

ADOPTION RULES 1961 (G.N.S 76 of 1961)

In exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section 11 of the Adoption Ordinance 1960 [Ord. 23 of 1960.], the Chief Justice hereby makes the following rules:

CITATION AND INTERPRETATION

1. These rules may be cited as the Adoption Rules 1961 and shall come into force upon the same date* as the Adoption Ordinance 1960, shall come into operation.

2. (1) In this Rules -

“the applicant” includes either, as well as both, of two joint applicants;

“the Ordinance” means the Adoption Ordinance 1960.

(2) A form referred to by number means the form so numbered in the First Schedule to these Rules.

COMMENCEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS

3. All proceedings other than criminal prosecutions under Part V of the Ordinance shall be disposed of in Chambers.

4. (1) An application to the Court for an adoption order shall be made by filing with the Registrar of the Court an application in Form 1, verified by the affidavit of the applicant, to which affidavit there shall be exhibited any document referred to in the application.

* In force 1st November 1961 – See G.N.S 125/61.

(2) The proposed adopter shall be the applicant and the persons mentioned in rule 10 shall be the respondents.

(3) Save as provided in rule 10, no person shall be served with a copy of the application.

(4) The notice to be served on every respondent shall be in Form 2 and a copy shall be served on the guardian *ad litem*.

5. If any person proposing to apply for an adoption order wishes his identity to be kept confidential, he may, before filing his application, apply to the Registrar of the Court for a serial number to be assigned to him for the purpose of the proposed application, and the Registrar of the Court shall assign a number to him accordingly.

6. (1) Any document signifying the consent of any person to the making of an adoption order for the purposes of section 4 (4) of the Ordinance shall be in Form 3 and, if executed before the commencement of the proceedings, shall be filed with the application.

(2) If the document is executed outside the State of Sabah it shall be sufficiently attested if it is attested by any of the following persons:-

- (a) any person for the time being authorised by law in the place where the document is executed to administer an oath for any judicial or other purpose;
- (b) a British consular officer;
- (c) a notary public;
- (d) if the person executing the same is serving in any of Her Britannic Majesty's naval, military, or air forces, by an officer holding a commission in any of those forces.

7. If it appears that the applicant has previously made an application to the Court for an adoption order in respect of the same infant and that the Court, having heard the case, has dismissed the application on its merits, the Court shall not proceed with the

application unless satisfied that there has been a substantial change of circumstances since the previous application.

APPOINTMENT AND FUNCTIONS OF GUARDIAN *Ad Litem*

8. (1) Subject to the provisions of rule 7 the Court shall, as soon as practicable after the making of an application for an adoption order, appoint a guardian *ad litem* of the infant and shall cause to be served on him a copy of the application together with the documents filed therewith.

(2) The person to be appointed guardian *ad litem* shall be –

- (a) the Director;
- (b) if in any case the Court for good cause considers it undesirable or impracticable to appoint the Director, some other person who appears to the Court, upon such information or evidence as the Court may think fit to require, to be suitably qualified:

Provided that no person shall be appointed guardian *ad litem* if he has the rights and powers of a parent of the infant or has taken part in the arrangements for the adoption of the infant, or is a member, officer or servant of any society or other body of persons which has the rights and powers of a parent of the infant or which has taken part in the arrangements for the adoption of the infant.

(3) Where the Director is appointed to be guardian *ad litem* of an infant all the duties and functions thereby imposed upon him may be performed by any officer of the Welfare Services Department authorised by the Director in that behalf.

9. (1) It shall be the duty of the guardian *ad litem* to safeguard the interests of the infant before the Court and he shall, so far as is reasonably practicable –

- (a) investigate all circumstances relevant to the proposed adoption, including the matters alleged in the application and those specified in the Second Schedule to these Rules; and
- (b) perform such other duties as are specified in the said Schedule or as the Court may direct.

(2) On completing the investigations the guardian *ad litem* shall make a confidential report in writing to the Court.

(3) The guardian *ad litem* may, during his investigations, refer to the Court for directions on any particular matter, and shall make such interim report to the Court as appears to him to be necessary.

10. (1) Within fourteen days after the confidential report of the guardian *ad litem* has been received, the Registrar of the Court shall fix a time for the hearing of the application and shall serve a notice in Form 2 upon the following persons -

- (a) every person not being an applicant whose consent to the making of the order is required under section 4 (4) of the Ordinance;
- (b) the Director unless he is the guardian *ad litem*;
- (c) any other person, not being the infant, who in the opinion of the Court ought to be served with notice of hearing of the application,

and any person upon whom a notice is required to be served under this rule shall be a respondent to the application, and may appear before the Court and show cause why an adoption order should not be made.

