

**LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**  
**Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity**

National Assembly

23 November 1989

**PENAL CODE**  
**Preliminary Provisions**

**Chapter I**  
**General Provisions**

**Article 1 : Role of the penal Code.**

The role of the Penal Code is to safeguard the political, economic and social system of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the state, collective and individual properties, the life, health, rights and freedom of the people, the, rational security and public order, to counter and present infractions and educate all citizens to the respect of laws.

In view of implementing this role, this code determines which act is deemed dangerous for society, a penal infraction liable of sanctions.

**Article 2 : Basis of penal responsibilities**

All individuals will assume penal responsibilities and will be liable to penalties only in on the basis of voluntary or inadvertent acts deemed dangerous for society as defined in the Penal Code and when decision is brought by the court of justice.

**Chapter II**

**Context of the Penal Code's Effectiveness**

**Article 3 : Effectiveness of the Penal Code within the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.**

This Penal Code is binding in the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. All individuals transgressing the Penal Code within the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic are liable to sanctions defined by the Penal Code of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Cases of diplomatic representatives or individuals benefiting from diplomatic immunity sanctioned by international conventions guilty of infractions in the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic will be solved through the diplomatic channel.

**Article 4 : Application of the Penal Code outside the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.**

Lao citizens guilty of penal infractions committed outside the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic will assume penal responsibilities of the committed infraction as mentioned in the Penal Code of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Foreigners and apartheid individuals residing in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, if guilty of penal infractions outside the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, are also liable to assume penal responsibilities.

Foreign citizens committing infractions outside the territory of the Lao People's,

Democratic Republic are liable to assume responsibilities towards the penal laws of the Lao People's Democratic Republic if such cases are mentioned in international conventions.

**Article 5 : Use of the penal code in time.**

This code takes effect from the day of its enactment.

Any new law calling for lighter penalties on establishing penal infractions mentioned by former laws take retroceding effect.

New laws stipulating new infractions or calling for heavier punishment than mentioned in an earlier law will not take retroceding effect.

**Chapter III  
Infractions and offenders.**

**Article 6 : Definition of infraction.**

All acts or abstentions seen as dangerous for the political, economic and social system of the Lao People's Democratic republic, for the properties of the state, the collectively and individuals, for the lives, health, rights and freedom of the population, for the national stability and social order as mentioned in the penal code will be considered as penal in fractions.

All acts or abstentions will all components of penal infractions but generating lesser social damages shall not be considered as penal infractions.

**Article 7 : Categories of infraction.**

Infractions are divided into three categories:

- Matters of simple police are infractions punished by the law by public criticism and fines ranging up to 5,000 kips of such infractions are considered as capital ones as mentioned under Article 26 of this Code;

- Matters of offense are infractions punished by the law by correctional penalties without depriving from freedom, fines ranging from 5,000 kips, and if such infractions are considered as capital ones as mentioned in Article 26 of this Code, to three months to ten years of imprisonment;

- Crimes are infractions punished by the law by an imprisonment from five years up to death penalty.

### **Article 8 : Voluntary infractions.**

Voluntary infractions are acts or abstentions undertaken by the offender fully knowing about their dangerous nature for society and about their consequence while willingly undertaking them or leaving them to happen.

### **Article 9 : Infractions caused by carelessness.**

Infraction caused by carelessness are acts or abstentions with the full knowledge that such acts or abstentions might be dangerous for society by shows carelessness and not believing or expecting that such consequence would take place, although it is due and possible to expect it.

Article 10 : Infractions pertaining to several categories.

Multiple category infraction is an act or several acts of infraction committed by an individual classifiable under two or more categories, transgressing several articles of the Penal Code and to which judgment will be given at the same time and at the same court.

### **Article 11 : Recidivism.**

Recidivism is a voluntary act of infraction by an individual who has already been condemned to privation of liberty and is guilty of the same or similar voluntary act of infraction within a period of five years after executing his sentence.

### **Article 12 : Preparations of infraction.**

Preparations of acts of infraction are preparations of materials, conditions or other factors for voluntary acts of infraction.

Such preparations of infraction will only be liable of sanctions if deemed dangerous for society as mentioned in the specific section of this Penal Code.

Preparations of infraction will be sanctioned according to articles presiding penalties called by such acts.

**Article 13 : Attempts of infraction.**

Attempts of infraction are acts which have started to be voluntarily implemented, but suspended because of independent circumstances.

Attempts of infraction are liable of penalties if deemed dangerous for society as mentioned in the specific section of this Penal Code.

Attempts of infraction will be punished according to articles prescribing penalties called by such acts.

**Article 14 : Voluntary suspension of acts of infraction.**

Any individual voluntarily suspending his act of infraction during its preparation or its attempt will not be liable for any penal responsibilities, except if such act comprises components components of other acts of infraction.

**Article 15 : Definition of offender.**

An offender is an individual guilty of an act or abstention deemed dangerous for society and comprising components of infractions mentioned by the code.

**Article 16 : Complicity.**

Complicity consists of participation to a voluntary infraction by two or more persons.

Accomplices are : the author, implementing, inciting and assisting persons.

1. The author is the one who has planned, organized or given instructions to commit the infraction;
2. The perpetrator is the one who has directly committed the infraction.
3. Inceptors are persons pushing others to commit infractions.
4. Accomplices are persons who would have given voluntary assistance in the infraction or prior agreement to hide the offender, instruments, tools of infraction, to conceal traces of infractions or to receive proceeds from such infractions.

**Chapter IV  
Exemption of penal liabilities**

**Article 17 : Minors.**

Individuals who have not reached the age of fifteen at the time infraction is committed are not liable of penal responsibilities, but the court has to apply measures mentioned under Article 48 of this Code.

**Article 18 : Insanity.**

Individuals committing infractions in a state of unconsciousness or of insanity, incapable of recognizing the consequences of their acts, are not liable to penal responsibilities. Towards such individuals, the court might bring a decision to undergo a medical treatment as mentioned in the Code.

Individuals committing infractions in a drunken state or under the effect of narcotics will not be exempted in any way from penal responsibilities.

**Article 19 : Constraints and threats.**

Individuals committing infractions under independent circumstances of constraint and threat will not be liable of penal responsibilities.

In case such infractions belong to criminal matters, constraints and threats will only give extenuating circumstances to penal responsibilities.

**Article 20 : Legitimate defense.**

Acts of legitimate defense are made by an individual to safeguard the interests of the state or of the society, his own or other individual's life, health, legitimate rights and interests against acts of violence dangerous for the society. But such acts of violence must be truly existing and dangerous. And acts of legitimate defense must take place at that time and must not exceed the context of such infractions.

Acts of legitimate defense are not considered as penal infractions.

**Article 21 : State of necessity.**

The state of necessity is an act undertaken by an individual by necessity to avoid threats against the interests of the state or the society, his own or other individual's life, health, legitimate rights and interests when such threats of such nature cannot be infractions committed by the said individual and damages incurred from such acts are lesser than the eventual threats. The state of necessity is not liable of penal responsibilities.

**Article 22 : Infractions against which complaints must be lodged by the damaged parties.**

In case infractions are not dangerous for society and if the damaged party does not lodge any complaint, no judgment may be brought : physical violence between close relatives without serious injuries or physical damages, libels, slanders, insults, outrages to the body or the

reputation of the dead, infractions to properties of close relatives, outrage to decency violation of domicile and private secrecy.

