

EXAMPLE OF INTERPRETATION

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA, 2015

ORIGINAL TEXT FOR LITERAL OR GRAMMATICAL INTERPRETATION

16. Existing written law and unwritten law to continue in force:

(1) All existing written law and unwritten law shall be valid and operative notwithstanding any inconsistency with the preceding provisions of this Chapter.

(2) The subjection of any person on the order of a competent court to any form of punishment recognized by any existing written law shall not be a contravention of the provisions of this Chapter.

CONTEXTUAL INTERPREATION OF CLAUSES IN ARTICLE 16

1. (1) all existing written law and unwritten law shall be valid and operative, (*Main clause*)
2. notwithstanding any inconsistency with the preceding provisions of this Chapter (*Adverb clause of concession/contrast, modifying, "shall be" in 1*)
3. (2) the subjection of any person on the order of a competent court to any form of punishment shall not be a contravention of the provisions of this Chapter (*Main clause*)
4. which is recognized by any existing written law (*Adjective clause, qualifying, "any form of punishment" in 3*)

CLASSIFICATION OF ARTICLE 16: It contains two main clauses and two subordinate clauses.