**PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PUNJAB**

**Bill No. 1 of 2018**

**THE PUNJAB COMPULSORY TEACHING OF THE HOLY QURAN BILL 2017**

A

Bill

*to provide for making compulsory teaching of the Holy Quran to Muslim students in all educational institutions*

Whereas it is expedient to provide for making compulsory teaching of the Holy Quran to Muslim students in all educational institutions in the Province of Punjab and in all the public sector educational institutions owned and controlled by the Provincial Government wherever they may be and for matters connected therewith and ancillary thereto;

It is hereby enacted as follows:

**1. Short title, application and commencement.-** (1) This Act shall be call the Punjab Compulsory Teaching of the Holy Quran Act, 2017.

(2) It shall apply to only Muslim students in all educational institutions.-

(a) In the Province of Punjab; and

(b) Owned and controlled by the Provincial Government wherever they may be.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

**2. Definitions.-** Unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context-

1. “Government” means the Government of the Punjab.
2. “Educational institutions” means any school, college, institute, or otherwise by whatever name called for, established and setup in public or private sector for imparting education to students irrespective of its status whether registered or not registered with the Government or any other body;
3. “Naazrah Quran” means recitation by sighting of the Arabic text;
4. “prescribed” means prescribed by rules made under this Act,; and
5. “rules” means rules made under this Act.

3. Compulsory teaching of the Holy Quran.- (1) There shall be, in all educational institutions, compulsory teaching of -

1. the Naazrah Quran in classes, grades or, as the case may be, levels I to V in prescribed manner; and
2. the translation of the Holy Quran in classes, grades or, as the case may be, levels VI to XII in such prescribed manner so that the entire Holy Quran is completed upto class, grade or, as the case may be, level XII.

 (2) The Government shall ensure implementation of the Act in the manner as may be prescribed.

4. Power to make rules.- The Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

5. Act not to be derogatory to any other law.- The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to, and not in derogation o, any other law for the time being in force.

**Statement of Objects and Reasons**

According to the Article 25 A, it is the responsibility of the State to provide free and compulsory education to all children of Pakistan. The Holy Quran has the myths of successful life. So being an Islamic country, the free and the compulsory teaching of Holy Quran will definitely be a source of establishment of a society based on the teachings of Islam.

Hence this Bill.

 **DR SYED WASEEM AKHTAR**

 **MPA (PP-271)**

 **MEMBER INCHARGE**

**Lahore: RAI MUMTAZ HUSSAIN BABAR**

**30 January 2018 Secretary**