The withdrawal of the complaint lodged by the damages party will disrupt the court's procedure.

**Article 23 : Death of the offender.**

Penal procedures will be disrupted by the death of the offender whether before or after complaints are lodged.

**Article 24 : Effectiveness of a penal complaint.**

Penal complaints will not be considered as effective if exceeding:

- one year in case of infractions pertaining to matters of simple police;
- seven years in case of infractions pertaining to matters of petty sessions;
- fifteen years in fractions pertaining to criminal matters.

The effectiveness of a penal complaint starts from the day the infraction is committed. In case of second offense during the period of legal procedures against the former infraction, the effectiveness of the complaint will start from the day the following infraction is committed. In case of evasion of court procedures, effectiveness will start from the day the offender presents himself or is arrested.

**Chapter V  
Penalties**

**Article 25 : Purposes of penalties.**

Penalties do not only aim at punishing offenders offenders, but also to reeducate punished individuals to bear a pure spirit towards work, to abide correctly and strictly to the laws, to respect the regulations of social livelihood, as well as avoiding recidivism on the part of the punished offender and other individuals.

Punishment does not aim at generating physical sufferings or at outraging human dignity.

**Article 26 : Categories of punishment.**

a /.Capital penalties

1. 1Public criticism
2. Correctional punishment without privation of liberty;
3. Privation of liberty;
4. Death penalty.

b /. Additional penalties

1. Fines ( in certain circumstances, it might become a capital penalty );
2. Confiscation of items;
3. Seizure of properties;
4. Privation of election rights;
5. House arrest.

The seizure of properties and house arrest will be inflicted to the offender only in case such penalty is mentioned in the specific chapter of his Code.

Apart from the capital and additional penalties, the court might request relevant authorities to withdraw driving licenses or other permits, to relieve from or to forbid to perform a function or duty, to withdraw orders, medals or titles and to exile the offender.

**Article 27 : Public criticism.**

Public criticism implies criticizing the offender at court. In necessary cases, the court's decision might be published in newspaper or through other means.

**Article 28 : Correctional penalty without privation of liberty.**

Correctional penalty without privation of liberty is a punishment inflicted upon the offender at his place of work or at other locations by retaining five to twenty per cent of his total salary as state income in accordance with the court's decision.

Correctional penalty without privation of liberty must not exceed one year.

**Article 29 : Privation of liberty.**

Privation of liberty may be sanctioned from three months to twenty years or life imprisonment.

Life imprisonment may not be sentenced on offenders of less than eighteen years old and on women in a state of pregnancy when infraction is committed.

**Article 30 : Death penalty.**

Death penalty is a special measure of punishment to be sanctioned on the offender in specially serious cases as mentioned in the specific part of this code.

Death penalty is sanctioned by shooting. . It is forbidden to inflict death sentence on offenders of less than eighteen years old or on women in a state of pregnancy at the time the infraction is committed or when the court brings decision or the sentence is sanctioned.

**Article 31 : Fines.**

Fines are financial penalties decided by the court according to the cases and context mentioned by the Code.

The fine must be computed in accordance with the gravity of the infraction on the basis of the offender's economic status. In case the offender is not in the capacity to pay the fines, the court has the possibility to commute them into correctional sentences without privation of liberty.

It is forbidden to commute in either ways fines and privation of liberty.

### **Article 32 : Seizure and confiscation of properties.**

Seizure of properties consists in properties belonging to offenders seized in totality or in part by the state without any compensation. Seizure of properties may only be sentenced in case of serious cases as mentioned in the specific part of this Penal Code.

In case a seizure of the totality of properties is decided, exception must be made for properties necessary for the livelihood of the offender and his family according to the list attached to this Penal Code. In case partial seizure of properties is sentenced, the court must set up a clear list.

Confiscation of items relates to items which were used in the infraction or prepared for the commitment of the infraction or gathered from the infraction by the state. Items belonging to other individuals implicated in the infraction will be seized by the state if proved to be accomplices and if seen necessary for social security.

State and collective items will not be seized but returned to the relevant authorities.

### **Article 33 : Suspension of right of election.**

Suspension of right of election is inflicted on offenders related to criminal matters.

The sanction of exemption of right of election on offenders must not exceed a period of five years from the day the final sentence is sanctioned. Article 34 : House arrest.

House arrest is to forbid sentenced offender to leave a place residence or to enter other territories as assigned or forbidden by the court.

Residency under surveillance must not exceed five years from the execution of the sentence.

The sentence for house arrest may not be sanctioned on offenders of less than eighteen years old and women in the state of pregnancy or women in charge of small children of less than eight years old at the period the infraction is committed.

House arrest will be specified in the specific part of this Penal Code.

## **Chapter VI**

### **Prescription of penalties**

#### **Article 35 : General regulations on the prescription of penalties.**

The court prescribes penalties on the basis of legal provisions surveying for the punishment of infractions. In prescribing penalties, the court must consider the features and nature of social threat generated by the infraction, the personality of the offender and circumstantial of penal responsibilities.

#### **Article 36 : Causes conducive to the mitigation of penal responsibilities.**

Causes conducive to the mitigation of penal responsibilities are :

1. The offender is less than eighteen years old;
2. State of pregnancy of a female offender;
3. Unreasonable context of a state of legitimate defense;
4. Infraction committed by the victim under unconscious impulsion due to affective emotion generated by an illegal act;
5. Infraction committed under constraint or threat;
6. The offender restrains damages generated by his own act of infraction or expresses the sincere will to compensate the damages;
7. Infraction committed because of the offender's own or of his family's seriously difficult situation;
8. The offender expresses sincere regrets and surrenders to officials, acknowledges and reveals infractions committed by himself and others;
9. First act of infraction if not generating serious dangers from the society;
10. The offender has shown merits towards the nation.

In the prescription of penalties, the court might take into consideration other factors not mentioned in this Code but likely to mitigate penal responsibilities.

#### **Article 37 : Circumstantial causes conducive to the increase of penal responsibilities.**

Circumstantial causes conducive to the increase of penal responsibilities are:

1. Recidivism;
2. Infractions committed by organized groups;
3. Infractions committed from greediness;
4. Infractions towards minors, aged persons, vulnerable persons, persons materially  
Or in other ways dependent or standing under the tutelage of the offender;
5. Initiation of minors to commit or to participate to infractions;
6. Barbarous or outrageous acts of infraction towards the victim;
7. Infractions conducive to serious consequences;
8. Infractions committed during incidents;

9. Infractions committed through public dangerous methods;
10. Infractions committed under the state of drunkenness or drug abuse. Based on the nature of the committed infraction, the court has the absolute right to decide whether it is liable or not to increase the penal responsibilities;
11. Intentional rejection of guilt on honest persons;
12. Offenders guilty of concealing other individuals' infractions or using violence to escape.

**Article 38 : Prescription of penalties for the preparation and attempts of infractions.**

Prescription of penalties for the preparation and attempts of infractions must take into consideration their nature and degree of social threats, of the degree of implementation of the offender's ill intentions and causes of such unsuccessful infractions. The court may sentence lighter penalties than as legally prescribed.

**Article 39 : Prescription of penalties on abutment and incitement to infractions.**

Prescription of penalties on abutment and incitement to infraction to infractions must take place on an equal basis as for other forms of complicity in such infractions. But taking into consideration the level and nature of abutment and incitement, the court may sentence lighter penalties than prescribed the law.

