

No. S 94

**LEGAL PROFESSION ACT
(CHAPTER 132)**

LEGAL PROFESSION (PUPILLAGE) RULES, 2000

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 65 of the Legal Profession Act, the Chief Justice, with the approval of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan, hereby makes the following Rules —

Citation and commencement.

1. These Rules may be cited as the Legal Profession (Pupillage) Rules, 2000 and shall commence on 1st. January, 2001.

Interpretation.

2. In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires —

"qualified person" means a qualified person, as defined in section 3 of the Act, who became a qualified person on or after 1st. January, 2000.

Period of pupillage.

3. (1) For the purposes of these Rules, a qualified person shall, during his period of pupillage, be known as a pupil. The person with whom a pupil serves his period of pupillage or any part thereof, shall be known as a master.

(2) A qualified person shall, before he is admitted as an advocate and solicitor under the Act, serve a period of pupillage.

- (3) Subject to rule 4, the period of pupillage shall be 9 months.

(4) The period of pupillage shall be completed within 18 months of the date of the commencement thereof.

(5) No qualified person shall, without the permission in writing of the Chief Registrar, hold any office or engage in any employment of whatsoever kind, whether full-time or otherwise, during his period of pupillage, other than the pupillage itself.

(6) Notwithstanding sub-rule (5), a pupil may receive remuneration from his master.

Service of pupillage.

4. (1) Subject to sub-rules (3), (4), (5) and (6), a pupil shall serve his period of pupillage with a qualified person who has been in active practice in Brunei Darussalam for an aggregate period of not less than 7 years.

Provided that the Chief Registrar may, in a particular case, allow a pupil to serve his period of pupillage with a master who has been a qualified person for less than 7 years.

(2) A pupil may serve different parts of his period of pupillage with different masters.

(3) The Chief Registrar may exempt a qualified person from any part of his pupillage, not exceeding 6 months, upon application made to him supported by satisfactory evidence that —

- (a) there are special circumstances justifying a shortening of the period of pupillage;
- (b) the applicant has, for a period of not less 6 months, been a pupil of a master who had been a practising barrister-at-law of the England or Northern Ireland, of a member of the Faculty of Advocates of Scotland or of an advocate and solicitor in Singapore or any part of Malaysia, in active practice for a period of more than 7 years;
- (c) the applicant is or has been a solicitor in England or Northern Ireland or a Writer of the Signet, law agent or solicitor in Scotland; or
- (d) the applicant has been engaged for not less 6 months in practice as a legal practitioner, by whatever name called, in any part of any country or territory in the Commonwealth.

(4) A qualified person who has served in the Attorney General's Chambers or in the Judiciary for an aggregate period of 7 years shall be exempt from serving any period of pupillage.

(5) The Chief Registrar may exempt a qualified person who has served in the Attorney General's Chambers or in the Judiciary for an aggregate period of at least 3 years from any period of pupillage not exceeding 6 months.

(6) A qualified person who has been in active practice in any part of the United Kingdom, Singapore, any part of Malaysia or in any part of any country or territory in the Commonwealth for not less 7 years shall be exempt from serving any period of pupillage.

Appeal.

5. An appeal shall lie to the High Court against any refusal of the Chief Registrar to grant an exemption under these Rules.

Made this 3rd. day of Ramadan, 1421 Hijriah corresponding to the 30th. day of November, 2000.

DATO SERI PADUKA SIR DENYS ROBERTS
CHIEF JUSTICE
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM.