



Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of India

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DR. HARISH GUPTA, P.G. Regd.
GRAND SECRETARY

27/11/02 ✓

No.95(M)

25th November 2002

The Regional Grand Secretary,
Regional Grand Mark Lodge of S.I.,
Freemasons' Hall,
14 Ethiraj Salai,
Chennai-600 008.

Dear Sir and W.Bro.,

With reference to your letter No.ML/95/2002 dated 23rd October 2002, I have the pleasure to return herewith two copies of by-laws of Mark Lodge Visakha No.95 duly approved by M.W.the Grand Master.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,

Harish Gupta
(DR.HARISH GUPTA)

BY LAWS

MARK LODGE VISAKHA NO.95
VISAKHAPATNAM

(Warranted on the 13th day of April, 2000 corresponding to the 24th day of Chaitra 1922 Saka Era)

BY LAWS

Under the authority granted by the Grand Mark Lodge of India, a Lodge of Mark Master Masons under the name and style of Mark Lodge Visakha No.95 shall be held at the Hamilton Memorial Masonic Temple, Beach Road, Visakhapatnam - 530 001.

1. Membership :

The Members shall comprise only of two classes viz., Members and Honourary Members.

2. Meetings :

a) Regular Meetings of the Lodge shall be held at the Hamilton Memorial Masonic Temple, Beach Road, Visakhapatnam - 530 001 on the Second Friday in the months of January, April, July and December every year at such hour as may be directed by the Master for each Meeting.

b) Emergency Meeting of the Lodge may at any time be called by the authority of the Master and the business to be strictly in accordance with Rule 90 of the Book of Constitutions of the Grand Mark Lodge of India. Any fee charged shall be to the account of the person/persons on whose behalf the emergency meeting is to be held.

c) Summons convening the Regular/Emergency Meeting shall be despatched by the Secretary to all members of the Lodge at least Seven days before the date of such meeting.

3. Election and Installation Meetings :

The Master shall be elected annually at the Regular Meeting of the Lodge in January and shall be Installed at the next regular Meeting in April. The Treasurer and the Tyler shall be elected and chosen respectively each year at the regular meeting of the Lodge in January and invested at the Installation meeting in April.

4. Admission of Members :

a) A Master Mason desirous of being Advanced may either be proposed and seconded at a Regular Meeting of the Lodge or on application duly signed by the proposer and seconder and may be sent to the Secretary. Such a proposal/proposals shall be included in the Summons for the next regular meeting giving full particulars of the Candidate/Candidates in accordance with Rule 98 of the Book of Constitutions.

b) In the case of Joining or Re-joining, he shall be proposed and seconded at a regular meeting and balloted for at the next regular meeting, the summons in respect of which shall clearly spell out the full particulars as required by Rule 98(c) of the Book of Constitutions.

c) A Candidate for Advancement or Joining, not already registered in books of Grand Mark Lodge of India shall, before the ballot is taken, sign the Declaration as provided in Rule 100 of the Book of Constitutions.

c) Before the ballot for Advancement/Joining/Re-joining is proceeded with, the Secretary of the Lodge shall satisfy himself that he has taken care of the provisions of Rule 99 of the Book of Constitutions.

5. Ballot and Voting :

- a) No Brother shall be Advanced or admitted as a joining or Re-joining member of the Lodge if, on the ballot, more than two black balls shall appear against him. In the event of an unfavourable ballot, the candidate shall not be re-proposed after the lapse of one year from the date of rejection.
- b) In all cases where the votes of brethren on any proposition are equal, the W. Master shall have a second or casting vote.

6. Fees and Subscription :

- a) The following shall be the scale of admission fees :
 - i. Fee of Advancement plus GMLI and RGML of SI Advancement Fee Rs.300/-.
 - ii. Fee for joining from a Lodge under Grand Mark Lodge of India plus GMLI and RGML of SI Joining fees Rs.250/-.
 - iii. Fees for joining from a Lodge under other Constitution plus GMLI and RGML of SI Joining fees Rs.300/-.
 - iv. Re-joining Fee plus GMLI and RGML Joining fees Rs.250/-.
- b) The above fees are payable before Advancement, Joining or Re-joining.
- c) Membership subscription will be as follows :
 - i. Rs.160/- payable to the Mark Lodge per year

PLUS

- ii. Such annual dues payable to the Grand Mark Lodge of India as may be fixed from time to time.

PLUS

- iii. Such annual dues payable to the Regional Grand Mark Lodge of Southern India as may be fixed from time to time. The above subscriptions shall be payable in advance each year.

A Candidate for Advancement, Joining/Re-joining at any part of the year pay the full annual subscription together with the admission fees for Advancement, or Joining/Re-joining as the case may be.

