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**Decree No. (20) of 2000 promulgating the National Guard Law**

We, Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, Emir of the State of Bahrain.

Having reviewed the Constitution,

Emiri Order No. (4) of 1975;

Military Code of 1968;

Legislative Decree No. (24) of 1973 establishing the Supreme Defence Council, as amended;

Law No. (13) of 1975 regarding the Regulation of Pensions and Retirement Gratuities for Government Employees, as amended;

Law on regulation of Pensions and Retirement Gratuities for Officers and Personnel of the Bahrain Defence Force and Public Security, promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (11) of 1976, as amended;

Legislative Decree No. (19) of 1976 regarding accolades, as amended;

Law of Service of Officers in the Bahrain Defence Force promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (16) of 1977, as amended;

Law of Service of individuals in the Bahrain Defence Force promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (23) of 1979, as amended;

Legislative Decree No. (27) of 1981 regarding Martial Law;

Legislative Decree No. (3) of 1982 regarding the Public Security Forces, as amended;

Legislative Decree No. (5) of 1987 regarding the Reserve Force;

Legislative Decree No. (9) of 1989 regarding the Bahrain Defence Force, as amended;

Legislative Decree No. (5) of 1990 regarding Civil Defence;

Emiri Order No. (4) of 1987 regarding the Military Medical Committees regulation;

Emiri Order No. (1) of 1997 establishing and forming the National Guard;

And Emiri Order No. (2) of 1997 appointing the Chief of the National Guard;

And upon the submission of the Chief of the National Guard,

And after consulting the Shura Council,

And after the approval of the Council of Ministers,

**Hereby Decree the following Law:**

**Article One**

The provisions of the attached National Guard Law shall be implemented.

**Article Two**

The Chief of the National Guard issues regulations, decisions, rules, and instructions that regulate the affairs of the National Guard, and define the duties and responsibilities of its various departments.

**Article Three**

The Prime Minister, the Commander-in-Chief of the Bahrain Defence Force, the ministers, and the Chief of the National Guard - each in his capacity - must implement this law, and it shall come into effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

**Emir of the State of Bahrain**

**Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa,**

**Issued in Riffa Palace:**

**20 Rabi al-thani 1421 A.H.**

**Corresponding to 22 July 2000**

**National Guard Law**

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**Part One**

**Principles, formation and specialisations of the National Guard**

**Chapter One**

**Definitions**

**Article (1)**

The following words and expressions shall have the meanings and definitions indicated next to each of them unless the context requires otherwise:

**The State:**

State of Bahrain

**Supreme Commander:**

His Highness, Emir of the State of Bahrain.

**President:**

Chief of the National Guard.

**Presidency:**

Presidency of the National Guard.

**Vice President:**

Deputy Chief of the National Guard.

**Officer:**

Holding the rank of officer under an Emiri order.

**Officer Candidate:**

Whoever is selected as a trainee or military student in any academic or professional military educational institution or facility to work in the National Guard at the rank of officer or at a civilian rank as a specialist or technician.

**Individual:**

Anyone who joins the National Guard in a military or civilian capacity other than an officer.

**Non-Commissioned Officer**

Those whose rank is below the rank of lieutenant and higher than the rank of corporal.

**Soldier:**

Whose rank is lower than that of sergeant.

**Trained Individual:**

Whoever is selected as a trainee in training and formation centres, in order to work after graduation in the National Guard as an individual.

**Civil Scholarship:**

Whoever is selected as a civilian student in any civil, academic or vocational educational institution or facility to work after graduating from the National Guard with the rank of officer or with a civilian rank as a specialist or technician.

**Specialist or Technician:**

Holder of experience or a specialist or technical qualification, whether an officer or an individual.

**Medical Committee:**

Military medical committee.

**Exceptional Cases:**

The state of war service, the state of mobilisation, the state of martial law, and the state of internal emergency in the National Guard shall be determined by the President.

**Military Service Status:**

The situation in which the National Guard or a section of it is present or about to carry out a military mission to defend the nation and protect its security and territorial integrity.

**Mobilisation Condition:**

Readying the state's human and material forces and preparing it for the purpose of transforming it from a state of peace to a state of war or a state of martial law. The mobilisation is general and may be partial.

**Martial Law Situation:**

The state of the country moving from peace to exceptional measures when an external or internal danger is expected to threaten the safety and security of the country.