**Article 40 : Prescription of penalties on infractions pertaining to several categories.**

The prescription of penalties on a unique infraction pertaining to several articles must take place on the basis of the legal provision providing for the heaviest punishment.

The prescription of penalty on infractions pertaining to several articles must take place on the basis of each separate infraction added to each other in totality, but the final result must not exceed the heaviest penalty mentioned by the law. Complementary penalties may be added to the capital one in case the complementary penalty to such infraction is mentioned in the specific part of this Penal Code.

In case court decision has already been given or become definitely binding, or the offender has executed the sentence in part or in totality, but it is seen that further infractions have been committed by the offender, the prescription of penalties must take place according to the above mentioned procedures.

In case after the court's decision becomes definitely binding or during the penalty's execution, the offender becomes guilty of an act of recidivism, the court may add the remaining part of the penalty which is still due to be executed in part or in part or in totality to the newly sentenced penalty.

Fines must be executed one by one and may not be summed up or may not be added to other categories of penalties according to the above mentioned procedures.

**Article 41 : Prescription of penalties on recidivism.**

Prescription of penalties on recidivism in correctional matters must take place by adding the penalty to be sentenced by the court on a normal case of infraction to half of the penalty of such specific case.

Recidivism in correctional matters is conducive to an increase of penal responsibilities as mentioned under Article 37 of this Code.

**Article 42 : Benefit of the First offenders Act.**

Imprisonment, correctional penalties without privation of liberty or contravention, as main penalties with the benefit of the first offenders act to suspend the execution of such acts for a period of five years. If during such period of time, the sentenced does not become guilty of any other voluntary infractions, the penalty will be lifted. But in case of second offense, after being sentenced to be deprived of liberty and such sentence being absolutely binding, the culprit must execute the new penalty in addition to the one which benefited from the first offender's act.

**Article 43 : Inclusion of preventive custody in the execution of the penalty.**

The total duration of preventive custody must be included in the sanctions of privation of liberty and of correctional penalties without privation of liberty. One day of preventive custody is equal to one day of privation of liberty or three days of correctional penalties without privation of liberty.

**Article 44 : Exemption of penalties by sending offenders to administrative authorities or social organizations for re - education.**

If it is seen that the infraction belongs to matters of simple police and that the offender's personality does not present any threat towards society, the court may send the offender to administrative authorities or social organizations for re -education.

**Chapter V11**

**Circumstantial cases conducive to  
the exemption of penalties  
and conditional liberation before term.**

**Article 45 : Circumstantial causes to the exemption of penalties.**

The sanction of penal punishments will be lifted in the following events:

- Death of the sentenced;
- Expiration of limitation of the court's decision;
- Pardon is granted to the offender.

#### **Article 46 : Limitation of execution of he court's decision.**

Penalties sentence on offender may not be executed if exceeding the following period of time:

- One year for matters of simple police.
- Seven years for correctional matters;
- Fifteen years for criminal matters.

The effectiveness of the court's sentence starts as it becomes absolutely binding. In case of . the court's, sentence on the former act of infraction, the effectiveness of the court's sentence on the second infraction will start from the day it is committed.

In case of attempt of invasion from penalties during the period of effectiveness of the sentence, such period will take effect from the day the offender presents himself or is arrested. .

#### **Article 47 : Conditional liberation before term.**

Conditional liberation before term, based on the suggestion of the reformatory center's responsible committee, may be granted to progressive, repenting, exemplary working elements, who have executed half of their sentences in the case of less than eighteen years old offenders at the time the infraction is committed, two third of the sentence in the case of offenders sentenced to life imprisonment.

The local people's court executing the sanction of sentences is entitled to consider the grant of conditional liberation before term and to outline the conditions to be imposed upon the liberated offender. If within a period of five years, the liberated offender before term has correctly complied to the outlined conditions and has not become guilty of further infractions, the remaining punishment will be lifted.

In case the outlined conditions are not respected during such period of time, the liberated offender before term is to execute the remaining punishment. In case of recidivism during this period of time, the offender is liable to execute the new sentence in addition to the former remaining sentence.

Recidivist offenders or offenders sentenced to death penalty committed into imprisonment may not be liberated before term.

### **Chapter VIII**

#### **The court's sanctions on re-education and medical treatment**

#### **Article 48 : Measures applied by the court towards children.**

Towards children less than fifteen years old guilty of penal infractions, the court will apply the following measures

1. The offender requesting the damaged party's pardon by appropriate means;
2. Publicizing the infraction;
3. Sending the child back to his responsible tutors for re-education;
4. Sending the offender to administrative authorities and social organizations for re-education.

The court may apply the above mentioned measures towards children between fifteen and eighteen years old.

Compensation of damages must conform to civil responsibilities.

**Article 49 : Measures applied by the court towards mentally disturbed offenders.**

Offenders committing infractions under a state of mental disturbance or in possession of their full conscience, but subject to mental disturbances before sentence is brought by the court or during the sentence's execution, may benefit of measures pertaining to medical treatment, such as being sent to asylums or specific medical sentences.

After receiving from such state of mental health, the offender must be brought back and sentenced by the court or execute the sentence if the lodged complaint or the court's decision is still valid.

The duration of medical treatment is to be included in the period of execution of the punishment.

**Article 50 : Measures applied by the court towards offenders under alcohol or drug abuse.**

Towards offenders addicted to alcohol or drug abuse guilty of infractions not calling for privation of liberty, the court might apply measures of medical treatment in asylums or specific medical centers. In case the offender is sentenced to custody, the court must apply measures of medical treatment during the sentence's execution and if after completion of such penalties, the medical treatment is yet to be completed, the court might apply measures for medical treatment by sending the offender for cures in hospitals entrust him to the care of administrative authorities, social or collective organizations to continue his re - education and medical treatment.

The duration of medical treatment is to be included in the period of execution of the sentence.

## **SPECIFIC PART**

### **Chapter VII**

#### **Infractions towards the Nation's. stability and social order**

##### **Article 51 : Acts of betrayal towards the nation.**

Lao citizens in relationship and cooperation with foreigners or foreign organizations with the aim of leading undermining activities against the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, basic political, defense and security, economic, social-cultural interests of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, will be deprived of liberty for a seizure of properties and confined to home custody or sentenced to life imprisonment or death penalty.

Preparations and attempts of such infractions are also punishable.

Lao citizens entrusted by foreigners or foreign organizations to commit infractions but volunteers to unveil in advance such facts to officials before executing them, will not be punished.

##### **Article 52 : Acts of rebellion.**

Any individual participating to destabilizing subversive actives against or with the aim of weakening the administrative authorities are punishable of ten to twenty years of imprisonment, liable to see his properties seized and to be confined to home custody or to be sentenced to life imprisonment or to death penalty. Preparations and attempts of such infractions are also punished.

##### **Article 53 : Acts of intelligence.**

Foreigners, foreign residents or apartheid individuals guilty of acts of intelligence by gathering information or documents relative to state or administrative secrecy with the aim of leading undermining or destructive activities against the Lao People's Democratic Republic will be sentenced from eight to twenty years of his properties and confined to home custody, or sentenced to life imprisonment or death penalty.

Any individual gathering intelligence information or document under state or administrative secrecy for Lao rebels leading subversive activities against the Lao people's Democratic republic is punishable of five to eight years of custody and might be sentenced to the seizure of his properties and home custody.

