“The Constitution... is a sacred document that placed the power of governance and the future of the nation in the hands of the people.”

His Majesty the King of Bhutan
During the historic signing of the Constitution on 18th July 2008 at the Kuenrey in Tashichhodzong.
“On this day of destiny, in the blessed land of Pelden Drukpa we, a fortunate People and King, hereby resolve to bring into effect the root and foundation - the very source - of all law in our nation.

On such an auspicious occasion, on behalf of the people I offer gratitude to His Majesty the Fourth Druk Gyalpo. During his reign His Majesty built a strong nation and secured the hopes and aspirations of the people through the process of democratization and the enlightened vision of Gross National Happiness. His Majesty has also laid a clear path for our future through this Constitution.

The significance of His Majesty’s unique achievements as leader has transcended
the experiences of our country and been acknowledged by the world. In our own country, many generations into the future, the Constitution will continue to inspire our people as it stands testimony to a selfless and extraordinary leadership.

This Constitution is the most profound achievement of generations of endeavor and service. As it is granted to us today, we must remember that even more important than the wise and judicious use of the powers it confers, is the unconditional fulfillment of the responsibilities we must shoulder. Only in understanding our duties will the exercise of our powers be fruitful. If we can serve our nation with this knowledge and in this spirit, then an even brighter future awaits our country.

It is my fervent prayer that through this Constitution we will, with our body, speech and mind work with complete commitment and conviction as we strengthen the sovereignty and security of Bhutan; secure
the blessings of liberty; ensure justice and peace and enhance the unity and happiness of all Bhutanese, now and always.

Lastly, this Constitution was placed before the people of the twenty dzongkhags by the King. Each word has earned its sacred place with the blessings of every citizen in our nation. This is the People’s Constitution.

And today, through this, my Hand and Seal, I affix on to the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan, the hopes and prayers of my People.”
Preamble

WE, the people of Bhutan:

BLESSSED by the Triple Gem, the protection of our guardian deities, the wisdom of our leaders, the everlasting fortunes of the Pelden Drukpa and the guidance of His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck;

SOLEMNLY pledging ourselves to strengthen the sovereignty of Bhutan, to secure the blessings of liberty, to ensure justice and tranquillity and to enhance the unity, happiness and well-being of the people for all time;

DO HEREBY ordain and adopt this Constitution for the Kingdom of Bhutan on the fifteenth Day of the Fifth Month of the Male Earth rat year corresponding to the Eighteenth Day of July, Two Thousand & Eight.
We, the people of Bhutan:

Blessed by the Triple Gem, the protection of our guardian deities, the wisdom of our leaders, the everlasting fortunes of the Pelden Drukpa and the guidance of His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck;

So solemnly pledging ourselves to strengthen the sovereignty of Bhutan, to secure the blessings of liberty, to ensure justice and tranquility and to enhance the unity, happiness and well-being of the people for all time;

Hereby ordain and adopt this Constitution for the Kingdom of Bhutan on the Fifteenth Day of the Fifth Month of the Male Earth Rat Year corresponding to the Eighteenth Day of July, Two Thousand & Eight.
Introduction

The drafting of the written Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan was initiated on the command of His Majesty the Fourth Druk Gyalpo, Jigme Singye Wangchuck in 2001. It is His Majesty’s belief that the principles and ideals of democracy are inherently good, and a democratic system is desirable for Bhutan to advance the aspirations of a rapidly modernizing state. Democracy will help ensure the country’s security, sovereignty, peace and prosperity, justice and will affirm and promote the fundamental rights and well-being of the people.

1. Objectives

His Majesty advised the Constitution Drafting Committee, that the Constitution
must create a political framework that will make democracy effective and vibrant in our country. It must embody the hopes and aspirations of the people, draw on the wisdom of the existing system and laws and on the lessons learnt from countries around the world. Bhutan is in a unique position today and time and opportunity are in our favour, to develop a system of governance that will be in the best interests of the Bhutanese people and the country. It is of utmost importance for us to utilize this opportunity to frame a Constitution that will create a dynamic system of governance, which will uphold the true principles of democracy. The Constitution must become the golden pillar that will support and enable the political system in Bhutan to safeguard the sovereignty of the country and the rights of the people.
2. The Process of Drafting the Constitution

On 4th September 2001, His Majesty the Fourth Druk Gyalpo briefed the Council of Ministers, the Chief Justice and the Chairman of the Royal Advisory Council on the need for a written Constitution.