**Emergency decision:**

It is the decision promulgated by the Chief of the National Guard for all or some of the National Guard units to confront or prepare for unusual situations, whether these cases are inside or outside the country.

**Chapter Two**

**Formation of the National Guard**

**Article (2)**

The National Guard is an independent, regular armed military force. The National Guard is considered the military depth of the Bahrain Defence Force and a security shield for the Public Security Forces in defending and protecting the nation and preserving its security and territorial integrity.

**Article (3)**

His Highness the Emir of Bahrain is the Supreme Commander of the National Guard.

**Article (4)**

The National Guard shall have a chief appointed by an Emiri order, who shall assume its presidency and command, and work to achieve its objectives. He may submit proposals for laws and decrees related to the National Guard to take the necessary action in this regard.

**Article (5)**

The Chief of the National Guard reports directly to the Supreme Commander, implements his orders and instructions, and takes his directives and instructions.

**Article (6)**

The National Guard shall have a Vice-President, who assumes the duties of the President in the leadership of the National Guard, exercises the powers conferred on him by law, regulations, and rules, and replaces the President during his absence, and his appointment shall be by Emiri order.

**Article (7)**

The National Guard consists of various military units. An Emiri order shall issue its establishment, name, and determination of its flags.

The National Guard will have an organisational structure, which includes a definition of the administrative bodies and their functions, and a decision shall be issued by the President.

**Article (8)**

The National Guard shall have a headquarters, called the Presidency, through which the President shall carry out his duties and powers.

**Article (9)**

The Chief of the National Guard must coordinate joint tasks between the National Guard, the Bahrain Defence Force, and the Ministry of Interior.

**Article (10)**

The National Guard exercises its functions in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, this Law, and the regulations, rules, and decisions promulgated in implementation thereof.

**Article (11)**

A council shall be formed in the National Guard, to be called (the Presidency Council of the National Guard), chaired by the president. Its membership includes the vice president and five senior officers and officials concerned with operations, administration, security, supply and advisory affairs. A decision of the president is issued for the formation of the council and its work regulation.

The President may invite to Council meetings whomever he deems appropriate, whether officers or officials in the National Guard, when he deems there is an interest in doing so.

**Article (12)**

In the absence of the Chairman of the National Guard Presidency Council, the Vice-President shall replace him. In the event that the position of Vice-President is vacant, the highest-ranking member shall assume the presidency of the Council. In the event of the absence of one of the members other than those appointed personally, he shall be replaced by the person appointed to carry out his work.

Before his absence, the President must specify the matters that he deems necessary for his approval in person.

**Article (13)**

A committee shall be formed in the Presidency called (the Military Operations Committee), which shall develop precautionary military plans, in light of the latest internal and external security situations in the country. It shall also study the methods and methods by which any developments in the security situation can be confronted immediately, and any other topics referred to it.

A decision shall be issued by the President to form the committee and determine its powers.

**Article (14)**

The National Guard moves from the ordinary state to the exceptional state in the following cases:

a) The case of Military service.

b) The case of declaring mobilisation.

c) The case of declaring martial law.

d) The case of Internal emergency in the National Guard.

**Article (15)**

The Chief of the National Guard shall call the Military Operations Committee to convene, whenever there is an exceptional case stipulated in Paragraphs A, B, and C of the previous article of this law.

He also invites them to convene at any time, if he deems it necessary.

**Article (16)**

The Presidency Council of the National Guard is responsible for assisting the President in studying tactical, organisational, administrative and financial plans, as well as issues referred to it by the President, in particular:

a) Issues related to legal and judicial affairs, and everything related to regulations and contracts.

b) The security situation and its evaluation.

c) Logistics, processing and supply affairs.

d) Main buildings and facilities and their maintenance.

e) Suggestions submitted regarding the development of performance, the proper functioning of work, and proposing methods for dealing with general problems.

**Chapter Three**

**The Main Committees in the National Guard and their Powers**

**Article (17)**

A committee for officers shall be formed in the National Guard, to be called (the Supreme Committee for National Guard Officers).

**Article (18)**

The Higher Committee for National Guard Officers consists of a chairman and members, as follows:

Chief of the National Guard.

Deputy Chief of the National Guard.

Three members are senior officers specialised in operations, security, and administration, and two members are officers, whose appointment decision shall be issued by the Chief of the National Guard. One of them shall be the Secretary, and their term of membership in the committee shall be two years, subject to renewal.