Honorary Members are not liable to pay any fees.

7. Exclusion :

If any Brother allows his subscription to be in arrears for a year, the Secretary shall advise him of the amount due, by a registered post, and if the full amount is not paid within thirty days thereof, he shall be liable to exclusion under Rule 109 of the Book of Constitution.

8. Resignation :

Any Brother desirous of resigning from the Lodge may notify the same verbally in open Lodge, or by letter to the Secretary, and such notice unless withdrawn, shall take effect from the date on which it is given. Any member who has resigned will be permitted to rejoin on payment of Re-joining Fees and any arrears due, but shall be subject to fresh ballot.

9. Duties of Officers :

- a) Secretary : The Secretary shall conduct all the general business and correspondence of the Lodge and shall keep record of the proceedings of the regular/emergency meetings of the Lodge in the Minutes Book and read the same at the next regular Meeting for confirmation. He shall maintain in a separate book a record of meetings of Standing and Audit Committees. He shall maintain a Membership Register and preserve all records, files, documents

etc., of the Lodge.

b) **Treasurer** : He shall have charge of and be responsible for the money and account books of the Lodge. He shall enter details of the money received viz., subscriptions and other dues and of all payments made in the appropriate books of account. He shall deposit, without any delay, such sums of money as have been received, in an account standing in the name of the Lodge with a Scheduled Bank duly approved by the resolution of the Lodge. "Such Bank account will be operated by any two of the following viz., the Master the Treasurer and the Secretary". All payments above the sum of Rs.100/- shall be generally made by Cheque. He shall have authority to pay all routine expenses of the Lodge such as dues to the Grand Mark Lodge of India, Regional Grand Mark Lodge of Southern India, premises rent, etc., as and when they fall due. But all other payments shall be made by the authority of the Lodge.

At the installation Meeting accounts of the Lodge drawn upto 31st March shall be presented, duly audited and certified by the Audit Committee. The Treasurer shall every regular meeting submit and read in open Lodge the Statement of Accounts.

(c) **Tyler** : The Tyler shall prepare the Lodge for the meetings; and see that every brother whether a member or visitor, is properly clothed before entering the Lodge. He shall be in charge of the Warrant, Regalia, etc., of the Lodge.

10. Standing and Audit Committee :

There shall be a Standing Committee composed of the Master, all Past Masters, present Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, Director of Ceremonies and two brethren elected at the Installation Meeting. The duties of the Standing Committee shall be to consider the application of Candidate/Mark Master Masons for Advancement and joining or re-joining, check all accounts of the Lodge, check all properties of the Lodge and report on matters leading to the improvement of the Lodge. The Audit Committee shall verify and audit the Annual Statements of Accounts of the Lodge and shall certify the correctness thereof before being circulated to all members prior to the installation Meeting.

11. Propositions :

Every proposition for the consideration of the Lodge shall be proposed by one member and seconded by another. No proposition shall be considered at a meeting unless notice of it had been given at the previous meeting or forwarded in writing to the Secretary atleast 21 days ahead for inclusion in the summons before the meeting at which the proposition is to be considered.

12. Property :

Furniture, Regalia, the Charter and other properties of the Lodge shall be vested in the care of the Worshipful Master and Wardens. An inventory of such property shall be recorded by them in a Book kept for that purposes and such inventory shall be presented at the Installation Meeting signed by the Master and Wardens, if they so desire, may entrust the properties mentioned above to the Secretary on their behalf for proper care and custody.

13. By Laws :

(a) Every member, on admission, shall be presented with a copy of the By Laws of the Lodge and his acceptance thereof shall be deemed his submission thereto.

(b) The By Laws shall be read in open Lodge atleast once in a year.

(c) It shall not be competent to the Brethren of the Lodge to abrogate, amend, or alter these By Laws unless the abrogation, amendment or alteration shall have been moved in open Lodge and are confirmed at the immediately subsequent regular meeting and thereafter approved by R.W. The Regional Grand Mark Master, Regional Grand Mark Lodge of Southern India and M.W. The Grand Master of the Grand Mark Lodge of India.

CERTIFIED that these By Laws have been duly adopted at the CONSECRATION AND CONSTITUTION Meeting of Mark Lodge Visakha No.5 held on 27th April, 2000.

Approved in the Open Lodge on 27-04-2000

W Bro WVC Ramalingam

(W Bro WVC Ramalingam)
Founder Master

Vesvar

(W Bro V Kesava Rao)
Founder Secretary

Approved by R.W. The Regional Grand Mark Master

Place : Chennai
Date : 22.10.02

Approv'd

Approved by M.W. The Grand Master

Havish Gupta

Place : New Delhi
Date : 15.11.2002

Grand Secretary