

# *World Constitutions Illustrated*

*Edited by*  
Jefri Jay Ruchti

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## *Tunisia*

**Decree of 21 June 1956  
Concerning the Administrative Organization  
of the Kingdom**

*Translated by*  
Maria del Carmen Gress

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**Decree of 21 June 1956 (12 doul kaada 1375), concerning  
administrative organization of the Kingdom.**

Praise to God!

We, Mohamed Lamine Pacha Bey, Possessor of the Kingdom of Tunisia,

Considering the decree of 21 September 1955 (3 safar 1375) concerning the provisional organization of the public powers;

Considering the decree of 6 October 1955 (18 safar 1375) concerning the creation and organization of the Ministry of the Interior;

Considering the opinion [*avis*] of the Council of Ministers;

On the proposal of Our First Minister, President of the Council,

Have made the following decree:

**Title I**

**Administrative Structure of the Territory**

**Section 1. — Of the Regional Governorates**

First Article

Our Kingdom is divided into fourteen administrative territorial circumscriptions, denominated Regional Governorates and bearing the name of their capital, in accordance with the following list:

Governorate of the 1° Region: Tunis and Suburbs [*Banlieue*].

”	2°	”	: Bizerte.
”	3°	”	: Béja.
”	4°	”	: Souk-El-Arba.
”	5°	”	: Le Kef.
”	6°	”	: Sbeïtla.
”	7°	”	: Gafsa.
”	8°	”	: Tozeur.
”	9°	”	: Médenine.
”	10°	”	: Gabès.
”	11°	”	: Sfax.
”	12°	”	: Kairouan.
”	13°	”	: Sousse.
”	14°	”	: Nabeul.

Article 2

The territorial limits of the Governorates are conformed to table n° I annexed to this decree.

These limits may be modified by decree made on the report [*rapport*] of Our Minister of the Interior.

## **Section 2. — Of the Territorial Delegations**

### Article 3

The Governorates are subdivided in administrative territorial circumscriptions, denominated territorial delegations, in accordance with table n° II annexed to this decree. These delegations bear the name of the center that constitutes the capital and the seat of the territorial Delegate.

### Article 4

The territorial delimitations of the delegations may be modified by [an] order [*arrêté*] of Our Minister of the Interior.

## **Section 3. — Of the *Cheikhats***

### Article 5

The Governorates are divided in addition into territorial fractions or denominated *Cheikhats* and grouped by territorial delegation.

The territorial limits of the *Cheikhats* and their annexation [*rattachement*] to a particular [*déterminée*] delegation may be modified by [an] order of Our Minister of the Interior, on the proposal of the Governor concerned.

## **Title II**

### **Of the Superior Orders [*Cadres Supérieurs*] of the Regional Administration and of their Attributions**

### Article 6

The administrative circumscriptions[,] object of the previous title[,] are directed by a body of regional administrators including the Governors, the Secretaries General of [the] Governorate and the Delegates of [the] Governor assisted in the *Cheikhats*, by a body of *Cheikhs* governed by a special Statute.

### Article 7

The Governor is assisted by a Secretary General and by two Delegates for the seat, by a Delegate for each territorial delegation, and by a *Cheikh* for each *Cheikh*at.

### Article 8

The Governor, under the authority of Our Minister of the Interior, is, in his circumscription, the hierarchical Head [*Chef*] of all the functionaries of the Regional Administration, placed [*mis*] at his disposal.

### Article 9

The Secretary General of the Governorate directs the administrative Services of the Seat of the Governorate.

### Article 10

The Delegates of the Governor do not have any hierarchical authority over each other.

### Article 11

The Governors within the limit of their Region are the Delegates of the Government. They assure as such [*à ce titre*] and under the authority of the competent Ministers, the general coordination, the [general] orientation, and the [general] surveillance of the activity of the functionaries of the State and of the public functionaries of the State; they assure in addition the representation of the national interests and the administrative control of the local public collectivities.

Article 12

The Governor may delegate [a] part of the powers to the Secretary General and to the Delegates. This delegation must be limited in time and submitted to the approval of the Minister of the Interior.

Article 13

The Governors assure, under the authority of Our Minister of the Interior, by themselves or by the intermediary of their Delegates but under their personal responsibility, the general administration of the Governorate.

Article 14

The Governors assure within the same conditions as those specified in the previous Article, the maintenance of the public order.

Article 15

The Governors and their Delegates may do all the acts necessary to the effect of declaring the crimes and the misdemeanors [*délits*] and of delivering the authors to the Tribunals.

They are in addition responsible [*chargés*] for the execution of the decisions of justice.

Article 16

The Governors may make, under the control of the Minister of the Interior, regulatory decisions in the matter of administrative policing within the limits of their circumscription and within the respect for the legislation in force.

Article 17

Special texts will establish the conditions in which the Governors will exercise their administrative control over the local public collectivities.

Article 18

The powers entrusted to the Governors by Articles 16 and 17 above, may not be made the object of delegation.

Article 19

The Governors will retain all the attributions recognized to the Caïds, Kahias and Khalifats by the legislation in force at the date of this decree.

Article 20

Our First Minister, President of the Council and the Ministers are in charge [*chargés*], each one in that which concerns him, with the execution of this decree.

