

Review of Human Rights under the Jordanian Constitution

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Abstract

This review aims to measure the reality of human rights under the Jordanian Constitution; human rights in Jordan are improving, since Jordan is considered one of the most democratic States in the Middle East. Human rights remain a subject of concern inside and outside any State. The review also intent to identify the Jordanian history, a review of its governmental structure, and the 1952 revision of the Jordanian Constitution with particular reference to human rights provisions. In addition to that, the review point to identify and analyze the Constitutionally-guaranteed human rights under the Jordanian Constitution. Jordan was one of the first States in the Middle East to establish a national human rights institution (NHRI) such as, The National Centre for Human Rights (NCHR), for that reason, the review will deliver in details the human rights institutions and the emergence of human rights in Jordan. The review also addresses the major International Conventions to which Jordan is a party.

Introduction

As a response to processes of globalization, regional integration and ethnic conflicts, the studies of human rights have regained new interest among social scientists and legal experts.¹ This approach focuses on the relationship between the state and the people — as individuals and collectivities, citizens and non-citizens — living within its borders. Human rights define the terms of rights for the people in a society, political participation, and access to public goods and properties. Together with its companion volume, human rights are a systematic critical attempt to interpret the complex nature of Jordan.

Before entering into the details of this review, two specific matters directly affect the reality of human rights in Jordan:

First: The impact of conflicts in the region² to human rights. It should be emphasized that the conflicts in the region affected and continue to affect the conditions of the country and led to constant fluctuation, where justified by some weakness in the implementation of the law and inflicts severe damage to the human rights situation, the lack of introducing legislative reforms and not adopting policies based on transparency and respect for human dignity are the reason that these conflicts have been witnessed in the region and confirmed by the international reports in human rights situation in the Middle East.

Second: The Arab thoughts of human rights issues. Any fair person due to the crisis faced by the Arab will notice that human rights in this region are in contradiction between the modern thinking and traditional, rational and faith, the East and West, religion and nationalism.

Nonetheless, the emergence of human rights in Jordan and in the Middle East went through certain phases, the first phase was the Arab before Islam, the Islamic State, the Abbasids period, the Renaissance period and in the modern age.

When discussing human rights in the Jordanian Constitution, one can only say that the Jordanian Constitution³ one of the oldest Arab Constitutions which contains articles for the rights and freedoms of individuals and a specific Chapter lines the “Rights and Duties of Jordanians.”¹

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¹ See Butenschn, Nils, *Citizenship and the State in the Middle East: Approaches and Applications*, Syracuse University Publication, P.43 (2000).

² The Arab–Israeli conflict which is a modern phenomenon, also the conflicts in Libya, Syria, Egypt and Yemen. These conflicts affected human rights in a negative way specifically when hundreds of thousands of refugees fled the earlier mentioned States and moved to Jordan.

³ The Constitution of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan was adopted on January 11, 1952 and has been amended

The Constitution affirms that Jordanians are equal before the law without discrimination on the rights and duties on grounds of race, language or religion, It also provides that the right to equality before the law and the necessity of social justice and equality before the judiciary and its independence, the equal right to hold public office, the reliance on competence and qualifications.

Public freedoms² guaranteed by the Constitution, especially the various freedoms of opinion and expression³ in several media, freedom of assembly, religious belief, and the formation of political parties and associations.

Furthermore, the Constitution ensures that the State to protect personal freedom and respect for the inviolability of private life and inviolability of the home and the right to education and employment.

It behooves to be noted that the Constitution has adopted that it is the nation's source of authority, the principle of separation of powers, and make the parliamentary system of royal foundation of the state administration and organization of its agencies, which means that the people are the source of authority and legitimacy through the ballot exercised its constitutional institutions, and sovereignty is for the rule of law, including a basic foundation to ensure individual rights, freedoms, and to fight against despotism and tyranny.

Jordan's Organic Law⁴ was instituted in April 1928 under the guidance of Prince Abdullah Bin Al-Hussein. It provided for a consultative parliament, and Jordan's first election was held in April of the following year.

This document was transformed after Jordan gained full independence in May 1946,⁵ following the abolition of the British Mandate. A new Constitution was formulated and adopted by the Legislative Council on November 28, 1947; it was published as law in the Official Gazette on February 1, 1947.

The Constitution, a few years later was liberalized by King Talal and ratified on January 1, 1952, which is taking on till this day.⁶ The previous explanation for the stages of the Jordanian Constitution did not mention some of the factors that affected the revision of the Constitution for instant the revolutions led by Jordanian tribes in different areas in Jordan, world war II, the establishment of the State of Israel, the forced migration of Palestinian refugees under the pressure of Israel, and the death of the first King of Jordan Abdullah Bin Al-Hussein.

Jordan's Constitution stipulates that the country is a hereditary monarchy with a parliamentary system; which outlines the functions and powers of the state, the rights and duties of Jordanians, guidelines for interpretation of the Constitution and conditions for constitutional amendments and it mandates the separation of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the government, and also outlines the regulation of the government's finances, as well as the enforcement and repeal of laws.

Most important, the Constitution specifically guarantees the rights of Jordanian citizens, including the freedom of speech and press, association, academic freedom, political parties, freedom of religion and the right to elect parliamentary and municipal representatives.⁷

many times, such as the 2011 amendment. It defines the hereditary monarchic rule with a parliamentary system of representation. It stipulates the separated powers of the state (executive, legislative and judicial), the citizens' rights and duties, financial affairs and other constitutional regulations.

¹ See Chapter II Rights and Duties of Jordanians in the Jordanian Constitution; Article 5 – 23 of the Jordanian Constitution. Available at <http://www.refworld.org/pdfid/3ae6b53310.pdf> (Last seen April 23, 2014).

² Through intense close readings of theorists such as Hegel, Tocqueville, Mill, Adorno, Arendt, and Foucault, Villa diagnoses the key causes of our democratic discontent and offers solutions to preserve at least some of our democratic hopes. Villa demonstrates how Americans' preoccupation with a market-based conception of freedom that is, the personal freedom to choose among different material, moral, and vocational goods. See Villa, Dana, *Public Freedom*, Princeton University Press, 2008.

