

Pakistan Standard Style Of Legal Citations (PSSLC)

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CONTENTS

Introduction:	1
Chapter 1: Citing the decisions of apex Courts of Pakistan	2
1.1. Citing the decisions of apex Courts of Pakistan in a continuous paragraph	2
1.2. Citing the decision of High Courts of Pakistan approved but not yet reported and published in Law Journal	3
1.3. Citing the decision of High Courts of Pakistan approved but not yet reported and published in Law Journal	3
1.4. If above-mentioned Citation is repeatedly referred	4
Chapter 2: Citing Constitution, Legislation, Rules, Regulations Presidential Orders, Ordinances and proposed Bills	5
2.1 Citing the Constitution of Pakistan	5
2.2. Citing the Acts of Parliament and Provincial Assemblies ----	5
2.3. Citing the Procedural Law containing Order and Rules ----	6
2.4. Citing the Ordinances	7
2.5. Citing the Regulations	7
2.6. Citing the Orders	8
2.7. Citing the Bills	9
2.8. If above-mentioned Citation is repeatedly referred	10
Chapter 3: Citing the references of books and e-books	11
3.1 Citing the references of books and e-books	11
3.2. If above-mentioned Citation is repeatedly referred	11
Chapter 4: Citing Articles from Journals and Newspapers	14
4.1 Citing Journal Articles	13
4.2. Citing Newspaper Articles	13
4.3. If above-mentioned citation is repeatedly referred	14
Chapter 5: Arranging the Footnote and Bibliography	15
5. Arranging the Footnotes	15
5.1. Arranging Bibliography	15

INTRODUCTION:

It has been felt that for citing different references in research articles and publications our universities and colleges rely upon foreign styles of citations, which are mostly developed and updated by different foreign universities. Whereas, I have also observed that there is no legal compulsion in adopting a specific foreign style of citation in Pakistan, it totally depends upon the decision of your university or college that has required you to do the research.

Similarly, it has been observed that majority of lawyers and judges in Pakistan are unconcerned about adopting any specific style of citation. Different Law Reports/Law Journals in Pakistan use their own styles of citation.

In author's views there is a dire need to adopt our own standard style of citation to be used by the academia, the judiciary and the legal professionals.

Therefore, keeping in view the lack of standard legal citations of Pakistan, the author has proposed the following style of citation, which may be called the '**Pakistan Standard Style of Legal Citations**' ("**PSSLC**"). This **PSSLC** can be further updated from time to time.

This proposed **PSSLC** is being proposed to the Pakistan Bar Council, the Ministry of Law and Justice, the Directorate of Legal Education, the apex Courts of Pakistan, the Judicial Academies and the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan. And if **PSSLC** is adopted, it can be proposed as a new citation tool to the Microsoft to be made compatible with the current version of Microsoft Word.

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Citing the decisions of apex Courts of Pakistan



Chapter 1

1. Citing the decisions of apex Courts of Pakistan:

The Pakistani cases should be cited in the following manner in the footnote and the endnote:

"[Party "A" Vs. Party "B"], [the style of citation as provided in particular Law Journal]"

For example:

Khawaja Ahmad Hassan Vs. Government of Punjab and Others, 2005 SCMR 186

1.1. Citing the decisions of apex Courts of Pakistan in a continuous paragraph:

If the decision of apex Court is being cited in a continuous paragraph in a specific writing, i.e., *in-text*, then, it should be cited as follows:

"As per Mr. Justice [Name of honorable Judge] in [Party "A" Vs. Party "B"], [the style of Citation as provided in particular Law Journal]"

For example:

As per Mr. Jj. Javed Iqbal and Abdul Hameed Dogar in Khawaja Ahmad Hassan Vs. Government of Punjab and Others, 2005 SCMR 186

Or, in the following way (as the need may be):

"[First Appellant/Petitioner's Name Vs. First Respondent's Name], [Year of Decision]"

Or

"[First Appellant's Name's Case], [Year of Decision]"

For example:

"Ahmad Hassan Vs. Government of Punjab, 2005"

Or

"Ahmad Hassan's Case, 2005"

1.2. Citing the decision of High Courts of Pakistan approved but not yet reported and published in Law Journal:

If the Judgment of High Court is approved for reporting but not yet reported and published in the Law Report/Law Journal and if it is, at the moment of referencing, available on website of High Court, then adopt the following style of citation:

[Type of Proceeding with Case Number]. [Party "A" Vs. Party "B"], [Date of decision], [Year of decision, Lahore High Court ("LHC") and Page Number], [Authored by Mr. Justice----], [available at website of the Court], [Date when the Judgment on the website is accessed]