**Article (19)**

The Supreme Committee for National Guard Officers is responsible for researching and considering the following matters:

a) General officer affairs, such as appointment, promotion, transfer, delegation, assignment, secondment, resignation, referral to retirement, termination of service, and call-up of retired officers.

b) Leadership and administrative appointments for key and important posts and positions.

c) Determination and restitution of seniority.

d) Considering matters related to the courses and studies of officers in universities, colleges, institutes, and military and civil educational establishments.

e) Any matters or actions related to officers’ affairs that the Chief of the National Guard refers to the committee.

**Article (20)**

The committee's recommendations that require the issuance of an Emiri order shall not be implemented except after its issuance, and other recommendations shall not be implemented except after ratification by the President.

**Article (21)**

When researching and considering the matter of dispensing with the services of an officer for some reason, he shall be notified in writing by the committee of what is attributed to him, and he must submit his defence in writing within fifteen days from the date of being informed of it.

The committee may appoint one or more members to discuss it and hear its defence verbally, before expressing an opinion and final recommendation on its matter.

**Article (22)**

The committee may summon the officer’s commander or his senior official to seek guidance from his opinion on the matter.

**Article (23)**

The committee's deliberations, opinions and recommendations are confidential, and may not be announced or disclosed except after the issuance of the Emiri order or the decision of the president.

**Article (24)**

A committee specialising in personnel affairs is formed in the National Guard, called the (Personnel Affairs Committee).

**Article (25)**

The Chief of the National Guard appoints the head and members of the Personnel Affairs Committee, provided that among its members are specialists in administrative, financial and legal affairs.

**Article (26)**

The Personnel Affairs Committee is specialised in researching and considering the following matters:

a) Nominating the head and members of the Recruitment and Employment Committee, which shall be formed by a decision from the Chairman.

b) Discussing issues, matters and proposals submitted by the Recruitment and Employment Committee and making decisions and recommendations regarding them.

c) Study and discuss issues related to promotions, transfers, secondments, resignations, referrals to retirement, dismissals from service, and recalling those whose services have been terminated to service in the legally prescribed cases.

d) Study and research issues that concern individuals and are submitted to the committee by the administrative authority responsible for individual affairs, or raised by a member of the committee, or referred by the Chairman to the committee.

**Article (27)**

The committee's deliberations, opinions, and recommendations are confidential, and may not be announced or authorised, except after taking the relevant legal procedures.

**Article (28)**

A committee shall be formed in the National Guard concerned with military courses and academic studies for officers and individuals, called (the Courses and Studies Committee).

**Article (29)**

The Courses and Studies Committee consists of a chairman and members whose number is determined and appointed by the Chief of the National Guard, provided that among its members are specialists in training, administrative and legal affairs.

**Article (30)**

The main administrative units and bodies in the National Guard prepare an annual training plan for the courses and studies of its officers and personnel inside and outside the country, according to a form prepared for this purpose that includes a summary of the plan and its objective, indicating the numbers, names, type of courses, their duration and any related information, and sending them to the authority concerned with training affairs in order to study it according to the circumstances and capabilities available to it, and to express an opinion on it, and then submit it to the Courses and Studies Committee, which submits its recommendations to the Higher Committee for National Guard Officers to take decisions in their regard.

**Article (31)**

The administrative units and bodies may, in special cases, send necessary requests for courses and studies that were not included in the annual training plan, to the Courses and Studies Committee through the authority concerned with training affairs, in order to take action in this regard.

**Article (32)**

The authority responsible for training affairs shall study the requests sent to it related to courses and studies for officers or individuals, if they are short or inexpensive, in order to obtain and increase information, as well as non-compulsory courses and studies, in order to make the appropriate decision on its part.

**Article (33)**

Whoever is sent to a course or study to receive knowledge or training, at the expense or sponsorship of the National Guard, is required to serve an additional period of four times the duration of his course or study, provided that this additional period is calculated immediately after the end of his compulsory service period.

**Part Two**

**Service in the National Guard**

**Chapter One**

**Recruitment and Employment**

**Article (34)**

Recruitment and employment are carried out to meet the National Guard's need for manpower capable of serving in various fields of military and civil work.

**Article (35)**

A special committee for recruitment and employment in the National Guard will be formed to undertake the tasks and procedures of recruitment and employment, and the practical and administrative matters related to this matter will be organised in accordance with the laws, rules and implementing regulations of the National Guard.