³ "Freedom of opinion and freedom of expression are indispensable conditions for the full development of the person. They are essential for any society. They constitute the foundation stone for every free and democratic society. The two freedoms are closely related, with freedom of expression providing the vehicle for the exchange and development of opinions." Human Rights Committee, 102nd session, Geneva, 11-29 July 2011, General remarks. Available at <http://www.article19.org/resources.php/resource/2420/en/general-comment-no.34:-article-19:-freedoms-of-opinion-and-expression#sthash.yplXpa8H.dpuf> (Last seen April 23, 2014).

⁴ The Organic Law of Transjordan published in the Official Gazette, no .188 (April 24, 1928). See Massad, Joseph, *Colonial Effects, The Making of National Identity in Jordan*, Colombia University Press, P. 287 (2001).

⁵ The mandate for Transjordan ended on 22 May 1946 with the signing of the [Treaty of London](#) and Transjordan gained full independence. On 25 May 1946 the country became the Hashemite Kingdom of Transjordan when the ruling 'Amir' was re-designated as 'King'.

⁶ See King Hussein Library Available at http://www.kinghussein.gov.jo/constitution_jo.html/ (Last seen April 19, 2014).

⁷ See Article by the Jordanian Embassy in D.C –Media Section Available at

The review will focus on human rights under the Jordanian Constitution, beginning with the history of Jordan and a review of its governmental structure, the 1952 revision of the Jordanian Constitution with particular reference to human rights provisions, analysis of constitutionally-guaranteed human rights, human rights institutions and major International Conventions to which Jordan is a party.

Jordan History and a Review of its Governmental Structure

History of Jordan

Jordan is an Arab State situated on the East Bank of the Jordan River and it has borders with Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Palestine, the population density is concentrated in the governorates of the middle region where the capital Amman is located.¹ It has been home to some of mankind's earliest settlements and villages, where relics of many of the world's great civilizations can still be seen today. Jordan's geography has given it an important role to play as a conduit for trade and communications, connecting East and West, North and South. Jordan continues to play this role today.

The country is known for its tribal shape from the ancient Jordan, rise of the city-state, the Old Testament Kingdom of Jordan, the Hellenistic Nabataeans, the age of Rome, Christendom and the Byzantines, the Islamic periods, the crusades, the Ottoman Empire, and the Great Arab revolt.²

The land that became Jordan is part of the richly historical Fertile Crescent region. Around 2000 B.C., Semitic Amorites settled around the Jordan River in the area called Canaan.

Subsequent invaders and settlers included Hittites, Egyptians, Israelites, Assyrians, Babylonians, Persians, Greeks, Romans, Arab Muslims, Christian Crusaders, Mamluks, Ottoman Turks, and finally the British.

At the end of World War I, the League of Nations awarded the territory now comprising Israel, Jordan, the West Bank, Gaza, and Jerusalem to the United Kingdom as the mandate for Palestine and Transjordan.³

In 1922, the British divided the mandate by establishing the semiautonomous Emirate of Transjordan,⁴ ruled by the Hashemite Prince Abdullah, while continuing the administration of Palestine under a British High Commissioner.

The mandate over Transjordan ended on May 22, 1946;⁵ and on May 25, the country became the independent Hashemite Kingdom of Transjordan and it ended its special defense treaty relationship with the United Kingdom in 1957.⁶

In addition, Transjordan was one of the Arab States which moved to assist Palestinian nationalists opposed to the creation of Israel in May 1948,⁷ and took part in the warfare between the Arab States and the newly founded State of Israel. The Armistice Agreements of April 3, 1949 left Jordan⁸ in control of the West Bank and provided that the armistice demarcation lines were without prejudice to future territorial settlements or boundary lines.

In 1950, the country was renamed the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to include those portions of Palestine annexed by King Abdullah I, while recognizing Jordanian administration over the West Bank, the United States maintained the position that ultimate sovereignty was subject to future agreement.⁹

Jordan signed a Mutual Defense Treaty in May 1967 with Egypt,¹ and it participated in The June 1967 War between Israel and the Arab States, Syria, Egypt, and Iraq, during the war, Israel gained control of the West Bank and all of Jerusalem.

<http://www.jordanembassyus.org/new/links.shtml#CULTURAL> (Last seen April 23, 2014).

¹ See The FAO report- country profile Jordan, Available at

<http://www.fao.org/countryprofiles/index.asp?lang=en&iso3=JOR&paia=5> (Last seen April 23, 2014).

² See Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2003, Jordan, United States Department of State, Washington, DC. Feb. 25, 2004.

³ See Alabadi, Ahmed, *Stations in the History of Jordan and Tribes*, P. 27 (2007).

⁴ See Jordan, *Business Law Handbook, Strategic Laws*, International Business Publication, Vol, P. 17 (2002).

⁵ See Background Notes: Mideast, US Department of State, P. 30 (2011).

⁶ See Memorandum of Telephone Conversation, by the Director of the Office of Near Eastern and African Affairs (Henderson) Washington February 13, 1946.

⁷ See The Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel in May, 1948, Published in the Official Gazette, No. 1 of the 5th, Iyar, 5708 (14th May, 1948).

⁸ "The 1949 Armistice Agreements are a set of agreements signed during 1949 between [Israel](#) and neighboring [Egypt](#), [Lebanon](#), [Jordan](#), and [Syria](#). The agreements ended the official hostilities of the [1948 Arab-Israeli War](#), and established [Armistice Demarcation Lines](#) between Israeli forces and the forces in Jordanian-held [West Bank](#)." See [Hashemite Jordanian Kingdom Israel](#) Armistice Agreement UN Doc S/1302/Rev.1 3 April 1949.

⁹ See The U.S State Department report "Jordan" Jan 19, 2010 Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs. Available at <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/3464.htm> (Last seen April 23, 2014).

In 1988, Jordan renounced all claims to the West Bank but retained an administrative role pending a final settlement, and its 1994 Peace Treaty with Israel² allowed for a continuing Jordanian role³ in Muslim holy places in Jerusalem.

The U.S. Government considers the West Bank to be territory occupied by Israel and believes that its final status should be determined through direct negotiations among the parties concerned on the basis of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.⁴ The 1967 war led to a dramatic increase in the number of Palestinians living in Jordan. The Palestinian refugee population 700,000 in 1966 grew by another 300,000 from the West Bank; the period following the 1967 war witnessed an upsurge in the power and importance of Palestinian resistance elements “*Fedayeen*”⁵ in Jordan.⁶

The heavily armed “*Fedayeen*” constituted a growing threat to the sovereignty and security of the Hashemite State, and open fighting erupted in September 1970.

