**Legislative Decree No. (3) of 1972**

**Regarding Judicial Fees[[1]](#footnote-1)**

**We, Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa, Emir of the State of Bahrain,**

Having reviewed the Emiri Decree No. (2) of 1971 regarding the Administrative Reorganization of the State,

Civil and Commercial Procedures Law No. (12) of 1971,

Announcement No. (52) of 1365 H regarding Court Fees,

Bahraini Labor Law of 1957, as amended,

And upon the proposal of the Minister of Justice,

And after approval of the Council of Ministers,

**Hereby Decreed the Following Law:**

**Chapter One**

**General Provisions**

**Article -1-**

It is not permissible to initiate any judicial procedure - before the courts - except after collecting the due fees in advance, in accordance with the fee categories indicated in the tables attached to this law, with the exception of procedures related to criminal cases.

**Article -2-**

All fees paid in connection with cases or judicial procedures, that are pending before the courts at the time of enforcing this law shall be deemed paid in full if they are paid in accordance with the applicable fee categories at the time of payment.

**Article -3-**

Without prejudice to the provisions of prescribed fees for the execution of judgments, the fees imposed shall include all judicial procedures from filing the case until the issuance and notification of the judgment

**Article -4-**

Without prejudice to the provisions of Civil and Commercial Procedures Law, the claimant shall pay the full fees of the case, appeal, or the request to perform any judicial procedures. The Cases Registration Office shall refuse to accept the case, appeal or request unless the fees are paid in full.

**Article -5-**

No fee incurred due to the application of the provisions of this Law shall be refunded.

**Subject to** the provisions of Article (197) of the Civil and Commercial Procedures Law, the fees and expenses shall be collected from the convicted person, including the expenses and fees for executing the judgment.

**Article -7-**

The fees determined by this Law shall be due on the cases filed by the state's Ministries and its Ministerial departments. The fees are also due on copies of judgments and judicial papers asked by the aforementioned authorities.

**Chapter Two**

**Case Estimation Rules**

**Article -8-**

The following rules shall be taken into consideration on estimating the case value:

1. The value of the case is essential when assessing its value.
2. The additions due on the day of filing the case shall be added to the original application.
3. Cases that need to value a property in order to obtain its estimation shall be estimated according to the documents submitted by the litigants or by a court appointed expert for this purpose. If the case relates to a usufruct right or the right to the title of the property, the value of the case shall be estimated by half value of the property.
4. Cases regarding eviction or lease termination shall be estimated on the basis of the value of the annual rent of the property.
5. Signature authenticity cases and original forgery cases are valued at the value of the rights mentioned in the paper that requires judging the validity of its signature.
6. If the case is for requesting, annulling or terminating a contract, then its value is estimated at the value of the contract, as for allowance contracts, the cases are estimated at the value of the largest allowance.
7. If the case is filed by one or more persons against one or more persons as per one legal cause, the assessment shall be based on the total case value without regards to the individual shares.

**Article -9-**

If the case is a request that cannot be assessed as per the precedent rules, it shall be considered of unknown value, unless the law stipulates otherwise.

The following cases and requests in particular are considered of unknown value:

1. Cases related to the right of the stream water, the right of passage, the right to drink, and cases of over-viewing and breach of the neighbor's privacy.
2. Requesting precautionary or temporary measures, ban on travel, request for receivership, and cases related to the validity of seizure.
3. Cases related to personal status, other than requesting alimony, financial consequences of marriage, inheritance, and validity of wills and endowments.
4. Bankruptcy cases.
5. Execution orders on unknown value of the arbitrators’ awards.
6. Cases for interpreting or correcting of the judgments.
7. Requesting ratification of a mutual consent division
8. Cases of possession restitution and restraining interference with possession.

**Chapter Three**

**Amending, Postponing and Exempting Judicial Fees[[2]](#footnote-2)**

**Article -10-[[3]](#footnote-3)**

The categories of fees are determined and modified by a decree from the Minister of Justice, upon the approval of the Council of Ministers, not exceeding (3%) of the financial case's value that exceeds three thousand Dinars. In all cases, the fees may not exceed a maximum of two hundred thousand Dinars, and the Minister of Justice, or whoever he delegates, may postpone or exempt all or part of the judicial fees for anyone proved cannot afford to pay.