Any Lao citizens gathering intelligence information or documents under state or administrative secrecy for the benefit of foreigners or foreign organizations with the aim of causing damages and undermining the Lao People's Democratic Republic will be considered as guilty of betrayal towards the nation and will be punished according to Article 51 of the present Code.

Attempts of such infractions will also be punished.

**Article 54 : Violation of territory pertaining to national stability.**

Any armed individual violating the territory of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and thus impacting on the national stability will be punished of five to ten years of imprisonment.

Attempts of such infraction will also be punished.

**Article 55 : Attempt upon lives of officials.**

Any individual guilty of physical violence towards the persons of leaders of the Lao People's Democratic Republic with the aim of undermining or weakening the state power will be punished with ten to twenty years of imprisonment.

In case such act of physical violence causes the victim's death, the offender is punishable of life imprisonment or death penalty.

Any individual guilty of physical violence against state representatives, officials, officials of state or social; organizations with the aim of weakening the state power will be sentenced to five to ten years of imprisonment.

In case such acts of physical violence cause the victim's death, the offender will be sentenced to ten to twenty years or life imprisonment or death penalty. Any individual guilty of physical violence against foreign representatives with the aim of dividing or undermining international relations or generating acts of war will be sentenced to eight to twenty years of imprisonment.

In case such act of physical violence causes the victim's death, the offender will be sentenced to ten to twenty years of imprisonment or life imprisonment or death penalty.

In addition to the above mentioned penalties, the seizure of properties and confinement to home custody might also be prescribed.

Preparation and attempt of such infraction will also be punished.

**Article 56 : Acts of destruction.**

Any individual guilty of acts of destruction, of putting fire to factories, offices, communication and transport vehicles, Press utilities and other important economic basis with the aim of weakening the state and undermining the national economy, of spreading poisonous chemicals or viruses among human communities and animal herds is punishable of eight to twenty years of imprisonment and liable to the seizure of his properties and to home custody or life imprisonment or death penalty.

Preparation and attempt of such infractions are also punishable.

**Article 57 : Acts of destruction against state or social affairs.**

Any individual guilty of undermining acts against industrial, commercial, transport, agricultural, economic basis affairs, state and social organizations' activities or abstention or initiation to internal division by using his function with the aim of weakening the state and the national economy, will be punishable of five to twenty years of imprisonment and is liable to be sentenced to the seizure of his properties or confined to home custody or life imprisonment or death penalty.

Preparation and attempt of such infraction will also be punished.

**Article 58 : Counterfeit money or use of counterfeit money.**

Any individual using printing utilities or other methods to counterfeit bank notes, foreign currencies or introducing counterfeit money from abroad to the Lao People's Democratic Republic is punishable of five to fifteen years of imprisonment.

In case the offender counterfeits money or introduces counterfeit money through an organized channel or in a substantial amount, he is punishable of ten to twenty years of imprisonment.

The preparation and attempt of such acts of infraction are also punishable.

Any individual with the full conscience of using counterfeit money is punishable of three months to five years of imprisonment.

Any individual knowing that counterfeit money is in his possession but abstaining to declare it to administrative authorities is punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment.

**Article 59 : Propaganda against the Lao People's Democratic Republic.**

Any individual leading slandering propaganda against the Lao People's Democratic Republic, distorting false news conducive to disorders through oral communications, writings, publications, newspaper, films, videos, photographs, documents, or other means which content is against the Lao People's Democratic Republic with the aim of weakening the state is punishable of one year to five years of imprisonment.

**Article 60 : Division of solidarity.**

Any individual causing division or resentment between ethnic nationalities and social strata with the aim of undermining the national solidarity is punishable of one to five years of imprisonment.

**Article 61 : Acts of terrorism.**

Any individual enrolled in an armed organization attacking and destroying factories, social organizations or sequestering or killing officials, simple civilians or robbing the properties of the

state Collectively, and individuals with the aim of destroying the basis of imprisonment; liable to the seizure of his properties and confinement to home custody or life imprisonment or death penalty.

Preparation and attempt of such infractions are also punishable.

**Article 62 : Undermining attacks acts or attacks of prisons and reformatory centers.**

Any individual making use of force to destroy or attack prisons and reformatory centers to steal out or liberate accused or prisoners or during their transfers is punishable of five to twenty years of imprisonment and is liable to be confined to home custody or sentenced to life imprisonment or death penalty.

Any individual causing disorders, undermining the internal order of prisons and reformatory centers or inciting accused and prisons and reformatory centers or inciting accused and prisoners to evasion is punishable of one to five years of imprisonment.

Preparation and attempt of such infractions are also punishable.

**Article 63 : Passing to the enemy, fostering of individuals working against the revolution.**

Any individual cooperating with the enemy against the revolution is punishable of three to ten years of imprisonment.

Any individual concealing, hiding, fostering or assisting agents working against the revolution is punishable of one to five years of imprisonment.

Preparation and attempt of such infraction are also punishable.

**Article 64 : Infraction against friendly countries.**

Any individual guilty of infractions against friendly countries as specified under Article 51 to 63 of this Penal Code is punishable on an equal basis as infractions against the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

**Article 65 : Disclosure of state or administrative secrecy.**

Any individual holding responsible function in the arrangement, safeguard and use of documents under state secrecy but disclosing or uncovering them or causing their damages is punishable of three to five years of imprisonment.

in case of administrative secrecy, a penalty of one to three years of imprisonment might be sentenced.

**Article 66 : Group gathering for turmoil generating purposes.**

Any individual Organizing or participating to a group organization for the purpose of demonstrations, protest marches and others in view of causing turmoil likely to generate social damages is punishable of one to five years of imprisonment.

Attempt of such infraction are also punishable.

**Article 67 : Destruction, removal of border marks.**

Any individual intentionally damaging or degrading or illegally removing border marks is punishable of six months to three years of imprisonment or liable to be fined from 5,000 kip to 30,000 Kip.

**Article 68 : Degradation and outrage to the national emblem or flag.**

Any individual degrading or outraging the national emblem or flag, thus infringing the honor and prestige of the Lao People's Democratic Republic is punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment, or of fined ranging from 5,000 Kip to 20,000 Kip.

**Article 69 : incitement to illegal departure or entry into the country.**

Any individual misleading People to illegally depart from or enter the country is punishable of six months to three years of imprisonment.

**Article 70 : Illegal production, procession and use of warfare items or ordnance.**

Any individual illegally manufacturing, possessing, keeping carrying or using warfare utilities or ordnance is punishable of six months to five years of imprisonment.

**Article 71 : Illegal transactions of warfare utilities and ordnance.**

Any individual proceeding to the illegal transaction of warfare utilities or ordnance is punishable of six months to five years of imprisonment.

In case the offender considers such transaction as a profession, works in group organization or undertakes substantial transactions, the penalty might be sanctioned from five to ten years of imprisonment.

**Article 72 : Theft, embezzlement, robbery of warfare utilities and ordnance.**

Any individual stealing, embezzling, robbing warfare utilities and ordnance is punishable of two to five years of imprisonment.

In case the offender considers the theft, embezzlement of such items as a profession and works in a group organization, or steals, embezzles a substantial amount of arms or robs them is punishable of five to ten years of imprisonment.

**Article 73 : Degradation of state or collective warfare utilities or ordnance.**

Any individual causing the degradation of state or collective warfare utilities or ordnance due to carelessness is punishable of three months to three years of imprisonment or of reformatory sanctions without privation of liberty.

