the means of discovering the owner or before he has used reasonable means to discover and give notice to the owner and has kept the property a reasonable time to enable the owner to claim it.

What are reasonable means or what is a reasonable time in such a case is a question of fact.

It is not necessary that the finder should know who is the owner of the property or that any particular person is the owner of it; it is sufficient if, at the time of appropriating it, he does not believe it to be his own property or does not believe in good faith that the real owner cannot be found.

309. Punishment for criminal misappropriation

Whoever commits criminal misappropriation shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

310. Criminal misappropriation of property possessed by deceased person at the time of his death

Whoever commits criminal misappropriation of property knowing that the property so misappropriated was in the possession of a deceased person at the time of that person's death and has not since been in the possession of any person legally entitled to such possession shall be punished-

(a) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years and shall also be liable to fine; and

(b) if the offender at the time of such person's death was employed by him as a clerk or servant, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to fine.

Criminal Breach of Trust

311. Criminal breach of trust defined

Whoever, being in any manner entrusted with property or with any dominion over property, dishonestly misappropriates or converts to his own use that property or dishonestly uses or disposes of that property in violation of any direction of law prescribing the mode in which such trust is to be discharged or of any legal contract expressed or implied, which he has made touching the discharge of such trust, or willfully suffers any other person so to do, commits criminal breach of trust.

312. Punishment for criminal breach of trust

Whoever commits criminal breach of trust shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years or with fine or with both.

313. Criminal breach of trust by carrier, etc.

Whoever, being entrusted with property as a carrier, wharfinger or warehouse keeper, commits criminal breach of trust in respect of such property, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to fine.

314. Criminal breach of trust by clerk or employee

Whoever, being a clerk or employee employed as a clerk or employee and being in any manner entrusted in such capacity with property or with any dominion over property, commits criminal breach of trust in respect of that property, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to fine.

315. Criminal breach of trust by public servant or by banker, merchant or agent

Whoever, being in any manner entrusted with property or with any dominion over property in his capacity as a public servant or in the way of his business as a banker, factor, broker, legal practitioner or agent, commits criminal breach of trust in respect of that property, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.

Receiving Stolen Property

316. Stolen property defined

Property, the possession whereof has been transferred by theft or by extortion or by robbery, and property, which has been criminally misappropriated or in respect of which criminal breach of trust has been committed, is stolen property, whether the transfer has been made or the misappropriation or breach of trust has been committed within the State or elsewhere; but if such property subsequently comes into the possession of a person legally entitled to the possession thereof, it then ceases to be stolen property.

317. Dishonestly receiving stolen property

Whoever dishonestly receives or retains any stolen property knowing or having reason to believe the same to be stolen property, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years or with fine or with both.

318. Dishonestly receiving property stolen in the commission of brigandage

Whoever dishonestly receives or retains any stolen property, the possession whereof he knows or has reason to believe to have been transferred by the commission of brigandage, or

dishonestly receives, from a person whom he knows or has reason to believe to belong or to have belonged to a gang of brigands, property, which he knows or has reason to believe to have been stolen, shall be punished with imprisonment for life or any less term and shall also be liable to fine.

319. Assisting in concealment of stolen property

Whoever voluntarily assists in concealing or disposing of or making away with property which he knows or has reason to believe to be stolen property, shall be punished for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

319A. Having possession of thing reasonably suspected of being stolen

Whoever knowingly has in his possession or under his control anything which is reasonably suspected of having been stolen or unlawfully obtained and who does not give an account to the satisfaction of a court of justice as to how he came by the same, shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to ten years or with fine or with both.

Cheating

320. Cheating defined

Whoever by deceiving any person-

(a) Fraudulently or dishonestly induces the person so deceived to deliver any property to any person or to consent that any person shall retain any property; or

(b) Intentionally induces the person so deceived to do or omit to do anything which he would not do or omit to do if he were not so deceived and which act or omission causes or is likely to cause damage or harm to that person in body, mind, reputation or property, is said to cheat.

EXPLANATION. A dishonest concealment of facts is a deception within the meaning of this section.

321. Cheating by personation defined

A person is said to cheat by personation if he cheats by pretending to be some other person or by knowingly substituting one person for another or representing that he or any other person is a person other than he or such other person really is.

EXPLANATION. The offence is committed whether the individual personated is a real or imaginary person.

322. Punishment for cheating

Whoever cheats shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to **ten years** or with fine or with both.

