



**SUPPLEMENT No. 2**

TO

**THE CYPRUS GAZETTE No. 3300 OF 17TH APRIL, 1947.**

**LEGISLATION.**

**THE STATUTE LAWS OF CYPRUS**

**No. 8 OF 1947.**

**A LAW TO AMEND AND CONSOLIDATE THE LAWS RELATING TO THE REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS.**

**WINSTER.] [9th April, 1947.**

*Governor.*

**BE** it enacted by His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Cyprus as follows :—

**1.** This Law may be cited as the Births and Deaths Registration Law, 1947.

Information

Information concerning registration and other matters

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Short title.

Interpreta-  
tion.

2. In this Law, unless the context otherwise requires—  
“Registrar” means the mukhtar of the village or quarter within which the birth or death has occurred and includes his duly authorized representative :

Provided that, where in any village or quarter there is a Christian and a Moslem mukhtar, the Christian mukhtar shall be the Registrar in respect of births and deaths of all persons which belong to any community other than Moslem and the Moslem mukhtar shall be the Registrar in respect of births and deaths of all persons which belong to the Moslem community ;

“register” means the registers of births and deaths, as the case may be, kept under the provisions of this Law and includes register sheets.

### *Registration of Births.*

Information  
concerning  
birth to be  
given to  
Registrar.

3.—(1) In the case of every child born in Cyprus, whether born alive or still-born, it shall be the duty of the father or mother of the child or, in default of the father and mother, of the midwife in attendance upon the mother at the time or within six hours after birth or, in default of such midwife, of the occupier of the house or premises in which the child is born, to give to the Registrar within fifteen days next after such birth, information of the particulars required to be registered concerning the birth and, in the presence of the Registrar, to sign the register.

(2) In this section the expression “still-born” shall apply to any child which has issued forth from its mother after the twenty-eighth week of pregnancy and which did not, at any time after being completely expelled from its mother, breathe or show any other signs of life.

Information  
concerning  
new-born  
child found  
exposed.

4. If any new-born child is found exposed, it shall be the duty of any person finding the child, and of any person in whose charge the child may be placed, to give to the best of his knowledge and belief to the Registrar, within seven days after the finding of the child, such information of the particulars required to be registered concerning the birth of the child as the informant possesses and, in the presence of the Registrar, to sign the register.

Requisition  
in default  
of informa-  
tion.

5. Where, due to the omission of any person required to give information as in this Law provided, a birth has not been registered, the Registrar may, at any time after the expiration of fifteen days after the birth, require any such person to give information to the best of his knowledge and belief of the particulars required to be registered concerning

the birth and it shall be the duty of such person to comply with the requisition and, in the presence of the Registrar, to sign the register.

6. It shall be generally the duty of the Registrar to inform himself carefully of every birth which occurs within his village or quarter and, upon receiving proper information thereof, register the birth.

General duty of Registrar to ascertain and register births.

7.—(1) Where the birth of any child has been registered but such child has been registered without a name, it shall be the duty of the father or mother or guardian of the child, within six months of the date on which a name is given, to notify the necessary particulars thereof in writing to the Registrar.

Registration without name or alteration of name.

(2) Where the birth of any child has been registered and the name by which the child was registered has been altered, it shall be the duty of the father or mother or guardian of the child or of any other person procuring the name to be altered (including the child himself, if such alteration is made after he has attained the age of eighteen), within six months of the date on which the name is altered, to notify the necessary particulars thereof in writing to the Registrar.

(3) Upon notification of the particulars of a new name or the alteration of a name in accordance with the preceding sub-sections, the Registrar shall amend the register by inserting or altering the name of the child, and the insertion or alteration shall be signed by the Registrar. The person procuring the insertion or alteration shall also sign the register or else his written notification shall be annexed to the register.

(4) Upon the amendment of the register, as in sub-section (3) of this section, the Registrar shall, if the register sheets have in the meantime been forwarded to the Commissioner as in section 22 of this Law provided, give notice thereof to the Commissioner and the Commissioner shall cause the amendment to be made on the relevant register sheet.