No fighting occurred along the 1967 Jordan River cease-fire line during the October 1973 Arab-Israeli War, but Jordan sent a brigade to Syria to fight Israeli units on Syrian territory.

Jordan did not participate in the Gulf War of 1990 but in 1991, Jordan agreed, along with Syria, Lebanon, and Palestinian representatives, to participate in direct peace negotiations with Israel sponsored by the U.S. and Russia, it negotiated an end to hostilities with Israel and signed a Peace Treaty in 1994, and Jordan has since sought to remain at peace with all of its neighbors.⁷

Government Structure

Jordan is a constitutional monarchy based on the Constitution promulgated on January 8, 1952 and the Executive Authority is vested in the King and his Council of Ministers.⁸

All laws are signed and executed by The King; his veto power may be overridden by a two-thirds vote of both houses of the parliament, and he appoints and may dismiss all judges by decree, approves amendments to the constitution, declares war, commands the armed forces, and the cabinet decisions, court judgments, and the national currency are issued in his name.⁹

The King, who may dismiss other cabinet members at the prime minister’s request, appoints the council of ministers, led by a prime minister and the cabinet is responsible to the lower house of parliament on matters of general policy and can be forced to resign by a two-thirds vote of “no confidence” by that body.

In January 2012 parliamentary elections, the women’s quota was increased in the new Election Law to fifteen seats up from twelve. Further, the Constitution provides for three categories of courts, civil, religious, and special courts.

Administratively, Jordan is divided into twelve governorates each headed by a governor appointed by the King, they are the sole authorities for all government departments and development projects in their respective areas.¹⁰

In addition to the government structure, the Jordanian Constitution guarantees the independence of the Judicial Authority, clearly stating that judges are “subject to no authority but that of the law.”¹¹ While the king

¹ Gawrych, George, *The Albatross of Decisive Victory: War and Policy between Egypt and Israel in the 1967 and 1973 Arab-Israeli Wars*, Military Studies, P. 10 (2002).

² The peace treaty with Jordan comprises 30 articles, five annexes which address boundary demarcations, water issues, police cooperation, environmental issues and mutual border crossings, and six maps.

³ See Article 5 Places of Historical and Religious Significance of the Israeli – Jordanian Peace Treaty “There will be freedom of access to the places of religious and historical significance. In accordance with the Washington Declaration, Israel respects the present special role of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in Muslim Holy shrines in Jerusalem. When negotiations on the permanent status, as detailed in the Declaration of Principles, will take place, Israel will give high priority to the Jordanian historic role in these shrines.”

⁴ See U.S. State Department report “Jordan” Jan 19, 2010 Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs. Available at <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/3464.htm> (Last seen April 23, 2014.) Also UNSC Resolution No. 242 and UNSC Resolution No. 338.

⁵ Oxford Dictionary definition of *Fedayeen* is “Arab guerrillas operating especially against Israel.”

⁶ See Bowker, Robert, *Palestinian Refugees: Mythology, Identity, and the Search for Peace*, Lynne Rienner Publishers, P. 23, (2003).

⁷ See The U.S State Department report “Jordan”, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs (Last seen April 20, 2014).

⁸ See Jurist Legal Intelligence World law - Jordan. Available at http://jurist.law.pitt.edu/jurist_search.php?q=jordan (Last seen April 20, 2014).

⁹ See The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Available at <http://www.martinfrost.ws/htmlfiles/july2006/jordan.html> (Last seen April 20, 2014).

¹⁰ See The U.S State Department report “Jordan” January 19, 2010 Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs.

¹¹ Article 97 of the Jordanian Constitution “Judges are independent, and in the exercise of their judicial functions

must approve the appointment and dismissal of judges, in practice these are supervised by the Higher Judicial Council, which forms independent decisions regarding the periodic recommendations submitted to it by the Ministry of Justice.¹

Article 99 of the Constitution² divides the courts into three categories: civil, religious and special courts, the civil courts exercise their jurisdiction in respect to civil and criminal matters in accordance with the law, and they have jurisdiction over all persons in all matters, civil and criminal, including cases brought against the government. The civil courts include Magistrate Courts, Courts of First Instance, Courts of Appeal, High Administrative Court and the Court of Cassation (Supreme Court).³ On the other hand, the Jordanian civil legal system has its foundations in the Code Napoléon, a French legal code implemented in Egypt in the early 19th Century.⁴

1952 Revision of the Jordanian Constitution with Particular Reference to Human Rights Provisions

In 1952, King Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, in accordance with Article 25 of the Constitution,⁵ and in pursuance of the decision of the Senate and House of Representatives, approved this revised Constitution and decree its promulgation. Moreover, the Constitution contains of nine Chapters and 131 Articles, the state and system government is on the first part of the Constitution, and in correlated with the subject we find the “Rights and Duties of Jordanians”⁶ in Chapter Two that has nineteen articles with regard to Jordanians guaranteed rights and their duties toward their State.

Article six of chapter two expressed that Jordanians shall be equal before the law. There shall be no discrimination between them as regards to their rights and duties on grounds of race, language or religion.⁷ For the most part of it, the Jordanian Authorities have been following what is stated in this article and for this precise article we should not overlook that Palestinians refugees amounting to 1.6 million individuals - a third of Jordan’s population.

Today, most if not all of Palestinian refugees carry the Jordanian nationality, most of these refugees have been integrated into the Jordanian society and less than 300,000 remain in refugee camps. Jordan is proud that all its citizens enjoy equality, civil and human rights regardless of their origin, and the freedom to participate as equals in the democratic process.⁸

Article seven of the Jordanian Constitution mentioned that “freedom shall be guaranteed”⁹ the Jordanian Authorities have been protecting its individuals, maintain their civil liberties and protect them from the State itself. Furthermore, Personal freedom is not something anyone can achieve by himself, and it is not something that anyone can achieve without himself, it is a right that requires mutuality, the person himself and the State.

In article eight “No person may be detained or imprisoned except in accordance with the provisions of the law.”¹⁰ Although the Constitution expressed that as right of the individuals of the State, but the government from time to time breaches the Constitution such as arbitrary imprisonment, Impendency of the citizens and detain them for actions they have never done. The authorities detain and Imprison political activist, human rights activists, and members of the opposition parties.