323. Cheating person whose interest offender is bound to protect

Whoever cheats with the knowledge that he is likely thereby to cause wrongful loss to a person whose interest in the transaction to which the cheating relates, he was bound either by law or by a legal contract to protect, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years or with fine or with both.

324. Cheating by personation

Whoever cheats by personation shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years or with fine or with both.

325. Cheating and dishonestly inducing delivery of property

Whoever cheats and thereby fraudulently or dishonestly induces the person deceived to deliver any property to any person or to make, alter or destroy the whole or any part of a document of title or anything which is signed or sealed and which is capable of being converted into a document of title, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.

Mischief

326. Mischief defined

Whoever, with intent to cause or knowing that he is likely to cause wrongful loss or damage to the public or to any person, causes the destruction of any property or any such change in any property or in the situation thereof or destroys or diminishes its value or utility or affects it injuriously, commits mischief.

EXPLANATION 1. It is not essential to the offence of mischief that the offender should intend to cause loss or damage to the owner of the property injured or destroyed. It is sufficient if he intends to cause or knows that he is likely to cause wrongful loss or damage to any person by injuring any property whether it belongs to that person or not.

EXPLANATION 2. Mischief may be committed by an act affecting property belonging to the person who commits the act or to that person and other jointly.

327. Punishment for mischief

Whoever commits mischief shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

328. Mischief by killing or maiming animal

Whoever commits mischief by killing, poisoning, maiming or rendering useless any animal or animals, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

329. Mischief by killing or maiming cattle, etc.

Whoever commits mischief by killing, poisoning, maiming or rendering useless any camel, horse, donkey, mule, bull, cow, or ox whatever may be the value thereof, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

330. Mischief in relation to water supply

Whoever commits mischief by doing any act which renders or which he knows to be likely to render any installation for the supply or distribution of water less efficient for its intended purpose or which causes or which he knows to be likely to cause a diminution of the supply of water for animals which are the subject of ownership or for any domestic, agricultural or commercial purpose, shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

331. Mischief by injury to public road, bridge, river or channel

Whoever commits mischief by doing any act which renders or which he knows to be likely to render any public road, bridge, navigable river or navigable channel natural or artificial impassable or less safe for travelling or conveying property, shall be punished with imprisonment for life or any less term or with fine or with both.

332. Mischief by inundation or obstruction to public drainage

Whoever commits mischief by doing any act which causes or which he knows to be likely to cause an inundation or an obstruction to any public drainage system attended with injury or

damage, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

- 333. Mischief in relation to electricity, telegraphs and telephones**
Whoever commits mischief by doing any act which renders or which he knows to be likely to render any installation for generating, storing, transmitting or distributing electricity or any telegraph or telephone installation less efficient for its intended purpose or which causes or which he knows to be likely to cause a diminution of any supply of electricity, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.
- 334. Mischief by destroying or moving a public land mark**
Whoever commits mischief by destroying or moving any land mark fixed by the authority of a public servant or by any act which renders such land mark less useful as such, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, community service or with fine.
- 335. Mischief by fire or explosive with intent to cause damage**
Whoever commits mischief by fire or any explosive intending to cause or knowing it to be likely that he will thereby cause damage to any property, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to fine.
- 336. Mischief by fire or explosive with intent to destroy house, etc.**
Whoever commits mischief by fire or any explosive substance intending to cause or knowing it to be likely that he will thereby cause the destruction of any building which is ordinarily used as a place of worship or as a human dwelling or as a place for the custody of property, shall be punished with imprisonment for life or for any less term and shall also be liable to fine.
- 337. Mischief to vessel**
Whoever commits mischief to any decked vessel or any vessel of a burden of twenty tons or upwards intending to destroy or render unsafe or knowing it to be likely that he will thereby destroy or render unsafe that vessel, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years or with fine or with both.

338. Mischief by fire to vessel

Whoever commits or attempts to commit by fire or any explosive substance such mischief as is described in section 337 shall be punished with imprisonment for life or for any less term and shall also be liable to fine.

339. Running vessel aground or ashore with intent to commit theft

Whoever intentionally runs any vessel aground or ashore intending to commit theft of any property contained therein or to misappropriate any such property dishonestly or with intent that such theft or misappropriation of property may be committed, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.

340. Mischief committed after preparation made for causing death or hurt

Whoever commits mischief having made preparation for causing to any person death or hurt or wrongful restraint or fear of death or of hurt or of wrongful restraint, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to twenty-one years and shall also be liable to fine.