**Article -11-**

The fees exemption is personal and its effect shall not pass on to the heirs of the exempted person or whoever replaces him, and they shall obtain a new exemption unless the Minister of Justice considers continuing with such exemption for the heirs.

**Article -12-**

If the exempted person was proven to be capable of paying during the course of the case, then the Minister of Justice may annul this exemption at the request of the Courts' General Registrar.

**Article -13-**

In case of the judgment was issued in favor of a fee-exempted person, the court clerk shall then prepare a list of all payable fees regarding all the procedures taken in the case and shall submit it to the Court of Execution to collect the fees from the convicted person since it is considered a privileged debt to be collected from his assets before all other debts.

**Article -14-**

Announcement No. (52) of 1365 H regarding court fees, and every provision contained in any other law whose provisions conflict with this law, shall be cancelled.

**Article -15-**

The Minister of Justice shall implement the provisions of this Law. It shall be enforced from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

**The Emir of the State of Bahrain**

**Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa**

**Issued in the Riffa Palace**

**Date: 23 Muharram 1392 H**

**Corresponding to: 9 March 1972**

**Fee Tables[[4]](#footnote-4)**

**Table No. (1)**

**First: Estimating the case fees**

1. **Proportional Fees:** In known value cases, a proportional fee shall be imposed from the value of the amounts requested for ruling in accordance with the percentages specified in Table No. (2) so that the fee does not exceed two thousand Dinars. All fifty fils fractions contained in the original fee charged, according to the value, shall be considered fifty fils and shall be collected on this basis.
2. **Fixed Fees:** With the exception of personal status cases related to family, bankruptcy, and dividing common property, a fixed fee of ten Dinars shall be imposed in cases of unknown value.
3. **Additional Fees:** In addition to the fees stipulated in preceding paragraphs (1) and (2), an additional fee of 300 fils shall be imposed on statement of claim, appeal, or request, and another 300 fils as a fee for serving summons.

**Second: Method of Estimating Fees**

**1- Fees in the Case of Modifying Requests**

1. If the request in the case of unknown value was modified during its progress to a request of known value case or vice versa, and a preliminary or final judgment in the case had not been previously issued in a subsidiary matter, then the larger fee of the proportional fee or the fixed fee shall be imposed.
2. If, prior to the amendment, a definitive judgment was issued in a matter, with the exception of issues of jurisdiction or a preliminary judgment on the subject matter, then a new fee shall be imposed on the request.

**2- Fees in the Case of Multiple Requests**

1. If a single case includes several requests of known value arising from one document or one legal reason, then the fee shall be estimated with consideration to the group of requests.
2. If they are arising from different legal documents or causes of action, then the fee is estimated with consideration to each document or cause separately.
3. If the case includes requests of unknown value, the fee shall be taken on each of them independently, unless there is a connection between them that combines them in a single request. In such case, one fee shall be due for these requests.
4. If some of the case requests are of known value and others are unknown, the fee shall be imposed on each request, unless these requests are all based on one legal reason, then the larger of the two fees shall be taken.
5. In the event that there are dependent requests to some of the original requests, then the larger fee shall be due.
6. The additional requests shall be added to the original requests, and the fee shall be calculated on the total of them.
7. The fees collected for interlocutory cases and counter cases presented by the defendant shall be the same fees collected as if they were the subject of a single case.
8. If a person involved in the case joined the claimant and has separate requests, then a fee shall be applicable on for these requests.

**3- Fees Regarding Personal Status Cases Related to Family Rights**

1. A fixed fee of two Dinars is applicable regarding personal status cases related to family rights.

**4- Fees Regarding Bankruptcy Cases**

1. A fixed fee of ten Dinars is applicable in bankruptcy cases or in preventative settlement requests. This fee includes judicial procedures until either the end of the bankruptcy or preventive composition procedures.
2. With regards to distributing the bankrupt person’s assets among the creditors, in addition to the amounts pledged to be paid by the debtor in the settlement contract, a determined proportional fee shall be applicable on the total sum.

**5- Fees on Cases Related to the Division of Common Funds**

1. A fixed fee of ten Dinars is applicable on requests for approval of partition by mutual consent.
2. Proportion of the fees are reduced to one-fourth on division cases between partners in case a dispute arises between them regarding the division of common funds.