**Article (36)**

Recruitment and employment for any work in the National Guard shall not take place except with the approval of the President.

**Article (37)**

Applicants for recruitment must meet the following conditions:

A) The applicant for recruitment must be a Bahraini national.

B) To have obtained a general secondary school certificate or its equivalent, if he applied to work as an officer candidate or a civilian scholarship, and to be able to read and write if he applied to work as a trainee.

C) He should not be affiliated with any political party, group, or body, or engage in political activities.

D) To be of good conduct and not convicted of a felony or misdemeanour involving breach of honour or trust, or expulsion from service in the National Guard, the Bahrain Defence Force or the Ministry of Interior.

E) To pass the prescribed medical examination, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the competent medical committee.

F) He must not be less than seventeen years old, if he is not a student in military schools, and he must not be more than thirty-five years old, if he does not have the expertise and technical skills in his work.

The age requirements may be exceeded, in cases of necessity, as determined by the President.

**Article (38)**

The Recruitment and Employment Committee must recommend the granting of ranks, according to the type of academic, specialised and technical qualifications, and according to the skills and technical experience acquired.

The committee must seek the assistance of the competent official authorities and specialised technical committees inside or outside the National Guard when evaluating certificates, qualifications and practical experience.

**Article (39)**

Whoever is initially approved for his recruitment application signs the National Guard work service form, and declares his commitment to the information contained in this form.

**Article (40)**

The National Guard work service form includes clauses related to personal data and private information, making false statements and their punishment, and a pledge of compulsory service for a period of two years that is non-resignable, and may be extended to four years by order of the President, with regard to:

A) Conscripts and officers whose studies were not paid for or whose preparation was not sponsored by the National Guard.

B) conscripted military personnel.

The duration of the commitment for an officer candidate and a civilian scholarship student after graduation is fifteen continuous years, non-resignable, and may be extended for another five years by order of the President.

**Article (41)**

The President may employ persons with professions needed by the National Guard in all positions and jobs from the following categories:

A) Bahraini employees and civil workers.

B) Employees and foreign civilian workers.

C) Foreign military personnel.

**Article (42)**

Each of the three categories stipulated in the previous article is subject to the laws and regulations in force in the country, and the texts of the contracts associated with them in the National Guard.

**Article (43)**

Everyone who is appointed through conscription into the National Guard is subject to a probationary period of no more than one year, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the internal laws and regulations in this regard.

**Article (44)**

National Guard military personnel take the following oath:

I swear by God Almighty, I swear by God Almighty, I swear by God Almighty, to be loyal to the State of Bahrain, faithful to its rights, loyal to its redeemed Emir, obedient to the orders issued to me by my leaders, implementing them at all times and places, preserving my honour and my weapons, and carrying out my duty with all sincerity, honesty and truthfully, respecting its constitution and laws, I protect its flag, preserve its security, independence and sovereignty, and preserve the rights of its citizens.

And Allah is the witness for my words.

**Article (45)**

Non-military members of the National Guard take the following oath:

I swear by God Almighty to be loyal to the State of Bahrain, loyal to its redeemed Emir, obedient to the orders of my superiors, performing my work duties with all honesty and proficiency, preserving its secrets and bearing all of its responsibilities.

And Allah is the witness for my words.

**Article (46)**

National Guard members must take the oath before beginning their work and duties.

**Article (47)**

Whenever there is an exceptional case, resignation requests submitted during that period will be rejected and accepted only with the approval of the President.

**Chapter Two**

**Obligations and Restriction**

**Article (48)**

Members of the National Guard are considered officers and individuals who are constantly on duty, and the Chief of the National Guard may employ them at any time and in any entity inside or outside the country.

**Article (49)**

National Guard officers and personnel must adhere to the following duties:

a) Adhering to Islamic values, observing good customs and traditions.

b) Respect the oath, the constitution, and all laws and regulations of the state and its institutions.

c) Observing discipline and hierarchy, as stated in military rules and regulations, while implementing military instructions and orders issued by commanders and superiors.

d) Maintaining the confidentiality of military secrets, and taking care of the equipment entrusted to them.

e) Act with politeness and courtesy in relationships and connections with superiors, colleagues, and subordinates and in dealing with the public.

f) Preserving the interests of the state and the National Guard, without inaction and complacency in the duties entrusted to them, and guarding against falling into any violations of the applicable laws and regulations, or any negligence in their application.