Criminal Trespass

341. Criminal trespass defined

Whoever enters into or upon property in the possession of another with intent to commit an offence or to intimidate, insult or annoy any person in possession of such property, or, having lawfully entered into or upon such property, unlawfully remains there with intent thereby to intimidate, insult or annoy such person or with intent to commit an offence, is said to commit criminal trespass.

342. House trespass defined

(1) Whoever commits criminal trespass by entering into or remaining in any building, tent or vessel used as a human dwelling or any building used as a place of worship, or any railway carriage, motor vehicle or aircraft used for the conveyance of passengers or goods, is said to commit house trespass.

(2) For the purpose of this section "building" means a structure of any kind whether permanent or temporary and includes a hut, store, granary, pound and a compound completely enclosed by a wall or other structure.

EXPLANATION. The introduction of any part of the criminal trespasser's body entering is sufficient to constitute house trespass.

343. Lurking house trespass defined

(1) Whoever commits house trespass, having taken precaution to conceal such house trespass from some person who has a right to exclude or reject the trespasser from the building, tent, vessel, railway carriage, motor vehicle or aircraft which is the subject of the trespass, is said to commit lurking house trespass.

(2) For the purpose of this section "**building**" means a structure of any kind whether permanent or temporary and includes a hut, tent, store, granary, pound and a compound completely enclosed by a wall or other structure.

344. Lurking house trespass by night defined

Whoever commits lurking house trespass between sunset and sunrise, is said to commit lurking house trespass by night.

345. House breaking defined

A person is said to commit house breaking, who commits house trespass, if he effects his entrance into the house or any part of it in any of the six ways hereinafter described; or if being in the house or any part of it for the purpose of committing an offence or having committed an offence therein, he quits the house or any part of it in any of such six ways, that is to say-

(a) if he enters or quits through a passage made by himself or by any abettor of the house trespass in order to commit the house trespass;

(b) if he enters or quits through any passage not intended by any person, other than himself or an abettor of the offence, for human entrance, or through any passage to which he has obtained access by scaling or climbing over any wall or building;

- (c) if he enters or quits through any passage which he or any abettor of the house trespass has opened in order to commit the house trespass by any means by which that passage was not intended by the occupier of the house to be opened;
- (d) if he enters or quits by opening any lock in order to commit the house trespass or in order to quit the house after a house trespass;
- (e) if he effects his entrance or departure by using criminal force or committing an assault or by threatening any person with assault;
- (f) if he enters or quits by any passage which he knows to have been fastened against such entrance or departure and to have been unfastened by himself or by an abettor of the house trespass.

EXPLANATION 1. The word "house" in this section includes any place which may be the subject of house trespass.

EXPLANATION 2. Any out-house or building occupied with a house between which and such house there is an immediate internal communication is part of the house within the meaning of this section.

346. House breaking by night defined

Whoever commits house breaking between sunset and sunrise, is said to commit house breaking by night.

347. Punishment for criminal trespass

Whoever commits criminal trespass shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years with fine which may extend to one hundred and fifty thousand Naira.

348. Punishment for house trespass

Whoever commits house trespass shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine which may extend to two hundred thousand Naira or with both.

- 349. House trespass to commit offence punishable with death**
Whoever commits house trespass in order to commit any offence punishable with death, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.
- 350. House trespass to commit offence punishable with fourteen years' imprisonment**
Whoever commits house trespass in order to commit any offence punishable with fourteen years' imprisonment, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding ten years and shall also be liable to fine.
- 351. Punishment for lurking house trespass or house breaking**
Whoever commits lurking house trespass or house breaking, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to fine.
- 352. Lurking house trespass or house breaking by night**
Whoever commits lurking house trespass by night or house breaking by night, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.
- 353. Joint liability for lurking house trespass or house breaking by night where death or grievous hurt caused**
If, at the time of the committing of lurking house trespass by night or house breaking by night, any person guilty of such offence voluntarily causes or attempts to cause death or grievous hurt to any person, every person jointly concerned in committing such lurking house trespass by night or house breaking by night, shall be punished with imprisonment for life or any less term and shall also be liable to fine.
- 354. Breaking open receptacle containing property**
Whoever dishonestly or with intent to commit mischief breaks open or unfastens any closed receptacle which contains or which he believes to contain property, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.
- 355. Breaking open receptacle by person entrusted with custody**
Whoever, being entrusted with any closed receptacle which

contains or which he believes to contain property, without having authority to open the same dishonestly or with intent to commit mischief breaks open or unfastens that receptacle, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

356. Lurking with house breaking implements

Whoever is discovered between sunset and sunrise carrying false keys or other instruments suitable for house breaking and seeks to conceal himself or is otherwise shown to have a criminal intention, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to fine.

