

Section 64: How do village-level organizations display and use the National Flag?

The National Flag is the symbol of the state. Displaying the National Flag correctly plays a positive role in enhancing citizens' consciousness of the state, awareness of the National Flag, and passion of patriotism. Article 7 of the Law of the People's Republic of China on the National Flag stipulates: "State organs at all levels and mass organizations shall display the National Flag on National Day, International Labour Day, New Year's Day and the Spring Festival; the National Flag may be displayed, when conditions permit, in premises of enterprises, institutions, villagers' committees and residents' committees, in urban residential compounds (buildings) and in public places such as squares and parks." The following points should be observed for displaying the National Flag correctly:

Firstly, the National Flag must be raised solemnly in important ceremonies and festivals. The national flag must be bright and flat, and the size specification must comply with relevant regulations. The national anthem must be played and sung when the flag is being raised. The flag bearers and the masses who participate in the ceremony must stand at attention and salute with eyes, military personnel must give the military salute, and the Young Pioneers must give the Pioneer salute. The National Flag must be slowly raised to the top of the flagpole.

Secondly, the National Flag must be displayed decently. For important festivals, the National Flag can be displayed at higher positions on the sides of the gates of the village committees. It can also be displayed at the door of villagers' houses.

Thirdly, the National Flag must be placed properly. In offices, National Flags on both indoor flagpoles and desks must be placed in prominent places to show respect.

Fourthly, decorative National Flags must be used with caution. For example, National Flags displayed at railings of courtyard walls, lamp posts, or power poles must be kept intact, and the pattern must not be damaged. When there is a choice, we should choose durable materials for equipment with the National Flag's pattern. Silk National Flags are fragile, therefore generally National Flags should not be displayed on the courtyard wall, and pennant flags should be used instead.

Fifthly, the Nation Flags must be maintained and managed well. The National Flag of the People's Republic of China is the symbol and hallmark of the People's Republic of China, all citizens and organizations shall respect and care for the National Flag. The Article 17 of the Law of the People's Republic of China on the

National Flag stipulates: “No damaged, defiled, faded or substandard National Flag shall be displayed.” If National Flags are damaged, they should be taken down. However, the Law of the People’s Republic of China on the National Flag does not clearly stipulate how to recycle or dispose of the used National Flags. It is recommended that village-level organizations send damaged or defaced National Flags to the township people’s governments for unified recycling and disposal.

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