



# Official Gazette of Iraq

## Official languages law

No. (7) Of 2014

قانون اللغات الرسمية

Translated in  
Ministry Of Justice  
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Translation department  
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In the name of the people

Presidency of republic

In accordance with what the parliament had decided pursuant to provisions of item (First) of the article (61) of constitution, and due to the passage of the legal period which stipulated in provision (Third) of the article (73) of constitution;

The following law was issued:

### **Law No (7) of 2014**

### **Official languages law**

#### **Article 1**

First: Official language is the language which adopted by the state in speaking, expressing ,official addressing, banknotes, stamps and official documents in all what related to state affairs inside and outside and other fields.

Second: Local official language is the language which its usages restricted in administrative units and whose speakers form a population density.

#### **Article 2**

This law aims to:

First: Ensuring the respect for the constitution and its activation by organizing the usages of the official languages in republic of Iraq.

Second: Spreading the linguistic knowledge in order to bring the Iraqi sects together and strengthening and deepening the national and human principles.



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Third: Creating the spirit of pride of the mother language.

Fourth: Ensuring the equality between Arabic and Kurdish languages in rights and privileges in terms of using them in federal institutions.

Fifth: Supporting and developing two languages Arabic and Kurdish and other Iraqi languages as Turcoman, Syrian, Armenian, and Mandaeen Sabena.

### Article 3

Arabic and Kurdish languages shall be the official ones in Iraq.

### Article 4

The Official gazette shall be issued in Arabic and Kurdish languages.

### Article 5

The Arabic and Kurdish languages shall be used in the official meetings, the parliament, the presidency, the federal cabinet, the supreme judicial council, other federal bodies and institutions and official meetings in Kurdistan province and its parliament, presidency and government.

### Article 6

Speaking, addressing and expressing in the official fields between the federal authorities and Kurdistan province authorities shall be in the Arabic and Kurdish languages.

### Article 7

Documents and correspondences issued in the two official languages mentioned above shall be adopted by the federal authorities and the authorities of Kurdistan region.



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### Article 8

Schools for all stages for teaching in Arabic, Kurdish, Turcoman, Syrian or Armenian languages in the state educational institutes or any other languages in the private educational institutes in accordance with the educational disciplines may be opened.

### Article 9

The Arabic and Kurdish languages shall be used in the following:

First: Issuing the currency.

Second: Passports, traffic signs and signs that refer to the federal state ministries and departments and Kurdistan region.

Third: Issuing the financial and postal stamps.

### Article 10

Turcoman and Syrian languages shall be the two official languages in the administrative units in which the Turkmen or Syrians are densely populated.

### Article 11

Each province or governorate may take any other local language as an additional official if the majority of its inhabitants approve this by a referendum.

### Article 12

First: Every Iraqi or foreign citizen may teach his/ her children his/ her mother language.

Secondly: Every Iraqi sect may establish colleges or institutes and cultural centers or scientific institutes serving the development of language, culture and heritage.



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### Article 13

Iraqi scientific institute and Kurdish academy shall be the adopted reference for the interpretation of terms and words in case of disagreement.

### Article 14

Violator of the provisions of this law shall be treated as follows:

First: Disciplinary penalties shall be applied to him/ her if he/ she is an employee.

Second: Person not employee shall be warned to remove the violation within (15) fifteen days. If he fails to do so, he/ she shall be punished by a fine not less than (50,000) fifty thousand Iraqi Dinars for each day in which he/ she fails to remove the violation.

Third: Every prejudiced person may initiate criminal proceedings in case of the violation of the provisions of this law.

### Article 15

A higher committee shall be formed in order to follow up the implementation of this law. This committee shall be headed by a representative of the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers, a representative of the Kurdistan Regional Council and a representative of the General Secretariat of the parliament, assisted by a specialized committee composed of linguists, academics, representatives of Turkmen, Syrians, Armenians and Mandaeans, and it may add a representative from any other Iraqi language.

### Article 16

Tasks and quorum of the committee stipulated in article (15) of this law shall be determined by instructions issued by the prime minister.



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### Article 17

Council of ministers may issue instructions to facilitate the implementation provisions of this law.

### Article 18

This law shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall be implemented (90) days after the date of its publication.