(2) When the time for the hearing of the application has been fixed the Registrar of the Court shall serve a notice in Form 4 upon the applicant.

(3) The Registrar of the Court shall serve on the guardian *ad litem* a copy of every notice served on an applicant or respondent, and shall inform him in writing of the time fixed for the hearing.

11. Where the guardian *ad litem* reports to the Court that in his opinion the infant is able to understand the nature of an adoption order, the Registrar of the Court shall serve on the applicant a notice in Form 5, and shall in any event do so if the Court so directs.

ATTENDANCE OF PARTIES AND HEARING OF APPLICATION

12. The Court shall not make an adoption order or an interim order except after the personal attendance before it of the applicant and the guardian *ad litem*:

Provided that where the application is made by two spouses jointly, the Court may dispense with the personal attendance of one of the applicants.

13. Where the applicant has been served with a notice in Form 5 the Court shall not make an adoption order or an interim order unless –

- (a) the infant has attended personally before it or it appears that there are special circumstances making the infant's attendance unnecessary; and
- (b) the Court is satisfied that the infant has been informed of the nature of the order.

14. If a serial number has been assigned to the applicant under rule 5 of these Rules, the proceedings shall be conducted with a view to securing that he is not seen by or made known to any respondent who is not already aware of his identity, except with his consent.

15. The Director may appear and be heard by any public officer authorised by him in that behalf.

EVIDENCE

16. The affidavit verifying the application for an adoption order shall be received as evidence in support of the application, and all evidence in support of or in opposition to the making of an adoption order may be given by affidavit unless the Court shall otherwise direct.

FORM AND TRANSMISSION OF ORDERS

17. (1) An adoption order shall be drawn up in Form 6 and within seven days after the making of the order the Registrar of the Court shall send a sealed copy to the Regional Registrar of Births and Deaths, and shall deliver or send a copy to the applicant.

(2) An interim order shall be drawn up in Form 7, and within seven days after the making of the order the Registrar of the Court shall deliver or send a copy to the applicant.

18. The Registrar of the Court shall not supply a copy of an adoption order or of an interim order except –

- (a) in accordance with the provisions of the last foregoing rule;
- (b) at the request of the Regional Registrar of Births and Deaths; or
- (c) on the application of any other person under an order of the Court.

19. Where an adoption order is made or refused or an interim order made, the Registrar of the Court shall serve notice to that effect on all parties who were not present when the order was made or refused.

RESTORATION OF PROCEEDINGS AFTER INTERIM ORDER

20. (1) Where the determination of an application is postponed and an interim order is made, the Registrar of the Court shall, not less than one month before the expiration of the period specified in the order, if no time has been previously fixed, fix a time for the further hearing of the application.

(2) When the time for the further hearing is fixed, the Registrar of the Court shall serve a notice in Form 8 on the applicant and shall serve a notice in Form 9 on every respondent and a copy thereof on the guardian *ad litem*.

AMENDMENT AND REVOCATION OF ADOPTION ORDERS

21. (1) An application under section 14 (1) of the Ordinance for the amendment of an adoption order may be made *ex parte* in the first instance in the proceedings in which the adoption order was made, but the Court may require notice of the application to be served on such persons as the Court thinks fit.

(2) When the application is granted, the Registrar of the Court shall send to the Regional Registrar of Births and Deaths a notice specifying the date of the adoption order and the names of the adopter and of the adopted person as given in the Schedule to the adoption order and stating the amendments to the adoption order made by the Court.

KEEPING OF DOCUMENTS

22. All documents relating to proceedings under the Ordinance shall, while they are in the custody of the Court, be kept in a place of special security.

SERVICE OF DOCUMENTS

23. Unless otherwise directed, any document under these Rules may be served –

- (a) on a corporation, body of persons or public officer by delivering it at, or sending it by post to the registered or principal office of the corporation, body or public officer;
- (b) on any other person, by delivering it to him, or by sending it by post to him at his last known or usual place of abode.

APPLICATIONS UNDER SECTION 5 (4) OF THE ADOPTION ORDINANCE 1960

24. An application under subsection (4) of section 5 of the Adoption Ordinance 1960 for leave to remove the infant from the care and possession of the applicant shall be made personally to the Court, and notice thereof shall be served on the guardian *ad litem*.

