

Criminal Procedure Law of Ethiopia

Law · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. What is the primary purpose of criminal procedure law in Ethiopia?

- A) To define criminal offenses and their punishments.
- B) To govern the investigation, prosecution, adjudication, punishment, and rehabilitation of crimes.**
- C) To establish the structure of the Ethiopian judiciary.
- D) To regulate the activities of police officers during investigations.

2. Which chapter of the Criminal Procedure Law focuses on the rights of arrested individuals and the role of paralegals?

- A) Chapter One
- B) Chapter Two
- C) Chapter Three**
- D) Chapter Four

3. According to the text, what is the meaning of 'justice administration'?

- A) The study of theories of punishment.
- B) The practice of law enforcement, police work, courts, and corrections systems.**
- C) The process of filing criminal charges.
- D) The legal framework for international criminal law.

4. What is the main difference between criminal procedure law and criminal law?

- A) Criminal law defines the procedure, while criminal procedure law defines the offenses.
- B) Criminal procedure law implements criminal law; criminal law defines offenses, while criminal procedure law defines the process for investigation, prosecution, and adjudication.**
- C) Criminal law deals with arrests, while criminal procedure law deals with trials.
- D) There is no significant difference between the two.

5. Which of the following is NOT listed as a fundamental principle of criminal procedure law?

- A) Presumption of innocence.
- B) Freedom from self-incrimination.
- C) Right to a fair trial.
- D) Right to vote.**

6. What is the purpose of crime investigation?

- A) To determine the guilt of the accused beyond a reasonable doubt.
- B) To collect, seize, and document evidence to identify the perpetrator and how the crime was committed.**
- C) To immediately arrest anyone suspected of a crime.
- D) To ensure the conviction of the suspect.

7. In which scenario are minor offenses, like defamation, punishable only upon the victim's complaint?

- A) When the crime is flagrant.
- B) When the crime is punishable upon accusation.
- C) When the crime is more private in nature and not against wider public interest.**
- D) When the police witness the crime directly.

8. When can a police officer arrest someone without a court order?

- A) Only when the person is caught in the act of committing any crime.
- B) If the person has committed or is about to commit an offense punishable by imprisonment for at least one year, or in cases of breach of peace, escape, or possession of illegal items.**
- C) Only if the investigating officer has a strong suspicion, regardless of the severity of the offense.
- D) Never, as a court order is always required for an arrest.

9. What is the maximum time an arrested person can be remanded if the investigation is not completed?

- A) 7 days.
- B) 14 days on each occasion.**
- C) 30 days.
- D) Until the investigation is completed.

10. What is the constitutional right regarding bail in Ethiopia?

- A) Bail is a privilege that can be denied in most cases.
- B) Bail is a constitutional right that can only be limited on justifiable grounds.**
- C) Bail is only available for minor offenses.
- D) Bail is not recognized in Ethiopian criminal law.

11. What does 'habeas corpus' mean?

- A) The right to remain silent.
- B) A writ requiring a person under arrest to be brought before a judge or into court to determine the legality of their detention.**
- C) The right to legal representation.
- D) The process of search and seizure.

12. What is the purpose of search and seizure?

- A) To punish individuals suspected of crimes.
- B) To obtain evidence of a crime by searching a person's property.**
- C) To intimidate suspects into confessing.
- D) To confiscate all property of the accused.

13. Under what circumstances can a search of premises be conducted without a warrant?

- A) Only if the police officer suspects a crime has been committed.
- B) If an offender is followed in hot pursuit, or in cases of exigent circumstances where evidence is likely to be removed due to delay.**
- C) When the police officer is bored and wants to check a suspect's house.
- D) Never, a warrant is always required.

14. What is the primary purpose of a preliminary inquiry?

- A) To determine the guilt of the accused.
- B) To keep, record, and maintain evidence when there is a probability that witnesses may disappear.**
- C) To sentence the accused immediately.
- D) To dismiss the case if evidence is insufficient.

15. Which courts have criminal jurisdiction at the federal level in Ethiopia?

- A) Federal Supreme Court, Federal High Court, and Federal First Instance Courts.**
- B) Only the Federal Supreme Court.
- C) Regional Supreme Courts, Regional High Courts, and Woreda Courts.
- D) Federal and Regional Courts at all levels.

16. What is the meaning of 'material jurisdiction' in the context of Ethiopian courts?

- A) The geographical area in which a case is to be tried.
- B) The power of a court to hear and decide a case based on the level and type of court.**
- C) Whether a person is subject to Ethiopian criminal law.
- D) The specific laws that apply to a particular case.

17. What is the general principle regarding the local jurisdiction for trying an offense?

- A) The offense should be tried by the court within the local limits of whose jurisdiction the offense was committed.**
- B) Any court in Ethiopia can try any offense regardless of location.
- C) The offense should be tried in the capital city.
- D) The court with the highest level of jurisdiction will handle all cases.

18. What is a 'charge' in the context of criminal procedure?

- A) A formal document containing an allegation that a person has committed a crime, describing the facts and evidence.**
- B) A request for a preliminary inquiry.
- C) A court order for arrest.
- D) A witness's testimony.

19. What is the primary function of a charge?

- A) To immediately convict the accused.
- B) To inform the accused of the nature of the crime alleged against them.**
- C) To initiate the investigation process.
- D) To determine the sentence.

20. What is a 'trial' in the Ethiopian criminal procedure context?

- A) The process of arresting a suspect.
- B) The process of hearing both parties, presenting evidence, and the judge making a final decision.**
- C) The preliminary inquiry stage.
- D) The drawing up of a charge.