A Drafting Committee was established, under the chairmanship of the Chief Justice with thirty-nine members: two Venerable Lopons appointed by His Holiness the Je Khenpo, the Speaker of the National Assembly, twenty elected representatives (one from each Dzongkhag) and representatives of the Royal Advisory Council, the Judiciary and the Royal Government of Bhutan.
Key Moments in the Process of Drafting the Constitution

(a) 30th November 2001 - His Majesty the Fourth Druk Gyalpo formally inaugurated the process of the drafting of the Constitution. The first meeting was convened until 14th December 2001 in Thimphu.

(b) 9th December 2002 – The First Draft of the Constitution was submitted to His Majesty the Fourth Druk Gyalpo.

(c) 11th June 2003 - The revised First Draft of the Constitution was submitted to His Majesty the Fourth Druk Gyalpo.

(d) 26th March 2005 - The First Draft of the Constitution was publicly distributed and launched on the internet simultaneously.

(e) 18th August 2005 - The Second Draft was submitted to His Majesty the Fourth Druk Gyalpo and distributed to
every household and to international organizations based in Thimphu.


(g) 18th July 2008 – The Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan was formally adopted in a historic signing ceremony held in the Kuenrey of the Tashichodzong.

3. Public Consultation Meetings

His Majesty the Fourth Druk Gyalpo and His Royal Highness the Crown Prince, Dasho Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, conducted the nationwide consultation meetings to discuss the Constitution with the people of twenty Dzongkhags. His Majesty and the Crown Prince reiterated that the most important duty of every Bhutanese was to participate in the process of making the Constitution and to fully involve
themselves in shaping and safeguarding the future destiny of our country and people. His Majesty the Fourth Druk Gyalpo and His Royal Highness the Crown Prince reminded the importance of seeking the people’s views and understanding their concerns to improve the provisions of the draft Constitution.

4. The Constitution

The Constitution consists of 35 Articles. Each Article presents specific provisions pertaining to the sovereign status of the nation, the institution of Monarchy, system of governance, fundamental rights and duties, separation of powers amongst the three arms of the government – the legislative, the executive and the judiciary and their roles and responsibilities, Constitutional offices, Local Government authorities, political parties and elections.
5. Preamble

The Preamble is the soul of the Constitution. It enshrines the philosophy and vision of a nation and people. It is the pillar that supports the whole edifice of the Constitution. It affirms the will of the people and their participation in the making of the Constitution, solemnized by the declaration: “We the People”. This declaration gives legitimacy to the Constitution. The draft was discussed in all the Dzongkhags and widely distributed, hence “We the People” reflects the support of the people for the Constitution. The Preamble emphasizes the aspirations of the people to secure and enjoy the blessings and benefits of liberty, justice, unity, peace and tranquility, happiness and well-being for all time.
6. Article 1: The Kingdom of Bhutan

Bhutan has been a sovereign and independent country since time immemorial. Article 1 records this historical fact and bequeathes to future generations of the Bhutanese people the sacred responsibility to protect and promote the independence and sovereignty of the country.

Important provisions:

(a) Vests the sovereign power with the people.

(b) Describes the form of Government as a Democratic Constitutional Monarchy.

(c) Upholds the international territorial boundary of Bhutan as inviolable.
(d) Identifies the Supreme Court as the guardian of the Constitution and the final authority on its interpretation.

(e) Upholds the supremacy of the Constitution and the separation of powers among the three branches of the Government.

7. Article 2: The Institution of Monarchy

It is His Majesty the Fourth Druk Gyalpo’s belief that power should not, at any point of time be vested in one person. This Article ensures that Bhutan will have a good and capable King to serve the country and the people meaningfully.

Important provisions:

(a) The Druk Gyalpo, as the Head of State, is the symbol of unity of the Kingdom and of the people of Bhutan.
(b) The Druk Gyalpo will step down and hand over the Throne to the Crown Prince or Princess upon reaching the age of sixty-five years.

(c) The Druk Gyalpo will protect and uphold the Constitution in the best interest and for the welfare of the people of Bhutan.

(d) The Druk Gyalpo will abdicate the Throne for willful violation of the Constitution or for the reason of permanent mental disability.

(e) The power to amend the provisions of Article 2 is through a National Referendum.

8. Article 3: Spiritual Heritage

The spiritual traditions are the primary source of well-being, happiness and peace. Buddhism promotes the principles and values of peace, non-
violence, compassion and tolerance. The Constitution maintains a balance between respecting the freedom of religion and preserving the religious heritage and accords appropriate recognition to the historical role of Buddhism in Bhutan.