The deportation of a Jordanian is unconstitutional and this right is implanted in article nine (I).¹¹ In one occasion, the government argued that it is inappropriate for a Jordanian national to hold a leadership position in

they are subject to no authority other than that of the law.”

¹ See King Hussein Library, Available at http://www.kinghussein.gov.jo/constitution_jo.html/ (Last seen April 22, 2014).

² See Article 99 of the Jordanian Constitution.

³ See Article 19 from the Jordanian Constitution.

⁴ See list of [World Legal Systems](http://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/fields/2100.html), CIA World Fact Book, Available at <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/fields/2100.html> (Last seen April 29, 2014).

⁵ “The Legislative Power shall be vested in the National Assembly and the King. The National Assembly shall consist of a Senate and a Chamber of Deputies.”

⁶ Article 5 – 23 of the Jordanian Constitution.

⁷ Article 6 of the Jordanian Constitution.

⁸ See Robert Schuman Jordan: A Refugee Haven Center for Advanced Studies European University Institute.

⁹ See Article seven of the Jordanian Constitution.

¹⁰ See Article eight of the Jordanian Constitution.

¹¹ See Article nine of the Jordanian Constitution, “No Jordanian may be deported from the territory of the Kingdom.”

an outside organization or government which was in regard a Jordanian national who was given the choice between staying in Jordan or retaining his leadership role in Hamas party.¹

One of the rights that the Constitution has granted Jordanians in article ten is “Dwelling houses shall be inviolable and shall not be entered except in the circumstances and in the manner prescribed by law.”² It is a right associated with the strong religious and cultural environment of Jordanians for anyone to walk into their houses without a man present. Further, we can safely say that this article can be found in most of the Constitutions in the world to show respect to humankind.

We witnessed that article eleven of the Constitution “No property of any person may be expropriated except for purposes of public utility and in consideration of a just compensation, as may be prescribed by law.”³

At several occasions, The Jordanian government expropriated properties from citizens, the last major expropriation was in “Abdali” area where the government put its hand on many properties to rebuild the area and to be the hub of the region,⁴ but once again the right of ownership is a sacred right that should not be stripped from a citizen in favor of another on the grounds of public interest in accordance with the regulations of the Constitution, the law, and human rights principles.

Article thirteen of the Constitution imposed the compulsory labour⁵ on anyone in certain circumstances which are (I) In a state of necessity, such as a state of war, the occurrence of a public danger, or fire, flood, famine, earthquake, serious epidemic among human beings or animals or animal diseases, insects or pests or any other similar events, or in any other circumstances which might endanger the safety of the population, in whole or in part.

(ii) As a result of the conviction of the person concerned by a court of law, provided that the work is done and the service rendered under the supervision of an official authority and provided further that no convicted person shall be hired to, or be placed at the disposal of, any persons, companies, societies or public bodies.⁶

The impression of mutuality is noticeable in the previous paragraph, where the country has to protect the rights of its citizens on one hand, but on the other hand, the citizens have obligations toward their country.

Jordan is considered one of the most advanced countries in the Middle East in observation of worshipping, “The State shall safeguard the free exercise of all forms of worship and religious rites in accordance with the customs observed in the Kingdom, unless such is inconsistent with public order or morality.”⁷ Jordan is a majority Muslim country, with 92% of the population following Sunni Islam, while a small minority of around 2% follows Shi’a Islam and Sufism as well as some Druze. The country also has a significant Christian minority, making up around 6% of the population, mainly Catholic, Oriental Orthodox or Greek Orthodox.⁸

Citizens in Jordan can practice religion at ease unlike some of the other neighboring countries, an individual can spot places for worship, churches and mosques. So, the country has zero tolerance for discrimination against religions.

Article fifteen⁹ of the Constitution guaranteed the following:

(I) “The State shall guarantee freedom of opinion. Every Jordanian shall be free to express his opinion by speech, in writing, or by means of photographic representation and other forms of expression, provided that such does not violate the law.”¹⁰ In many occasions the police and the Jordanian government violated the Constitution regarding freedom of opinion, there are certain forbidden subjects that a citizen is not suppose to talk about or even mention the government such as the imprisonment of journalists, human rights activist and bloggers.

¹ See Khalaf, Mamoun Hamas’ Leaders and Jordan, February 19, 2006. Available at <http://ajloun.blogspot.com/2006/02/hamas-leaders-and-jordan.html> (Last seen April 25, 2014).

² See Article ten of the Jordanian Constitution.

³ See Article eleven of the Jordanian Constitution.

⁴ See Concept of Expropriation for the Public Interest Symposium Held in Amman February, 14, 2008 Talal Abu-Ghazalah Institution.

⁵ This constitutional right comes in place with respect to The Forced Labour Convention, the full title of which is the Convention Concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour, 1930 (No.29), is one of 8 [ILO fundamental conventions](#).

⁶ See Article thirteen of the Jordanian Constitution.

⁷ See Article fourteen of the Jordanian Constitution.

⁸ See Fleishman, Jeffery, [For Christian enclave in Jordan, tribal lands are sacred](#), *L.A Times* (10/05/2009).

⁹ See Article fifteen of the Jordanian Constitution.

(ii) "Freedom of the press and publications shall be ensured within the limits of the law." But the new publication and press law included electronic newspapers to its censorship which will control these sites so editors and bloggers will not be able to convey their thoughts and ideas as they used to.

(iii) "Newspapers shall not be suspended from publication nor shall their permits be revoked except in accordance with the provisions of the law." In a surprising ruling, the Court of Cassation ruled that websites are under the control of the Department of Press and Publication which means in other word that every article should be screened and controlled. Further, not every article written will be published as noted due to the censorship.

(iv) "In the event of the declaration of martial law or a state of emergency, a limited censorship on newspapers, publications, books and broadcasts in matters affecting public safety and national defense may be imposed by law."

(v) "Control of the resources of newspaper shall be regulated by law." Many newspapers in Jordan articulate the point of view of the government, but some of the opponent parties still publish its own newspapers.