**Article 74 : Illegal manufacturing and possession of long distance radio sets.**

Any individual illegally manufacturing, possessing or installing long distance radios is punishable of six months to three years of imprisonment.

**Article 75 : Illegal medical practice.**

Any individual not in possession of official authorization but leading medical practice for financial purposes will be fined from 5,000 kips.

In case of physical disability or death resulting from such practice, the offender is punishable of three months to five years of imprisonment. Article 76 : Forbidden gambling.

Any individual leading forbidden gambling is liable to pay fines ranging from 5,000 to 50,000 kips.

Any individual allowing forbidden gambling to take place in his residence or takes the lead or guilty of recidivism is punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment or of reformatory sanctions without privation of liberty.

**Article 77 : Vandalism.**

Any individual showing disrespect to social livelihood, using violence threats, degrading or other acts infringing social order is liable to public criticism or to be fined from 1,000 Kips to 5,000 Kips.

In case the offender is guilty of recidivism, three months or one year of imprisonment or correctional penalties without privation of liberty will be sentenced.

**Article 78 : Infraction in matters of traffic security.**

Any individual intentionally degrading or obstructing roads, changing or deteriorating traffic panels or signs, milestones, making use of violence or threats against conductors of vehicles, thus causing traffic accidents, is punishable of six months to two years of imprisonment.

In case such act of infraction causes serious injuries or wounds to several persons or physical disability, it is liable to bring a sanction of two to five years of imprisonment.

In case such act of infraction results in the death of a person, it is liable to bring a sanction of six to ten years of imprisonment.

In case such infraction is caused out of carelessness, fines ranging from 5,000 Kips to 15,000 Kips will be sanctioned.

In case such of infraction due to carelessness resulting in serious injuries, several wounded or physical disabilities, six months to three years of imprisonment will be sanctioned.

In case of infraction due to carelessness resulting in the death of a person, two to five years of imprisonment will be sanctioned.

In case of infraction due to carelessness resulting in the death of several persons, two to eight years of imprisonment will be sanctioned.

**Article 79 : Traffic violation resulting in accidents.**

Any individual violating the traffic code, causing an accident resulting in the injury of another person, will be fined from 5.000 to 15,000 Kips.

In case such infraction causes the serious injury of another person, or of several persons and physical disabilities, the offender will be sentenced to six months to three years imprisonment.

In case such act of infraction results in the death of a person, the offender will be sentenced to two to five years of imprisonment.

In case such act of infraction results in the death of several persons, the offender is punishable of five to ten years of imprisonment.

**Article 80 : Escape from the site of an accident.**

Any individual causing an accident but escaping from it is punishable of six months to two years of imprisonment.

Attempt of such infraction is also punishable.

**Chapter II**

**Offence against the life, heath  
and honor of individuals.**

**Article 81 : Homicide.**

Any individual intentionally causing the death of another person is punishable of ten to fifteen years of imprisonment.

In case the offender makes a living out of homicides, kills persons according to plans, barbarously, kills officials performing their duties, several persons, a pregnant woman, or a person to conceal other offenses, is punishable of ten to twenty years of imprisonment and might be confined to house arrest or sentenced to life imprisonment and death penalty.

In case the offender intentionally causes the death of another person due to a strong emotional impact hindering him to control his conscience due to the victim's illegal act, he is punishable of three to five years of imprisonment.

Preparation and attempt of such offence are also punishable.

**Article 82 : Death of a person due to carelessness.**

Any individual causing death out of negligence and inattention is punishable of two to five years of imprisonment. In case such infraction causes the death of several persons, the offender is punishable of five to ten years of imprisonment.

**Article 83 : Physical violence.**

Any individual intentionally causing injuries to another person is punishable of three months to one year of imprisonment.

In case of pummeling or if such infraction causes serious injuries, one to five years of imprisonment will be sanctioned.

In case such infraction results in permanent disability or death, five to ten years of imprisonment will be sanctioned.

Attempt of such infraction is also punishable.

**Article 84 : Physical injuries due to carelessness.**

Any individual causing physical injuries due to carelessness and negligence will be fined 1,000 Kips to 5,000 Kips.

In case such infraction results in serious injuries, in injuring several persons or permanent disability, six months to three years of imprisonment will be sanctioned.

**Article 85 : Illegal abortion.**

Any individual practicing illegal abortion is punishable of two to five years of imprisonment.

In case the offender practices abortion as a profession or in case such illegal abortion results in the deterioration of the mother's state or death, five to ten years of imprisonment might be sanctioned.

Any woman practicing abortion on herself or illegally having recourse to someone else for such purpose is punishable of three months to one year of imprisonment.

Attempt of such infraction is also punishable.

**Article 56 : Abstinence of assistance to persons in danger.**

Any individual falling to give or to request assistance to persons whose life or health is endangered, though having the capacity to do so, is punishable of three months to one year imprisonment.

Any individual whose duty is to provide assistance but fails to do so as other persons' life or death are endangered is punishable of one to three years of imprisonment.

**Article 87 : Outrages and defamation.**

Any individual seriously damaging the honor of other persons through writings, words or other means is punishable of three months to one year imprisonment or of reformatory penalties without privation of liberty or fines ranging from 5,000 to 10,000 Kips.

Any individual causing serious damages to the prestige of other persons by spreading false allegations through writings, words or other means is punishable of three months to one year imprisonment or of correctional penalty without privation of liberty or of a fine from 5,000 to 10,000 Kips.

**Article 88 : Insults.**

Any individual using degrading words, writings or acts against the honor of another person is punishable of three months to one year imprisonment or correctional penalties without privation of liberty or of fines ranging from 5,000 to 10,000 Kips;

**Article 89 : Outrage against the body or honor of a dead.**

Any individual using degrading acts or words against the body, honor, the grave or stupa of a dead and causing public emotional impact is punishable of three months to one year imprisonment or of correctional penalties without privation of liberty or of fines from 5,000 to 10,000 Kips.

**Chapter III**

**Offence against civil rights and freedom.**

**Article 90 : Constraint.**

Any individual constraining by force or by arms or threats another person to act or not act as needed against the will to the detriment of the constrained person is punishable of three months to three years imprisonment.

In case such constraint pertains to acts of banditry against cars, cargoes and planes, three to ten years of imprisonment will be sentenced.

**Article 91 : Illegal arrests and sequestration.**

Any individual proceeding to illegal arrests and sequestration is punishable of six months to two years of imprisonment.

In case such infraction causes health troubles to the sequestered prisoners, it is punishable of two to five years of imprisonment.

In case such infraction causes the detained or arrested person's physical disability or death, it is punishable of five to fifteen years of imprisonment.

**Article 92 : Trade and abduction of humans.**

Any individual trading or abducting humans for ransoms is punishable of five to fifteen years of imprisonment.

**Article 93 : Transgression of individual freedom.**

Any individual transgressing individual freedom through words, writings, legal gatherings, rallies and others is punishable of three months to one year imprisonment or of correctional penalty without privation of liberty.

**Article 94 : Violation of buildings.**

Any individual illegally violating building belonging to others making use of violence, threats, false documents, by taking the cover of an administrative official or by other means, is punishable of six months to two years of imprisonment or a fine from 5,000 to 20,000 kips.

**Article 95 : Obstruction of election rights.**

Any individual unveiling damaging matters of private secrecy got to be known during the performance of his profession or duty is punishable of three to six months of imprisonment or a fine of 5,000 to 10,000 kips.

