

No. 8 OF 1949.

A LAW TO CONSOLIDATE THE LAWS RELATING TO
MOSLEM RELIGIOUS TRIBUNALS.

R. E. TURNBULL,]

[22nd February, 1949.

Officer Administering the Government.

BE it enacted by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Cyprus as follows:—

Short title.

1. This Law may be cited as the Moslem Religious Tribunals Law, 1949.

PART I.—DEFINITIONS.

2. In this Law, unless the context otherwise requires— Interpre-
tation.
- “ heir under disability ” means every heir who shall not have completed the age of twenty years or is a lunatic, idiot, imbecile or otherwise mentally incapacitated from the management of his affairs or is absent from the Colony ;
- “ religious matters ” means the following matters and no others concerning persons of the Moslem faith :—
- (a) marriage ;
 - (b) divorce ;
 - (c) maintenance in relation to marriage and divorce ;
 - (d) inheritance and succession ;
 - (e) wills (vessiyet) including registration thereof ; and
 - (f) the registration of vakfihs ;
- “ Sheri Tribunal ” means a Moslem religious tribunal known as Mehkeme-i-Sherié ; and “ Sheri Judge ” means a judge of a Sheri Tribunal.

PART II.—SHERI TRIBUNALS AND SHERI JUDGES.

3. The Governor in Council may, from time to time, fix the number of the Sheri Tribunals which shall be maintained in the Colony and define, extend and vary the local limits of the jurisdiction of such tribunals. Power to
Governor in
Council to
fix number
of Sheri
Tribunals.
4. The jurisdiction of the Sheri Tribunals shall be restricted to the cognizance of religious matters concerning persons of the Moslem faith except so far as no other provision is made by any Law in force for the time being relating to the administration of Infants' Estates concerning persons of the Moslem faith. Limitation of
jurisdiction.
5. Every decision of a Sheri Tribunal shall be liable to appeal to the Supreme Court who may summon the Fetva Emini as an assessor at the hearing thereof. Appeals
from Sheri
Tribunals.
- 6.—(1) The Governor, with the advice and assistance of the Chief Justice, may from time to time by writing under the hand and official seal of the Governor and the hand of the Chief Justice make rules :— Rules.
- (a) for regulating the sittings of the Sheri Tribunals ;
 - (b) for regulating the pleading, practice and procedure of and the evidence to be admitted and taken in any of the said tribunals ;
 - (c) for regulating the qualification of persons who may be permitted to appear on behalf of parties before any such tribunals ;
 - (d) generally for regulating any matters relating to the practice and procedure of such tribunals or to the duties of any officer of such tribunals or to the