Important provisions:

(a) The Druk Gyalpo is the protector of all religions in Bhutan.

(b) The Je Khenpo will be appointed by the Druk Gyalpo on the recommendation of the Five Lopons in accordance with the Druk-lu, with the nine qualities of a spiritual master and accomplished in ked-dzog.

(c) Religion is separate from politics and, religious institutions and personalities must remain above politics.
9. **Article 4: Culture**

Recognizing national and cultural heritage is indispensable for maintaining national identity, Article 4 emphasizes the need to preserve, protect, promote and develop our Bhutanese traditions and rich cultural heritage. Bhutan has a distinct cultural heritage with long, uninterrupted and lawfully recognized traditions. The culture and tradition have religious, moral, spiritual and social values and functional utility. They are evident in the environment, architecture, dress, social behaviour and other facet of Bhutanese life. His Majesty the Fourth Druk Gyalpo said “unlike bigger countries, we do not have military might or economic strength, but we have a rich cultural heritage and unique national identity to enhance our status as a sovereign, independent country.”

Cultural preservation, promotion and its development will ensure a harmonious
balance between technical progress and the advancement of humankind to benefit our future generations.

**Important provision:**

The State will strengthen and facilitate continued evolution of traditional values and institutions that are sustainable as a progressive society.

10. **Article 5: Environment**

Bhutan is endowed with rich natural resources and biodiversity. This Article outlines the responsibilities of the people and the Government to protect and conserve the pristine environment and safeguard Bhutan’s wildlife. Environmental conservation is safeguarded by the Constitution as an integral part of the nation’s policies as no generation has the right to destroy the agreed and inherited rich natural environment.
Important provisions:

(a) It is the fundamental duty of every citizen to contribute to the protection of natural environment and prevention of ecological degradation.

(b) The Government shall ensure that a minimum of sixty percent of Bhutan’s total land is maintained under forest cover for all time.

11. Article 6: Citizenship

This Article specifies the definition of a citizen of Bhutan and all matters pertaining to citizenship. It also lays out the criteria for citizenship by naturalization.

Important provisions:

(a) A person whose parents are both citizens of Bhutan is a natural born citizen of the country.
(b) A person domiciled on or before Thirty-First of December Nineteen Hundred and Fifty Eight and whose names is registered in the official record of the Government is a citizen by registration.

(c) Among other criteria, a person can apply for naturalization if he/she has resided in Bhutan for at least fifteen years.

(d) Bhutanese citizenship will be terminated if the person acquires the citizenship of a foreign state.

12. Articles 7 & 8: Fundamental Rights and Duties

The Constitution is based on the premise that every individual has the fundamental rights and freedom to secure equality and effective protection of the law and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, sex, language, religion, politics or other status. Fundamental Rights are essential for development of
the human personality and for the full realization of the human potential.

The Constitution has not only a comprehensive list of fundamental rights, including many of the basic human rights enshrined in international conventions, but also corresponding fundamental duties.

**Important provisions:**

(a) Right to life, freedom of speech, opinion and expression, and right to thought conscience and religion are enumerated.

(b) Right to information and freedom of media are included in the Fundamental Rights.

(c) Protection against torture and abolition of the capital punishment are progressive guarantees of inalienable rights.

(d) Violation of the exercise of rights may
be redressed in the Supreme Court or the High Court.

(e) It is a fundamental duty for every Bhutanese citizen to foster tolerance, mutual respect and spirit of brotherhood amongst all the people of Bhutan transcending religious, linguistic, regional or sectional diversities.

(f) A person has a duty not to tolerate or participate in acts of injury, torture or killing of another person, terrorism, abuse of women, children or any other person and shall take necessary steps to prevent such acts.

13. Article 9: Principles of State Policy

The obligation of a modern state is to govern through the Rule of Law and to foster human development and growth. In the pursuit of Gross National Happiness, the state is guided by the
polices to enhance social justice, spiritual well-being and socio economic growth.

The guiding principles of state policies are specified to respect individual dignity, religion and language, democracy and to usher in balanced and equitable growth.

**Important provisions:**

(a) The State will endeavour to provide justice through a fair, transparent and expeditious process.

(b) The State will guide the execution of such policies to minimize inequalities of income and concentration of wealth among citizens.