For example:

"C.R. (Against Decree u/s 115 C.P.C.) No.212-8, *Fazal Karim Etc. Vs. Mehboob Khan*, d.15.03.2023, 2023 LHC 1297, authored by Mr. Justice Mirza Viqas Rauf, available at www.lhc.gov.pk, accessed 12.04.2023"

1.3. Citing the decision of High Courts of Pakistan approved but not yet reported and published in Law Report/Law Journal:

If the Judgment of Supreme Court is approved for reporting but not yet reported and published in the Law Journal/Law Report, and if it is, at the moment of referencing, available on website of Supreme Court, then adopt the following style of citation:

[Case Number], [Title of Parties], [Date of decision], [Authored by Mr. Justice----], [available at website of the Court], [Date when the Judgment on the website is accessed]

For example:

"C.P.3506/2020, Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) through its Chairman, Islamabad and another Vs. M/s ARY Communication Private Limited (ARY Digital) through its Chief Executive Officer, Karachi and another, d.12.04.2023, authored by Mr. Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, available at www.supremecourt.gov.pk, accessed 13.04.2023"

1.4. If a Citation is repeatedly referred in later sentences:

If a citation is repeatedly referred in later sentences in your writing then, there is no need to use the old Latin term "ibid", which is derived from "ibidem", in the footnote or endnote, instead use the following simple English words:

"As above,"

And

"As above, p.[Enter Page Number]"

For example:

"As above,p.1"

And if a citation is repeatedly referred in later sentences in your writing and you want to use it in your continuous paragraph then, there is no need to use the old Latin term "Supra", which means "above", instead use the following simple English words:

"as earlier" or "as mentioned earlier"

And if you want to refer any other decision of apex Court, which closely relates to your referred point, then use the following words:

"See also:"





**Citing the Constitution, Legislation,
Rules, Regulations, Presidential Orders,
Ordinances and Bills**



Chapter 2

2.1. Citing the Constitution of Pakistan:

And while citing the Constitution of Pakistan, use the following style:

"[Enter Article Number], *The Constitution of Pakistan, 1973*, last amended/inserted/substituted [Enter date]"

For example:

""Article 10A, *The Constitution of Pakistan, 1973*, inserted on April 19, 2010"

And if you are citing the Constitution from internet source, then use the following style:

"[Enter Article Number], *The Constitution of Pakistan, 1973*, amended/inserted/substituted [Enter date]", available at: [URL], [Enter dated when website is accessed]

For example:

"Article 10A, *The Constitution of Pakistan, 1973*, inserted on April 19, 2010, available at: [https://www.pakistani.org/pakistan/constitution/part2.ch1.html], accessed August 14, 2023

2.2. Citing the Acts of Parliament and Provincial Assemblies:

While citing a particular provision of any legislation, follow the following style:

"[Section Number], [Name of Legislation], [Year of Legislation]"

Note: For quoting a single Section, use "S." and for quoting multiple Sections, use "Ss."

For example;

"S.302, Pakistan Penal Code, 1908"

and

"Ss.300, 302, Pakistan Penal Code, 1908"

2.3. Citing the Procedural Law containing Order and Rules:

Similarly for quoting the Order and Rules, use following Style:

"[Order Number], [Rule Number], [The title of procedural law with year]"

For example:

"O.1, R.10, The Code of Civil Procedure of Pakistan, 1908"

And while quoting the Rules, use the following style:

"[Rule Number], [Complete title of the Rules with year]"

For example:

"Rule 10, West Pakistan Family Court Rules, 1965"

And if you are citing the Rules from internet source, then use the following style:

"[Rule Number], [Complete title of the Rules with year]" available at: [URL], [Enter dated when website is accessed]

For example:

"Rule 10, West Pakistan Family Court Rules, 1965 available at: [http://kpcode.kp.gov.pk/uploads/Family_Courts_Rules,_19653.pdf], accessed August 14, 2023

2.4. Citing the Ordinances:

While citing the Ordinances, use the following style of citation:

[Section Number], [*Title and Ordinance Number in Italics*],
Promulgation on [Date of Promulgation]

For example:

S.1, *Diplomatic and Counsular Officers (Oath and Fees)(Amendment) Ordinance No.XXIV of 2021*, Promulgated on October 12, 2021

And if you are citing the Ordinance from internet source, then use the following style:

“[Section Number], [*Title and Ordinance Number in Italics*],
Promulgation on [Date of Promulgation], available at: [URL],
[Enter dated when website is accessed]

For example:

“S.1, *Diplomatic and Counsular Officers (Oath and Fees)(Amendment) Ordinance No.XXIV of 2021*, Promulgated on October 12, 2021, available at: <https://senate.gov.pk/en/ordinance.php?id=1&catid=186&subcatid=304&cattitle=Ordinances>, accessed August 14, 2023”

2.5. Citing the Regulations:

And while citing the Regulations, use the following style:

“[Clause Number], [*Title of Regulation with Number and year*],
notified/issued on [Date of Notification] by [Name of
Organization which issued the Regulation]”

For example:

"Clause 1, *Access Promotion Regulations (S.R.O. 1006(I)/2005)*, 2005, notified on August 16th, 2005 by Pakistan Telecommunication Authority"

And if you are citing the Ordinance from internet source, then use the following style:

"[Clause Number], [*Title of Regulation with Number and year*], notified/issued on [Date of Notification] by [Name of Organization which issued the Regulation], available at: [URL], [Enter dated when website is accessed]"

For example:

"Clause 1, *Access Promotion Regulations (S.R.O. 1006(I)/2005)*, 2005, notified on August 16th, 2005 by Pakistan Telecommunication Authority, available at: <https://www.pta.gov.pk/assets/media/apc-reg-200611.pdf>, accessed August 14, 2023"

2.6. Citing the Orders:

While citing the Presidential Orders, use the following style:

"[Section Number], [*Title of Order with number and year in italics*], [Date of promulgation], [Date when last amended] for [Name of department for which it is issued]"

For example:

"S.1, *Distribution of Revenues and Grants-in-Aid Order (President's Order No.2)*, 1975, promulgated on June 9th, 1975, the Finance Division, Government of Pakistan."

And for example:

"Article 129(g), *Qanun-e-Shahadat Order (No.X)*, 1984," promulgated on October 28th, 1984, amended February 16th, 2017, Ministry of Law and Justice."

And if you are citing the Order from internet source, then use the following style:

“[Section Number], [*Title of Order with number and year in italics*], [Date of promulgation], [Date when last amended] for [Name of department for which it is issued], available at: [URL], [Enter dated when website is accessed]”

For example:

“Article 129(g), *Qanun-e-Shahadat Order (No.X), 1984*,” promulgated on October 28th, 1984, amended February 16th, 2017, Ministry of Law and Justice, available at: <https://pakistancode.gov.pk/english/sHyuRxF?title=qanun-e-shahadat&cat=&year=1984&type=title&search=1>, accessed August 14, 2023”

2.7. Citing the Bills:

If a Bill is passed by Parliament, it becomes an Act and if it is still in the process, it remains a Bill. If a Bill is being cited, then use the following style:

“[Type and Title of Bill proposed with year] in [Name of Assembly], on [Date when proposed]”

For example:

“Private Members Bill, *The Wapda University, Islamabad Bill, 2023*, proposed in National Assembly of Pakistan, on August 8th, 2023.”

And if you are citing the Order from internet source, then use the following style:

“[Type and Title of Bill proposed with year] in [Name of Assembly], on [Date when proposed]” available at: [URL], [Enter dated when website is accessed]”

For example:

"Private Members Bill, *The Wapda University, Islamabad Bill, 2023*, proposed in National Assembly of Pakistan, on August 8th, 2023, available at: https://na.gov.pk/uploads/documents/64d319eb5f56e_836.pdf , accessed August 14, 2023"

2.8. If above-mentioned Citation is repeatedly referred:

If the above-mentioned Citation is repeatedly referred in your writing then, there is no need to use the old Latin term "ibid", which is derived from "ibidem", instead use the following simple English words:

"As above,"

And

"As above, p.[Enter Page Number]"

For example:

"As above,p.1"

And if a citation is repeatedly referred in later sentences in your writing and you want to use it in your continuous paragraph then, there is no need to use the old Latin term "*Supra*", which means "above", instead use the following simple English words:

"as earlier" or "as mentioned earlier"

And if you want to refer any other decision of apex Court, which closely relates to your referred point, then use the following words:

"See also:"





Citing the references of books and e-books



Chapter 3

3- Citing the references of books and e-books:

While citing the reference from a book, use the following style:

“[Name of Author], [*Title of Book in Italics*], [Edition Number], [Year of Publication], [Name of Publisher with City and Country], [Page Number.]”

