

Law
Of the Republic of Tajikistan
“On conscience and religious associations”

(as of 28.06.2011 N°739)

The current law is adopted in recognition and affirmation of everyone’s right for freedom of conscience and freedom of religion, as well as equality before the law regardless of religion and beliefs, and based on the fact that Tajikistan is a secular state, showing respect and tolerance to all religions and religious trends and recognizing the special role of Hanafi trend of Islam in the development of the national culture and spiritual life of the people of Tajikistan.

CHAPTER 1
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Relations regulated by this Law

Present law regulates relations in the field of human rights for freedom of conscience and religion, relations between the state and religious associations, as well as the legal status of religious associations.

Article 2. Legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan on freedom of conscience and religious associations

Legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan on freedom of conscience and religious associations is based on the Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan and consists of this Law, other regulatory legal acts of the Republic of Tajikistan, as well as international legal acts recognized by Tajikistan.

Article 3. Basic concepts

Present Law, uses the following basic concepts:

- **Freedom of conscience** is the right of every person and citizen to define own attitude toward religion individually and independently or exercise religion together with people or do not exercise any religion; to freely choose and change

own religious beliefs, as well as to express and disseminate any convictions related to religion and atheistic worldview;

- **Freedom of worship (religious belief)** is the right of every person and citizen to choose and practice any religion freely and independently, to participate in religious services, to exercise religious rites, and engage in religious education.
- **Religious association** is a voluntary association of the followers of one religion with the purpose of joint commission of worship and exercising religious rites, religious education and dissemination of religious beliefs.

Article 4. Right to freedom of conscience and freedom of worship

1. Republic of Tajikistan guarantees freedom of conscience and freedom of worship, including the right to profess individually or together with others, to practice any religion or do not exercise any religion; to freely choose, distribute and change any religious or other beliefs, as well as act in accordance with them.
2. All are equal before the law in the Republic of Tajikistan, irrespective of their attitude to religion or religious affiliation.
3. Foreign citizens and stateless persons may participate in the exercise of worship and are responsible for the violation of the legislation on freedom of conscience and religious associations.
4. No one is obliged to report on his/her attitude toward religion. A person cannot be coerced to determine his/her attitude to religion, creed, or rejection of religion. Also a person cannot be coerced to participate or not to participate in worships, other religious rites and rituals or activities of religious associations and religious education.
5. The right of freedom of conscience and right of worship is not allowed if they are associated with the violence against human beings, with a deliberate affront to the feelings of citizens due to their attitude to religion, with the propaganda of religious supremacy, destruction or damage to property or the threat of such action. These acts are prohibited and subject to punishment under the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan. It is also forbidden to conduct public events, place text and images that offend religious feelings of citizens next to the objects of religious worship.
6. Appeals to certain benefits and limitations in regards to religion and beliefs are prohibited.

7. Legislation allows restriction of freedom of religion in order to protect constitutional order, territorial integrity, security, public order, health or public morality, as well as to protect rights and freedoms of others.
8. It is prohibited to incite any hatred, enmity and conflict on religious grounds, violation of religious and atheistic feelings of citizens.
9. Only religious associations registered in accordance with the procedures determined by this Law are allowed to do mass preaching.
10. It is prohibited to charge a person because of religion or disbelief or apostasy.
11. Religious associations have no right to interfere into the personal life of people in matters related to freedom of conscience and freedom of worship.
12. It is not allowed to have a provision in the official documents related to the religion and beliefs.
13. No one can evade from the legal obligations on the basis of his/her religious beliefs. The replacement of certain legal obligations by other obligations for the reasons of religious beliefs is permitted only in cases stipulated by the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan.
14. Parents or persons substituting them shall have the right to bring up and educate own children in conformity with their own attitude to religion, with consideration of the child's right for freedom of conscience.
15. It is prohibited to involve minors into the activities of religious associations. It is also prohibited to preach among underage persons without written consent of the parents or guardians.

