

PUBLIC

ANNEX 8.19

**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**

**International
Criminal
Court**



Le Bureau du Procureur

The Office of the Prosecutor

ICC Restricted

Translation of Evidence

Original Document

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Annex 37

Decree on Revolutionary Legitimacy

Subsequent to the sixteenth ordinary session of the General People's Congress, a statement was issued regarding the Decree on Revolutionary Legitimacy*, stating that:

“The Great September Revolution, which supported the people's authority and established the regime of the masses, was a historical event that firmly established the Basic People's Congresses in that the Revolution, which actually supported the popular masses in establishing their own direct authority, is the ideological source for the masses and the originator of direct popular authority. A revolution that initiates the establishment of the people's authority is one that requires a movement whose purpose is to embed and consolidate the people's authority. As such, the Revolution is a continuous motivative fight and struggle for the real triumph of freedom and for the freedom of the masses; the path leading up to it was laid by the Great September Revolution starting with the historical Zuwara speech, which activated a continuous expansion of the People's Revolution to achieve that real triumph, declaring the establishment of the people's authority. The masses believe that their ideas and those of the Revolution are harmonious, owing to the revolutionary expansion, which was led and instigated by the revolutionary leader and had sophisticatedly rooted the Great September Revolution within the popular masses. This revolutionary expansion, which was activated by the historical Zuwara speech, turned the Revolution into an ideological, practical and behavioural concept and into a revolution by the popular masses. Since that day, the masses have become aware of the impossibility of a separation from the revolutionary Mu'ammār. Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi is the revolutionary leader of the Great September Revolution who established, coordinated and initiated it, and whilst developing the concept of the masses and his leadership of the era of the masses, he became the designer and architect of the era of the masses. In this capacity and on the basis of the revolutionary legitimacy acquired through the Revolution and that the revolutionary legitimacy is based on the Leader of the Revolution's documented responsibility to make the revolutionary transformations, to lay the foundations for assembling the masses and building the model State of the Masses and to establish the latter and create the Natural Law of the Revolution:

- Firstly:** Instructions issued by the Leader of the Revolution are binding and their implementation is obligatory;
- Secondly:** Authority is separate from the Revolution entitling the masses to exercise their authority through the Basic People's Congresses and the People's Committees; the leadership of the masses rests with the core of the Revolution and is the documented duty of the Leader of the Revolution;

* This document was issued on March 9, 1990 and reported on during the news bulletin on Saturday, March 10, 1990. It was also published in the newspaper "The Arabs", in issue no. (3247), issued in London on 03/12/1990.

- Thirdly:** The revolutionary legitimacy of the Great September Revolution, as a global revolution, and its Leader, as an worldwide leader, is applicable not only to Libya, but over and beyond to peoples hungry for freedom, revolution and emancipation anywhere in the world; hence the masses of the Basic People's Congresses are to reinforce the revolutionary role adopted by the Leader of the Revolution, reassuring them that the Leader and Thinker of the Revolution (First Imam of the Revolution)** shall endorse issues in its regard at international forums, and by this he shall take the decisions he believes most appropriately serve the interests of the Libyan Arab people and the Arab nation.
- Fourthly:** The revolutionary legitimacy (embodied by the Brother Leader of the Revolution) ** created the people's authority, thus the legitimacy and apparatuses of the People's Congresses, and the People's Committees exist through the legitimacy of the Revolution itself;
- Fifthly:** The revolutionary legitimacy (embodied by the Brother Leader of the Revolution) is based on the Natural Law of the Revolution and is therefore a right (he has but that no one else does), which is not revocable or rescindable;
- Sixthly:** The masses of the Basic People's Congresses are to reinforce that democracy means the power of the people and not popular assertions, and that the people's authority is the revolutionary choice of the masses from which there is no return;
- Seventhly:** Thus, the masses of the Basic People's Congresses are to approve the above, with the knowledge that the revolutionary legitimacy is not a privilege but that it stems from the victory of the Great September Revolution, and that the legitimacy of the Leader of the Revolution stems from him being the leader of this great revolution."

** Words in brackets were dropped from the original text of the document, which was announced for the first time on Friday, March 9, 1990.