25. Where leave to remove the infant from the care and possession of the applicant is granted under subsection (4) of section 5 aforesaid, the Court may, upon granting leave, dismiss the application for the adoption order.

APPLICATION OF PRACTICE, FEES AND COSTS

26. The procedure, practice and manner of appeals made from the decision of the Registrar under the provisions of section 15 of the Adoption Ordinance 1960 shall be governed, with the necessary modifications, by the provisions of the Rules for the time being relating to appeals in civil proceedings from the Courts of Magistrates to the High Court.

27. Subject to these Rules, the practice and procedure of the High Court in its original jurisdiction shall apply to proceedings under the Ordinance.

28. The fee for filing an application for an adoption order together with the supporting affidavit and documents shall be twenty ringgit.

29. Where a respondent appears before the Court and opposes an application for an adoption order, the costs shall be in the discretion of the Court as regards the party by whom they are to be paid, as if the applicant were a plaintiff in a civil suit, and the respondent a defendant.

10. The infant was received into my/our care and possession on the _____ day of _____ 19____, from _____ of _____ and has been continuously in my/our care and possession since that date.

11. I/We notified the Director of Welfare Services on the _____ day of _____ 19____, of my/our intention to apply for an adoption order in respect of the infant.

[12. For the purpose of my/our application reference may be made to N.O. of _____] (10).

13. I/We have not received or agreed to receive, and no person has made or given or agreed to make or give me/us, any payment or other reward in consideration of the adoption [except as follows _____].

14. I have not made/Neither of us has made a previous application for an adoption order in respect of the same or any other infant to any Court [except an application made to the Court at _____ on the _____ day of _____, 19____, which was dealt with as follows _____].

15. I/We desire that my/our identity should be kept confidential, and the serial number of this application is or [I/We do not desire that my/our identity should be kept confidential].

16. Further particulars of myself/ourselves are set out in the Annex to this application.

17. If an adoption order is made it is proposed that the infant should be known as _____

Dated this _____ day of _____, 19____.

(Usual signature of applicant/applicants)

ANNEX TO FORM No. 1
PARTICULARS OF C.D.

Name in full (Block capitals)

Address

Occupation

Date of Birth

Relationship (if any) to the infant

PARTICULARS OF E.D.

Name in full (Block capitals)

Address

Occupation

Date of Birth

Relationship (if any) to the infant

Notes -

(1) This application must be verified by affidavit, to which all documents referred to in the application must be exhibited.

(2) Enter the first name(s) and surname as shown in the birth certificate if available; otherwise enter the names by which the infant was known at the time of the application.

(3) Where a birth certificate is not attached enter the place and country of birth if known.

(4) If the infant has previously been adopted, a certified copy of the entry in the Adopted Children's Register must be attached, and not a certified copy of the original entry in the register of births; the particulars given should relate to the parent or parents by adoption and not to the natural parent or parents.

(5) If the infant is illegitimate, the father's name should not be given in this entry.

(6) This entry should only be completed if the infant has a legal guardian other than the father or mother of the infant.

(7) Enter the name of any person or body known to be liable by virtue of any order or agreement to contribute to the infant's maintenance, including, if the infant is illegitimate, the name of any person adjudged by an affiliation order to be the putative father.

(8) The names to be entered here (or in the following entry) are those of the persons named in entries 5, 6 and 7, and (where the application is made by one of the spouses alone) of the spouse of the applicant.

(9) This entry should be completed with the name of any of the persons mentioned in the previous note who has not signified consent.

(10) This paragraph need not be completed if the applicant or either of the applicants is a relative of the infant as defined by section 2 of the Adoption Ordinance 1960.

Form No. 2

Rule 4 (4)

NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION FOR AN ADOPTION ORDER IN RESPECT OF AN INFANT
[GENERAL TITLE – FORM 1]

(Seal)

To _____ of _____

Whereas an application for an order under the Adoption Ordinance 1960 authorising the adoption of A.B. (1), an infant of the _____ sex born on the _____ 19____, has been made by [CD/CD and ED] (2) or [under the serial number _____];

And whereas _____ of _____ has been appointed guardian *ad litem* of the said infant;

Take notice:-

- A. (3) [That the said application will be heard at _____ on the _____ 19____, at the hour of _____ in the _____ noon and that you may appear and show cause why the adoption order should not be made].
- B. (3) [That if you wish to attend and show cause why the adoption order should not be made, you should give notice to the Court on or before _____ 19____, in order that a date and time may be fixed for your attendance].