357. Fabrication of false key or instrument

Whoever imitates or alters any key or fabricates any instrument intending that such false key or instrument shall be used for a criminal purpose, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.

CHAPTER XX

Forgery

358. Making a false document defined

A person is said to make a false document-

- (a) who dishonestly or fraudulently makes, signs, seals or executes a document or part of a document or makes any mark denoting the execution of a document with the intention of causing it to be believed that such document or part of a document was made, signed, sealed or executed by or by the authority of a person by whom or by whose authority he knows that it was not made, signed, sealed or executed or at a time at which he knows that it was not made, signed, sealed or executed; or
- (b) who without lawful authority dishonestly or fraudulently by cancellation or otherwise alters a document in any material part thereof after it has been made or executed either by himself or by any other person whether such person be living or dead at the time of such alteration; or
- (c) who dishonestly or fraudulently causes any person to sign, seal, execute or alter a document knowing that such person by reason of unsoundness of mind or intoxication cannot or that by reason of deception practiced upon him he does not know the contents of the document or the nature of the alteration.

359. Forgery and forged document defined

Whoever makes any false document or part of a document, with intent to cause damage or injury to the public or to any person or to support any claim or title or to cause any person to part with property or to enter into any express or implied contract or with intent to commit fraud or that fraud may be committed, commits forgery; and a false document made wholly or in part by forgery is called a forged document.

EXPLANATION 1. A man's signature of his own name may amount to forgery.

EXPLANATION 2. The making of a false document in the name of a fictitious person intending it to be believed that the document was made by a real person or in the name of a deceased person intending it to be believed that the document was made by the person in his lifetime, may amount to forgery.

360. Punishment for forgery

Whoever commits forgery shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years or with fine or with both.

361. Forgery of public seals, etc.

Whoever forges

(a) a thing which purports to be the public seal of Nigeria or of any State of Nigeria or the great or privy seal of any country of the Commonwealth or the seal of the President or a Governor of a State; or

(b) a document having on it or affixed to it any such seal or anything which purports to be or is intended by that person to be understood to be, any such seal, Shall be punished with imprisonment for life or for any less term and shall also be liable to fine.

362. Using as genuine a forged document

Whoever fraudulently or dishonestly uses as genuine any document which he knows or has reason to believe to be a forged document, shall be punished in the same manner as if he had forged such document.

363. Making or possessing counterfeit seal with intent to commit forgery

Whoever makes or counterfeits any seal, plate or other instrument for making an impression intending that the same shall be used for the purpose of committing forgery or with such intent has in his possession any such seal, plate or other instrument knowing the same to be counterfeit, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.

364. Possession of forged record

Whoever has in his possession any forged document knowing the same to be forged and intending that the same shall fraudulently or dishonestly be used as genuine, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.

365. Counterfeiting device or mark used for authenticating documents

Whoever counterfeits upon or in the substance of any material any device or mark used for the purpose of authenticating any document intending that such device or mark shall be used for the purpose of giving the appearance of authenticity to any document then forged or thereafter to be forged on such material or who with such intent has in his possession any material upon or in the substance of which any device or mark has been counterfeited, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.

366. Fraudulent cancellation or destruction of document of title

Whoever fraudulently or dishonestly or with intent to cause damage or injury to the public or to any person cancels, destroys or defaces or attempts to cancel, destroy or deface or secretes or commits theft in respect of any document which is or purports to be a document of title or a will or commits mischief in respect to any such document, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine.

367. Falsification of accounts

Whoever, being a clerk, officer or employee or employed or acting in the capacity of a clerk, officer or servant, willfully and with intent to defraud destroys, alters, mutilates or falsifies any book, paper, writing, document of title or account, which belongs to or is in the possession of his employer or has been received by him for or on behalf of his employer, or willfully and with intent to defraud makes or abets the making of any false entry in or omits or alters or abets the omission or alteration of any material particular from or in any such book, paper, writing, document of title or account, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years or with fine or with both.

Property Marks

368. Property mark defined

A mark used for denoting that movable property belongs to a particular person is called a property mark.

