

## **RE: Marriage Certificate**

1. When have two formats of official marriage certificates been introduced in Afghanistan?

As you know there are two formats of marriage certificates issued by courts:

- (1) Two pages A4 size and in the Deed format (Blue version): this is initially a Deed format which all legal documents of Court of Deeds is issued in this format, which includes but not limited to: property deed, singleness certificate, marriage certificate, divorce certificate, power of attorney and much more. This template has been used by Court of Deeds for decades (at least more than 5 decades), whenever there was no special format for Marriage Certificate, Court of Deeds used this Deed format, at the current moment they only use this format those couples who has children.
- (2) Multiple pages, book shape (Green Version): This is specialized format for marriage certificates which is printed and came to practice recently (within 6-10 years). There was similar format before, but in different colors (e.g. gray or brown) and used before, but most likely they are used some few decades ago. Example attached (Exhibit 1) which is issued in 1984.

2. Are there different versions of the longer (green colored) format of official marriage certificate?

In terms of contents, shape and color, currently there is only one version which is issued in two languages (Dari – English or Pashtu – English), but as mentioned above, similar certificates with different colors and slightly changes in the contents have been issued before too.

3. Is it issued also in Dari or Pashtu, or is it always bilingual (English/Dari), like the sample you provided me with?

Now, it's issued bilingual (English/Dari) or (English/Pashtu) and with sermon in Arabic and translation in Dari or Pashtu. But previously, e.g. in eighties, it's issued in one language too.

4. Is the Islamic sermon included in the certificate always bilingual, Arabic and Farsi, or are there also Versions where it is written in either Arabic or Farsi?

Now the sermon in the certificate is always bilingual, it's either Arabic and Dari or Arabic and Pashtu. But in previous versions, there are examples which the sermon is only in Arabic.

5. Are there versions of this certificate where the name is defined as “naam” (نام) and not as “ism” (اسم) as in the sample you sent me?

I couldn't find any example to written the Naam instead of Ism.

6. Is it common for official marriage certificates to be printed on paper without the emblem of Afghanistan?

If it's official marriage certificate and issued recently, it's not printed on paper without the emblem of Afghanistan, even the previous marriage certificates also had the emblem of Afghanistan and the emblem was different from what is used now.

7. How do unofficial marriage certificates look like, what information do they include and are there any samples that you could send me?

Unofficial marriage certificates has different templates, which are printed by different individuals, but overall they contain the same information and template which is written below and attached.

Unofficial marriage certificates contents:

- Sermon
- Identification (Name, Father's name, Grand father's name, residency) of spouses
- Signature of spouses
- Photos of spouses
- Identification of witnesses
- Identification of attorneys of spouses
- Amount and payment conditions of dowry
- Commitment of husband for payment of the dowry