**6- Fees Regarding Inheritance**

1. A fixed fee of two Dinars is applicable for opening an Inheritance Dossier file of the deceased if the application was submitted by the heirs or by any other government agency.
2. A fixed fee of one Dinar is applicable regarding each of the following requests:
   1. Requesting seals on the inheritance assets and its inventory and requesting to lift the stamps.
   2. Requesting the appointment of an inheritance trustee dismissing him, or replacing him, and appointing the estate administrators, or confirming or appointing will executors.
3. With regards to the net estate, a proportional fee reduced to a quarter, estimated on the basis of its value shall be applicable, and the fees are collected before distributing the estate inheritance to the heirs.

**7- Case Fees Related to a Will or Endowment**

The proportionate fees are reduced by half in the following cases:

1. Cases related to the validity or invalidity of the will, given the value of the inherited estate.
2. Cases related to the validity or invalidity of the endowment, given the value claimed.

**8- Fees for Appealing of judgments**

1. Fees shall be reduced to a quarter in the following cases:
2. Objection to the judgment in absentia.
3. The objection of a person from outside the dispute regarding a judgment issued in its regard.
4. Appealing of the judgment; and the fee shall be completed if the Court of Appeal issues a judgment regarding the case, but if the judgment was issued by the Court of Execution, then a fixed fee of five dinars shall be applicable for its appeal.
5. A fixed fee of five Dinars is applicable regarding the request to reconsider the case, and if the court issues a decision on the matter, then the fee due it its regard shall be completed.

**9- Fees for Returning to a Case**

1. A fixed fee of three Dinars shall be applicable in the event of returning to the case after the judgment has been passed to drop it, provided that its subject matter or litigation parties do not change.
2. A new fee shall be applicable if the case is returned after a judgment g had been issued considering it void.
3. A new fee shall be applicable if the case is returned to after a judgment had been issued dismissing the dispute or returning to the case after a judgment had been issued to discontinue the dispute.

**10- Fees on Copies of Judgments and Judicial Papers**

1. A fixed fee of five hundred fils shall be charged for each copy of judgment included in the executive form, other than that, a fixed fee of 750 fils shall be charged for each of copy of judgments authorized to be given to the concerned parties.
2. A fixed fee of two hundred fils shall be charged for each sheet of court session minutes, execution minutes, testimonies, reports of experts, minutes of their work, inventory minutes, notification papers, copies of judgment announcements, minutes of seizure and other case papers.

**11- Fees on Arbitrators’ Awards**

1. A proportional fee of (1/4) % of the amount awarded by arbitrators shall be imposed for a request to enforce the arbitration award in accordance with the provisions of Article (241) of the Civil and Commercial Procedures.
2. A Proportional fee to the claimed amounts shall be imposed on requests to nullify the arbitrators’ final award in the cases stipulated in Article (243) of the Civil and Commercial Procedures Law.

**12- Fees for Requesting the Execution of Judgments and Orders Issued in a Foreign Country**

Requesting the execution of judgments and orders issued in a foreign country in accordance with the provisions of Article (252) of the Civil and Commercial Procedures Law shall be charged a proportional fee of 1% of the value of the amounts awarded or fixed in the bond.

**13- Execution Fee**

A fixed fee of one Dinar shall be applicable on applications submitted to the Court of Execution and that related to the implementation of:

1. Judgments and decrees issued by courts of all kinds and degrees.
2. Arbitral awards included in the executive version of the competent court.
3. Official documents included in the executive version.
4. Judgments and decrees issued in a foreign country.

E - Official documents issued in a foreign country.

**14- Fees for Disputes Before the Special Court**

A fixed fee of five Dinars shall be applicable on disputes filed before the Special Court under Article (23) of the Regulation of the Judiciary.

**15- Fees for Civil Cases in Criminal Matters**

The provisions of judicial fees and the categories specified therein shall apply to civil cases filed before the criminal courts, taking into consideration the following:

1. The civil rights litigator shall pay the due fee in advance as soon as he submits his case.
2. If the criminal court refers the litigants to the competent civil court or reject proceeding of the case before the criminal courts, then no fee shall be charged once again upon presenting the case before the civil court.