14. **Articles 10, 11 & 12: Parliament, the National Council and the National Assembly**

Bhutan has adopted a bicameral system of Parliament, consisting of the National
Council and the National Assembly. It is a deliberative assembly. Both the Houses have equal powers except with regard to money and financial Bills.

**Important provisions:**

(a) Parliament will ensure that the Government safeguards the interests of the nation and fulfils the aspirations of the people.

(b) The National Council comprises twenty-five members with one elected representative each from twenty Dzongkhags and five eminent persons nominated by the Druk Gyalpo.

(c) The National Council is a House of review on matters affecting the security and sovereignty of the country and the interest of the people.

(d) The National Assembly will have a maximum of fifty-five members, elected
from the Dzongkhags, in proportion to its population. No Dzongkhag shall have fewer than two or more than seven members.

15. Article 13: Passing of Bills

Broad guidelines are provided for legislators to manage state finances for the long-term benefit of the people and for the nation’s economic and social development. This Article explains how Bills are passed in Parliament.

Important provisions:

(a) Every Bill passed by Parliament shall come into force upon Assent of the Druk Gyalpo.

(b) Budget and Urgent Bills shall be passed in the same session of Parliament.

(c) Where one House has introduced and passed a Bill, it shall then present it to
the other House within thirty days from the date of its passing and that Bill may be passed during the next session of Parliament.

16. Article 14: Finance, Trade and Commerce

The principal economic functions of the Government are the provision of goods and services on a non-market basis, either for collective or individual consumption and to redistribute income and wealth by means of transfer of payments.

**Important provisions:**

(a) Taxes, fees and other forms of levies will not be imposed or altered except by law.

(b) The Government will ensure that the servicing of public debt will not place an undue burden on future generations.
(c) A minimum foreign currency reserve that is adequate to meet the cost of not less than one year’s import must be maintained.

(d) The State will make adequate financial provisions for the independent administration of constitutional bodies.

17. Article 15: Political Parties

Voters have the freedom of choice in electing political parties and political leaders. Hence, under the Bhutanese political system, the Government will have legitimacy, a broad base and stability. Parties should be responsible, organized and effective. An effective party system may bring forth programs to which they commit themselves and gain wider public support.

Primary election for every general election can avoid tyranny of two party
systems. However, the two political parties which win the highest number of votes will contest in the general elections at the national level. This will ensure a future Government that is stable and represented by the popular will and consent.

**Important provisions:**

(a) The institution of political parties provides choices to the people and ensures legitimacy of the election process.

(b) Bhutan will have two parties. The party that obtains the highest number of seats will be the ruling party and the other the opposition party.

(c) There will be two rounds of elections, primary and general elections.

(d) In the primary round, all registered political parties may participate.
(e) At the general election, only those two parties obtaining the highest and second highest number of votes in the primary round of election will participate, thus, creating a duopoly at the general election.

(f) Candidates and political parties shall not resort to regionalism and religious bias.

(g) Members of the National Assembly belonging to one party cannot defect to another party either individually or en bloc (all together).

18. Article 16: Public Campaign Financing

The Constitution requires Parliament to establish a public election fund for political parties and their candidates. The Public Campaign Fund is an effort to avert the collection of unlimited funds from private sources as the political parties may be influenced through funding by the private individuals and business establishments.
Important provisions:

(a) The Election Commission will distribute election funds in a non-discriminatory manner to registered political parties and candidates.

(b) No political party can accept funds from any foreign source.

19. Articles 17 & 18: Formation of Government and the Opposition Party

The Government envisaged in the Constitution is a parliamentary form of Government. The Council of Ministers derives their power from the members of the National Assembly. Articles 17 and 18 provide the foundation for a parliamentary form of Government.

Important provisions:

(a) The executive power is vested in the Lhengye Zhungtshog (Council of
Ministers) which will comprise the Ministers headed by the Prime Minister.

(b) The leader or the nominee of the ruling party will be the Prime Minister, who will be the head of government. The other Ministers will be appointed from among the members of the National Assembly.

(c) Not more than two members elected from the electoral constituencies of the same Dzongkhag will be entitled to be appointed as Ministers.

(d) The Prime Minister and Ministers should be natural born citizens of Bhutan.

(e) No person can hold the office of Prime Minister for more than two terms.