369. Using a false property mark defined

Whoever marks any movable property or goods or any case, package or other receptacle containing movable property or goods or uses any case, package or other receptacle having any mark thereon in a manner reasonably calculated to cause it to be believed that the property or goods so marked or any property or goods contained in any such receptacle so marked belong to a person to whom they do not belong, is said to use a false property mark.

370. Punishment for using a false property mark

Whoever uses any false property mark shall unless he proves that he acted without intent to defraud, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

371. Counterfeiting a property mark used by another

Whoever counterfeits any property mark used by any other person, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

372. Counterfeiting a mark used by a public servant

Whoever counterfeits any property mark used by a public servant or any mark used by a public servant to denote that any property has been manufactured by a particular person or at a particular time or place or that the property is of a particular quality or has passed through a particular office or of that it is entitled to any exemption or uses as genuine any such mark knowing the same to be counterfeit, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years and shall also be liable to fine.

373. Making or possession of any instrument for counterfeiting a property mark

Whoever makes or has in his possession any die, plate or other instrument for the purpose of counterfeiting a property mark or has in his possession a property mark for the purpose of denoting

that any goods belong to a person to whom they do not belong, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

374. Making a false mark upon any receptacle containing goods

Whoever makes any false mark upon any case, package or other receptacle containing goods in a manner reasonably calculated to cause any public servant or any other person to believe that such receptacle contains goods which it does not contain or that it does not contain goods which it does contain or that the goods contained in such receptacle are of a nature or quality different from the real nature or quality thereof, shall, unless he proves that he acted without intent to defraud, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

375. Making use of any such false mark

Whoever makes use of any such false mark in any manner prohibited by Section 374 shall, unless he proves that he acted without intent to defraud, be punished as if he had committed an offence against that section.

376. Tampering with property mark

Whoever removes, destroys, defaces or adds to any property mark intending or knowing it to be likely that he may thereby cause injury to any person, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

CHAPTER XXI

Criminal Breach of Contracts of Service

377. Breach of contract of service during voyage or journey

Whoever, being bound by a lawful contract to render his personal service in conveying or conducting any person or any property from one place to another place or to act as servant to any person during a voyage or journey or to guard any person or property during the voyage or journey, voluntarily omits so to do, except in the case of illness or ill treatment, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand Naira or with both.

EXPLANATION. It is not essential to this offence that the contract should be made with the person for whom the service is to be performed. It is sufficient, if the contract is lawfully made with any person either expressly or impliedly by the person who is to perform the service.

378. Breach of contract to attend on and supply wants of helpless person

Whoever, being bound by a lawful contract to attend on or to supply the wants of any person, who by reason of youth or of unsoundness of mind or of disease or bodily weakness is helpless or incapable of providing for his own safety or of supplying his own wants, voluntarily omits so to do, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to one hundred thousand Naira or with both.

CHAPTER XXII

Offences relating to Marriage or Incest

379. Deceitfully inducing belief of lawful marriage

Every man who by deceit causes any woman who is not lawfully married to him to believe that she is lawfully married to him and to cohabit or have sexual intercourse with him in that belief, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to fine.

380. Marrying again during life-time of husband or wife

(1) Whoever having a husband or wife living marries in any case in which such marriage is void by reason of it taking place during the life of such husband or wife, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to fine.

(2) This section shall not extend-

(a) to any person whose marriage with such husband or wife has been legally dissolved; nor

(b) to any person who contracts a marriage during the life of a former husband or wife, if such husband or wife at the time of the subsequent marriage shall have been continually absent from such person for the space of seven years and shall not have been heard of by such person as being alive within that time, provided the person contracting such subsequent marriage shall, before such marriage takes place, inform the person with whom such marriage is contracted of the real state of facts so far as the same are within his or her knowledge.

381. Re-marriage with concealment of former marriage

Whoever commits the offence defined in section 380 having concealed from the person with whom the subsequent marriage is contracted the fact of the former marriage, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, community service and or be liable to fine.

382. Marriage ceremony fraudulently gone through without lawful marriage

Whoever dishonestly or with a fraudulent intention goes through the ceremony of being married knowing that he is not thereby lawfully married, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years and shall also be liable to fine.

383. Adultery

Whoever, subject to any customary law in which extra-marital sexual intercourse is recognized as a criminal offence, has sexual intercourse with a person who is not and whom he/she knows or has reason to believe is not his wife or husband, such sexual intercourse not amounting to the offence of rape, is guilty of the offence of adultery and shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

384. Enticing, taking away or detaining with criminal intent

Whoever takes or entices away any person, who is and whom he knows or has reason to believe to be the wife/husband of another,, from that person or from any person having the care of him/her on behalf of that person with intent that he/she may have illicit intercourse with any person or conceals or detains with that intent any such person, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, community service or with fine.