CHAPTER 2

PUBLIC AND RELIGIOUS ASSOCIATIONS

Article 5. Relationships between state and religious associations

1. The State creates favorable conditions for the freedom of conscience and freedom of worship, observance of the legitimate rights and interests of religious citizens and religious associations.
2. In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan none of the religious ideologies is recognized as state and compulsory. Religious associations are separated from the state, and State:
 - Does not interfere into the determination of the attitude to religion or religious affiliation of a person/citizen;

- Does not impose execution of functions of public authorities, other government agencies, governmental agencies and local executive bodies on religious associations;
 - Does not interfere into the activities of religious associations, except as provided by the legislation;
 - Ensures secular character of education in state educational institutions;
 - Promotes the establishment of the relationships of tolerance and respect between believing and non-believing citizens, between religious associations of different religions and confessions, as well as their followers and does not allow the manifestation of religious fanaticism and extremism in the activities of religious associations.
3. In accordance with the principle of separation of religious associations from the state, where a religious organization:
- Carries out its activities within the internal order and the cult/non-cult system that does not contradict the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan.
 - Selects, appoints and replaces own personnel in accordance with its confessional statutes;
 - Does not perform functions of public authorities, other governmental agencies, governmental institutions and local executive bodies and does not interfere into their activities;
 - Does not participate in elections of the bodies of state power and local executive bodies;
 - Does not participate in the activities of political parties and political movements, does not provide them financial and other assistance.

Article 6. Authorized State Body on Religious Affairs

The competencies of the Authorized State Body on Religious Affairs are:

- Implementation of the public policy on ensurance of the rights of freedom of conscience and freedom of worship and coordination of relations between the state and religious associations;
- Analysis of the activities of religious associations located at the territory of the Republic of Tajikistan;
- Implementation of the outreach activities within own powers;
- Carrying out of the awareness campaigns to ensure citizens' rights of freedom of conscience and freedom of warship;

- Development of proposals for improving of the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan on freedom of conscience and freedom of worship;
- Carrying out of the state and record registration of the religious associations;
- Explanation and provision of comments regarding the mandate of the state body;
- Exercise of other authorities stipulated by this Law and other regulatory legal acts of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Article 7. System of public education and religious education

In accordance with the principle of separation of state education from religious associations, public educational institutions are secular in nature. These institutions provide access to various types and levels of education, regardless of religion.

- public education system does not take the responsibility for training and education of children in accordance with the religious or atheistic choice of parents or guardians;
- State has the right to include theological subjects into the curricula of the public educational institutions, with the purpose of education and is not accompanied by a commission of worship and exercise of religious rites and rituals.

Article 8. Religious education

1. Everyone has the right to get religious education of the own choice either individually or jointly with others.
2. Religious organizations have the right to establish religious educational institutions in accordance with their statutes and in the manner set forth by the present Law.
3. Central cathedral Friday mosques and cathedral Friday mosques may teach the principles of religion in accordance with their Charters through the establishment of the learning groups.
4. Provision of the religious education described by this Law is allowed after the receipt of the state license.
5. Permission for religious education for children aged 7 to 18 years is granted on the basis of the written consent of parents or guardians, during the free hours and outside of the curriculum of public educational institutes.
6. Receiving of religious education abroad, including the foreign religious higher educational institutions is permitted only after getting religious education in

Tajikistan and with the written consent of the Authorized State Bodies for Religious Affairs and Education (Law of Tajikistan, № 739 as of 28.06.2011).

7. The procedure for Tajik citizens to obtain religious education abroad is determined by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan (Law of Tajikistan № 739 as of 28.06.2011).

CHAPTER 3

RELIGIOUS ASSOCIATIONS

Article 9. Establishment of religious associations

In Tajikistan, religious associations are established voluntarily and openly.

1. The founders of religious associations may be at least 10 Tajik citizens that have common religion and reached the age of 18 years.
2. Republican religious center is established as a special form of religious association to address the issues of overall religious nature by the majority of the members- religious organizations.
3. Public officials and public servants, leaders and members of political parties cannot be the founders and employees of religious organizations.
4. Establishment of religious associations in bodies of state power, other state bodies, public organizations and institutions, local governments, educational institutions and military units is prohibited.

Article 10. Forms of religious organizations and their legal status

1. Religious associations operate in the form of religious community and religious organization.
2. Religious community is a voluntary and independent association of citizens of the Republic of Tajikistan, established with the purpose of joint worship and to meet other religious requirements.
3. Types of the religious communities are: cathedral Friday mosque, five-time pray mosque, jamoathona, preaching houses, revered objects and other forms that are not in contradiction with the legislation.
4. Religious community carries out its activities on the basis of their position, after record registration in the Authorized State Body on Religious Affairs, without establishing a legal entity.