(f) The opposition party will play a constructive role to provide good governance and it shall not allow party interests to prevail over national interests. Its aim must be to make the government responsible, accountable and transparent.
20. Article 19: Interim Government

The Constitution provides for the establishment of an Interim Government to enable elections to be held. The Government must remain neutral when the people are forming their political will. The sovereign power of the people and the principle of fairness imply that the Government must neither favour, nor appear to favour any political party. Therefore, having an Interim Government would help to ensure that elections are conducted in a free and fair manner. It is to ensure that the party in power does not use government resources and civil servants to help it win the elections. The Interim Government shall facilitate and provide the smooth transfer of power to the new Government.

Important provisions:

(a) The Interim Government shall comprise the Chief Justice of Bhutan as Chief
Advisor and other Advisors as appointed by the Druk Gyalpo.

(b) The Interim Government shall carry out the routine functions of the Government but shall not be entitled to take any policy decisions or enter into any agreement with foreign governments or organizations.

(c) It shall function for a maximum period of ninety days.

21. Article 20: The Executive

The Executive or the Lhengye Zhungtshog will promote an efficient civil administration based on the democratic values and principles enshrined in the Constitution. The Lhengye Zhungtshog will be collectively responsible to the Druk Gyalpo and to Parliament.
Important provisions:

(a) The Lhengye Zhungtshog shall aid and advise the Druk Gyalpo as specified in the Constitution.

(b) The executive will not issue any executive order, circular, rule or notification that is inconsistent with the laws made by Parliament.

22. Article 21: The Judiciary

The Judiciary has a seminal role in a democracy. It will safeguard, uphold and administer justice fairly and independently without fear, favour, or undue delay in accordance with the Rule of Law to inspire trust and confidence and to enhance access to justice.

Important provisions:

(a) The Judiciary comprises the Supreme Court, the High Court, the Dzongkhag
Court, the Dungkhag Court and such other Courts and Tribunals as may be established from time to time by the Druk Gyalpo on the recommendation of the National Judicial Commission.

(b) The Chief Justice of Bhutan shall be appointed from among the Drangpons of the Supreme Court or from among eminent jurists by the Druk Gyalpo in consultation with the National Judicial Commission.

(c) The Drangpons of the Supreme Court shall be appointed from among the Drangpons of the High Court or from among eminent jurists by the Druk Gyalpo in consultation with the National Judicial Commission.

23. Article 22: Local Governments

Among the initiatives of His Majesty the Fourth Druk Gyalpo towards the establishment of political institutions
in the country was the strengthening of Local Governments through the Dzongkhag Yargye Tshogdue (District Development Councils in 1981) and the Gewog Yargye Tshochhung (County Development Councils in 1991). These are milestone democratic changes that were ushered in to introduce democracy in Bhutan. The decentralization process empowered the local people to develop their areas and be self reliant. This Article provides the foundation for a democratic structure.

**Important provisions:**

(a) Local Governments comprises the Dzongkhag Tshogdu, Gewog Tshogde and Thromde Tshogde.

(b) Local Governments support the policy of decentralization with the entitlement to adequate financial resources from the Government and allocation of a proportion of the national revenue
to ensure self-reliant and local self-government.

(c) A candidate to or a member of the Local Governments shall not belong to any political party.

(d) The term for the Dzongkhag Tshogdu, Gewog Tshogde and Thromde Tshogde is five years unless they are dissolved prematurely.

24. Article 23: Elections

The general will of the people shall be expressed through periodic elections. Every vote is an individual’s choice with collective decision to seek a government of the choice of people. Therefore, it is the sacred responsibility of every citizen to exercise ones right to vote in order to elect capable, efficient, sincere and dedicated candidates with high qualities to steer the country in the right direction. The integrity of the process and the
people voting will determine the success of democracy.

**Important provisions:**

(a) A person has the right to vote by direct adult suffrage through secret ballot, if he/she is a Bhutanese not less than eighteen years of age and is registered in the civil registry of that constituency for not less than one year, prior to the date of the election.

(b) The candidate for an elective office shall be a Bhutanese, registered as a voter of that constituency, be a minimum of twenty-five years and maximum of sixty-five years and not receive money or any assistance from foreign sources and fulfill the necessary educational and other qualifications prescribed in the Electoral laws.
25. Articles 24 to 30: Key Bodies and Defence

Several offices and other important agencies have been established under the Constitution to provide check and balance, ensure the discharge of national functions and serve public interest without political biases and bi-partisan attitudes and practices.

Important provisions:

(a) The Election Commission is responsible for the preparation, maintenance and periodical updating of electoral rolls, the election schedule, and the supervision, direction, control and conduct of elections. It will be responsible for the delimitation of constituencies for election of the members of Parliament and local Government.

