

THE BUDDHIST SOCIETY OF INDIA

The Buddhist Society of India was registered by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar on 4th May 1955 in the office of the Registrar of Companies, Mumbai.

“On May 8th, 1955 at the function held at Nare Park, Bombay, he made a formal announcement of the establishment of this Society for propagation of Buddhism”¹ The constitution of the Society is as follows: Editors.

CONSTITUTION OF THE BUDDHIST SOCIETY OF INDIA

(As Registered By Dr. B. R. Ambedkar)

Registered on 4th May, 1955

Sd. Registrar of Companies,
Mumbai.

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

1. The name of the Society :

The name of the Society is THE BUDDHIST SOCIETY OF INDIA.

2. The objects of the Society :

The aims and objects of the Society shall be :

- (1) To promote the spread of Buddhism in India.
- (2) To establish temples for Buddhist worship.
- (3) To establish schools and colleges for religious and scientific subjects.
- (4) To establish orphanages, hospitals and relief centres.
- (5) To start Buddhist Seminaries for the preparation of workers for the spread of Buddhism.

1 : Janata : 14th May 1955.

- (6) To promote comparative study of all religions.
- (7) To undertake publication of Buddhist Literature and to issue leaflets and pamphlets for giving a true understanding of the Buddhist religion to the common mass.
- (8) To create a new order of priests, if it becomes necessary to do so.
- (9) To establish a press or presses for the purposes of carrying on the work of publication.
- (10) To hold gatherings and conferences of the Buddhists of India for common action and to establish fellowship.

3. The name, address and occupation of the President who is entrusted with the function of managing affairs of the Society are as under:—

NAME	ADDRESS	OCCUPATION
Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar	26, Alipore Road, Civil lines, Delhi.	Bar-at-Law

The names of the members of the Society with their occupations and addresses

NAME	ADDRESS	OCCUPATION
(Sd.) Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar	26, Alipore Road, Civil Lines, Delhi.	Barrister-at-Law
" Madhav G. Malvankar	.. 68, Hughes Road, Bombay-7.	Medical Consultant
" C. S. Pillai	.. Mherwan Building, 2nd Floor, Sir P. Mehta Road, Bombay-1.	Architect
" Bhalchandra K. Kabir	.. 59, Portuguese Church Road, Dadar, Bombay-28	Service
" Bhagawant Sayaji Gaikwad	Plot No. 10, Road No. 19. Khar, Bombay-21.	Service
" S. D. Gaikwad	.. Siddharth College. Anand Bhavan, Dr. D. Naoroji Road, Bombay-1.	Service
" Kashiram Vishram Sawadkar	B.D.D. Chawl No. 15, 'B', Room, No. 32, Naigaum, Bombay-14.	Service

The Buddhist Society of India

Rules and regulations governing the Constitution of the society :—

- I. The name of the Society shall be THE BUDDHIST SOCIETY OF INDIA.
- II. The registered office of the Society shall be situated in Bombay.
- III. The objects of the Society shall be :—
 - (1) To promote the spread of Buddhism in India.
 - (2) To establish temples for Buddhist worship.
 - (3) To establish schools and colleges for religious and scientific subject.
 - (4) To establish orphanages, hospitals and relief centres.
 - (5) To start Buddhist Seminaries for the preparation of workers for the spread of Buddhism.
 - (6) To promote comparative study of all religions.
 - (7) To undertake publication of Buddhist literature and to issue leaflets and pamphlets for giving a true understanding of the Buddhist religion to the common mass.
 - (8) To create new order of priests, if it becomes necessary to do so.
 - (9) To establish a press or presses for the purposes of carrying on the work of publication.
 - (10) To hold gatherings and conferences of the Buddhists of India for common action and to establish fellowship.
- IV. The powers of the Society shall be :—
 - (1) To receive donations and to collect funds for the society.
 - (2) To maintain priests.
 - (3) To sell or mortgage the property of the society for the purpose of the society.
 - (4) To own and hold property.
 - (5) To purchase, take on lease or otherwise acquire property for the society and to invest and deal with the moneys of the society in such a manner as may from time to time be determined.