5. The nature and scope of the religious community is determined by its statute (location).
6. Premises and property for the activities of the religious community are provided by the religious organizations and other individuals and legal entities in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan.
7. Religious organization is voluntary and independent association of citizens of the Republic of Tajikistan, established for the joint worships, religious education and dissemination of religious faith.
8. Forms of religious organizations are: Republican religious center, central cathedral Friday mosque, central jamoathona, institution of religious education, church, synagogue or other forms that are in line with the legislation.
9. Religious organizations are legal entities and operate under their own statutes, registered in accordance with this Law.
10. Depending on the territory of activities, religious organizations are divided into regional, urban and republican.
11. The name of a religious organization must contain the information about its confession.
12. Religious associations must provide information to the registered body on the annual basis about the continuation of activities in accordance with own statute (provision), indicating the information that is part of the state register of religious associations. Failure to submit specified information may be the ground for suspension of the activities of a religious association.

Article 11. Mosque

1. Mosque is a voluntary association of Muslims. It is established for the purposes of prayer and other religious needs, as well as an Islamic public house with the overall public worship purpose.
2. Central cathedral Friday mosques as the special form of religious association are established by Friday mosques (Jamis) to meet religious and other needs of believers. One Central cathedral Friday mosque is established in each district and city/town of the country.
3. Friday cathedral mosques can be established in areas where population varies from 10,000 to 20,000 people. In Dushanbe, the cathedral Friday mosques can be established in areas where the size of the population varies within 30 to 50 thousand people.

4. Five time prayer mosques can be established in the areas where population ranges from 100 to 1,000 inhabitants. In Dushanbe, five time prayer mosques can be established in the areas where the size of the population ranges from 1,000 to 5,000 people.
5. The mosques are functioning within the buildings constructed by relevant religious organizations, citizens or with the assistance of the population.
6. Election of the imam-khatibs and imams of mosques is carried out in coordination with the Authorized State Body on Religious Affairs.

Article 12. Institutions of religious education

1. Institutions of religious education are a special form of religious associations. They are allowed to engage in religious education based on their Charter which is approved by the appropriate religious organization, and has passed state registration.
2. Terms and education system in the institutions of religious education are agreed with the Authorized State Body.
3. The range of educational activities of the institutions of religious education is specified by the license.
4. Licensing of educational activities of the institutions of religious education is arranged in accordance with the Law of the Republic Tajikistan "On licensing of certain types of activities."
5. Citizens, who are full-time students of religious education institutions, enjoy the same rights and privileges as the students of public schools, in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan.
6. Curricula (programs and plans) of institutions of religious education must meet the standards of a similar public educational institution and have to be in conformity with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan on education.

CHAPTER 4

STATE REGISTRATION OF RELIGIOUS ASSOCIATIONS

Article 13. Registration of religious associations

1. Religious organizations are subject to state registration with the establishment of a legal entity, and religious communities are subject to registration without the establishment of a legal entity.

2. Authorized State Body on Religious Affairs does the state registration of religious organizations in the manner prescribed by the present Law.
3. Authorized State Body on Religious Affairs does the record registration of religious communities through its subordinate branches in Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast, regions, Dushanbe, towns and districts in the manner prescribed by the present Law.
4. State registration, re-registration, and refusal to do the state registration of religious organizations as well as record registration, re-registration, and refusal to do the record registration of religious communities is carried out in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan. Registration must take no longer than one month from the date of submission of a complete list of constituent documents, listed in this Article and up to three months in case there is a need to arrange additional control and analytical procedures.
5. In order for the Authorized State Body on Religious Affairs to arrange state registration of religious organizations, following documents have to be presented:
 - Application for state registration;
 - The charter of a religious organization;
 - Minutes of founding assembly;
 - The list of founders and the examination committee of a religious organization with an indication of citizenship, residence and date of birth;
 - Statement from the local executive body regarding the presence of followers of a religious organization at its catchment area over the last 5 years (at least);
 - Information on the basic tenets and practices, including the history of religion and religious organization, forms and methods of its activity, attitude to education, family and marriage, peculiarities of the followers' attitude toward health;
 - Document confirming payment of the state fee;
 - Document confirming the location (address) of the religious organization.
6. Following documents are needed for the record registration of religious communities:
 - Application for registration;
 - State of religious communities;
 - Minutes of founding assembly;

- List of founders of a religious community with the indication of citizenship, residence and date of birth;
 - Document confirming the location (address) of a religious community.
7. Changes and additions introduced to the statutes (regulations) of religious organizations are subject to state registration in the manner set forth by this Article and become effective from the date of such registration.
 8. In accordance with the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On state fee", the state official fee is charged for the registration of religious organizations, and introduction of changes and additions to a Charter.
 9. A religious organization acquires the status of a legal entity from the moment of the state registration and obtains a certificate. The religious community operates in accordance with its status, without the establishment of legal entity, after the record registration, and obtaining the statement.

