



THE LAWS  
OF THE  
KEBBI STATE OF NIGERIA

in force on the 1st day of January, 1993

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REVISED EDITION

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by

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COMMISSIONERS FOR THE REVISION OF THE LAWS OF KEBBI  
STATE OF NIGERIA

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IN FOUR VOLUMES

VOLUME 2

CONTAINING KEBBI STATE LAWS, CHAPTERS 43-80

## CHAPTER 51

## FISHERIES EDICT, 1988

SS 2 of  
1988.

## AN EDICT TO REGULATE THE CATCHING OF FISH

[14 February, 1988] Date of  
commence-  
ment.

1. This Edict may be cited as the Fisheries Edict. Short title.
2. In this Edict, unless the context otherwise requires:- Interpretation.
  - "authorised officer" means any person mentioned under Section 8 of this Edict;
  - "Commissioner" means the State Commissioner for the time being responsible for Agriculture and Natural Resources;
  - "fish" means any aquatic creature which breathes by the gills and has a long backbone;
  - "fisherman" means any person who catches fish whether for subsistence or commercial purposes;
  - "Governor" means the Governor of the State;
  - "person" includes any company, partnership, association or body of persons, corporate or unincorporate;
  - "river" means any flowing water along a definite course either perennial or seasonal;
  - "State" means Sokoto State of Nigeria;
  - "Tarun Duru" means a fishing device or method usually operated by the aid of two boats which traps fish forced unto it as a result of turbulent operation of the fishermen;
  - "Tarun Ja" or "Babban Taru" means a fishing device or method used to force trapped fish to the beach for collection;
  - "water-bodies" means rivers, springs, flood ponds, natural lakes, hydro-electric power reservoirs, domestic water reservoirs, irrigation reservoirs and mining paddocks.

Prohibited  
Fish and  
Fish  
Farmers.

### 3. No fisherman shall:

- (a) catch any of the freshwater fish species below the size specified in the Schedule I to this Edict;
- (b) fix stationary fishing structure across the river for the purpose of cultivating/culturing or propagating fish.

Prohibited  
method of  
fishing and  
marketing.

### 4.—(1) No person shall take from or destroy any fish in the water bodies by any of the following methods:—

- (a) the use of any explosive substance or electricity;
- (b) the use of any poisonous or noxious matter;
- (c) the use of gillnet or dragnet of less than 3 inches or 7.62 centimetres mesh size;
- (d) the use of clapnet, castnet, or any webbing traps of less than 2 inches or 5.1 centimetres mesh size;
- (e) liftnet or "shemani-net" of not less than 1½ inches or 3.8 centimetres mesh size.

### (2) No person shall:—

- (a) preserve fish by the use of insecticide or other toxic chemicals;
- (b) transport, display or sell fish under unhygienic conditions.

Fishing  
Licence.

### 5. No person shall fish within the territorial waters of the State unless he obtains a licence so to do.

Application  
for licence  
and permit.

### 6.—(1) Any fisherman who desires to fish shall:—

- (a) submit an application in the form specified in Schedule II to this Edict;
- (b) upon being granted a licence so to do, pay the appropriate registration fees specified in Part A of Schedule IV.

(2) A fisherman wishing to use "Tarun Daru" or "Tarun Ja" shall pay the registration fees set out in Part B of Schedule IV.

(3) A permit in the form specified in Schedule V to this Edict shall be granted to a fisherman upon payment of such fees.

Scientific  
research.

### 7. Subject to the provision of section 6 and the approval of the Commissioner, nothing in this Edict shall apply to any person or organisation fishing for scientific or experimental purposes.

### 8. The following officers may demand from a fisherman a licence or permit to fish for the purpose of inspection:—

- (a) Fisheries extension worker;
- (b) District Head;
- (c) Village Head;
- (d) Police Officer;
- (e) Any other person appointed by the Commissioner.

Authorised  
Officers who  
may demand  
licence.

### 9. A person commits an offence who:

Offences.

- (a) fishes without a licence;
- (b) contravenes or fails to comply with any condition endorsed on a licence;
- (c) contravenes or fails to comply with any provision of this Edict.