Any individual disclosing letters, telegrams or other documents or listening to telephone calls without authorization and causing damages to other persons is punishable of three to six months imprisonment or a fine of 5,000 to 10,000 kips.

**Article 96 : Obstruction of election rights.**

Any individual making obstruction to election rights of citizens to the deputy ship of the People's Assembly through the use of threat, corruption or misleading initiation is punishable of three months to one year imprisonment.

**Article 97 : Falsification or destruction of electoral documents.**

Any individual falsifying or destroying electoral documents, ballots or results of elections to the People's Assembly is punishable of one to two years of imprisonment.

**Chapter IV  
Infraction towards state or  
collective properties**

**Article 98 : Robbery of state or collective properties.**

Any individual using violence to penetrate or direct threats against the life or health of other persons to appropriate state or collective properties is punishable of five to ten years of imprisonment.

In case the offender practices such acts of robbery as a profession, works in an organized group, causes serious injuries or death, or in case of substantial damages, he is punishable of ten to twenty years of imprisonment, might have his properties seized and confined to house arrest or sentenced to life imprisonment or death penalty.

Preparation and attempt of such infraction are also punishable.

**Article 99 : Theft, burglary of state or collective properties.**

Any individual appropriating in secret state or collective properties is punishable of three months to three years of imprisonment.

Any individual appropriating state or collective properties through acts of robberies is punishable of one to three years of imprisonment.

In case the offender has proceeded to theft by breaking into houses, damaging fences, doors, coffers, boards and other, he is punishable of one to three years of imprisonment.

In case the offender makes a living out of thefts and burglaries, works in an organized group or in case substantial damage is caused, he is punishable of three to seven years of imprisonment.

Attempt of such infraction is also punishable.

**Article 100 : Swindling of state or collective properties.**

Any individual cheating and swindling in any way to make officials responsible of state or collective properties grant them to him is punishable of six months to three years of imprisonment.

In case the offender makes a living out of swindling, works in an organized group[ or in case of substantial losses, he is punishable of three to seven years of imprisonment.

Attempt of such infraction are also punishable.

**Article 101 : Embezzlement of state or collective properties.**

Any individual using trust placed in him to swindle, subtract or change state or collective properties which are entrusted to his care to keep, transport, build, repair or undertake other works, is punishable of six months to three years of imprisonment.

In case the offender makes a living out of such activities, works in an organized group and in case of substantial losses, he is punishable of three to seven years of imprisonment.

Attempt of such infraction are also punishable.

**Article 102 : Intentional destruction and degradation of state or collective properties.**

Any individual intentionally damages or degrading state or collective properties in whatever means or forms is punishable of one year to three years of imprisonment or of a fine ranging from 10,000 to 30,000 kips.

In case of substantial losses, threats to the life and health of the People, such infraction is punishable of three to ten years of imprisonment.

Attempt of such infraction are also punishable.,

**Article 103 : Degradation of ancient or artistic objects.**

Any individual damages ancient or artistic object under common or private ownership or exporting such items without authorization is punishable of one to five years of imprisonment or fined according to the regulations pertaining to the preservation of ancient objects.

Any individual damaging, degrading stapes, other sacred sites and objects or appropriates altar offerings, damages or sells statues of the Buddha or other sacred objects, is punishable of two to seven years of imprisonment.

**Article 104 : Damages to state and collective properties due to carelessness.**

Any individual, due to negligence or inattention, causing substantial or non substantial damages to state or collective properties but generating consequences to the society or economic basis is

punishable of three months to three years of imprisonment or of correctional penalties without privation of liberty.

**Article 105 : Irresponsibility in the management of state or collective properties.**

Any individual bearing the function of directly managing state or collective properties but failing to his responsibilities and to comply to the management regulations resulting in substantial losses, is punishable of six months to three years of imprisonment. w

**Article IO6 : Illegal possession of state or collective properties.**

Any individual intentionally keeping in his possession found or gathered state or collective properties or inadvertently given to him without declaring them to administrative officials, is punishable of three months to two. years of imprisonment. .

In case such state or collective properties bear high value or are of a substantial amount, such infraction is punishable of two to five years of imprisonment.

**Article 107 : Concealment, illegal trade of state or collective properties. n**

Any individual, with the full knowledge that such state or collective properties are proceeds from acts of robbery, theft, swindle, embezzlement or other illegal Activities, but accepting, keeping, concealing or selling such items, is punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment.

In case the offender makes a living out of such offence works in an organized group or in case of substantial losses, he is punishable of one to five years of one to five years of imprisonment.

**Article 108 : Opportunistic use of state or collective properties.**

Any individual using state or collective properties for his private interests and resulting in substantial losses for the state or collectivity, is, punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment.

## **Chapter V**

### **Infractions towards private properties of citizens.**

**Article 109 : Robbery of citizens' properties.**

Any individual making use of force to attack or threats directly against the life or health of' other individuals with the aim of appropriating their properties, is punishable of four to eight years of imprisonment.

In case a living is made out of such infractions working in a group organization, or such infraction results in serious injuries or death or substantial losses, the offender is punishable of eight to fifteen years of imprisonment.

Preparation and attempts of such infraction are also punishable.

**Article 110 : Theft, misappropriation of citizens' properties.**

Any individual misappropriating other's [properties is punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment or of correctional penalty without privation of liberty.

Any individual misappropriating other's properties through swindles is punishable of six months to three years of imprisonment.

In case such theft takes place through house-breaking activities, damaging fences, doors, coffers, boards and others, it is punishable of six months to three years of imprisonment.

In case the offender makes a living out of such thefts and misappropriation, works in an organized group or in case of substantial losses, he is punishable of three to five years of imprisonment.

Attempt of such infraction is also punishable.

**Article 111 : Swindling of citizens' properties.**

Any individual using whatever swindling methods to have other's properties handed to him is punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment.

In case a living is made out of such swindling, or such infraction is undertaken by an organized group or in case of substantial losses, it is punishable of two to five years of imprisonment.

Attempt of such infraction are also punishable.

**Article 112 : Embezzlement of citizens' properties.**

Any individual making use of confidence placed in his person to swindle. partly subtract or bring changes to properties entrusted to his care or for other purposes, is punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment.

In case such acts of embezzlements help to make a living, are undertaken by an organized group or in case of substantial losses, they are punishable of two to five years of imprisonment.

Attempts of such infraction are also punishable.

**Article 113 : Intentional destruction or degradation of citizens' properties.**

Any individual causing damages or degradation of others' properties through whatever methods or forms is punishable of six months to two years imprisonment or of a fine ranging from 5,000 to 20,000 kips.

In case of substantial losses, threats to citizens' life and health, such infraction is punishable of two to seven years of imprisonment. Attempt of infraction are also punishable.

**Article 114 : Illegal possession of citizens' properties.**

Any individual keeping in his possession others' properties found, gathered by him or inadvertently given to him without declaring them to administrative officials, is punishable of three months to one year of imprisonment.

In case such properties bear high value or are of substantial quantity, the offender is punishable of one to three years of imprisonment.

**Article 115 : Illegal concealment, transactions of citizens' properties**

Any individual knowing that items are proceeds of robberies, thefts swindles, embezzlements or other illegal activities, but accepting, purchasing, keeping, concealing or selling them, is punishable of three months to one year imprisonment.

In case the offender makes a living out of such infractions, works in an organized group or in case of substantial losses, he is punishable of one to three years of imprisonment.