**Article (50)**

Officers and individuals are prohibited from:

a ) Dealing in the following political and trade union matters:

1- Establishing or joining a political organisation.

2- Practising political or trade union activities.

3- Participation in demonstrations, disturbances, or political or trade union meetings.

4- Carrying out election campaigns or distributing political or trade union publications.

b) Dealing with everything inconsistent with military action, in particular:

1- Criticising the actions of the leaders of the National Guard.

2- Public speaking.

3- Participate in submitting collective claims.

4- Distributing publications or submitting petitions or anti-state messages.

5- Publishing or transmitting military information that should remain secret by nature or for which special instructions have been issued regarding its confidentiality without authorisation.

6- Keeping any prohibited transaction or official paper, in violation of the laws and regulations related to that.

7- Carrying out any journalistic work without a permit.

8- Joining sports, social and professional associations, clubs, and institutions without permission. Obtaining a permit to do so does not entail the right to nominate or accept administrative and executive positions, as this requires obtaining another permit.

9- Leaving or stopping the job without permission.

c) Carrying out the following commercial activities and private interests:

1- Doing business by themselves or in their name.

2- Carrying out financial and commercial speculations by themselves or in their name.

3 - They accept to be agents for others in matters related to job duties.

4 - Their acceptance of gifts, grants, aid, or any material or moral advantage from the owners of companies or institutions linked to a relationship or commercial or industrial contracts with the National Guard.

**Article (51)**

Marriage is not permissible without permission from the competent authority.

**Article (52)**

Each of the officers or individuals who commits any of the prohibitions mentioned in this chapter shall be referred to the competent authority to hold him accountable and to take the necessary action, in accordance with the laws and regulations related to this matter.

**Chapter Three**

**Leaves**

**Article (53)**

National Guard employees are entitled to annual leaves as follows:

a) Officers Forty working days.

b) Military personnel Thirty-five working days.

c) Civilian individuals (Civil service regulations apply).

**Article (54)**

Annual leave is calculated for regular working days only, and weekly and official holidays that fall during the leave are not counted among the leave.

**Article (55)**

It is allowed to use the entire annual leave at once, unless the work interest requires otherwise, in which case the rest of the leave is used at appropriate times.

**Article (56)**

Annual leaves may be kept, and at the end of service their allowance may be paid in cash, provided that this allowance does not exceed the total of three years’ leaves.

**Article (57)**

The Chief of the National Guard may order the payment of a leave allowance in cash to any officer or individual if the interest of work requires not declaring his leaves.

**Article (58)**

Employees of the Military National Guard, who obtain their annual leaves, are entitled to their full salary, bonuses, and allowances.

**Article (59)**

Special leaves are granted, and their duration is determined according to the following cases:

a) In the event of necessity and the annual leave is not due or has run out, a period not exceeding fifteen days shall be granted.

b) In the case of marriage for the first or second time, a period of five working days is granted.

c) In the event of the death of a family member (civil service regulations apply).

d) In the case of performing the Hajj pilgrimage, for one time only, a period of thirty days is granted.

e) In the event of returning from a course or study whose duration is not less than three months and not more than six months, a period of three days is granted.

f) In the event of returning from a course or study lasting more than six months, a period of five days is granted.

g) If requested for academic purposes, subject to the approval of the Chief of the National Guard, a period of thirty days is granted.

H) In case of necessity, and the special case related to the interest of the work (the period that the Chief of the National Guard deems appropriate).

**Article (60)**

Women working in the National Guard are granted maternity leave for forty-five days.

She is also granted widowhood leave upon the death of her husband for a period of thirty days, in addition to unpaid leave, bonuses and allowances for a period not exceeding one hundred days upon request.

**Article (61)**

National Guard personnel who obtain special leave are entitled to their full salary, bonuses, and allowances, except for the cases stipulated in Paragraph (H) of Article (59) of this law, which may not be treated like other cases except by a decision of the President.

**Article (62)**

Military personnel of the National Guard are granted sick leave, the terms and duration of which are regulated, the granting bodies are appointed, and their procedures are determined in accordance with the rules, regulations, and instructions issued by the President.

**Article (63)**

Employees of the Military National Guard, who obtain sick leave, shall receive their full salary with their bonuses and allowances, provided that the period of their sick leave does not exceed one year. If it lasts for more than one year, then he shall receive half of what he received in his first year.