Sealed, the 21 June 1956 (12 doul kaada 1375),

The First Minister,  
President of the Council,  
Habib Bourguiba.

**Presentation Annex No. I**

**List of the Regional Governorates**

I. — Governorate of Tunis and Suburbs [*Banlieue*] which includes:

- 1° The ex-Medina of Tunis.
- 2° The ex-Caïdat of the Suburbs.

- 3° The ex-Caïdat of Zaghouan.
- II. — Governorate of Bizerte which includes:
- 1° The ex-Caïdat of Bizerte.
  - 2° The ex-Caïdat of Mateur.
- III. — Governorate of Béja which includes:
- 1° The ex-Caïdat of Béja.
  - 2° The ex-Caïdat of Medjez El Bab.
  - 3° The ex-Caïdat of Téboursouk.
- IV. — Governorate of Souk El Arba which includes:
- 1° The ex-Caïdat of Souk El Arba.
  - 2° The ex-Caïdat of Souk El Khemis.
  - 3° The ex-Caïdat of Aïn-Draham.
- V. — Governorate of Kef which includes:
- 1° The ex-Caïdat of Kef.
  - 2° The ex-Caïdat of Tadjerouine.
  - 3° The ex-Caïdat of Maktar.
  - 4° The ex-Caïdat of Siliana.
- VI. — Governorate of Sbeïtla which includes:
- 1° The ex-Caïdat of Thala.
  - 2° The ex-Caïdat of Sbeïtla.
- VII. — Governorate of Gafsa which includes:
- 1° The ex-Caïdat of Gafsa.
  - 2° The ex-Caïdat of Sidi Bou Zid.
- VIII. — Governorate of Tozeur which includes:
- 1° The ex-Caïdat of Tozeur.
  - 2° The ex-Caïdat of Kebili.
- IX. — Governorate of Médenine which includes:
- 1° The ex-Caïdat of Médenine.
  - 2° The ex-Caïdat of Tataouine.
- X. — Governorate of Gabès which includes:
- 1° The ex-Caïdat of Gabès.
  - 2° The ex-Caïdat of Matmata.
  - 3° The ex-Caïdat of Djerba.
- XI. — Governorate of Sfax which includes:
- 1° The ex-Caïdat of Sfax.
  - 2° The ex-Caïdat of Djebéniana.
  - 3° The ex-Caïdat of Mahres.

XII. — Governorate of Kairouan which includes:

1° The ex-Caïdat of Kairouan.

2° The ex-Caïdat of Pichon.

XIII. — Governorate of Sousse which includes:

1° The ex-Caïdat of Sousse.

2° The ex-Caïdat of Monastir.

3° The ex-Caïdat of Mahdia.

4° The ex-Caïdat of Djemmal.

5° The ex-Caïdat of Souassi.

XIV. — Governorate of Nebeul which includes:

1° The ex-Caïdat of Nebeul.

2° The ex-Caïdat of Soliman.

## **Presentation Annex No. II**

### **List of the delegations grouped into Governorates**

1° Governorate of Tunis and Suburbs [*Banlieue*]:

— La Marsa

— Hammam-Lif

— Mornaguia

— Tébourba

— Zaghouan

— El-Fahs.

2° Governorate of Bizerte:

— Menzel Bourguiba (Ferryville)

— Ras Djebel

— Mateur

— Sedjnane.

3° Governorate of Béja:

— Medjez-el-Bab

— Testour

— Bou Arada

— Djebel Labiodh

— Amdoun

— Téboursouk

— Gâfour.

4° Governorate of Souk El Arba:

— Aïn Draham

— Souk-el-Khemis

— Ghardimaou

— Tabarka.

5° Governorate of Kef:

— Tadjerouine

— Ebba-Kasour

— Le Sers

— Saklet Sidi Youssef

— Kalaât Senam

— Makthar

— Siliana

— Robaâ

— El-Ksour.

6° Governorate of Sbeitla:

— Thala

— Kasserine

— Fériana

— Sbiba.

7° Governorate of Gafsa:

— Sidi Bou Zid

— Maknassy

— Regueb

— Metlaoui Sened

— Redeyef.

8° Governorate of Tozeur:

— Nafta

— Tamaghza

— Kebili

— Douz.

9° Governorate of Médenine:

— Zarzis

— Ben Gardane

— Béni Khaddèche

— Tataouine

— Ghomrassen

— Dhibet.

10° Governorate of Gabès:

— Matmata

— Djerba

— Mareth



- Méouia
- El Hamma.

11° Governorate of Sfax:

- Mahres
- Djebéniana
- Triaga
- Mezzouna
- Bir Ali ben Khelifa
- Kerkennah.

12° Governorate of Kairouan:

- Haffouz (Pichon)
- Ousseltia
- Hadjeb El Ayoun
- Sidi Amor Bou Hadjla
- Sidi Ali ben Nasr Allah
- Sbikha.

13° Governorate of Sousse:

- Monastir
- Mahdia
- Djemmel
- M'Saken
- El Djem
- Kalaâ-Kebira
- Ksou-Essaf
- Enfidaville
- Moknine
- Souassi.

14° Governorate of Nebeul:

- Soliman
- Grombalia
- Kéliba
- Menzel-Temime
- Menzel-bou-Zelfa
- Hammamet
- Korba.