**Article 116 : Fire of citizens' properties due to carelessness.**

Any individual, due to negligence and inattention, causing fire to houses, warehouses and shops or agricultural products resulting in substantial losses, is punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment or of correctional penalties without privation of liberty.

**Chapter VI**  
**Infractions towards relationship**  
**between spouses, relatives and customs.**

**Article 117: Adultery.**

Any married individual guilty of adultery is punishable of three months to one year of imprisonment or of correctional penalty without privation of liberty.

The accomplice in adultery is punishable of the same penalties.

**Article 118 : Failure of obligations towards children, parents or spouse.**

Any individual failing to care after his minor children, his parents in need, his disabled or sick spouse according to court's decision is punishable of public criticism.

**Article 119 : Rape.**

Any individual making use of force, threats of arms, soporific substances, drugs or the methods resulting in the state of helplessness of a woman who is not his wife to undertake acts of rape against her will, is punishable of three to five years of imprisonment.

In case the offender is guilty of acts of rape against the person of a girl between fifteen to eighteen years old standing under his jurisdiction or medical or medical care is punishable of five years of imprisonment.

In case such acts of rape were undertaken by several persons one after the other, against a child of less than fifteen years old, by exercising physical violence on the woman resulting in the latter's permanent disability or death, such acts are punishable of seven to fifteen years of imprisonment.

In case the victim is killed after acts of rape, such infraction is punishable of fifteen to twenty or life imprisonment or death penalty.

Attempt of such infraction is also punishable.

**Article 120 : Act of rape against children.**

Any individual entertaining sexual relationships with less than fifteen years old child of either sex is punishable of not to five years imprisonment.

**Article 121 : Immoral acts committed by monks.**

Any individual member of the clergy entertaining sexual relationships with persons of either sex is punishable of six months to three years of imprisonment.

Any man or woman voluntarily entertaining sexual relationship with ordained members of the clergy is punishable of the same sanctions.

**Article 122 : Prostitution.**

Any individual making a living by selling their bodies for sexual use is punishable of three months to one year of imprisonment or of correctional penalties without privation of liberty.

Any individuals providing assistance or facilities to acts of prostitution, is punishable of three months to one year of imprisonment or of correctional penalties without privation of liberty.

**Article 123 : Proxenetism.**

Individuals making a living from whatever from of proxenetism is punishable of six months to three years of imprisonment.

In case the offender makes a profession out of proxenetism, or uses girls as prostitutes, or makes use of coercion on women under his authority to prostitute themselves, he is punishable of three to five years of imprisonment.

**Article 124 : Incest.**

Any individual entertaining sexual relations with his parents, adoptive parents, grandparents, step-grandparents, his children, adoptive children, cousins or with brothers and sisters of the same blood, is punishable of six months to five years of imprisonment.

**Article 125 : Outrage on public decency.**

Any individual displaying sexual acts or uncover his sex to the public or in public places is punishable of three months to one year imprisonment or of correctional penalties without privation of liberty.

**Article 126 : Outrage on decency.**

Besides acts mentioned under Article 119 of this Code, any individual guilty of any offending act to other's sexual decency against the letter's will is punishable of six months to three years imprisonment or correctional sanctions without privation of liberty.

**Article 127 : Propagation of outrageous products to public decency and tine national culture.**

Any individual manufacturing or selling or extensively or intensively propagating books, pictures, videos or other items deemed outrageous on decency or infringing the tine national culture, is punishable of three months to one year of imprisonment or of a contravention ranging from 5,000 to 50,000 kips.

## **Chapter VII**

### **Economic Infractions**

**Article 128 : Destruction of forests.**

Any individual cutting wood, felling trees not in compliance with the regulations pertaining to forests, putting fire or destroying forests through other means, is punishable of three months to one year imprisonment or will be imposed a fine according to the regulations on forests.

In case of considerable losses, such infractions are punishable of one to five years of imprisonment and of contravention outlined by the regulations on forests.

**Article 129 : Destruction of crops.**

Any individual causing damages to crops belonging to the state, collectivity, social organizations or citizens will be imposed a fine from 10,000 to 5,000 kips.

In case of substantial losses, the offender is punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment.

**Article 130 : Illegal animal hunting.**

Any individual hunting animals without complying to the relevant regulations, such as hunting restricted species, in closed season or forbidden areas and others, is punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment and of a fine according to the regulations on animal hunting.

**Article 131 : Illegal fishing or limiting of other aquatic animals.**

Any individual seeking for fish or other aquatic animals in ways not complying to fishing regulations, such as by using ordnance, forbidden poisons and chemicals, is punishable of three months to one year of imprisonment and fined according to the fishing regulations.

**Article 132 : Illegal exploitation of natural resources.**

Any individual illegally exploiting natural resources, such as valuable metals, minerals, rocks and forestry products will be fined from 5,000 to 50,000 kips.

In case of considerable losses, such acts are punishable of two to five years of imprisonment.

**Article 133 : Production, sale of health dangerous consumption goods and medicines**

Any individual carelessly producing or selling health dangerous drinks, meat, fish, fruits, vegetables or other consumption goods or outdated medicines will be fined from 5,000 to 20,000 kips.

In case such acts are intentional infractions, they are punishable of three months to three years of imprisonment.

**Article 131 : Sale of forbidden commodities.**

Any individual selling forbidden commodities is punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment and will be fined according to the regulations.

**Article 135 : Trade or possession of narcotics.**

Any individual trading drugs, producing, selling heroin or other narcotic or transporting such narcotics is punishable of one to five years of imprisonment.

In case the offender consider considers the trade of narcotics as a profession or works in an organized group or on a considerable amount, he is punishable of two to ten years of imprisonment.

Any individual keeping in his possession a considerable quantity of narcotics is punishable of six months to three of imprisonment.

**Article 136 : Opportunistic raise of price of goods.**

Any individual seizing the opportunity to raise prices of goods to sell goods at an unreasonably high price during droughts and floods or during difficult conjunctures

occurring in any locality is punishable of six months to two years of imprisonment or fined from 5,000 to 50,000 kips.

Attempt of such infractions is also punishable.

**Article 137 : Stocking goods.**

Any individual stocking, concealing goods in enterprises, companies, shops or other locations with the aim of causing economic turmoil and difficulties to the People's living conditions, is punishable of one to four years of imprisonment and fined according to the tax regulations

**Article 138 : Illegal trade of commodities belonging to the state or to tire collectively.**

Any individual holding a responsible function in tire sale of commodities in state or collective stores but illegally selling them outside out of cupidity is punishable of six months to two years of imprisonment.

Attempt of such infractions is also punishable.

**Article 139 : Falsification of balances or measurements.**

Any individual falsifying balances, weights, measurements during transactions, changing or using falsified or non standard balances, weights and measures with the aim of extorting commodities or money, is punishable of six months to two years of imprisonment or fined from 5,000 to 30,000 kips.

**Article 140 : Falsification of cheque, illegal use of cheque or other bank notes.**

Any individual falsifying cheque or other bank notes to exchange into currencies from the bank, into goods or to be used in other forms, is punishable of six months to three years of imprisonment or will be fined according to the regulations of the bank.

Any individual using cheque from overdrawn accounts, exceeding the deposit or practicing the illegal trade and exchange of cheque, is punishable of six months to three years of imprisonment or will be fined according to tire banking regulations.