**Article (64)**

A patient whose sick leave lasts for more than two years will be examined by the medical committee. If it is found that his illness is curable, the period of his sick leave may be extended for a period not exceeding six months, otherwise his service will be terminated. He will be treated in accordance with what the Military Retirement Law stipulates in this regard.

**Part Three**

**Military Jobs**

**Chapter One**

**Military Ranks**

**Article (65)**

The military ranks in the National Guard for officers and military personnel are as follows:

**a) Officer ranks:**

Lieutenant Colonel

First Lieutenant Brigadier General

Captain Major General

Major Lieutenant General

Lieutenant Colonel Colonel General

Field Marshal

**b) Ranks of military personnel:**

Private Sergeant

Lance Corporal Master Sergeant

Corporal           Staff Sergeant

Warrant Officer

**Article (66)**

The professions and specialisations of the officers are added to the military ranks below the rank of lieutenant general, in accordance with the rules and regulations.

**Article (67)**

Promotions are subject to the following rules:

a) There is a vacancy in the organisational structure.

b) Completion of the minimum period prescribed for each rank.

c) Finishing the courses or obtaining the required certificates for each grade, according to the regulation issued by the president in this regard.

d) The results of the annual work performance reports should be good.

e) Obtaining a recommendation for promotion from the commander or higher official, for those below the rank of lieutenant colonel.

**Article (68)**

A soldier shall not be promoted to the rank above his own before the minimum period specified below has passed, except in special cases stipulated in this law and by a decision of the Chief of the National Guard.

**Military Rank Minimum Time Period**

Private 3 years

Lance Corporal 3 years

Corporal 4 years

Sergeant 5 years

Master Sergeant 5 years

Staff Sergeant 6 years

Warrant Officer 6 years

Lieutenant 3 years

First Lieutenant 4 years

Captain 5 years

Major and above 6 years

**Article (69)**

If two years have passed since the minimum time period for the promotion of an officer whose rank is lower than the rank of major and he has not been promoted, his job status will be studied in order to promote him to the rank above his own or postpone it until the reasons disappear. In this case, he will be granted only the salary of the rank above his rank and its basic bonuses, only if the reasons are not criminal cases or disciplinary violations.

**Article (70)**

The provisions of the previous article shall apply to officers higher in rank than the rank of captain, after a period of three years has passed since the minimum time limit set for their promotion.

**Article (71)**

An officer who is not promoted after completing the minimum time period prescribed for his rank due to the lack of a vacancy in the organisational structure will receive only the salary of the rank above his rank and its basic bonuses.

**Article (72)**

If twice the minimum period of time prescribed for promotion has passed, for someone below the rank of non-commissioned officer, and the military individual has not been promoted, his employment status will be studied in order to promote him to the rank above his own, or postpone it until the reasons disappear, and in this case, he will be given the salary of the rank above his and its basic bonuses.

**Article (73)**

The provisions of the previous article shall apply to non-commissioned officers after a period of three years has passed since the minimum time period set for their promotion.

**Article (74)**

Subject to the provisions of the articles of this chapter, the soldier shall remain in his rank if he is not promoted, no matter how long the period is.

**Article (75)**

Any soldier in the National Guard may be promoted without adhering to the promotion rules in the following cases:

a) If he performs a heroic or glorious act in the field of military action.

b) If he performed a distinguished job during his period of service in the National Guard.

c) If he performed a mission successfully and was of great benefit to the National Guard or the state.

d) If he leads one of the high-level scientific or sports competitions or contests, and such leadership would raise the name of the National Guard or the state high.

e) In cases of necessity and for reasons of interest in working in the National Guard.

**Article (76)**

Taking into account the provisions of the previous articles, and based on the President’s proposal, an Emiri order will be promulgated to promote officers. As for individuals, a decision will be promulgated by the Chief of the National Guard to promote them.

**Article (77)**

It is not permissible to consider the promotion of those sentenced to demotion before the lapse of one year from the issuance of the judgement.

**Article (78)**

Military personnel sentenced to imprisonment for a period exceeding sixty consecutive days shall not be promoted until eighteen months have passed since the issuance of the ruling.

**Chapter Two**

**Seniority**

**Article (79)**

A graduate of military colleges, institutes, and academies specialised in graduating military officers is granted the rank of officer. Except in special cases determined by the Chief of the National Guard.