In article sixteen of the Constitution (I) "Jordanians shall have the right to hold meetings within the limits of the law."¹ Any meeting or gathering that the law specified more than fifteen people they should seek a permit from the authorities. Thus, some of them get arrested in some demonstrations since it is known that Jordan is in a hot spot where in the West the Israeli - Palestinian conflict and in the East the war in Iraq and the ongoing conflict in Syria after the Arab Spring.

(ii) "Jordanians are entitled to establish societies and political parties provided that the objects of such societies and parties are lawful, their methods peaceful, and their by-laws not contrary to the provisions of the Constitution." Jordan has over thirty political parties that have different point of view and thoughts; none of them play a real role due to the lack of organization and clear political image, they range between religious, nationalism, Arabism, socialist, democratic and constitutional.

Article seventeen of the Constitution expressed "Jordanians are entitled to address the public authorities on any personal matters affecting them, or on any matter relative to public affairs, in such a manner and under such conditions as may be prescribed by law."² The Jordanian Constitution guaranteed these rights to the citizens and there is a specific place where citizens can address their problems, this place is the Royal Hashemite Court, which is considered the link between the King and the Central Government and it is considered a vital link between the King and the Jordanian people.

Although article eighteen of the Constitution expressed that "All postal, telegraphic and telephonic communications shall be treated as secret and as such shall not be subject to censorship or suspension except in circumstances prescribed by law."³ There have been cases of security officers monitoring telephone conversations and Internet communications, read private correspondence, and engaging in surveillance of persons who are considered to pose a threat to the government or national security, but no incidences of this were reported lately.⁴ The censorship has been noticeable and it is on increased since the terrorist attacks of 9/11 most of the countries changed their policies on that matter.

It is not out of the ordinary as a democratic State to include its Constitution with this article "Congregations shall have the right to establish and maintain their own schools for the education of their own members provided that they comply with the general provisions of the law and be subject to the control of Government in matters relating to their curricula and orientation."⁵ It is obvious to see different establishments and schools to different congregations have been in the country for years, but these establishments should work under the Jordanian law and any changes to their curricula should be under the supervision of the Jordanian Ministry of Education.

In article twenty of the Constitution "Elementary education shall be compulsory for Jordanians and free of charge in Government schools."⁶ In Jordan, basic education is a ten years compulsory level of education and study books are standard books distributed by the Ministry of Education. Thus, education is free in primary and secondary and is made compulsory for all through the ages seven to fifteen.⁷ Also, thousands of Iraqi and Syrian refugee's students attend Jordanian schools until both countries settle their own conflicts.

¹ See Article sixteen of the Jordanian Constitution.

² See Article seventeen of the Jordanian Constitution.

³ See Article eighteen of the Jordanian Constitution.

⁴ See US State Department Human Rights Report 2006 – Jordan, Available at <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/> (Last seen April 22, 2014).

⁵ See Article nineteen of the Jordanian Constitution.

⁶ See Article Twenty of the Jordanian Constitution.

⁷ See World Bank Project Information Document (PID) Appraisal stage Report No.: AB4460. Available at http://www.wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2009/01/30/000104615_20090203101235/Rendered/INDEX/JO010ERfKE0II01aisal0Stage010Jan.28.txt (Last seen April 23, 2014).

Article twenty one of the Constitution “(I) Political refugees shall not be extradited on account of their political beliefs or for their defense of liberty”.

Jordan has proved honorably by not extraditing political refugees, and the last case in this matter is the daughter of Saddam Hussein the fifth president of Iraq

The Iraqi government requested the Jordanian Authorities to move “Raghad” the daughter to Iraq to appear before the court for her finically support to certain terrorist groups, further the daughter of Saddam received personal and political guarantees from the Jordanian Authorities that Amman will not deal officially with any memorandum of Iraqi or even international list with her name on.

(ii) “Extradition of ordinary criminals shall be regulated by international agreements and laws.”¹ Jordan signed different treaties² with different countries as far as the extradition of ordinary criminals and due to the Jordanian extradition act.³ For instance, the Extradition Treaty between the U.S. government and Jordan that was signed in Washington on March 28, 1995. Also, the treaty establishes the conditions and procedures for extradition between the United States and Jordan.⁴

Article twenty two mentioned “Every Jordanian shall be entitled to be appointed to public offices under such conditions as are prescribed by law or regulations.”⁵ the dilemma here that Jordanian law prohibits any person from holding any position in the government before the tenth anniversary of getting the Jordanian citizenship, a recent case in court regarding the appointment of Mohamed Saqr as a president of the Aqaba Authority Special Economic Zone since he has only been a citizen for nine years and nine years disqualify him from holding a public office. Furthermore the article in its second part requires qualifications in holding public offices in the government.

In article twenty three of the Constitution “(I) Work is the right of every citizen, and the state shall provide opportunities for work to all citizens by directing the national economy and raising its standards.” Jordan has witnessed in the last two decades economic development which noticeably resulted in declining in unemployment and provide the greatest possible number of jobs for its citizens also the industrial cities in various regions of Jordan led to human development.

(ii) The State shall protect labour and enact legislation therefore based on the following principles:

(a) Every worker shall receive wages commensurate with the quantity and quality of his work.

(b) The number of hours of work per week shall be defined. Workers shall be given weekly and annual days of paid rest.

(c) Special compensation shall be given to workers supporting families and on dismissal, illness, old age and emergencies arising out of the nature of their work.

(d) Special conditions shall be made for the employment of women and juveniles.

(e) Factories and workshops shall be subject to health safeguards.

(f) Free trade unions may be formed within the limits of the law.⁶

In Jordan, migrant domestic workers, who are predominately women, confront a number of labour and human rights violations, including overwork, non-payment of wages, restrictions on mobility and communication, and physical and sexual abuse.⁷ Moreover, the country has more than one nationality workers they are from Egypt, Syria, and recently from East Asia as housemaids.

Most of the violation acts against workers have been reported to the police, many of the immigrant workers in Jordan live in poor conditions and they do face unpaid wages, sexual exploitation, harassment, work in difficult conditions and working long hours. However, the civil society institutions in Jordan hold meetings and seminars to discuss the problems of employment and to pursuit solutions, since some of the acts against the immigrant workers are in contrary to what stated in the text of the Jordanian Constitution.

Analysis of Constitutionally-Guaranteed Human Rights

Importantly, the Constitution specifically guarantees the rights of Jordanian citizens, including the freedom of speech and press, association, academic freedom, political parties, freedom of religion and the right to elect parliamentary and municipal representatives.