**Article 141 : Transgressions of state tax regulations.**

Any individual transgressing the state tax regulations, such as land tax, natural resource taxes, import-export taxes, internal taxes and various license fees, is punishable of three months to three years of imprisonment or will be fined according to the state tax regulations.

**Chapter VIII  
Infractions committed by officials  
towards their duties.**

**Article 142 : Traffic of influence.**

Any official making use of his power, function and title for private benefit resulting in damages to the interests of the state, the society or the rights and interests of citizens is punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment.

In case such traffic of influence generates considerable damages, it is punishable of two to five years of imprisonment.

**Article 143 : Abuse of power.**

Any official intentionally exceeding the power conferred by law to him resulting in leasing the interests of the state, the society or rights and interests of citizens, is punishable of three months to three years of imprisonment.

In case such abuse of power is accompanied by the use of force, weapons, torture, degrading words and acts to the damaged party's honor and reputation, it is punishable of three to five years of imprisonment.

**Article 144 : Abandon of duty.**

Any official intentionally abandoning his duty, and as a result, causing damages to state or social work is punishable of six months to three years of imprisonment or of correctional penalties without privation of liberty.

**Article 145 : Negligence in performance of duty.**

Any official failing to or carelessly perform duties entrusted to him, in an irresponsible manner resulting in damages to the interests of the state, the society or the rights and interests of citizens, is punishable of three months to three years of imprisonment or of correctional penalties without privation. of liberty.

**Article 146 : Corruption.**

Any official demanding, soliciting, receiving, accepting bribes to use his influence for the interests of the bringing persons, is punishable of one to the years of imprisonment.

Persons offering or agreeing to offer bribes to officials is punishable of six months to two years of imprisonment.

In case of considerable bride, bribed and bribing persons are punishable of three to five years of imprisonment.

Intermediaries of such acts of bribery are punishable of six to two years of imprisonment.

Persons offering bribes under pressure, threats and thereafter volunteering to report to administrative officials are not considered as guilty of bribery.

**Chapter IX**

**Infractions towards administrative  
and justice administering regulations**

**Article 147 : Obstruction to officials' performance of duty.**

Any individual making; use of threats or force to hinder officials to perform state and social duties is punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment or will be fined from 5,000 to 20,000 kips.

In case of use of force resulting; in the injury of the official, such act is punishable of tow to five years of imprisonment.

In case of use of force resulting; in the permanent disability or death of the official, such act is punishable of five to twenty year of imprisonment or of life imprisonment or of death penalty.

**Article 148 : Outrage towards officials.**

Any individual acting, making use of outrageous words or spreading false allegations on officials with the aim of damages his Donor and prestige resulting in the People's lack of confidence is punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment or fined from 5,000 to 20,000 kips.

**Article 149 : Destruction, concealment of documents and seals.**

Any individual intentionally destroying, concealing, damages administrative documents and seals, thus making them useless, is punishable of three months to one year of imprisonment. In case of important documents causing considerable losses, such acts are punishable of one to five years of imprisonment.

Attempts of such acts are also punishable.

**Article 150 : Falsification of documents or use of false documents.**

Any individual falsifying documents, signatures, seals, subtracting or adding to the content of documents is punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment.

Any individual fully knowing such items' falsified nature but still using them is punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment.

In case of falsified documents or use false documents resulting in substantial losses, such infractions are punishable of two to five years of imprisonment.

**Article 151 : Religious ordinance without authorization.**

Any individual entering the clergy without authorization from the administrative authorities is punishable of three months to one year of imprisonment.

Monks accepting to ordain any individual without authorization is punishable of the same sanctions.

**Article 152 : False allegations.**

Any individual intentionally giving false testimony to administrative officials with the aim of starting legal procedures or arrest other individuals is punishable of one to three years of imprisonment.

**Article 153 : False statements.**

Witnesses, victims, experts, interpreters intentionally giving distorted statements, views or translations at court or to administrative officials for whatever benefit is punishable of one to five years of imprisonment.

Any individual offering money, objects or other benefits to the above mentioned persons for false statements is punishable of one to five years of imprisonment.

**Article 154 : Concealment of infraction.**

Any individual knowing about or witnessing infractions but abstaining to report to administrative officials is punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment or of correctional penalties without privation of liberty.

**Article 155 : Concealment of offenders.**

Any individual, without any previous agreement with the offender, concealing or assisting him to escape from arrest and judgment, is punishable of three months to five years of imprisonment or of correctional penalties without privation of liberty.

**Article 156 : Destruction of proofs.**

Any individual intentionally destroying traces, concealing documents or objects liable to serve as proof to infractions is punishable of six months to three years of imprisonment or of correctional penalties without privation of liberty.

Attempt of infraction is also punishable.

**Article 157 : Embezzlement of material evidence.**

Any individual bearing the responsibility to safeguard properties or objects considered as material evidence, but selling, concealing, withdrawing, using, exchanging or damaging them, etc. in an illegal way is punishable of six months to three years of imprisonment or of correctional penalties without privation of liberty.

**Article 158 : Escape from prison or reformatory centers.**

Any individual escaping from imprisonment or reformatory centers during the unfolding of the judgment procedures or the penalties execution is punishable of six months or three years of imprisonment.

In case the offender escapes from imprisonment or reformatory centers by making use of force against officials, such infraction is punishable of three to five years of imprisonment.,

**Article 159 : Turmoil in prisons or reformatory centers.**

Any individual causing turmoil and internal disorders in prisons or reformatory centers is punishable of three months to three years of imprisonment.

**Article 160 : Mistreatment and torture of accused or prisoners.**

Any individual mistreating, torturing, using measures or other acts not conform to tile laws against accused or prisoners during their arrest, the procedures of judgment or the execution of penalties, is punishable of three months to three years of imprisonment or of correctional penalties without privation of liberty.

**Article 161 : Allowing the escape of accused or prisoners.**

Any individual, whether by inadvertence or negligence, allowing accused or prisoners to escape during their guard or transfer, is punishable of three months to two years of imprisonment.

In case the offender intentionally allows the accused or prisoner to escape, such act is punishable of three to seven years of imprisonment.

Attempt of infraction is also punishable.

**Article 162 : Non compliance to the court's decision or order.**

Any individual refusing to comply to the court's orders, ultimatums, decisions or judgments or calls is punishable of three months to one year of imprisonment or will be fined from 5,000 to 10,000 kips.

This Penal Code "as unanimously adopted through vote casting by the second normal plenary session of the People's Supreme Assembly ( 11 legislation ) on October 23, 1989, at 5:00.

### **List of properties exempted from seizure**

Necessary properties, objects to the use of the sentenced or individuals standing under his authority which are not to be seized.

1. Permanent place of residence of the sentenced and of his family;
2. Cow, buffalo, elephant, horse, goat, sheep and pig if possessing one single piece per specie, poultry in case of persons making a living out of cultivation or animal husbandry;
3. Animal feed in case animals are not seized;
4. Seeds, production tools in case of persons living on agricultural practices.
5. Objects permanently used by the sentenced or by persons under the authority of the sentenced:
  - Clothes;
  - Bedding;
  - Kitchen utensils;
  - Household utilities ( 1 bed and chair for each person, tables, boards and coffers used by the family );
  - All kinds of children toys;
6. Food;
7. Necessary items for the profession of the sentenced, except if the court forbids to continue such profession or if such items are used in illegal activities.