

## THE BURMA LAWS ACT (1898)

India Act XIII, 1898

4 November 1898

1-4. [...]

5. The President of the Union may, for administrative including revenue purposes:

(a) divide Upper Burma into divisions and each of these divisions into districts, and vary the limits of those divisions and districts, and

(b) divide each of those districts into sub-divisions, each of those sub-divisions into townships and each of those townships into circles, and vary the limits of these sub-divisions, townships and circles.

6. For the purpose of facilitating the application of any enactment for the time being in force in any part of Upper Burma, any Court may construe the enactment with such alterations, not affecting the substance, as may be necessary or proper to adapt it to the matter before the Court.

7-12. [...]

13. (1) Where in any suit or other proceeding in the Union of Burma it is necessary for the Court to decide any question regarding succession, inheritance marriage or caste, or any religious usage or institution:

(a) the Buddhist law in cases where the parties are Buddhists,

(b) the Muhammadan law in cases where the parties are Muhammadan and

(c) the Hindu law in cases where the parties are Hindus,

shall form the rule of decision, except in so far as such law has by enactment been altered or abolished, or is opposed to any custom having the force of law.

(2) [...]

(3) In cases not provided for by sub-section (1), or by any other enactment for the time being in force, the decision shall be according to justice, equity and good conscience.

14. (1) The President of the Union may, by notification in the Gazette, transfer any portion of Upper Burma to Lower Burma or any portion of Lower Burma to Upper Burma, with effect from a date to be specified in the notification, and on and with effect from that date,

the portion so transferred shall form part of Lower Burma or Upper Burma, as the case may be.

(2) [...]