¹ See Article twenty one of the Jordanian Constitution.

² See Extradition Treaty between the United States and Jordan in 1995.

³ See Extradition Treaty between the United Kingdom and Jordan in 2013.

⁴ See Article 15 (1) of the Jordanian Extradition Act.

⁵ See Nash, Marian, Contemporary Practice of the United States Relating to International Law, Diplomatic Relations, The American Journal of International Law, Vol. 90, No. 1, P. 16 (1996).

⁶ See Article twenty two of the Jordanian Constitution.

⁷ See Article twenty three of the Jordanian Constitution.

⁷ See International labour Organization Report “The Special Working Contract for Non-Jordanian Domestic Workers” Seeberg, Peter and Eyadat, Zaid, Migration, Security, and Citizenship in the Middle East, New Perspective, Palgrave Macmillan Publisher, P. 34 (2013).

The Jordanian Constitution since its revision in January 1, 1952 in its nine chapters and 131 articles granted the Jordanian citizens several rights even though it was revised in a very sensitive era.¹

Article fourteen of the Constitution guarantees freedom of religion, provided that religious practices are consistent with “public order and morality.” Islam, Christianity, and Judaism are the only state-recognized religious faiths while some religious minorities in Jordan like Druze do not have place to practice.

Moreover, the Jordanian law provides citizens the right to travel freely within the country and abroad except in designated military areas.

Article twenty of the Jordanian Constitution declares elementary education compulsory for all Jordanians and free for all students in government schools.

There is no legal gender discrimination, and social norms encourage families to enroll their children in schools and universities. At the national level the gross education enrollment rate is now higher for females.² The Constitution and a number of Jordanian laws guarantee the rights of citizens, both men and women, to vote and run for elections. Women face no legal barriers in their right to participate in local assemblies and other institutions.

The State has taken some steps to encourage women’s participation in the public sphere, with the appointment of three women ministers, ninety four municipal council members, seven members of the senate, and two ambassadors.

In 2012, Jordan also established a quota for women in the House of Representatives, reserving 15 out of 150 seats for women candidates.³ However, the application of this quota is conditional on the approval of the Council of Ministers, who can apply it in consecutive elections if it is deemed in the public interest. The quota system was introduced in the 2012 elections through a legislative amendment; as a result, fifteen women were elected to the lower house of parliament.

In contrast, some of the laws might be in a contradiction with the Constitution such as the Jordanian Societies Law No 51 of 2008 and its 2009 amendments,⁴ and in order to comply with international standards on the right to association in particular.⁵

Recommendations have been submitted for the right to establish an association through simple notification without the need for a prior license from the authorities. Only regular courts should review cases related to the formation and activities of associations and examine refusals of registration, closures, dissolutions, or legal violations and the government should not interfere in any association meeting.

To have a better forum of democracy the minstrel section in the government should not monitor the internal affairs of associations it should be monitored only by their general boards. And the most important point that the associations right to get domestic and foreign funding without a prior approval and subject only to notification, with provisions that guarantee a commitment to transparency and respect for the law.

Article three of the Societies Law limited the associations to freely carry out their activities as described in their statement of application, including those of a political nature, for the fact that Jordan been through bad time in certain years and not to mention the Black September when The Palestinian Liberation Organization attempt to take over Jordan in 1970.

Ironically, the government has not taken any steps to adopt a refugee’s status to provide legal status to Palestinians. Hopefully, the 1951 Refugee Convention⁶, and the 1967 Refugee Protocol⁷ get ratify for the protection of the rights of all immigrants workers and members of their families.

Grant residency permits to refugees and asylum seekers registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Jordan and provide them with access to the labor market. Today, the issue is the Iraqi and Syrian refugees who fled their country due to the war.

¹ See The Jordanian Constitution.

² See Freedom in the World 2004 (Washington, D.C. and New York: Freedom House, 2004), 295. Available at <http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=174> (Last seen April 26, 2014).

³ See Gilger, Carolina, DWN Gender Quota System, “if we don’t have a quota system we will not have women in parliament is more likely to strike down legislation such as the “Inheritance Law.”

⁴ See The Jordanian Societies Law No 51, according to the Law 51 of 2008 as amended by Law 22 of 2009, there are three available legal forms for civil society. Foreign not-for-profit organizations are also permitted to establish branch offices in Jordan.

⁵ See EMHRN Report, Available at [Freedom of Association on the Euro-Mediterranean Region](http://www.emhrn.org/Freedom%20of%20Association%20on%20the%20Euro-Mediterranean%20Region.pdf) p.36-40 (2009), (Last seen April 30, 2014).

⁶ See 1951 Refugee Convention, Available at <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49da0e466.html> (Last seen April 28, 2014).

⁷ See 1967 Refugee Protocol, Available at <http://www.unhcr.org/protect/PROTECTION/3b66c2aa10.pdf> (Last seen April 29, 2014).

Ultimately, the authorities should have an agenda to remove criminal penalties for unauthorized migration.

Jordan today has multiple nationalities in the work force and it should secure their rights by having trained judges, general attorneys and lawyers to focus on applying human rights principals on a daily basis.

As for the justice, the reform has to be in accordance with international standards so the country can catch up with the international community in regard of that. Furthermore, the competency, independently, and adequately have to be the measure.

Take all necessary steps to guarantee the competence, independence and impartiality of the judiciary through appropriate and adequate constitutional, legislative and administrative measures.

Repeal the modifications that were done to the Judiciary Independence Law on June 16, 2010 prescribing more administrative and judicial powers to the Ministry of Justice over judges and prosecution.¹

In the middle East, women and gender are touchy topics, so in order to have better rights that are not in contradiction with the Constitution, there should be a review to every existing legislation and amend any legislation if necessary to ensure equality between men and women, in particular, discriminatory provisions in the Penal Code, the Personal Statues law, and Nationality Law. The “honor killing” in today’s society in Jordan is out of hand. According to article 340 of the Penal Code,² “A husband or a close blood relative that kills a woman caught in a situation highly suspicious of adultery will be totally exempt from sentence.”

