

THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA ASSOCIATION, KALAMAZOO

PREAMBLE: WHEREAS it is desired to form an organization with a view to promoting a better cultural understanding between India and the United States of America, the following Constitution is hereby Adopted.

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this organization shall be India Association, Kalamazoo, hereinafter to as “the Association”.

ARTICLE II

Membership

SECTION A : Qualification for Membership:

1. Membership of the Association shall be open to all those who share the object of the Association as laid out in the preamble above.
2. There shall be no limit to the total membership of the Association
3. No person shall be denied membership to the Association on the grounds of race, creed, color or nationality.

SECTION B: Admission to Membership:

1. Members shall be admitted at any time of the year.
2. Applications for membership shall be approved by the Executive Committee of the Association.
3. All applicants shall be notified of the decision regarding their membership within a month of their application.

SECTION C: Voting Privilege:

1. All members of the Association shall be entitled to vote.

SECTION D: Termination of Membership:

1. Any member can terminate his membership by resignation.
2. The membership of any person may be terminated by the Association in a general body meeting if the member's activities are considered injurious to the cause of the Association; provided that such person shall be given due notice of such intention and shall be allowed time to speak on his behalf at the next general meeting.

ARTICLE III

Officers and their Functions

- SECTION A: Office Bearers:
The Association shall have the following five elected Office Bearers:
1. President: To preside over general meetings of the Association and meetings of the Executive Committee..
 2. Vice President: To assist the President and to carry out his duties in his absence.
 3. Secretary: To be responsible for correspondence, calling of all Meetings, preparation of agenda and the minutes of meetings, maintenance of a register of members.
 4. Social Secretary: To be responsible for all cultural activities.
 5. Treasurer: To receive and make payments on behalf of the Association, collect membership dues and maintain records of all receipts and expenditures.
- SECTION B: Executive Committee:
1. There shall be an Executive Committee of the Association Composed of the aforementioned Office Bearers and five other executive Committee members.
 2. The Executive Committee shall collectively perform the Functions herein stated and likewise carry out the responsibility of the day-to day administration of the Association towards which end they may appoint ad hoc Committees for specific purposes as and when they deem it necessary or expedient.
- SECTION C: Qualifications of Officers:
1. Only members of the Association shall be eligible to hold any of the foregoing offices in the Association.
- SECTION D: Election of Officers:
1. All Officers (Office bearers and Executive Committee members) shall be elected at, unless otherwise herein provided the Annual General meeting and shall hold the office until the next General meeting, unless otherwise herein provided.
 2. At least sixty day's notice shall be given for the Annual General Body Meeting.
 3. Nominations for the following year for all the officers must be presented in writing to the existing Executive Committee by the Regular Members at least thirty days prior to the election date. The validity of the nominations shall be verified by the existing Executive Committee. Members shall be informed of the nominations by the Executive Committee at least two weeks before the Annual General Body meeting.

4. If there is more than one nomination for any position, the existing Executive Committee shall mail out ballot forms to the members two weeks prior to General Body meeting indicating those nominations. Members shall vote only by mailing the ballot form to the address designated by the Executive Committee at least three days before the Annual General Body meeting.
5. If the nominations for any of the five office bearers are not received thirty days prior to the election date, then and only then a Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the existing Executive Committee. The Nominating Committee shall nominate only those office bearers whose nominations are not received from regular members thirty days prior to the Annual General Body meeting.
6. The existing Executive Committee shall continue until the new Executive Committee is formed

SECTION E:

Procedure for Filling Vacancies :

1. In case of a vacancy, the office of the President shall be filled by the Vice President until the next Annual General Meeting.
2. In case of a vacancy, Secretary's office shall be filled by the Social Secretary until the next Annual General Meeting.
3. Other vacancies shall be filled by the Executive Committee; provided that the Executive Committee may decide not to fill a particular vacancy and provided further that a special general meeting be called for the purpose.

SECTION F:

Removal of Officers:

1. Any Officer may be removed from office for sufficient cause at a general meeting; provided that the decision for removal of the Officer is supported by at least a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.
2. Failure to perform duties, malfeasance or excessive absence shall be sufficient cause for the removal of an officer.

ARTICLE IV

SECTION A:

Annual General Meetings:

1. An Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be called in the month of December.
2. At this meeting, elections shall be held as herein before provided; there shall be presented reports by the President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer, any proposed amendments to this Constitution shall be entertained and any other business conducted which, in the view of the President, is in order. The financial report may be an audited report at the discretion of

the Executive Committee or on demand by the majority of the general body.

SECTION B:

Other General Meetings:

1. A special General Meeting may be requisitioned by the Members of the Association; provided that such requisition shall be in writing and shall bear the signatures of at least 20% of fully paid-up members of the Association. Such a meeting shall be subject to the provision for notice hereinafter provided and may be called by the Secretary, the President, the Executive Committee. or in case of their failure to do so by any five fully paid-up members of the Association

SECTION C:

Meetings of the Executive Committee:

1. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at the instance of the President; provided that any five members of the Executive Committee may requisition such a meeting, in which case the meeting shall be called by the Secretary ,or in case of his failure to do so, by any member of the Executive Committee.

SECTION D:

Notice

1. One week's notice shall be given for any meeting of the Association whatsoever; provided, however, that the Executive Committee may, for the purpose of its own meetings, waive such period of notice.

SECTION E:

Quorum

1. The quorum for a general meeting of the Association shall be at least 10 % of the total membership, and the quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be at least five members present. In determining the quorum, family membership shall be considered as two members.

SECTION F:

Procedure

1. The Association shall follow the rules of procedure laid down in Sturgis' Rule of Order.

SECTION G:

Voting:

1. In determining the number of votes, the family membership shall be considered to have two votes by persons over 18 years of age provided they have paid all arrears of dues and special assessments and the dues for the year in which the meeting called. For single members who have paid all the membership dues will be eligible to have one vote regardless of age. Only the parents, spouse, unmarried children and grand- children living in the same household of the person who has paid family membership shall be given membership privileges.

ARTICLE V

Dues and Assessments

1. Annual dues or special assessments will be determined by the Executive Committee at least three months prior to beginning of the year.
2. No dues or special assessments shall be refundable.
3. No person shall exercise a vote at general meeting unless all arrears, assessments and dues are paid for the year in which the meeting is called.

ARTICLE VI

Amendment of the Constitution

Amendment

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the Members and voting at a general meeting; provided that at least two Weeks' notice of the intention to purpose an amendment is given to the Secretary prior to the calling of a general meeting, whereupon the Secretary shall include notice of the proposed

ARTICLE VII

DISSOLUTION

The Association can be dissolved by the General Body with two weeks notice and with the approval of two thirds of the members present in the meeting. Six months after the vote on dissolution, the assets of the Association shall be donated to UNICEF. The dissolution shall be handled by the committee appointed by the General Body.