**Article (80)**

If the period of study in colleges, institutes and academies is less than two years, the remaining period shall be added to the minimum period prescribed for promotion to the rank of first lieutenant.

If the study period exceeds two years, this increase will be deducted from the minimum period referred to, taking into account the provisions and rules of promotion in both cases.

**Article (81)**

The graduate gains his degree of seniority, according to the high results he obtains in his average, or his military academic grades, compared to his fellow graduates in the same batch or time. If the same grades are multiple, or the academic grades are equal, reference is made to the date and time of appointment in the National Guard.

**Article (82)**

The concepts of military provisions affecting military ranks are as follows:

**a) Demotion:**It means lowering the rank of the person sentenced to this punishment until the beginning of the last year of the minimum rank to which he was demoted.

**b) Deprivation of Seniority in Rank:** It means that the person sentenced to this punishment is immediately deprived of his seniority in the rank he holds, by reducing the period of the sentence from it, and it is stipulated that the period of deprivation of seniority in the rank when sentenced does not exceed four years.

**c) Delay of Promotion:** It means amending the minimum stipulated period for promotion of a person sentenced to this penalty by adding the period he has been sentenced to to the period of the minimum referred to. This penalty has a future effect, and it is stipulated that the period of delaying promotion when it is sentenced does not exceed one year.

**Chapter Three**

**Transfer, Assignment and Secondment**

**Article (83)**

Military commanders and officials holding senior positions in the National Guard are transferred by decision of the President based on the proposal of the Vice President.

**Article (84)**

Officers are transferred by decision of the President based on the recommendation of the Supreme Officers Committee.

**Article (85)**

Individuals are transferred by decision of the President based on the recommendation of the Personnel Affairs Committee.

**Article (86)**

An officer in the National Guard may be transferred, seconded, or delegated to any ministry or state-affiliated institution by a decision of the President after consulting the Higher Committee for Officers. An individual may also be transferred or seconded by a decision of the President after consulting the Personnel Affairs Committee.

**Article (87)**

A decision shall be promulgated by the President to appoint an acting commander or official to the leadership or main position in the event of his absence, provided that he performs normal and daily work until his return, and in this case, the person in charge of affairs must be the highest-ranking official in the same agency, or the most senior in rank if he is outside it.

A decision shall also be promulgated to appoint an agent to carry out the duties of that leadership or administrative body in the event of its vacancy, provided that the agency does not continue for more than a period of one year, and it is not permissible to appoint an agent to a position or status lower than the one he occupies.

**Part Four**

**Judicial and Legal Affairs**

**Chapter One**

**Organisation**

**Article (88)**

A body affiliated with the Chief of the National Guard shall be established in the National Guard, which shall undertake all judicial and legal affairs. Its name and the identification of its subsidiary administrative bodies and divisions shall be issued by a decision of the President.

**Article (89)**

The agency shall be headed by an official certified in law, and assisted by a sufficient number of officers.

The head of the apparatus shall exercise his duties and powers in accordance with the provisions of this law and the regulations of the National Guard.

**Article (90)**

The president forms a military disciplinary council to look into disciplinary and punitive violations committed by officers. The president also constitutes a military disciplinary court with jurisdiction over disciplinary and punitive violations committed by members of the National Guard.

**Article (91)**

The Disciplinary Military Council consists of three officers, the oldest of whom has a military rank shall be the president of the council.

It is required that at least one of the council’s officers hold a degree in law or its equivalent. The Military Disciplinary Court consists of three officers headed by the highest-ranking officer, and at least one of the officers must hold a degree in law or its equivalent.

The Military Disciplinary Court may be presided over by a single human rights judge.

**Article (92)**

Disciplinary and punitive cases before the military disciplinary councils and courts shall be filed by a military prosecutor, after undertaking all investigation procedures into the case, in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in the National Guard.

**Article (93)**

The President may refer some of the officers' criminal and military cases to the Disciplinary Military Council. He may also refer some criminal and military cases of individuals to the Disciplinary Military Court, in special cases, which he deems necessary, provided that this does not affect the course of justice.

**Article (94)**

The term of membership of the Military Council and the presidency of the Military Disciplinary Court shall be two years, renewable by decision of the Chief of the National Guard.

**Article (95)**

The president may form a special disciplinary military council to consider a specific case, provided that its formation ends once the case is decided.

