

**NEWSPAPER (PROHIBITION OF CIRCULATION) (VALIDATION)  
DECREE 1978**



**Decree No. 12**

[14th June 1978]

Commence-  
ment.

**THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT** hereby decrees as follows :—

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other enactment or law, the prohibition of circulation in Nigeria by the appropriate authority of the mid-January 1977 and mid-March 1977 issues of the newspaper known as "New-breed" and published by the New Breed Organisation Limited shall be deemed to have been validly done and, accordingly, all the copies of the said publications caused to be impounded by the appropriate authority are hereby forfeited to the Federal Military Government and shall be disposed of in such manner as the appropriate authority may direct.

Prohibition  
of circulation  
of certain  
issues of  
newspaper  
validated.

2. Any person who on the direction of the appropriate authority had at any time before the commencement of this Decree dealt with or, in intended compliance with this Decree, hereafter deals with the copies of the said publications shall stand indemnified in respect thereof and no suit or other proceedings whatsoever shall lie at the instance of any person aggrieved for any act, matter or thing done or purported to be done in respect of such direction or compliance ; and where any such suit or other proceedings has been or is instituted in any court it shall abate and be of no effect whatsoever.

Indemnity.

3. The question whether any provision of Chapter III of the Constitution of the Federation has been, is being or would be contravened by anything done or proposed to be done in pursuance of this Decree shall not be inquired into in any court of law and, accordingly, sections 31, 32 and 117 (2) (b) of the Constitution shall not apply in relation to any such question.

Exclusion of  
Chapter III  
of the Con-  
stitution.

4. In this Decree—

Interpreta-  
tion.

"the appropriate authority" means the Head of the Federal Military Government ;

"newspaper" has the meaning assigned thereto by section 1 (4) of the Newspapers (Prohibition of Circulation) Decree 1967.

1967. No. 17.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note does not form part of the above Decree  
but is intended to explain its purpose)*

The Decree further increases the amount mentioned in section 1 of the Appropriation Decree 1976 by ₦19,556,790 and provides that the additional amount shall be appropriated as specified in the Schedule to the Decree.

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Citation.      5. This Decree may be cited as the Newspaper (Prohibition of Circulation) (Validation) Decree 1978.

MADE at Lagos this 14th day of June 1978.

LT-GENERAL O. OBASANJO,  
*Head of the Federal Military Government,  
Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces,  
Federal Republic of Nigeria*