Article 14. Denial of registration of religious associations

Following could be the ground for denial of the state registration for religious association:

1. If a charter (provision) of a religious association contradicts the Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan, present Law and other regulatory legal acts of the Republic of Tajikistan; either content of the charter does not cover all the features of the confession of a religious association;
2. If the list of constituent documents is incomplete;
3. If submitted documents contain false information;
4. If the name of a religious association insults public morality, national and religious feelings of citizens;
5. Any other reasons envisaged by the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Denial of the state registration of a religious association may be appealed in court.

Article 15. Charter (Provision) of religious associations

1. A religious organization operates on the basis of the charter and religious community operates on the basis of the Provision adopted by its founders.
2. Charters (Provisions) of religious associations must contain following information:
 - Name, location and type of a religious association and religion and the name of the religious organization in case of belonging to it;

- Tasks and objectives, rights and obligations, territory and the main forms of activities;
 - Procedure for the establishment, reorganization and termination of activities;
 - The structure of religious association, its managerial and examination bodies, procedure of formation and establishment of their authorities;
 - The procedure for introduction of amendments to the Charter (Provision);
 - Sources of funds and other property;
 - The procedure for disposition of property in the event of termination of activities;
 - Symbolic image of a religious organization, if any.
3. Charter may stipulate other provisions related to the characteristics of religious associations in that are not contradictive to the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Article 16. State register of religious associations

1. State register of religious associations is a set of data on religious associations. The form of the register is approved by the Authorized State Body on Religious Affairs.
2. Following information is included into the register of religious associations:
 - Name of a religious association;
 - Religion;
 - Legal address and location;
 - Form of religious association;
 - Information on a licensed activity;
 - Number and date of the state registration of the religious organization;
 - Number and date of the certificate of the record registration of the religious communities;
 - Information on the re-registration of a religious association;
 - Information on the annual activities of a religious association;
 - Information on the reorganization or liquidation of a religious association.

Article 17. State theological expertise

1. State theological expertise is carried out by the Authorized State Body in order to establish the distinctive features of the denomination of religious

associations; the accuracy of the information about their beliefs and religious activities; and analysis of the literature and religious articles.

2. State theological expertise is carried out in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan.
3. The procedure for state theological expertise is determined by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan.

CHAPTER 5.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF RELIGIOUS ASSOCIATIONS

Article 18. Rights of religious associations

1. Religious associations act in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan and own internal regulations that are consistent with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan.
2. In order to achieve own objectives, religious groups are entitled to:
 - freely distribute information about own activities;
 - represent and protect own rights in judicial and other public bodies;
 - make proposals to governmental bodies on the matters related to the religious interests of the citizens;
 - engage in production and economic operations in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan;
 - exercise other rights stipulated by this Law and other laws of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Article 19. Obligations of religious associations

Religious associations must:

- observe the Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan, laws and other regulatory legal acts of the Republic of Tajikistan, international legal acts recognized by Tajikistan that cover their sphere of activities, as well as internal instructions set by their charters and other internal documents;
- provide information upon the request of the relevant public authority;
- not impede the presence of representatives of the Authorized State Body at the religious events carried out by a religious association.

Article 20. Religious rites and rituals

1. Religious rites and rituals are performed within the legislative framework of the Republic of Tajikistan.
2. Religious associations have the right to establish and maintain religious buildings and structures, as well as other places and objects that specifically designed to conduct worships and meet other religious needs.
3. Worship services, religious rites and rituals are performed in the preaching houses and at the related areas, in holy places, cemeteries depending on the nature of a religion, as well as in houses and homes of the citizens.
4. Religious associations have the right to make suggestions regarding the conducting of worship services, religious rites and rituals in the hospitals, dispensaries, homes for the elderly and disabled, places of detention and imprisonment in accordance with the internal procedures.
5. In other cases, public worship services, religious rites and rituals are carried out in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan on peaceful meetings, rallies, demonstrations and marches

Article 21. The rights of citizens to perform Hajj and Umrah

Citizens of the Republic of Tajikistan have the right to perform Hajj and Umrah.

1. The procedure to perform Hajj and Umrah is determined by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Article 22. Religious literature and religious articles

1. Citizens and religious associations have the right to procure and use religious literature and other religious articles and materials.
2. Religious organizations have the right to produce, export, import and distribute religious literature, religious articles, and other religious informational materials (within reasonable amount) in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan.
3. Production, export, import, sale and distribution of religious literature, as well, and other religious articles and materials is allowed only after obtaining the conclusion of the state theological expertise.
4. Only religious organizations are allowed to establish companies that produce religious literature and religious articles and materials.