[And take notice further that while the said application is pending, a parent or guardian of the infant who has already signified his consent to the making of the adoption order must not, except with the leave of the Court, remove the infant from the care and possession of the applicant. Application for such leave may be made personally to a Judge of the Court] (4).

The slip below should be completed and returned to the Court.

Dated the _____ day of _____, 19____.

Registrar

Notes -

- (1) Enter name(s) and surname as shown in the heading of Form No. 1.

(2) The name of the applicant must not be given where a serial number is specified in the application and the notice is addressed to an individual other than the spouse of the applicant. In that case complete the second entry.

(3) Paragraph A should be completed and paragraph B struck out where the notice is addressed to the Director of Welfare Services or the spouse of the applicant, or where the applicant does not desire his identity to be kept confidential. Where a serial number has been given and the notice is addressed to an individual respondent, other than the spouse of the applicant, paragraph A must be struck out and paragraph B completed.

(4) Delete those words except where the notice is addressed to a parent or guardian of the infant.

..... Perforation

To the Registrar of the High Court.

I have received notice of the application for an adoption order in respect of A.B., an infant.

(a) I do not wish to oppose the application

OR

(b) I wish to attend and show cause why the adoption order should not be made.

.....
(Signature)

.....
(Address)

.....
(Date)

Form No. 3

Rule 6 (1)

CONSENT TO AN ADOPTION ORDER IN RESPECT OF AN INFANT
[GENERAL TITLE – FORM1]

Whereas an application is to be made [by CD/CD and ED] (2) or [under the serial number] for an order under the Adoption Ordinance 1960 authorising the adoption of A.B. (1) an infant of the sex, born on the day of 19 , hereinafter called the infant;

I, the undersigned of being (3) –

the mother of the infant/ (3)

the father of the infant/ (3)

a guardian of the infant/

a person [acting on behalf of a body] having parental rights in respect of the infant/

a person [acting on behalf of a body] liable by virtue of any order or agreement to contribute to the maintenance of the infant/

the spouse of C.D.,

hereby state as follows-

(1) I understand that the effect of an adoption order is to deprive a parent or guardian of all rights in respect of the maintenance and up bringing of the infant.

(2) I understand that, when the application for an adoption order in respect of the said A.B. is heard by the Court, this document may be used as evidence of my consent to the making of the order unless I have notified the Court that I no longer consent.

(3) I hereby consent to the making of an adoption order in pursuance of the said application [on condition that the religious persuasion in which the infant is brought up is] (4).

.....

(Signature)

Signed at on by the said who satisfied me that he/she fully understood the nature of the foregoing statement and was prepared to surrender his/her child for adoption.

Before me,

.....
(Signature)

.....
(Address)

.....
(Description)

Notes -

- (1) Insert the name known to the consenting party.
- (2) Where the name of applicant is not known to the consenting party, and a serial number has been obtained for the application, complete the entry contained in the second bracket.
- (3) If the infant has previously been adopted, a certified copy of the entry in the Adopted Children's Register should be attached, and the words "by adoption" should be added.
- (4) Delete the words in brackets if the applicant is named, or if, although the applicant is not named, the consenting party does not desire to impose conditions as to religious upbringing.

Form No. 4

Rule 10 (2)

NOTICE TO APPLICANT OF HEARING
[GENERAL TITLE – FORM 1]

(Seal)

To _____ of _____

Whereas you have made an application for an order under the Adoption Ordinance 1960 authorising you to adopt the above-named infant;

Take notice that the application will be heard at _____ on the _____ 19 _____, at the hour of _____ in the _____ noon

Dated the _____ day of _____, 19 _____

Registrar

Form No. 5

Rule 11

NOTICE TO APPLICANT THAT THE INFANT'S PRESENCE IS REQUIRED AT
THE HEARING
[GENERAL TITLE-FORM 1]

(Seal)

To _____ of _____

Whereas an application has been made by you for an order under the Adoption Ordinance 1960 authorising you to adopt the above-named infant;

And whereas the said application will be heard at _____ on the _____ 19____, at the hour of _____ in the _____ noon;

Take notice that no order can be made unless the infant is present at the hearing.