**16- Fees for Labor Cases**

Subject to Article (13) of the Judicial Fees Law, labor cases filed by the worker against the employer shall be exempted from the fees.

**Table No. (2)**

**Defining the Proportional Fee Categories**

| **If the amount or value exceeds** | | **Not exceed** | | **Due fee** | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Dinar** | **Fils** | **Dinar** | **Fils** | **Dinar** | **Fils** |
| - | - | - | 500 | - | 040 |
| - | 500 | 1 | - | - | 075 |
| 1 | - | 1 | 500 | - | 115 |
| 1 | 500 | 2 | - | - | 150 |
| 2 | - | 2 | 500 | - | 190 |
| 2 | 500 | 3 | - | - | 225 |
| 3 | - | 3 | 500 | - | 265 |
| 3 | 500 | 4 | - | - | 300 |
| 4 | - | 4 | 500 | - | 340 |
| 4 | 500 | 5 | - | - | 375 |
| 5 | - | 5 | 500 | - | 415 |
| 6 | 500 | 7 | - | - | 525 |
| 7 | - | 7 | 500 | - | 565 |
| 7 | 500 | 8 | - | - | 600 |
| 8 | - | 8 | 500 | - | 640 |
| 8 | 500 | 9 | - | - | 675 |
| 9 | - | 9 | 500 | - | 715 |
| 9 | 500 | 10 | - | - | 750 |
| 10 | - | 11 | - | - | 825 |
| 11 | - | 12 | - | - | 900 |
| 12 | - | 13 | - | - | 975 |
| 13 | - | 14 | - | 1 | 050 |
| 14 | - | 15 | - | 1 | 125 |
| 15 | - | 16 | - | 1 | 200 |
| 16 | - | 17 | - | 1 | 275 |
| 19 | - | 20 | - | 1 | 500 |
| 20 | - | 21 | - | 1 | 575 |
| 21 | - | 22 | - | 1 | 650 |
| 22 | - | 23 | - | 1 | 725 |
| 23 | - | 24 | - | 1 | 800 |
| 24 | - | 25 | - | 1 | 875 |
| 25 | - | 26 | - | 1 | 950 |
| 26 | - | 27 | - | 2 | 025 |
| 27 | - | 28 | - | 2 | 100 |
| 28 | - | 29 | - | 2 | 175 |
| 29 | - | 30 | - | 2 | 250 |
| 30 | - | 31 | - | 2 | 325 |
| 31 | - | 32 | - | 2 | 400 |
| 32 | - | 33 | - | 2 | 475 |
| 33 | - | 34 | - | 2 | 550 |
| 34 | - | 35 | - | 2 | 625 |
| 35 | - | 36 | - | 2 | 700 |
| 36 | - | 37 | - | 2 | 775 |
| 37 | - | 37 | - | 2 | 850 |
| 38 | - | 39 | - | 2 | 925 |
| 39 | - | 40 | - | 3 | - |
| 40 | - | 41 | - | 3 | 075 |
| 41 | - | 42 | - | 3 | 150 |
| 42 | - | 43 | - | 3 | 225 |
| 43 | - | 44 | - | 3 | 300 |
| 44 | - | 45 | - | 3 | 375 |
| 45 | - | 46 | - | 3 | 450 |
| 46 | - | 47 | - | 3 | 525 |
| 47 | - | 48 | - | 3 | 600 |
| 48 | - | 49 | - | 3 | 675 |
| 49 | - | 50 | - | 3 | 750 |
| 50 | - | 51 | - | 3 | 825 |
| 51 | - | 52 | - | 3 | 900 |
| 52 | - | 53 | - | 3 | 975 |
| 53 | - | 54 | - | 4 | 050 |
| 54 | - | 55 | - | 4 | 125 |
| 55 | - | 56 | - | 4 | 200 |
| 56 | - | 57 | - | 4 | 275 |
| 57 | - | 58 | - | 4 | 350 |
| 58 | - | 59 | - | 4 | 425 |
| 59 | - | 60 | - | 4 | 500 |
| 60 | - | 61 | - | 4 | 575 |
| 61 | - | 62 | - | 4 | 650 |
| 62 | - | 63 | - | 4 | 725 |
| 63 | - | 64 | - | 4 | 800 |
| 64 | - | 65 | - | 4 | 875 |
| 65 | - | 66 | - | 4 | 950 |
| 66 | - | 67 | - | 5 | 025 |
| 67 | - | 68 | - | 5 | 100 |
| 68 | - | 69 | - | 5 | 175 |
| 69 | - | 70 | - | 5 | 250 |