5. Religious literature and materials published and produced by religious organizations shall be marked with the full name of a particular religious organization.

Article 23. Charitable and cultural and educational activities of religious associations

1. Religious associations have the right to carry out charitable activities in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan.
2. Religious associations have the right to establish cultural and educational institutions and establish mass media in order to realize its goals and objectives in conformity with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan.
3. Religious associations are not allowed to preach and conduct outreach activities in the public preschools and schools, as well as in houses and places of residence of citizens.
4. The state supports charitable activities of religious associations, as well as the implementation of the socially important cultural and educational programs and activities.

Article 24. International relations of religious organizations

Religious organizations have the right to establish international religious cooperation with similar foreign organizations in coordination with the Authorized State Body on Religious Affairs.

CHAPTER 6.

PROPERTY OF RELIGIOUS ASSOCIATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Article 25. Property of religious organizations

In accordance with the Civil Code of the Republic of Tajikistan, religious associations have the right to enjoy property and have the right of ownership, usage and disposal of property and other items that are necessary for their activities.

Article 26. Use of property owned by the state, public associations and citizens

1. Religious associations have a right to use buildings and property for their own needs which was provided on a contractual basis by the state authorities, public associations and citizens.

2. Local and central executive bodies have the right to provide state owned hieratic buildings and other property to religious associations for free and functional utilization.
3. The transfer of objects and items of historical and cultural value to religious groups is carried out in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan.
4. Religious associations have the right to use land for own needs in accordance with the Land Code of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Article 27. Business and economic activities of religious organizations

1. Religious organizations have the right to engage in production and business activities in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan.
2. The revenues received from the economic activities and other income of religious organizations is subject to taxation under the Tax Code of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Article 28. Administration of the property of the ceased religious organization

1. Upon the termination of the activities of a religious association, the disposal of its property shall be in accordance with the legislation and Charter.
2. Penalty cannot be imposed on a property of liturgical purpose belonging to a religious association on the basis of creditor's claims.
3. Upon the absence of successors, the property of a religious association passes into the ownership of the State.

Article 29. Professional activities and labor rights of citizens in religious organizations

1. Religious associations have the right to hire people. Working conditions, rights and obligations of the Parties are specified in the labor agreement signed between a religious association and a worker.
2. Citizens of the Republic of Tajikistan that work in the religious associations are covered by the labor, social security, tax and insurance legislation of Tajikistan.

CHAPTER 7.

CONTROL OVER THE RELIGIOUS ASSOCIATIONS

Article 30. Supervision over the activities of religious associations

1. Prosecution authorities of the Republic of Tajikistan implement the overall supervision over the implementation of legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan on freedom of conscience and religious associations.
2. The immediate control over the observance of the "Law on religious associations" and the provisions of the Charter with regards to the objectives and procedures is carried out by the Authorized State Body on Religious Affairs.
3. Tax authority supervises sources of income of religious organizations and payment of taxes in accordance with Tax Code of the Republic of Tajikistan.
4. Control and compliance verification of the religious associations with the existing environmental, fire, sanitary and epidemiological and other norms and standards is implemented by the relevant state bodies that are authorized in accordance with legal regulatory acts of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Article 31. Suspension of activities of religious associations

1. Upon revelation of the violation of the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan by religious associations or commission of acts contrary to the objectives of the Charter, Authorized State Body on Religious Affairs sends a written warning with indication of the remedial period.
2. In case of non-observance of the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan by religious associations or commission of acts that contradict objectives of the Charter, Attorney General of the Republic of Tajikistan or subordinate prosecutors send the order with immediate elimination of violations to the religious association, and notification indicating remedial period to the registered religious association.
3. If a violation that became the basis for the order or notification is not eliminated within the set timeline, Authorized State Body on Religious Affairs has the right to suspend the activities of a religious association for up to three months.
4. If within the set period of suspension of activities of a religious association, violations, which became the basis for the suspension, will be eliminated, a

religious association will be allowed to continue its activities on the basis of the decision of the Authorized State Body on Religious Affairs.

5. In case of imposition of the state of emergency, law determines the procedure for suspension of activities of the religious associations.
6. In case of suspension of activities of a religious association, its rights as a founder of the media shall be suspended; religious association has no right to organize and hold meetings, rallies, demonstrations, marches and other events, use bank deposits, except for the calculation of economic activities and employment contracts, compensation of damage caused by its action, tax payments and fees and fines.