Dated the _____ day of _____ 19____

Registrar

Form No. 6

Rule 17 (1)

ADOPTION ORDER IN RESPECT OF AN INFANT
[GENERAL TITLE – FORM 1]

(Seal)

Application having been made by C.D., by occupation _____ resident at _____ [and E.D. his wife] (hereinafter called the applicant/applicants) for an order under the Adoption Ordinance 1960 authorising him/her/them to adopt A.B. an infant, the child/adopted child of F.B./F.B. and G.B.;

And the said A.B. (hereinafter called the infant) being of the _____ sex and never having been married;

And the applicant/one of the applicants having attained the age of twenty-five years and being at least twenty-one years than the infant/ having attained the age of twenty-one years and being a relative of the infant within the meaning of the said Ordinance/being the mother/father of the infant;

And the names by which the infant is to be known being P.D.] (1);

[And it having been proved to the satisfaction of the Court that the infant is identical with A.B., to whom the entry numbered , and made on the 19 , in the Register of Births in the registration office at relates] (2);

[And the [probate] (3) date of birth of the infant appearing to be the 19 ;]

[And the infant having been previously the subject of an adoption order dated the 19 , of which particulars are entered in the Adopted Children's Register] (4);

And all the consents required by the said Ordinance being obtained or dispensed with;

And upon it appearing to the Court that the infant has been continuously in the custody of the applicant(s) for at least three consecutive months immediately preceding the date of this order;

It is ordered that the applicant/applicants be authorised to adopt the infant;

[And as regards costs it is ordered that];

[And the following payment or reward is sanctioned]

And it is directed that the Registrar of Births and Deaths shall make in the Adopted Children's Register an entry recording the adoption in accordance with the particulars set out in the Schedule to this order;

[And it is further directed that the Registrar of Births and Deaths shall cause the said entry in the Register of Births to be marked with the word "Adopted"] (2);

[And it is further directed that the Registrar of Births and Deaths shall cause the previous entry in the Adopted Children's Register relating to the infant to be marked with the word "Re-adopted"] (4).

Dated the day of 19 .

Judge

SCHEDULE TO FORM NO. 6

Date (5) and country of birth of child	Name and surname of child (6)	Sex of child	Name & surname, address & occupation of adopter or adopters	Date of adoption order

Notes -

- (1) Delete where there is no change of name.
- (2) Delete this entry –
 - (a) if the “infant” is not identified with a person whose birth is registered in the register of births;
 - (b) if the infant has previously been adopted.
- (3) Delete “probable” where the precise date of the infant’s birth has been proved.
- (4) Delete except where the infant has been previously adopted.
- (5) Where the probable date of birth is specified in the body of the order, enter the date without qualification. If the infant is of twins, include, if possible, the hour as well as date of birth.
- (6) Where there is a change, enter only the names by which the infant is known.

Form No. 7

Rule 17 (2)

INTERIM ORDER IN RESPECT OF AN INFANT
[GENERAL TITLE – FORM 1]

Application having been made by C.D. by occupation _____ resident at [and E.D. his wife] (hereinafter called the applicant/applicants) for an order under the Adoption Ordinance 1960 authorising him/her/them to adopt A.B. an infant, the child/adopted child of F.B./F.B. and G.B.;

And the said A.B. (hereinafter called the infant) being of _____ sex, and never having been married;

And the applicant/one of the applicants having attained the age of twenty-five years and being at least twenty-one years older than the infant/ _____ having attained the age of twenty-one years and being a relative of the infant within the meaning of the said Ordinance/ being the mother/father of the infant;

And all the consents required by the said Ordinance being obtained or dispensed with;

It is ordered that the determination of the application be postponed, and the custody of the infant be given to the applicant/applicants for a period ending on the _____ 19____, by way of a probationary period, upon the following terms, namely _____ and that the applicant/applicants shall at least two months before that date apply for final determination of the application.

[And as regards costs it is ordered that _____]

Dated the _____ day of _____ 19____.

Judge

Form No. 8

Rule 20 (2)

NOTICE OF FURTHER HEARING OF AN APPLICATION FOR AN
ADOPTION ORDER TO BE SERVED ON THE APPLICANT
[GENERAL TITLE – FORM 1]

(Seal)

To _____ of _____

Whereas an application has been made by you for an order under the Adoption Ordinance 1960 authorising you to adopt the above-named infant;

And whereas the determination of the said application was postponed and an interim order was made by the Court on the _____ 19____ ;

Take notice that the said application will be further heard before the Court on the _____ 19____, at the hours of _____ in the _____ noon;

[And take notice that no order can be made unless the infant is present at the further hearing] (1)

Dated the _____ day of _____ 19 _____

Registrar

Note -

(1) Delete except where the applicant has previously been served with a notice in Form 5 or where the Court otherwise directs.