Meanwhile, article 98 of the Jordanian Penal Code³ in the meanwhile, guarantees a lighter sentence for male killers of female relatives who have committed an “act which is illicit in the eyes of the perpetrator.”⁴

“In practice, once a murder has been judged an ‘honor killing,’ the usual sentence is from three months to one year.”⁵

Recently, many NGO’S trying to campaign to put an end to the brutality of women and deal with it in one standard instead of the double standards as a measure in killing the female in the family but the male always get away with his acts.

To conclude, “Honor killings account for 1/3 of all violent deaths in Jordan, 39% of victims are under the age of 18, 32% are between the ages of 18-27 and 70% are virgins. Approximately, 25 females per year are reportedly killed in the name of honor in Jordan.”⁶

The torture and treatment reserved a massive image in the human rights issue, so constitutionally; the country should implement the recommendations of the Committee against Torture adopted on May 14, 2010.⁷ Further, in many occasions’ courts discuss torture cases in the Jordanian prisons, and affective measures to prevent acts of torture helps the progress of the country.

The Emergence of Human Rights in Jordan

Jordan has the lowest risk of human rights violations in the Middle East and North Africa and one of the lowest in the world based on Maplecroft studies which used Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch reports to compile its human rights monitoring system.⁸

Perhaps those who follow the reality of human rights in Jordan notes acceleration experienced by the path of human rights in the last decade, where it was approved and modified a number of relevant legislation that violate the direct human rights, the Publications and Press Law⁹ was amended to ensure that the arrest of journalists should not be a practice and to ensure their right of access to information and to mention that Jordan is one of the first States in the Arab world where there is a law to guarantee the right of citizens to obtain

¹ See EMHRN Report: [The independence and Impartiality of the Judiciary in Jordan](#) 2009.

² See article 340 of the Jordanian Penal Code. Human Rights Watch says that article 340 “used to be a violation of women’s rights until [it] was amended. Now it is not exoneration but mitigation” and is no longer discriminatory.

³ See Article 98 of the Jordanian Penal Code.

⁴ See Borger, Julian, In Cold Blood, Manchester Guardian Weekly, November 16, 1997.

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ See Faqir, Fadia, Intrafamily Femicide in Defense of Honour: The Case of Jordan, *Third World Quarterly*, 22.1 P. 65 (2001), Also see Nanes, Stefanie Eileen, Fighting Honour Crimes: Evidence of Civil Society in Jordan, *The Middle East Journal*, 57.1, P. 112 (2003).

⁷ See The Committee against Torture (CAT), Available at <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cat/> (Last seen April 28, 2014).

⁸ See Maplecroft Human Rights Monitoring Report, Available at <http://www.maplecroft.com/portfolio/> (Last seen April 27, 2014).

⁹ Jordan Press and Publication Law, the controversial Press and Publication Law was issued in 1998, when Prince Hassan was acting as regent during the illness of King Hussein. The law was amended slightly in 1999, and again in 2012 to bring news websites within its remit.

information from official institutions, which is a right shift in emphasis on freedom of information and knowledge.

Also, the enactment of Political Parties Law¹ is to ensure the set of principles that will enhance the political parties to work in terms of guarantee the non prosecution or accountability of any citizen on the partisan and affiliation to any party and the right of parties to use the official media to disseminate the principles, it ensured that the dissolution of any political party should be only through a judicial decision. The law also included that the government should financially support political parties to enable them to address the people.

The efforts continued in the Legislative Authority through the enactment of a law² to prevent human trafficking and to develop national plans to combat this phenomenon, and take preventive measures to ensure strict penalties for all those who contributed to or participated in or intervene in such crimes to ensure the human dignity.

Further, a law was passed in the financial disclosure and the development of severe penalties against any public official did not disclose assets and financial interests in order to ensure the fight against corruption and to promote integrity and enhance transparency.

Any observer of the reality of human rights in Jordan can say that Jordan has made considerable progress in promoting economic and social rights, where Jordan has seen a widening of the infrastructure and a significant development on the services provided by the State to individuals, and going back to the reality of the right of education shows how the progress made by Jordan in this area, just saying that Jordan has adopted the principles of free and compulsory education, resulting in low illiteracy rate, which reached (7.3%).

Regarding the health matter, Jordan became a pilgrimage place for seeking treatment, and this should be considered acceptable compared with the relevant international standards.

Concerning the matter of civil and political rights there is still much work to be done to promote these rights in order to avoid deficiencies in this area, and the recommendations are:

- To work continuously to amend the Public Meetings Law No. 7 for the year 2004, since there are some of its provisions violate the international standards in the international conventions.
- To repeal the Law to Prevent Crimes for the significantly increased of the number of administrative detainees.
- To modify the Law on Associations, although the law amended in (2009), it is still in its structure and mechanisms lack the promotion and protection of the right of individuals to form and join associations.
- To modify the Law to Protect State Secrets and Documents No. 50 for the year 1971, this requires modifications to be compatible closely in line with the law guaranteeing the right to access information regarding the classification of documents in particular.

Clearly, the work on the protection and promotion of human rights in Jordan has become systematic. Jordan made great strides at the international, regional, and local levels in this area in order to enhance community security and development of human rights. Although, Human Rights Institutions have the ability to access to ensure respect for human rights; for the fact that the process of promoting human rights is a socio-economic process, not just political and legal process.

It is also a gradual process based on changing the culture and society and the acceptance of values that combines the world. The State itself is primarily responsible for the protection of human rights.

Human Rights Institutions

Today, Jordan is a party to many human rights agreements. The country has a membership in sixteen agreements.³

Since 1989 Jordan has witnessed democratic breakthrough and political openness, ending a historic martial law and the law of the defense as a result of political conditions the country experienced since the mid-fifties of the twentieth century. Although the State has been struggling democratically during the past two decades by a number of factors such as political, social, economic domestic, regional, and international, but it could be argued that there is a general trend towards strengthening and protecting human rights by all official and non-official institutions.

There are also governmental views towards the empowerment of human rights activists to exercise their awareness and protective without harassment under the law, as well as to educate the community of the values of

¹ The Political Parties Law, Law number 32 for the year 1992, published in the Official Gazette, No. 3851 of 1 September 1992.

² In 2009, the Jordanian Government ratified the Anti-Human Trafficking Law and formed a national committee to draw up policies to prevent human trafficking and ensure their implementation.