385. Incest

Whoever being a man has sexual intercourse with a woman who is and whom he knows or has reason to believe to be his daughter, his grand-daughter, his mother or any other of his female ascendants or descendants, his sister or the daughter of his brother or sister or his paternal or maternal aunt and whoever being a woman voluntarily permits a man who is and whom she knows or has reason to believe to be her son, her grandson, her father or any other of her male ascendants or descendants, her brother or the son of her brother or sister or her paternal or maternal uncle to have sexual intercourse with her, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to fine.

EXPLANATION. In this section words expressing relation include relatives of the half blood and relatives whose relation is not traced through a lawful marriage.

CHAPTER XXIII

Defamation

386. Defamation defined

(1) Whoever by words either spoken or reproduced by mechanical means or intended to be read or by signs or by visible representations makes or publishes any imputation concerning any person, intending to harm or knowing or having reason to believe that such imputation will harm the reputation of such person, is said, save in the cases hereinafter excepted, to defame that person.

EXPLANATION 1. It may amount to defamation to impute anything to a deceased person, if the imputation would harm the reputation of that person if living and is intended to be hurtful to the feelings of his family or other near relatives.

EXPLANATION 2. It may amount to defamation to make an imputation concerning a company or an association or collection of persons as such.

EXPLANATION 3. An imputation in the form of an alternative or expressed ironically may amount to defamation.

EXPLANATION 4. No imputation is said to harm a person's reputation, unless that imputation directly or indirectly in the estimation of others lowers the moral or intellectual character of that person or lowers the character of that person in respect of his calling or lowers the credit of that person or causes it to be believed that the body of that person is in a loathsome state or in a state generally considered as disgraceful.

(2) *Exceptions.*

It is not defamation-

(1) ***Imputation of truth which public good requires to be published*** to impute anything which is true concerning any person, if it be for the public good that the imputation should be made or

published; whether or not it is for the public good is a question of fact;

(ii) ***Public conduct of public servant***

to express in good faith any opinion whatever respecting the conduct of a public servant in the discharge of his public functions or respecting his character so far as his character appears in that conduct and no further;

(iii) ***Conduct of any person touching any public question***

to express in good faith any opinion whatever respecting the conduct of any person touching any public question and respecting his character so far as his character appears in that conduct and no further;

(iv) ***Publication of reports of proceedings of courts***

to publish a substantially true report of the proceedings of a court of justice or of the result of any such proceedings;

(v) ***Merits of case decided in court or conduct of witnesses and others concerned***

to express in good faith any opinion whatever respecting the merits of any case civil or criminal which has been decided by a court of justice or respecting the conduct of any person as a party, witness or agent in any such case or respecting the character of such person as far as his character appears in that conduct and no further;

(vi) ***Merits of public performance***

to express in good faith any opinion respecting the merits of any performance which its author has submitted to the judgment of the public or respecting the character of the author so far as his character appears in such performance and no further;

EXPLANATION. A performance may be submitted to the judgment of the public expressly or by acts on the part of the author which imply such submission to the judgment of the public.

(vii) ***Censure passed in good faith by person having lawful authority over another***

If a person having over another any authority either conferred by law or arising out of a lawful contract made with that other to pass in good faith any censure on the conduct of that other in matters to which lawful authority relates;

(viii) ***Accusation preferred in good faith to authorized person***

to prefer in good faith an accusation against any person to any of those who have lawful authority over that person with respect to the subject matter of the accusation;

(ix) ***Imputation made in good faith by person for protection of his or other's interests***

to make an imputation on the character of another, provided that the imputation be made in good faith for the protection of the interests of the person making it or of any other person or for the public good;

(x) ***Caution intended for good of person to whom conveyed or for public good***

to convey a caution in good faith to one person against another, provided that such caution be intended for the good of the person to whom it is conveyed or of some person in whom that person is interested or for the public good;

(vii) ***Censure passed in good faith by person having lawful authority over another***

If a person having over another any authority either conferred by law or arising out of a lawful contract made with that other to pass in good faith any censure on the conduct of that other in matters to which lawful authority relates;

(viii) ***Accusation preferred in good faith to authorized person***

to prefer in good faith an accusation against any person to any of those who have lawful authority over that person with respect to the subject matter of the accusation;

(ix) ***Imputation made in good faith by person for protection of his or other's interests***

to make an imputation on the character of another, provided that the imputation be made in good faith for the protection of the interests of the person making it or of any other person or for the public good;

(x) ***Caution intended for good of person to whom conveyed or for public good***

to convey a caution in good faith to one person against another, provided that such caution be intended for the good of the person to whom it is conveyed or of some person in whom that person is interested or for the public good.