### 10.—(1) Any person:—

Penalties.

- (1) who commits an offence under section 3 of this Edict shall be liable on conviction for a first offence to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three (3) months or to a fine of three hundred naira or both and for a second or subsequent offence to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six (6) months or a fine of five hundred naira or both;
- (2) who commits an offence under section 4 of this Edict shall be liable on conviction for a first offence to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six (6) months or to a fine of one thousand naira and for a second subsequent offence to imprisonment for a term of one (1) year or a fine of two thousand naira or both;
- (3) who commits an offence under section 5 of this Edict shall be liable on conviction for a first offence to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two (2) months or to a fine of four hundred naira or both and for a second or subsequent offence to imprisonment for a term not exceeding twelve (12) months or to a fine of one thousand naira or both;
- (4) who commits an offence under section 9 of this Edict shall be liable on conviction for a first offence to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one (1) month or to a fine of two hundred naira or both.

Power to  
make Regu-  
lations.

11.—(1) The Commissioner may make regulations for furthering the interests of fishing industry in the State.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provisions of this Edict, regulations made under this Section may:—

- (a) regulate, prohibit or restrict fishing in any specific area within the State;
- (b) provide for the destruction of any fresh, cured or preserved fish that is unfit for human consumption.

12. The forms set out in Schedules II, III, IV, and V to this Edict shall be used in all cases to which forms are applicable.

## SCHEDULE I

Minimum sizes of fish which may be retained after being caught—

No.	Species	Hausa Name	Length in cm
1.	Lates niloticus	Uri/Giwa Ruwa	20 cm and above
2.	Gymnarchus niloticus	Yaumi	35 cm and above
3.	Heterobranchius species	Rambosha	30 cm and above
4.	Hydrocynus species	Zawai	30 cm and above
5.	Hyperopisus species	Gandaga/Kuma	30 cm and above
6.	Citharus species	Faliya	23 cm and above
7.	Distichodus species	Cihaki	22 cm and above
8.	Tilapia species	Buku/Gargaza	12 cm and above
9.	Heterotis species	Balli/Kantala	30 cm and above
10.	Bagrus species	Ragon Ruwa/Doza	30 cm and above

SCHEDULE II  
APPLICATION FORM

Holders Photograph

1. Name of Licence .....
2. Address .....
3. Class/Category of Fishing .....
4. Period of Licence .....
5. Waterbody .....
6. Method of Fishing .....
7. Amount payable .....

(Applicant Signature)

Date ..... 19.....

SCHEDULE III  
LICENCE NO. ....  
FISHING LICENCE

Holder's Photograph

WHEREAS: ..... of .....  
(Name of applicant)

Cap. 51. Local Government has applied for a licence to fish and,  
WHEREAS, the said applicant has met all the requirements of the Fisheries  
Edict;  
NOW THEREFORE, THE SAID ..... is  
(Name of Applicant)

HEREBY granted licence to fish in the .....  
(Name of River)

for a period of: ..... from: .....  
to: .....

Name: .....

Official Stamp: .....

Date: ..... 19....

SCHEDULE IV  
REGISTRATION FEES  
PART A

## i. SMALL SCALE FISHERMEN

- (a) Quarterly (3 months): ..... ₦12.00  
(b) Bi-annually (6 months): ..... ₦20.00  
(c) Annually (12 months): ..... ₦35.00

## ii. COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN

- (a) Quarterly (3 months): ..... ₦30.00  
(b) Bi-annually (6 months): ..... ₦50.00  
(c) Annually (12 months): ..... ₦80.00

## PART B

- A. i. "Tarun Duru": ..... ₦300.00  
B. ii. Beach seining (Tarun-Ja): .....  
(i) Bi-annually: ..... ₦200.00  
(ii) Annually: ..... ₦300.00

SCHEDULE V  
FISHING PERMIT

Permit Holder's Photograph

1. Name of Permit Holder: .....
2. Address: .....
3. Category of fishing method: .....
5. Area of Operation: .....
5. Water-body: .....

Name: .....

Rank: .....

Signature: .....

Office Stamp with Date: .....