³ See Arab Human Rights Report- Jordan. Available at <http://www.arabhumanrights.org/en/countries/country.aspx?cid=7> (Last seen May 1, 2014).

human rights, tolerance, and away from the values of intolerance, hatred and violence, where the government worked on adopting the Amman Message of Centrism and Moderation, the national agenda and the national charter, which constitute comprehensive review of the overall human rights situation in the Kingdom and to identify priorities for government action.

The government established a numerous institutions to reach the desired goal dealing with human rights, ranging from the national foundation to parliamentary committees, and non-governmental organizations concerned with human rights, more than thirty institutions, so as to facilitate the task of monitoring the performance of all public institutions and the availability to provide remedies for all citizens with ensuring ease of access.

Moreover, the establishment of the National Centre for Human Rights, as a national institution dealing with human rights in accordance with the Paris Principles of 1993,¹ and guaranteed by legislation under law No. 75 for the year of 2002,² the main objectives are, promoting the principles of human rights in the kingdom, establish their culture on the levels of thought and practice, inspired tolerant message of Islam, teaches the contents of Arab and Islamic heritage and values enshrined in the Constitution confirmed by the international charters and conventions.

Even at the parliamentary level there is the Commission for Liberties and Civil Rights in the House of Representatives,³ and its task is to monitor the human rights situation through following up the conditions of prisoners and detainees in correctional and rehabilitation centers and places of detention interim of the various security services, as well as follow up the civil and political rights, economic, social, and cultural rights through consideration of the draft legislation submitted to the Executive Authority to work on comprehensive study and provide laws consistent with the constitutional and international standards of human rights.

On the other hand, there are more than fifty non-governmental organizations concerned on promoting and protecting human rights, these organizations have provided many programs, local and regional initiatives to promote human rights, including the initiative, “the Arabic Network for Election Observation”⁴ which was founded in July 2006 by Amman Center for Human Rights, includes forty five organizations and civil society organization, held its founding conference on the 29 and 30 of November 2006, the institution acknowledged its elected chairman of the network and its members, the network seeks to monitor the elections according to international standards, and publishes a monthly newsletter entitled “Election Observer” covering several elections took place in the Arab World.

Major International Conventions to which Jordan is a Party

Jordan is one of the first States to join the international conventions and covenants on human rights. Also, the country joined the main seventh United Nations Conventions on human rights.

In addition, Jordan has joined the seven International labor organization Conventions,⁵ which are specifically in regard of human rights, namely, Convention number 98 on the Right to Organize Laborer Unions, Conventions number 29 and 105 on Forced Labor, Convention number 100 on Equal Pay, Convention number 111 on the Prevention of Discrimination in Employment and Occupation, Convention number 138 on Minimum Age for Employment, and Convention number 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labor.

As for the Regional Charters, Jordan approved the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam, issued in 1990 by the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Islamic States, and also endorsed the Arab Charter on Human Rights amended by the Arab Summit in Tunis in May 2004.

Conclusion

The Jordanian Political wills are very important, sustained and deep-rooted to respect human rights and public freedoms, reflected in the commitment to the provisions of the Jordanian Constitution and the laws in force, and letters of His Majesty the King. All of which focus on raising the ceiling of public freedoms, respect for human rights, promoting democracy, and the development of political life, to become a behavior practiced by everyone, through paving the way for holding seminars, workshops, lectures, conferences, and training courses on human

¹ See Paris Principles A/RES/48/134 85th plenary meeting Dec 20, 1993. Available at http://www.info.gov.hk/info/eoc/annex6_e.pdf (Last seen May 1, 2014).

² See The National Center for Human rights in Jordan, Law No. 75 for the year 2002, Available at <http://www.nchr.org.jo/> (Last seen May 1, 2014).

³ See House of Representative, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Available at <http://www.representatives.jo/english/com.shtm> (Last seen May 1, 2014).

⁴ See the National Democratic Institute (NDI) report- Jordan, Available at <http://www.ndi.org/content/jordan> (Last seen May 1, 2014).

⁵ See Index of countries, territories and areas in the International Labour Organization. Available at <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/realm/ctry-ndx.htm> (Last seen May 1, 2014).

rights, which demonstrates the leading role played by Jordan in the dissemination of a culture of human rights and the promotion and consolidation.

The abuses are investigated and held accountable at fault, since Jordan is dealing with all issues of transparency and there is nothing hidden. Further, the Reform and Rehabilitation Centers are open for organizations and human rights associations visits. The public freedoms are available to all; every person can express his opinion freely in the framework of the Constitution and the law.

The subject of human rights is a high priority in the legal system and the Legislative Authority in Jordan. The Jordanian Constitution guarantees constitutional and legislative rights contained in chapter II, articles 5-23 under the title Rights and Duties of Jordanians, and these public rights and freedoms, namely: human equality, education, employment, association and political parties, trade unions and personal freedoms, freedom of opinion and expression, and freedom of religious observance and beliefs, these rights fit with the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Jordan has always praised by international bodies and organizations with regard to human rights, which are indicated in their respective reports to the progressive development in the areas of human rights in Jordan, despite the region's political developments and security disruptions due to the rising violence and terrorism.

In Jordan, there are many associations, organizations, and licensed centers dealing with human rights and public freedoms, pursue their activities freely, in recognition of its pioneering role in promoting and disseminating a culture of human rights in the Kingdom, notably the National Center for Human Rights, Centre for Justice and Human Rights, Center for Defending Freedom of Journalists, Arab Women Media Center, Arab Organization for Human Rights, Amman Center for Human Rights Studies, Department of Human Rights and Human Security at the Foreign Ministry, in addition to the Committee of Freedoms and Human Rights in the House of Representatives.

Considering the history, the geography of the place, customs, customary law, and the multicultural sphere of Jordan, any observer can proudly notice the progress of human rights in Jordan; these progresses put the country in the top of the modern countries. Basically, the number of organizations and international agreements in regard of human rights which Jordan is a party, show more about the statues of the country in the issue of human rights, let alone the fact that Jordan was established in the last century and still under massive of progress considering the unbearable circumstances on the country that put back its ability to act fast comparing to the advanced countries and taking into consideration the war in Iraq and Palestine as another major concern for the country.

To conclude, Jordan's major concern in the meantime is to play the most valuable role to contribute to the protection and promotion of human rights for the vitality, importunity, and sensitivity of it.

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