387. Punishment for defamation

Whoever defames another shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

388. Injurious falsehood

Whoever, save as hereinafter excepted, by words either spoken or reproduced by mechanical means or intended to be read or by signs or by visible representations makes or publishes any false statement of fact, intending to harm or knowing or having reason to believe that such false statement of fact will harm the reputation of any person or class of persons or of the Government or of any Local Government Council in the State, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

389. Printing or engraving matter known to be defamatory

Whoever prints or engraves any matter or prepares or causes to be prepared any record for the purpose of mechanical reproduction of any matter, knowing or having good reason to believe that such matter is defamatory of any person, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

390. Sale of printed or engraved substance containing defamatory matter

Whoever sells or offers for sale any printed or engraved substance containing defamatory matter or any record prepared for the purpose of the mechanical reproduction of defamatory matter, knowing that such substance or record contains such matter, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both.

CHAPTER XXIV

Criminal Intimidation, Insult, Annoyance and Drunkenness

391. Criminal intimidation defined

Whoever threatens another with any injury to his person, reputation or property or to the person, reputation or property of anyone in whom that person is interested, with intent to cause harm to that person or to cause that person to do any act which he is not legally bound to do or to omit to do any act which that person is legally entitled to do as the means of avoiding the execution of such threat, commits criminal intimidation.

392. Punishment for criminal intimidation

Whoever commits the offence of criminal intimidation shall be punished-

(a) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both; and

(b) if the threat be to cause death or grievous hurt or to cause the destruction of any property by fire or to cause an offence punishable with death or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years or to impute unchastity to a woman, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years or with fine or with both.

393. Criminal intimidation by an anonymous communication

Whoever commits the offence of criminal intimidation by an anonymous communication or having taken precaution to conceal the name or abode of the person from whom the threat comes, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years in addition to the punishment for the offence by **section 392.**

394. Use of insulting or abusive language.

Whoever uses insulting or abusive language concerning, or otherwise conducts himself towards, any person or class or group of persons, whether such person or any member of such class or group is present or not, in a manner likely to give such provocation to any person present as to cause such last mentioned person to break the public peace or to commit any other offence, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

395. Word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman

Whoever intending to insult the modesty of any woman utters any word, makes any sound or gesture or exhibits any object, intending that such word or sound shall be heard or that such gesture or object shall be seen by such woman or intrudes upon the privacy of such woman, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

396. Intoxication in a public place

Whoever is found intoxicated in a public place or in any place by entering which he committed a trespass, shall be punished-

(a) with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine or with both; and

(b) if the person so found conducts himself in such place in a disorderly manner or is incapable of taking care of himself, with imprisonment for a term of two years or with fine or with both.

397. Intoxication in private place

Whoever being intoxicated in any private place there conducts himself in a disorderly manner to the annoyance of any person having a right to exclude him from such place or fails to leave such place when requested to do so by such person, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine or with both.

398. Taking Intoxicant

(1) Whoever prepares any intoxicant by either manufacturing, pressing, extracting, mixing, diluting or tapping whether for himself or for another; or loads intoxicant whether for himself or for another; or trades in intoxicant by buying or selling or supplying or leasing out or providing premises for the storing or preserving or consumption or advertising or otherwise dealing or handling in any way intoxicating substances in Towns and Villages commits an offence and shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine which may extend to one hundred and fifty thousand Naira or with both fine and imprisonment and in addition the intoxicant involved shall be confiscated and destroyed in public.

(2) Without prejudice to subsection (1) above, the preparation or otherwise, sale, storing, consumption or otherwise dealing in or handling alcoholic drinks is not punishable where it occurs in any of the following areas in the State:

(a) Military and Police barracks and mess.

(b) National and International Tourist Centres.

399. Effect of previous convictions under sections 396, 397 or 398

Whoever is convicted of an offence under sections 396, 397 or 398 shall, if he is shown to have been convicted of an offence under any of such sections within the previous six months, be punished-

(a) with imprisonment or fine which may extend to twice the maximum imprisonment or maximum fine prescribed for the offence of which he is convicted; and

(b) if he is shown to have been convicted of two or more such offences within the like period, then with imprisonment or fine which may extend to three times the maximum imprisonment or maximum fine aforesaid or with both.