Form No. 9

Rule 20 (2)

NOTICE OF FURTHER HEARING OF AN APPLICATION FOR AN
ADOPTION ORDER IN RESPECT OF AN INFANT
[GENERAL TITLE – FORM 1]

(Seal)

To _____ of _____

Whereas an application for an order under the Adoption Ordinance 1960 authorising the adoption of A.B., (1) an infant of the _____ sex born on the _____ 19 _____, was made by [C.D./C.D. and E.D.] (2) or [under the serial number _____];

And whereas _____ of _____ was appointed guardian ad litem of the said infant;

Take notice –

A. (3) [That the said application will be further heard by the Court on the _____ 19 _____, at the hour of _____ in the _____ noon and that you may appear to show cause why the adoption order should not be made].

B. (3) [That if you wish to attend and show cause why the adoption order should not be made, you should give notice to the Court on or before _____ 19 _____, in order that a date and time may be fixed for your attendance].

The slip below should be completed and returned to the Court.

Dated the _____ day of _____ 19 _____ .

Registrar

Notes –

- (1) Enter name(s) and surname as shown in the heading of Form No. 1.
- (2) The name of the applicant must not be given where a serial number is specified in the application, and the notice is addressed to an individual other than the spouse of the applicant. In that case complete the second entry in square brackets.
- (3) Paragraph A should be completed and paragraph B struck out where the notice is addressed to the spouse of the applicant, or where the applicant does not desire his identity to be kept confidential. Where a serial number is specified in that entry and the notice is addressed to a respondent other than the spouse of the applicant, paragraph A must be struck out and paragraph B completed.

..... Perforation

To the Registrar of the High Court.

I have received notice of the further hearing of the application for an adoption order in respect of A.B., an infant.

(a) I do not wish to oppose the application

OR

(b) I wish to attend and show cause why the adoption order should not be made.

Delete (a) of (b)

.....
(Signature)

.....
(Address)

.....
(Date)

SECOND SCHEDULE

Rule 9

ADDITIONAL MATTERS SUBJECT TO INVESTIGATION
AND REPORT BY GUARDIAN *Ad Litem*

Part I

THE APPLICANTS

1. In the case of a joint application, how long the applicants have been married.
2. In the case of an application by one only of the two spouses –
 - (a) whether the other spouse consents to the application; and
 - (b) why he or she does not join in the application.
3. What other children (including adopted children) the applicant has.
4. What is the age and sex of all children living in the home of the applicant, and what is their relationship to the applicant.
5. What number of living rooms and bedrooms are contained in the home of the applicant, and what is the condition of the home.
6. What are the means of the applicant.
7. Whether the applicant suffers or has suffered from any serious illness and whether there is any history of tuberculosis, epilepsy or mental illness in his or her family.
8. Whether any person specified in the application as a person to whom reference may be made is a responsible person and recommends the applicant without reservation.
9. Whether the applicant understands that an adoption order is irrevocable and that the order if made will render him or her responsible for the maintenance and upbringing of the infant.

Part II

THE INFANT

10. Whether the infant has any right to or interest in any property.
11. Whether the infant (if of any age to understand the effect of an adoption order) wishes the order to be made.

Part III
THE PARENTS

12. Whether the mother consents to the adoption and identifies the birth certificate (if any) attached to the applicant's statement as the birth certificate of the infant.

13. Whether, if the infant is legitimate, the father, or if the infant is illegitimate, the person (if any) adjudged by the order of any Court to be the putative father of the infant, or if an agreement has been made to contribute to the maintenance of the infant by a person acknowledging himself to be the father of the infant, whether that person consents to the adoption.

14. When did the parent or parents part with the infant, and to whom.

15. What are the reasons of the parent or parents for consenting to the adoption, and whether his or their consent is given without pressure from other persons.

16. Whether the parent, or each of the parents, understands that an adoption order is irrevocable, and that the order if made will deprive him or her of all rights in respect of the maintenance and upbringing of the infant.

17. Where the application requests the Judge to dispense with the consent of the parent, or either of the parents, on the ground that he or she cannot be found, what steps have been taken to trace him or her.