Article 32. Liquidation of religious association and ban of its activities

1. Religious association is liquidated in accordance with its Charter or by the court order.
2. The grounds for liquidation of a religious association and ban of its activities are:
 - violation of rights and freedoms of a person and citizen;
 - violation of the Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan, laws and other regulatory legal acts of the Republic of Tajikistan, as well as carrying out of the activities by a religious organization contrary to aims and objectives set out in the Charter;
 - Failure to eliminate violations specified in the attorney's order or in the order of the Authorized State Body on Religious Affairs.
3. Prosecutor or Authorized State Body on Religious Affairs may apply to the court for the liquidation of a religious organization or prohibition of the activities of a religious community.
4. In case when court does not satisfy petition for liquidation of a religious association or ban of its activities, a religious association continues its activities after the entry of the court's decision into legal force.
5. Liquidation of a religious association by the court decision means that the activity of a religious association is prohibited, regardless of its registration. Liquidated religious organization has no right to register under a different name.

CHAPTER 8.
CONCLUDING PROVISIONS

Article 33. State registration of religious organizations established before the enactment of this Act

1. Provisions of the present law on state registration of religious associations also apply to religious organizations established before the enactment of this Law, except for the provisions set forth in Section 3 and 4 of the Article 11 of this Law.
2. Charters and other constituent documents of religious organizations that were established before the enactment of this Law have to be brought into compliance with this Law. Until bringing Charters and other constituent documents to conformity with this Law, they are in force to the extent that is not inconsistent with this Law.
3. State re-registration of religious organizations established before the enactment of this Act, has to be conducted no later than January 1, 2010 with the exemption from state due.
4. Religious organizations that have not passed official re-registration within the timeline determined by this article lose the status of a legal person and certificate of registration is voided as per the decision of the registering authority.

Article 34. Responsibility for violation of the present Law

Violation of this Law by individuals and legal entities is subject to prosecution in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Article 35. On invalidation of the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "About Religion and Religious Organizations"

The Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Religion and religious organizations" as of December 8, 1990 (Newsletter of the Supreme Council of Tajik SSR, 1990, № 24, Art. 418; Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan, 1991., № 22, Art. 297, 1992., № 12, Art. 203, 1994, № 23-24, Art. 452; Journal of Majlisi Oli of the Republic of Tajikistan, 1997, № 9, p. 117, № 23-24, Art. 333 , 1999, № 9, st.232, 2001, № 4, p. 155) shall be deemed to have lost force.

Article 36. The procedure for bringing into force of the present Law

Present law becomes effective from date of its official publication

President

Emomali Rahmon

Republic of Tajikistan

Dushanbe

March 26 2009, №489

RESOLUTION OF MAJLISI NAMOYANDAGON MAJLISI OLI OF THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

On the approval of the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Freedom of Conscience and religious associations"

Majlisi Namoyandagon Majlisi Oli of the Republic of Tajikistan decides:

1. To adopt Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On freedom of conscience and religious associations."
2. To consider the Resolution of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan "On bringing into force Law of the Republic Tajikistan "On freedom of conscience and religious associations" № 194, dated December 8, 1990, (Journal of the Supreme Council of Tajik SSR 1990, № 24, article 419) as voided from the date of enactment of the present Law.
3. To consider Resolution of the Supreme Council Republic of Tajikistan "On procedure of entry into force of the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On introduction of amendments and additions to the Law Republic of Tajikistan "On freedom of conscience and religious associations", № 1097, dated December 1, 1994, (Journal of the Supreme Council of the Republic Tajikistan, 1994, № 23-24, Article 453) as voided from the date of enactment of the present Law.

S. Khairulloev

Chairman

Majlisi Namoyandagon Majlisi Oli

Republic of Tajikistan

Dushanbe
March 5 2009
№ 1254

**RESOLUTION OF MAJLISI MILLI MAJLISI OLI OF THE REPUBLIC OF
TAJIKISTAN**

Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On freedom of conscience and religious associations"

On the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On freedom of conscience and religious associations"

Having reviewed the law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On freedom of conscience and religious associations", Majlisi Milli Majlisi Oli decides:

To approve the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Freedom of conscience and religious associations."

M.Ubaydulloev

Majlisi Milli Majlisi Oli

Republic of Tajikistan

Dushanbe, March 12 2009, №615