

Law No. 12 of 1992 on Decorations, Orders, Medals and Flags of the Armed Forces of Qatar 12 / 1992

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We, Khalifa bin Hamad Al Thani, Emir of Qatar,

Having perused the Amended Provisional Constitution, in particular Articles 3, 23, 34, and 51 thereof,

Law No. 5 of 1970 specifying the powers of ministers, and determining the functions of ministries and other governmental bodies, as amended,

Law No. 5 of 1978 regarding the civil and military decorations,

Part 1

Decorations

Article 1

Three military decorations, higher in priority than orders and medals, shall be created as follows:

1. Decoration of Military Gallantry (*Al Iqdam Al Askary*) (two degrees);
2. Decoration of Military Duty (*Al Wajip Al Askary*) (four degrees);
3. Decoration of Faithful Service (*Al Khidmah Al Mukhlisa*) (four degrees).

Other decorations and their degrees may be created by Emiri resolution.

Article 2

Decorations shall be granted by virtue of an Emiri resolution issued in accordance with a proposal of the Minister of Defence. Whenever the granting of a decoration is repeated, the decoration and the chevron thereof shall be badged. Any person granted a military decoration shall be awarded a patent sealed by the Emir.

Article 3

Military decorations shall be awarded to all members of the armed forces, or to those entitled posthumously thereto, as follows:

1. Military Gallantry Decoration (*Al Iqdam Al Askary*):
 - a. Of the first degree - shall be granted to any person who acts with extraordinary and exceptional heroism, or shows rare valour, courage, sacrifice, unparalleled capacity and sacrificial devotion during direct combat with the enemy in the operational theatre under dangerous circumstances, and causes major damage to the enemy by foiling its plans, defeating its forces, capturing its units, or destroying or taking over its bases and equipment, whether on land, at sea, or in the air;
 - b. Of the second degree - shall be granted to any person who acts with heroism on the battlefield by showing valour, courage or sacrifice.
2. Military Duty Decoration (*Al Wajip Al Askary*):

Shall be granted to any person who acts:

 - a. In an outstanding manner by demonstrating high or exceptional efficiency, or indicates devotion and faithfulness in carrying out his duties;
 - b. With full concern for or loyalty to service in the military or to the State.
3. Faithful Service Decoration:

Shall be granted to any person who fulfils the following conditions:

 - a. His duration of actual continuous service in the armed forces is not less than twenty years;
 - b. No final judgment has been issued against him for a crime or military violation;
 - c. No negative reports have been issued against him during the last ten years;
 - d. His annual reports for the last five years include at least two excellent grades and three good grades.

Article 4

Military decorations may, upon a proposal by the Minister of Defence, be granted to military leaders of Arab and friendly states.

Article 5

With the exception of the Military Gallantry Decoration, military decorations of various degrees shall be awarded in the following order:

1. First Degree: rank of Brigadier-General and above;
2. Second Degree: ranks of Colonel and Lieutenant-Colonel;
3. Third Degree: ranks from Officer to Major;
4. Fourth Degree: other ranks.

The regulations shall specify the equivalent decorations for military and civilian technicians serving the armed forces.

Article 6

The Emir or his deputy shall award the Military Gallantry Decoration, while other decorations shall be awarded by the Minister of Defence or his deputy.

Part 2

Orders, Medals and Flags

Chapter One

Orders

Article 7

Six military orders, higher in priority than medals, shall be created to succeed decorations as follows:

1. Order of Honour;
2. Order of Battle;
3. Order of Innovation;
4. Order of Leadership Efficiency;
5. Order of Training Efficiency;
6. Order of Perfection.

Other military orders and their degrees may be created by a resolution of the Minister of Defence.

Article 8

Orders shall be granted by virtue of a resolution by the Minister of Defence issued in accordance with a proposal of the General Commander. Whenever the granting of an order is repeated, the order and the chevron thereof shall be badged. A single order may not be granted more than five times. Any person granted a military order shall be awarded a patent sealed by the Minister of Defence.

Article 9

Military orders shall be awarded to all members of the armed forces, or to those entitled posthumously thereto, as follows:

1. Order of honour: shall be granted to any person injured while performing outstanding or special actions during military battles, and the injury causes total or partial disability;
2. Order of Battle: shall be granted to any person who participates directly in conducting activities of war;
3. Order of Innovation: shall be granted to any person who achieves scientific or technical improvements or inventions that lead to the development of military arms, equipment or supplies, or who carries out useful studies or research in such cases. This order may be granted to any non-military staff who carry out similar activities in the said fields;
4. Order of Leadership Efficiency: shall be granted to any person who occupies a leadership position at different levels and contributes to his unit through special and outstanding performance or discharges his duties with a high degree of initiative, devotion and faithfulness;
5. Order of Training Efficiency: shall be granted to any person who gives an outstanding or tangible performance in the field of training or sports activities, or achieves excellent results in training, sports or educational courses;
6. Order of Perfection: shall be granted to any person who demonstrates proficiency or skill in one or more of the following fields:
 - a. Specialised technical works;
 - b. Raising the level of readiness of the armed forces;
 - c. Maintenance or operation of weapons, ammunition or equipment;
 - d. Security and safety procedures.