For example:

“Shahzad Abid Baig, *Strengthen Your Legal Skills*, 1st Edn., 2023, [Name of Publisher with City and Country], p.134”

And if an e-book has to be cited, then use the following style:

“[Name of Author], [*Title of Book in Italics*], [Edition Number], [Year of Publication], [Name of Publisher with City and Country], [Page Number], available at [URL], [Digital Object identifier (“doi”), if any], [Date when accessed]”

For example:

“Shahzad Abid Baig, *Strengthen Your Legal Skills*, 1st Edn., 2023, [Name of Publisher with City and Country], p.134, available at <https://----->, doi -----, accessed on [Date when accessed]”

3.1. If above-mentioned Citation is repeatedly referred:

If the above-mentioned citation is repeatedly referred in your writing then, there is no need to use the old Latin term “ibid”, which is derived from “ibidem”, instead use the following simple English words:

“As above,”

And

“As above, p.[Enter Page Number]”

For example:

“As above,p.1”

And if a citation is repeatedly referred in later sentences in your writing and you want to use it in your continuous paragraph then, there is no need to use the old Latin term “*Supra*”, which means “above”, instead use the following simple English words:

“as earlier” or “as mentioned earlier”

And if you want to refer any other decision of apex Court, which closely relates to your referred point, then use the following words:

“See also:”





**Citing Articles from Journals,
Newspapers and Website**



Chapter 4

4. Citing Journal Articles:

The Journal Articles may be cited in the following style:

[Author's Name], ["Title of Article"], [Title of Journal], [Volume Number], [Issue Number], [Name, address with City and Country of Publisher], [Year when Published], [Page Number]

For example

Shahzad Abid Baig, "*History of Family Laws*", Voice of Shariah, Vol.3, Issue No.1, Students of Sharia and Law, International Islamic University, Islamabad, Pakistan, 2001, p.9

4.1. Citing Newspaper Articles:

The Newspaper Articles may be cited in the following style:

[Author Name], [Article Title], ["Name of Newspaper"], [Section], [Date of Publication]

For example:

Noor Ahmed, Aaliyah Tyyebi, Awais Malik, Heritage: Archiving National Memory, "*DAWN*", Magazines, August 13, 2023,

If you are citing Newspaper Article from Internet, then use the following style:

[Author Name], [Article Title], ["Name of Newspaper"], [Section], [Date of Publication], [Time of Publication], [URL], [date when accessed]

For example:

Noor Ahmed, Aaliyah Tyyebi, Awais Malik, Heritage: Archiving National Memory, "*DAWN*", Magazines, August 13, 2023, 08:10 am, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1769912/heritage-archiving-national-memory> , accessed August 13, 2023

For example:

Noor Ahmed, Aaliyah Tyyebi, Awais Malik, Heritage: Archiving National Memory, "DAWN", Magazines, August 13, 2023, 08:10 am

4.2. If above-mentioned Citation is repeatedly referred:

If the above-mentioned citation is repeatedly referred in your writing then, there is no need to use the old Latin term "ibid", which is derived from "ibidem", instead use the following simple English words:

"As above,"

And

"As above, p.[Enter Page Number]"

For example:

"As above, p.1"

And if a citation is repeatedly referred in later sentences in your writing and you want to use it in your continuous paragraph then, there is no need to use the old Latin term "*Supra*", which means "above", instead use the following simple English words:

"as earlier" or "as mentioned earlier"

And if you want to refer any other decision of apex Court, which closely relates to your referred point, then use the following words:

"See also:"





Arranging the Footnote And Bibliography



Chapter 5

5. Arranging the Footnotes:

The Footnotes are to be arranged in the following style:

1. *Khawaja Ahmad Hassan Vs. Government of Punjab and Others*, 2005 SCMR 186
2. As above.
3. As above. P.187
4. C.R. (Against Decree u/s 115 C.P.C.) No.212-8, *Fazal Karim Etc. Vs. Mehboob Khan*, d.15.03.2023, 2023 LHC 1297, authored by Mr. Justice Mirza Viqas Rauf, available at www.lhc.gov.pk, accessed 12.04.2023
5. Noor Ahmed, Aaliyah Tyyebi, Awais Malik, Heritage: Archiving National Memory, "DAWN", Magazines, August 13, 2023, 08:10 am, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1769912/heritage-archiving-national-memory>, accessed August 13, 2023

5.1. Arranging the Bibliography:

The Bibliography to be arranged in the following style:

Khawaja Ahmad Hassan Vs. Government of Punjab and Others, 2005 SCMR 186

C.R. (Against Decree u/s 115 C.P.C.) No.212-8, *Fazal Karim Etc. Vs. Mehboob Khan*, d.15.03.2023, 2023 LHC 1297, authored by Mr. Justice Mirza Viqas Rauf, available at www.lhc.gov.pk.

Noor Ahmed, Aaliyah Tyyebi, Awais Malik, Heritage: Archiving National Memory, "DAWN", Magazines, August 13, 2023, 08:10 am, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1769912/heritage-archiving-national-memory>.