8.—(1) In any case where a birth has not been notified within three months of its occurrence, the Registrar shall not register the birth except on production of an affidavit containing, to the best of the declarant's knowledge and belief, the particulars required to be registered concerning the birth, and unless the father or mother of the child or the declarant, in the presence of the Registrar, signs the register,

Late registration of birth.

(2) After the expiration of twelve months next after the birth of the child the Registrar shall not register such birth except with the written authority of the Commissioner and, when such authority has been given, the provisions of sub-section (1) of this section shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to this sub-section.

(3) Where registration is effected under the provisions of this section, every affidavit produced and every written authority given shall be annexed to the register and the fact shall also be recorded therein.

Illegitimate children.

9. In the case of an illegitimate child no person shall be required, as its father, to give information under this Law concerning its birth, unless at the joint request of the mother and of the person acknowledging himself to be the father of the child; and in that case such person shall sign the register together with the mother in the presence of the Registrar.

#### *Registration of Deaths.*

Certification and registration of death.

10. The death of every person dying in Cyprus and the cause of death shall be certified and registered by the Registrar in the manner in this Law provided.

Information concerning death to be given to Registrar.

11. When a person dies it shall be the duty of the relatives present at the death or in attendance during the last illness of the deceased and, in default of such relatives, of each person present at the death and of the occupier of the house in which to his knowledge the death occurred, forthwith to inform the Registrar of the death and to give him to the best of their or his knowledge and belief information of the particulars of such death:

Provided that—

(a) where the death occurs in a hospital, prison, public or religious or charitable institution, hotel or khan, the director, manager, or head of such hospital, prison or institution and the owner or manager of such hotel or khan shall be responsible for the notification of such death to the Registrar within twenty-four hours of its occurrence;

(b) where the death occurs in a public conveyance, the driver and conductor of such conveyance, or in their default any other person present at the death, shall be responsible for the notification of such death to the Registrar within twenty-four hours of its occurrence;

(c) subject to the provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b) hereof, where a person dies in a place other than a house, or a dead body is found elsewhere

than in a house, it shall be the duty of every relative of the deceased having knowledge of the death and, in default of such relative, of every person present at the death and of any person finding or taking charge of the body or otherwise having knowledge of the death, forthwith to inform the Registrar and to give him to the best of their or his knowledge and belief information of the particulars of such death.

12. Where, due to the omission of any person required to give information as in section 11 of this Law provided, a death has not been reported to the Registrar, the Registrar shall, immediately after the fact of such death or such finding of the body elsewhere than in a house has come to his knowledge, by notice in writing, call upon any person required by this Law to give information concerning the death to attend personally at the Registrar's house or office, within twenty-four hours after the receipt of the notice, and to give the said information to the best of the informant's knowledge and belief.

Requisition  
in default of  
information.

13. It shall be generally the duty of the Registrar to inform himself carefully of every death which occurs within his village or quarter.

General  
duty of  
Registrar to  
ascertain  
deaths.

14. Upon notice of a death being given to the Registrar or upon the Registrar obtaining any information regarding a death under section 12 or 13 of this Law, he shall proceed forthwith to view the body and to acquaint himself with the circumstances of the death and, if satisfied that there are no unnatural or suspicious circumstances connected with the death, issue a certificate to the effect that to the best of his knowledge and belief the death was due to natural causes and that the body may be buried forthwith.

Registrar to  
view the  
body and  
issue  
certificate.

After issuing such certificate the Registrar shall proceed forthwith to register the particulars required to be registered concerning the death in the prescribed form.

15. If the Registrar considers that no certificate should be issued under section 14 of this Law, he shall at once report the matter to the nearest police station and await instructions :

Decision of  
Registrar not  
to issue  
certificate.

Provided always that when the coroner or an officer of police not below the rank of sergeant shall have authorized an immediate interment the Registrar may, thereupon, issue his certificate without further enquiry on his part ; in such a case the Registrar shall note both on the certificate and the appropriate register sheet the authority under which he issued his certificate.