This order shall be granted only where the recipient has spent at least one whole year practicing the activity which he mastered.

Chapter 2

Medals and Flags

Article 10

Five memorial medals, whose priority shall succeed that of orders, shall be created as follows:

1. Independence Memory Medal;
2. Accession Memory Medal;
3. Land Forces Medal;
4. Air Force Medals;
5. Marine Forces Medal.

Other medals and their degrees may be created by a resolution of the General Commander.

Article 11

Medals shall be granted by virtue of a resolution by the General Commander. Any person granted a memorial medal shall be awarded a patent sealed by the General Commander. Such medals shall be awarded by the General Commander or his deputy.

Article 12

- a. The national flag shall be granted to the armed forces and their units. Phalanges (cohorts) and sub-units shall be granted their own particular flags.
 - b. The Decoration of Military Gallantry and the Decoration of Military Duty may be awarded to the armed forces and their units in appreciation of their distinguished performance during times of peace or war.
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Part 3

General Provisions

Article 13

1. The decision to award decorations, orders and medals shall be announced by publishing them in the military orders of the armed forces.
 2. Such decorations, orders or medals may not be worn prior to such announcement.
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Article 14

Models of decorations, orders and medals shall be the sole property of the State and may not be disposed of, circulated, dealt in, copied or displayed.

Article 15

1. Decorations, orders, medals and their patents shall remain in the possession of the grantee and may be transferred to his inheritors as souvenirs; however, none of the inheritors shall be entitled to wear them.
 2. Replacements may be provided for lost or damaged decorations, orders or medals, including their chevrons and patents, after verification of such loss or damage by the presentation of sufficient evidence.
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Article 16

Privates may not hold any non-Qatari decorations, orders or medals unless with the permission of the Minister of Defence. The priority of non-Qatari decorations, orders or medals shall succeed that of national decorations, orders or medals. Decorations, orders or medals awarded by Arab countries shall precede their equivalents granted by other countries

Article 17

- a. Without prejudice to any greater penalty stipulated by any another law, the holder of a decoration, order or medal may be divested thereof where he commits an act of disloyalty to the home land or is convicted of a crime involving a breach of honour or trust.
- b. Divestiture of decorations shall be ordered by a resolution of the Emir in accordance with the proposal of the Minister of Defence. Divestiture of orders and medals shall be ordered by a resolution of the Minister of Defence in accordance with the proposal of the General Commander.

c. Divestiture shall entail the withdrawal of the decoration, order or medal and its patent, and the annulment of all rights and privileges accruing to the holder thereof. The divestiture instrument shall be announced by publishing it in the military orders.

Article 18

- a. The holder of a decoration, order or medal may be temporarily deprived thereof for a specific period where he acts in a manner contrary to the reasons for granting the award, or where he violates the principles of military discipline.
 - b. Temporary deprivation of a decoration shall be ordered by virtue of a resolution of the Emir in accordance with the proposal of the Minister of Defence. Temporary deprivation of an order or medal shall be ordered by a resolution of the Minister of Defence in accordance with the proposal of the General Commander.
 - c. The decoration, order or medal may be returned to the person temporarily deprived thereof where he renders glorious service, demonstrates efficiency at work, or is granted another decoration or order during the deprivation period.
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Article 19

1. The Emiri Protocol Department at the Emiri Diwan Affairs Ministry shall undertake the executive competencies pertaining to the preparation and preservation of decorations and their patents; keeping and controlling the circulation of their regulatory records, stamps, documents and files; following up all matters relevant to decorations; and issuing recommendations in this regard.
 2. The Ministry of Defence shall undertake the same competencies with respect to orders and medals.
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Article 20

A decree shall regulate (a) the procedures for granting decorations, orders, medals and flags;(b) the manner in which they are worn or held;(c) their particular order, description, positions, models, designs and manufacturing thereof as well as materials; (d) the determination of the shapes of their chevrons; and (e) the benefits accruing to the holders thereof and other rules and procedures.

Article 21

Military decorations, orders and chevrons granted prior to the enforcement of the provisions of this Law shall continue to be held.

Article 22

The Minister of Defence shall issue the necessary regulations and resolutions for the implementation of this Law.

Article 23

The provisions pertaining to military decorations of the armed forces stipulated in **Articles 9 to 17** of the aforementioned Law No. 5 of 1978 are hereby abrogated, along with any provision contradicting the provisions of this Law.

Article 24

All competent authorities, each within their jurisdiction, shall enforce this Law from the date of its publication in the *Official Gazette*.

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