| 70 | - | 71 | - | 5 | 325 |
| 71 | - | 72 | - | 5 | 400 |
| 72 | - | 73 | - | 5 | 475 |
| 73 | - | 74 | - | 5 | 550 |
| 74 | - | 75 | - | 5 | 625 |
| 75 | - | 76 | - | 5 | 700 |
| 76 | - | 77 | - | 5 | 775 |
| 77 | - | 78 | - | 5 | 850 |
| 78 | - | 79 | - | 5 | 925 |
| 79 | - | 80 | - | 6 | - |
| 80 | - | 81 | - | 6 | 075 |
| 81 | - | 82 | - | 6 | 150 |
| 82 | - | 83 | - | 6 | 225 |
| 83 | - | 84 | - | 6 | 300 |
| 84 | - | 85 | - | 6 | 375 |
| 85 | - | 86 | - | 6 | 450 |
| 86 | - | 87 | - | 6 | 525 |
| 87 | - | 88 | - | 6 | 600 |
| 88 | - | 89 | - | 6 | 675 |
| 89 | - | 90 | - | 6 | 750 |
| 90 | - | 91 | - | 6 | 825 |
| 91 | - | 92 | - | 6 | 900 |
| 92 | - | 93 | - | 6 | 975 |
| 93 | - | 94 | - | 7 | 050 |
| 94 | - | 95 | - | 7 | 125 |
| 95 | - | 96 | - | 7 | 200 |
| 96 | - | 97 | - | 7 | 275 |
| 97 | - | 98 | - | 7 | 350 |
| 98 | - | 99 | - | 7 | 425 |
| 99 | - | 100 | - | 7 | 500 |
| 100 | - | 110 | - | 10 | - |
| 110 | - | 120 | - | 10 | 500 |
| 120 | - | 130 | - | 11 | - |
| 130 | - | 140 | - | 11 | 500 |
| 140 | - | 150 | - | 12 | - |
| 150 | - | 160 | - | 12 | 500 |
| 160 | - | 170 | - | 13 | - |
| 170 | - | 180 | - | 13 | 500 |
| 180 | - | 190 | - | 14 | - |
| 190 | - | 200 | - | 14 | 500 |
| 200 | - | 210 | - | 16 | - |
| 210 | - | 220 | - | 16 | 500 |
| 220 | - | 230 | - | 17 | - |
| 230 | - | 240 | - | 17 | 500 |
| 240 | - | 250 | - | 18 | - |
| 250 | - | 260 | - | 18 | 500 |
| 260 | - | 270 | - | 19 | - |
| 270 | - | 280 | - | 19 | 500 |
| 280 | - | 290 | - | 20 | - |
| 290 | - | 300 | - | 20 | 500 |
| 300 | - | 310 | - | 21 | - |
| 310 | - | 320 | - | 21 | 500 |
| 320 | - | 330 | - | 22 | - |
| 330 | - | 340 | - | 22 | 500 |
| 340 | - | 350 | - | 23 | - |
| 350 | - | 360 | - | 23 | 500 |
| 360 | - | 370 | - | 24 | - |
| 370 | - | 380 | - | 24 | 500 |
| 380 | - | 390 | - | 25 | - |
| 390 | - | 400 | - | 25 | 500 |
| 400 | - | 410 | - | 27 | - |
| 410 | - | 420 | - | 27 | 500 |
| 420 | - | 430 | - | 28 | - |
| 430 | - | 440 | - | 28 | 500 |
| 440 | - | 450 | - | 29 | - |
| 450 | - | 460 | - | 29 | 500 |
| 460 | - | 470 | - | 30 | - |
| 470 | - | 480 | - | 30 | 500 |
| 480 | - | 490 | - | 31 | - |
| 490 | - | 500 | - | 31 | 500 |
| 500 | - | 525 | - | 33 | - |
| 525 | - | 550 | - | 34 | 500 |
| 550 | - | 575 | - | 36 | - |
| 575 | - | 600 | - | 37 | 500 |
| 600 | - | 625 | - | 41 | - |
| 625 | - | 650 | - | 41 | 500 |
| 650 | - | 675 | - | 44 | - |
| 675 | - | 700 | - | 45 | 500 |
| 700 | - | 725 | - | 47 | - |
| 725 | - | 750 | - | 48 | 500 |
| 750 | - | 775 | - | 50 | - |
| 775 | - | 800 | - | 51 | 500 |
| 800 | - | 825 | - | 55 | - |
| 825 | - | 850 | - | 56 | 500 |
| 850 | - | 875 | - | 58 | - |
| 875 | - | 900 | - | 59 | 500 |