- (6) To construct, maintain, rebuild, repair, alter, replace or reinstate houses, buildings or works for the purposes of the society.
- (7) To sell, dispose of, improve, manage, develop, exchange, lease, mortgage or otherwise alienate or deal with all or any property of the society.
- (8) To co-operate, amalgamate or affiliate the society or any institution or institutions run by or belonging to the society with any other institution or society with a view to securing further advancement of the aims and objects of the society.
- (9) To raise money with or without security for carrying out any of the purposes, aims and objects of the society.
- (10) To do all other lawful things and acts as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of any of the aforesaid aims and objects.

V. MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY :

There shall be following classes of members of the society :—

- (1) Members,
- (2) Associate Members.

(1) CONDITIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP :

Who can be a Member :—

Any person who is duly initiated into the Buddhist religion by his having undergone the ceremony of Dhammadiksha as prescribed by the Society and has paid his annual subscription shall be eligible to be a member of the Society.

(2) ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP :

Who can be an Associate Member :

Any person who is sympathetic to the aims and objects of the Society and is not hostile to the Buddhist religion may be admitted as an Associate Member of the Society on paying the annual subscription.

(3) RESTRICTION OF MEMBERSHIP :

Provided that the President may in any particular case decide that any member notwithstanding his having undergone the ceremony of Dhammadiksha shall remain a probationer for such period as he may prescribe.

- (4) A probationer and an Associate Member shall not be eligible to be a member of the Advisory Council and the General Council and shall have no right to vote.

VI. EXPLANATION :

The President may allow Corporation, Institutions and Associations to be members of the Society.

VII. MEMBERSHIP DUES :

Every member shall be bound to pay at least Re. 1 as membership fee per year whether he is a member or an associate member. Failure to pay fees in due time shall incur loss of membership as also right to vote unless such penalty is waived by the President.

VIII. PRESIDENT :

- (1) The Society shall have a President. The term of the President shall be for his life.
- (2) The first President of the Society shall be Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, M.A., Ph.D., D.Sc., Barrister-at-Law.
- (3) The President shall appoint a Treasurer and Secretary. He will have right to prescribe their term of office.
- (4) The President shall have power—
 - (i) to create such offices as may be necessary for carrying out the purposes of Society ;
 - (ii) to appoint to them such persons as he may deem fit; and
 - (iii) to assign duties and functions to persons carrying on the administration of the Society.

- (5) The President shall have power to open centres at different places in India for carrying on the work of the Society and appoint workers and office bearers thereto.

IX. DUTIES OF SECRETARY AND TREASURER :

- (1) It shall be the duty of the Secretary to correspond on behalf of the Society.
- (2) It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep the accounts of the Society.

X. All monies belonging to the Society shall be kept in deposit with a Bank. The monies shall be drawn upon by the President for the purposes of the Society.

XI. MANAGEMENT :

- (1) The affairs of the Society shall be managed by the President.
- (2) All executive powers shall be vested in the President.
- (3) There shall be constituted an Advisory Council to aid the President in the discharge of his duty.
- (4) The Advisory Council consist often members. They shall be chosen by the members of the Society at every 5th year.
- (5) The first members of the Advisory Council shall be nominated by the President.
- (6) The Advisory Council shall meet as and when required by the President.
- (7) The Agenda shall be prepared by the President.
- (8) Any member may raise and question outside the Agenda, if permitted by the President.
- (9) The resolutions of the Advisory Council be only recommendatory.

XII. GENERAL COUNCIL :

- (1) There shall be a General Council of the Society. Every member shall be entitled to be a member of the General Council. It shall meet every two years and the President shall submit a report on the work done by the

committee. Every person who is a member but who is not on probation shall be entitled to be present at the General Meeting of the committee.

- (2) The General Council shall have the power to remove the President from his office by a majority of three-fourths of the members present at the meeting on the ground that the President has been found guilty of defalcation or misconduct by a Court of Law.

XIII. AMENDMENTS OF THE CONSTITUTION :

- (1) This Constitution may be amended if the following conditions are satisfied :—
 - (a) That the proposal is approved by two-third majority of the Advisory Council.
 - (b) The text of the proposed amendment is circulated to the members with a notice convening the meeting.
 - (c) The period of notice is not less than 3 months.
- (2) No amendment shall be regarded as adopted unless two-thirds of the members present at the meeting in favour of it.

Certified to be the true copy of the rules and regulations of the Society.

Signatures—

- (Sd.) (1) B.R. Ambedkar,
 ” (2) Madhav G. Malwankar,
 ” (3) C. S. Pillai.

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APPENDICES