CHAPTER XXV

Vagabonds

400. **Definitions in Chapter XXV**

In this Chapter-

(1) The term "**idle person**" shall include-

- (a) any person who being able wholly or in part to maintain himself or his family willfully neglects or refuses to do so;
- (b) any person who wanders abroad or places himself in any street or public place to get or gather alms or causes or encourages children to do so unless from age or infirmity he is unable to earn his living;
- (c) any person who has no settled home and has no visible means of subsistence and cannot give a satisfactory account of himself;
- (d) any prostitute behaving in a disorderly or indecent manner in a public place or persistently importuning or soliciting persons for the purpose of prostitution;
- (e) any person playing at any game of chance for money or money's worth in any public place;
- (f) any person who in any street or place of public resort or within sight or hearing of any person therein disturbs the peace by quarrelling or attempting to quarrel or by using any insolent, scurrilous or abusive term of reproach;
- (g) any person who in any street or place of public resort or within sight or hearing of any person therein with the intention of annoying; or
- (h) irritating any person, sings or otherwise utters any scurrilous or abusive songs or words whether any person be particularly addressed therein or not;
- (i) any person who in any street or place of public resort is guilty of any riotous, disorderly or insulting behaviour to the obstruction or annoyance

- (j) of any person lawfully using such street or place or any place in the neighborhood thereof; and
- (k) any person who in any private or enclosed place is guilty of any riotous, disorderly or insulting behaviour to the annoyance of any person lawfully using any place in the neighborhood thereof.

EXPLANATION. A nomad cannot be convicted because he has no settled home if he has either apparent means of subsistence or gives a satisfactory account of himself.

(2) The term "**vagabond**" shall include-

- (a) any person who after being convicted as an idle person commits any of the offences which would render him liable to be convicted as such again;
- (b) any person who is found in possession of housebreaking implements with intent to commit any of the offences defined in this Penal Code;
- (c) any suspected person or reputed thief who by night frequents or loiters
- (d) about any shop, warehouse, dwelling-house, dock or wharf with intent to commit any offence under Chapter XIX of this Penal Code;
- (e) any male person who knowingly lives wholly or in part on the earning of a prostitute or in any public place solicits or importunes for immoral purposes; and
- (f) any male person who dresses or is attired in the fashion of a woman in a public place or who practices sodomy as a means of livelihood or as a profession.

(3) An "**incorrigible vagabond**" shall mean any person who after being convicted as a vagabond commit any of the offences which would render him liable to be convicted as such again.

401. Penalty on conviction as idle person

Whoever is convicted as being an idle person shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend in the case of a person falling within the provisions of paragraph (a), (b), (c), (d) or (e) of subsection (1) of section 400, to three months or two months community service, and, in the case of a person falling within the provisions of paragraph (f), (g), (h) or (i) of subsection (1) of section 400, to one (1) year imprisonment or six months community service.

402. Penalty on conviction as vagabond

Whoever is convicted as being a vagabond shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to two years.

403. Penalty on conviction as incorrigible vagabond

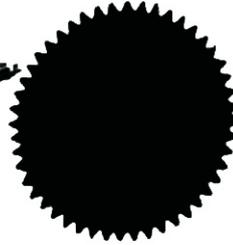
Whoever is convicted as being an incorrigible vagabond shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to three years.

404. Evidence of intent to commit an offence

For the purposes of this Chapter in proving the intent to commit an offence it shall not be necessary to show that the person suspected was guilty of any particular act tending to show this purpose or intent and he may be convicted if from the circumstances of the case and from his known character is proved to the Court before which he is brought it appears to the Court that his intent was to commit such offence.

I assented this.....^{9th}.....day of^{Dec.}.....2022


SEN. BALA A MOHAMMED, CON
Governor of Bauchi State



I withheld assent thisday of 2022

SEN. BALA A. MOHAMMED, CON
Governor of Bauchi State

I, Umar Yusuf Gital Esq. Clerk to the Legislature of Bauchi State hereby certify that this Law has been passed in accordance with **Sub-Section 3** of **Section 100** of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999. This printed impression has been carefully compared by me with the Bill, which has been passed by the Legislature and found by me to be a true and correctly printed copy of the said Bill.



Clerk to the Legislature



Reprinted By:
**Ikra Foundation for Women & Youth Development
(IFWYD)**