| 900 | - | 925 | - | 61 | - |
| 925 | - | 950 | - | 62 | 500 |
| 950 | - | 975 | - | 64 | - |
| 975 | - | 1000 | - | 65 | 500 |
| 1000 | - | 1050 | - | 69 | 750 |
| 1050 | - | 1100 | - | 72 | - |
| 1100 | - | 1150 | - | 74 | 250 |
| 1150 | - | 1200 | - | 76 | 500 |
| 1200 | - | 1250 | - | 78 | 750 |
| 1250 | - | 1300 | - | 81 | - |
| 1300 | - | 1350 | - | 83 | 250 |
| 1350 | - | 1400 | - | 85 | 500 |
| 1400 | - | 1450 | - | 89 | 750 |
| 1450 | - | 1500 | - | 92 | - |
| 1500 | - | 1550 | - | 94 | 250 |
| 1550 | - | 1600 | - | 96 | 500 |
| 1600 | - | 1650 | - | 100 | 750 |
| 1650 | - | 1700 | - | 103 | - |
| 1700 | - | 1750 | - | 105 | 250 |
| 1750 | - | 1800 | - | 107 | 500 |
| 1800 | - | 1850 | - | 111 | 750 |
| 1850 | - | 1900 | - | 114 | - |
| 1900 | - | 1950 | - | 116 | 250 |
| 1950 | - | 2000 | - | 118 | 500 |
| 2000 | - | 2100 | - | 123 | 500 |
| 2100 | - | 2200 | - | 126 | 500 |
| 2200 | - | 2300 | - | 129 | 500 |
| 2300 | - | 2400 | - | 132 | 500 |
| 2400 | - | 2500 | - | 137 | 500 |
| 2500 | - | 2600 | - | 140 | 500 |
| 2600 | - | 2700 | - | 145 | 500 |
| 2700 | - | 2800 | - | 148 | 500 |
| 2800 | - | 2900 | - | 153 | 500 |
| 2900 | - | 3000 | - | 156 | 500 |
| 3000 | - | 3200 | - | 161 | 500 |
| 3200 | - | 3400 | - | 164 | 500 |
| 3400 | - | 3600 | - | 167 | 500 |
| 3600 | - | 3800 | - | 172 | 500 |
| 3800 | - | 4000 | - | 175 | 500 |
| 4000 | - | 4200 | - | 180 | 500 |
| 4200 | - | 4400 | - | 183 | 500 |
| 4400 | - | 4600 | - | 188 | 500 |
| 4600 | - | 4800 | - | 191 | 500 |
| 4800 | - | 5000 | - | 194 | 500 |

If the value of the case exceeds five thousand Dinars, a fee of five Dinars shall be applicable for every additional five hundred Dinars or part thereof.

1. This is an unofficial translation and in the event of any conflict or discrepancy between the English text and the Arabic text, the Arabic text shall prevail. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The title of chapter three (Amending and Exempting Judicial Fees) shall be replaced by the following title (Amending, Postponing and Exempting Judicial Fees) in accordance with Law No. (24) of 2016 regarding amending some provisions of Legislative Decree No. (3) of 1972 regarding Judicial Fees. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Replaced in accordance with Law No. (24) of 2016 regarding amending some provisions of Legislative Decree No. (3) of 1972 regarding Judicial Fees. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. The attached table was replaced in accordance with Legislative Decree No. (9) of 1983 regarding amending the fee tables attached to Legislative Decree No. (3) of 1972 regarding Judicial Fees. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)