(b) The Royal Audit Authority is responsible for conducting proper and timely audits
of public funds utilized by the ministries, departments, corporations and other organizations of the Royal Government. In order to stop corruption and check the misuse and wastage of public funds to ensure their proper utilization for the benefit of the public, the Royal Audit Authority is authorized to audit any person in Bhutan, regardless of status or position.

(c) It is important that a small, compact, professional and independent civil service be maintained and strengthened. The Royal Civil Service Commission is an apolitical and independent body that will discharge its public duties in an efficient, transparent and accountable manner.

(d) It is the responsibility of every Bhutanese to act against corruption. The Anti-Corruption Commission is responsible for curbing and rooting out corruption through timely and effective checking on utilization of public funds and
persons engaged in unauthorized use of public resources. Towards this end, the Commission is authorized to carry out investigations on any person in Bhutan, regardless of status or position.

(e) Parliament may, by law, require compulsory militia service for adult citizens to strengthen the defence of the country.

(f) The Attorney General will be the legal adviser to and legal representative of the government.

(g) The Pay Commission will recommend to the Government revisions in the structure of the salary, allowances, benefits and other emoluments.

(h) Except for the Justices of the Supreme Court and the High Court, the term of office for the constitutional post is five years or until the incumbent attains the age of sixty-five years, whichever is earlier.
26. Articles 31 & 32: Holders of Constitutional Offices and Impeachment

The holders of constitutional office will be selected by a broad-based committee of five persons: the Prime Minister, Chief Justice, Speaker of the National Assembly, the Chairperson of the National Council and the leader of the opposition party. This system will be more reliable, credible and will help to ensure a fair selection of the constitutional office holders who must be independent and maintain the highest standard of integrity in upholding the Constitution and in serving the people.

Important provisions:

(a) The holders of the constitutional offices will have no political affiliation and will not be eligible for re-appointment.
(b) The holders of constitutional offices will be removed only on the grounds of incapacity, incompetency or serious misconduct by way of impeachment by Parliament.

27. Article 33: Emergency

This Article provides for situations where the state may declare a period of emergency.

Important provisions:

(a) The Druk Gyalpo may, on the written advice of the Prime Minister, proclaim a state of emergency if the sovereignty, security and territorial integrity of Bhutan, or any part thereof, is threatened by an act of external aggression or armed rebellion. Emergency may be declared during any crisis resulting from natural calamity that threatens or affects the nation as a whole or part thereof.
(b) The government may take only those measures to the extent strictly required by the exigencies of the situation.

(c) The emergency period will last only for twenty-one days, otherwise the emergency will lapse.

28. Articles 34 & 35: National Referendum & Amendment

Article 34 provides the guideline under which the will of the people can be expressed through National Referendum where a majority vote will determine the adoption of the referendum. Article 35 describes the procedure whereby that amendment to the Constitution may take place.

Important provisions:

(a) The final authority to amend the Constitution is vested with the people through National Referendum.
(b) A National Referendum will not be held on the question of imposition, variation, repeal of taxes or on any other grounds as may be prescribed by law.

(c) The Constitution will not be amended during a state of emergency.

29. Salient Features

(a) The Constitution is the mother of all laws and no other laws can violate the letter and the spirit of the Constitution.

(b) It is the source of judicial review conferred to the Supreme Court and the High Court.

(c) The concepts of good governance and sustainable and equitable development are specified in the Constitution.

(d) The Constitution provides a mechanism for checks and balances among the branches of the government.
(e) The principles of Administrative Law, Natural Justice, including the right to procedural fairness and written reasons for decision are included in the Constitution.

(f) International laws, including human rights principles are recognized.

(g) The State solemnly enumerates a laudable declaration that it will not use military force against a foreign state except in self defence, or for the purpose of maintaining its security, territorial integrity and sovereignty.

(h) Parliament has the power to amend by way of addition, variation or repeal the provisions in the Constitution.
Conclusion

The Constitution is the product of a careful consideration to preserve and promote the ideals of sovereignty, nationhood, peace, stability and liberty by drawing from the strength of its cherished historical foundation and consideration for the present and the future well-being of the people and the nation.

The Constitution embodies the vision of His Majesty the Fourth Druk Gyalpo to ensure the Rule of Law, encourage political morality and give the country a political system that will provide good governance and fulfill the aspirations of Bhutanese people. The Constitution symbolizes the pursuit of peace, economic progress and political transformation in the Kingdom.