**Chapter Two**

**Penalties**

**Article (96)**

Penalties applied to National Guard employees who commit criminal, military, disciplinary and punitive crimes and violations are divided into the following:

A) Penal and military penalties.

B) Disciplinary penalties.

C) Punitive penalties.

**Article (97)**

National Guard personnel are subject to the provisions of penal codes, military procedures, and any general penal codes to which Bahrain Defence Force personnel are subject or apply to them.

**Article (98)**

The military courts of the Bahrain Defence Force shall have jurisdiction to hear criminal cases filed against National Guard personnel referred or brought to them by the competent authority in the National Guard.

The ratification of judgements issued against employees of the National Guard shall be by the Supreme Commander or by the Chief of the National Guard in accordance with the terms of reference stipulated in the laws in force in this regard.

**Article (99)**

One of the judges of the councils, or disciplinary military courts in the National Guard, shall be a member of the Military Court of the Bahrain Defence Force, to which the case for the crime committed or contributed to by a member of the National Guard is referred.

**Article (100)**

The Military Prosecutor in the National Guard is in charge of the case referred to the Military Court of the Bahrain Defence Force.

**Article (101)**

The Chief of the National Guard is the authority that has the competence to apply disciplinary and punitive Penalties in the National Guard.

He may delegate some of his powers to the Military Disciplinary Council, the Military Disciplinary Court, or to commanders, chiefs, and officials whose tasks require the application of penalties.

**Article (102)**

a) Disciplinary penalties are as follows:

1- A warning.

2- Rebuke.

3- Additional duties, for a period not exceeding thirty days.

4- Seizure, for a period not exceeding thirty days.

5- Salary deduction, for a period not exceeding sixty days.

6- Delay of promotion, for a period not exceeding one year.

7- Deprivation of seniority in rank, for a period not exceeding four years.

8- Demotion.

9- Disciplinary imprisonment, for a period not exceeding sixty days.

10- Termination of service.

b) Disciplinary penalties are as follows:

1- A warning

2- Rebuke.

3- Additional duties, for a period not exceeding 14 days.

4- Deprivation of the annual increment, for a period not exceeding one year.

5- Salary deduction, for a period not exceeding thirty days.

6- Delay of promotion, for a period not exceeding one year.

7- Deprivation of seniority in rank, for a period not exceeding four years.

8- Demotion.

9- Demotion from one or more job ranks.

10- Demotion of a job grade.

11- Delaying job promotion for a period not exceeding two years.

12- Termination of service.

**Article (103)**

The Chief of the National Guard shall issue rules and regulations that specify the type of violations and the penalties prescribed for them, clarify their concepts, define the powers of the authorities authorised by him to impose the penalties referred to in the previous article, and specify the type of penalty prescribed for each job level, how to apply it, the procedures for implementing it, and how to refer it to the competent authorities.

It also issues rules and regulations governing any judicial or legal matter.

**Part Five**

**General Provisions**

**Article (104)**

The Chief of the National Guard issues administrative rules and regulations that regulate and specify the following:

a) Types of work and services in land, air and sea weapons and administrative bodies and their classification.

b) Bonuses and allowances.

c) Housing, food and treatment.

d) Military clothing and insignia.

e) Letters of thanks, praise and appreciation.

f) Circumstances in which the service of National Guard personnel ends.

g) The regulation of work in the committees stipulated in the law, and the procedures for their meetings.

H) Any other affairs leading to the proper functioning of the National Guard.

**Article (105)**

What is not provided for in this law, or the regulations and decisions promulgated in implementation thereof, the provisions that apply to the military personnel of the Bahrain Defence Force shall apply to the personnel of the National Guard, in terms of provisions, including the law regulating pensions and retirement benefits for officers and personnel of the Bahrain Defence Force and Public Security, which was promulgated by Legislative Decree No. (11) of 1976, as amended.

The Chief of the National Guard shall have the powers assigned to the Commander-in-Chief of the Bahrain Defence Force with regard to National Guard personnel related to these provisions.

**Article (106)**

Awarding medals to employees of the National Guard shall be in accordance with the provisions of Legislative Decree No. (19) of 1976 regarding accolades, as amended.

**Article (107)**

The President may delegate his duties to the Vice President or any official, as he deems necessary.

The Vice President may delegate any assistant or official in his duties.

In all cases, the authorisation must be partial in specific matters and for a specific period that may be renewed.