



BY-LAWS
OF
LODGE EKRAM No. 45, G.L.I.
Secunderabad - Andhra Pradesh
(Revised: 1996)
(Reprinted: 2002)

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OF

LODGE "EKRAM" No. 45, G.L.I.

Secunderabad - Andhra Pradesh
Revised : 1996

CONSTITUTION

1. Lodge "EKRAM" was duly constituted under a Dispensation granted by the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of all Scottish Freemasonry in India M.W. Bro. Sir Henry Morland Kt. Dated the 29th day of March A. D. 1888 and A.L. 5892 and regularly opened in Gulburga, on the 7th June 1888 by Right Worshipful Bro. W. Easdon, Past Master of Lodge "Royal Jubilee," Sholapur, assisted by R. Wor. Bro. Ardashir R. Pilcher, Master of Lodge "St. John," Secunderabad, R. Wro. Bro. C. Saddler, Past Master of Lodge "Royal Jubilee," Sholapur, R. Wro. Bros. Raghunath Prasad and B.J. Stone, Past Masters of Lodge "Morland," Hyderabad, and R. Wor. Bro. Pestonji Dorabji. Past Master of Lodge "Barton," Lanowlee, and the Dispensation was subsequently confirmed under a Warrant from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, dated the 2nd day of August A.D. 1888 and A.L. 5892. For many years the Lodge progressed most favourably but as, since 1907, the field for Freemasonry had greatly diminished and the Lodge had not sufficient Resident Members to form a quorum it was ordered by the Grand Master A.S.F.I. to be transferred in January 1910 to the station of Hanumakonda at which place several well known Brethren had previously petitioned to open a Lodge. But within a few years most of the members who were Government officials

had been transferred from the Station and the Lodge had to be kept up almost entirely by some enthusiastic members residing at Hyderabad by their proceeding to Kazipet on every meeting day, there being not sufficient members locally even to form a quorum. It was therefore unanimously resolved by the members in October 1915 to remove the Lodge to Secunderabad at which place there was none working under the S.C. and on the approval of the same by the Grand Lodge A.S.F.I. the Lodge was removed there in November 1915.

2. Lodge Ekram No. 756 S.C. working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of United Scottish Freemasonry of India and Ceylon opted for the Grand Lodge of India, New Delhi, in the Regular Meeting held on Thursday, 6th April 1961, and was placed under the jurisdiction on Friday 24th November 1961, and under the jurisdiction of Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India, Madras on Saturday, 9th December 1961, and was numbered "45 G.L.I." M. Wor. Bro. Major General His Highness Nawab Dr. Sir Syed Raza Ali Khan, G.C.I.E., K. C.S.I., L.L. D., Litt., Nawab of Rampur, being the first Grand Master of India and R. Wor. Bro. S.T. Srinivasa Gopala Chari, Advocate, being the first Regional Grand Master of Southern India.

OFFICERS OF THE LODGE

3. The Officers of the Lodge shall be the Master, Immediate Past Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Chaplain, Treasurer, Secretary, Director of Ceremonies, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Bearers of Volumes of Sacred Law, Sword Bearer, Assistant Secretary, Assistant Director of Ceremonies, Almoner, Inner Guard, Stewards & Tyler.

REGULAR MEETING

4. The Regular Meeting of the Lodge shall be held on the first Thursday of every month at St. John's Hall, Secunderabad.

MEMBERS

5. The Lodge shall consist of Resident, Absent and Honorary Member. Resident Members who are invalid, infirm, disabled and/or in financial distress and unable to attend the Meetings of the Lodge shall, on application, be granted the status of Senior Member with the approval of the Lodge.

LIMITS OF JURISDICTION

6. The word "Station" shall include every place within a radius of 50 kilometers from St. John's Hall, Secunderabad.

LODGES OF EMERGENCY

7. Lodges of Emergency shall be held at the expense of the Lodge whenever the Master shall deem them necessary. But should an Emergency Meeting be held for the convenience of any candidate or member, all the expenses thereof shall be borne by such party, previous intimation being given to the candidate of the same.

FEES AND SUBSCRIPTION

8. A. Fees

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| i. Initiation | Rs.1000/- |
| ii. Joining from a Lodge not under GLI | Rs.1000/- |
| iii. Joining from a Lodge under GLI | Rs.1000/- |
| iv. Re-Joining | Rs.100/- |

B. Subscription

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|----------------------|---------------|
| i. Honorary Member | Nil |
| ii. Senior Member | Rs.15/- p.m. |
| iii. Resident Member | Rs.150/- p.m. |
| iv. Absentee Member | Rs.60/- p.m. |

C. Should an Absentee Member attend any meeting, he shall be charged full subscription of a Resident Member for the said month.

D. Member shall pay for their refreshments as accounted by the Stewards.

E. All the fees and subscription, as noted above shall be payable in advance.

F. Out of the monthly subscription of Rs.150/- in the case of Resident members Rs.85/- shall be appropriated as Stewards fund.

G. A sum of Rs.15/- from the monthly subscription of all Subscribing Members will be credited towards "Lodge Benevolent Fund" (both hereinafter defined), and all Administrative expenses and dues of G.L.I. shall be paid from the General Fund.

H. No degrees shall be conferred on candidate for Initiation and no Brother for joining or Rejoining shall be admitted as a Member until all the said dues are paid.

9. All Charge for dinner and refreshment supplied to Lodge Guests at the ordinary meetings and Installation nights shall be debited to the Stewards Fund. All accounts for payment from this fund to be countersigned by the Secretary before they are presented to the Treasurer for payment.

BALLOT AND VOTING

10. No Ballot can be taken unless the Report of the Enquiry Committee has been read in the Lodge. When a Ballot takes place for the initiation of a candidate or the joining or re-joining of Brother, if three negative balls appear, the proposition shall at once be rejected.

11. A candidate who has been rejected shall not be again eligible for proposal for twelve months.

12. The Master may, for the purpose of being assured that no mistake has occurred in the use of the black balls, cause a second ballot to be forthwith taken, which shall be final for all purposes.

13. No member who is a defaulter to the amount of three months subscription or more, shall be permitted to ballot for vote on any matter, or retain any office in the Lodge.

ABSENT MEMBERS

14. Members, leaving the station for three months or over, can be placed on the absent list by notifying the Secretary in writing their out station address or by announcing the same in open Lodge.

LODGE BENEVOLENT FUND

15. A. There shall be, and is hereby established, a Lodge Benevolent Fund also known as Charity Fund of Lodge

Ekram No.45, and it shall derive its income as prescribed in By-Law No.6 Section G; and by crediting alms collections, and other donations of Brethren and by transfer of such additional sums as may regularly be passed by the Lodge.

B. A box for voluntary Contributions may be placed in the Lodge to be opened by the Master and or Treasurer and or Secretary after each Regular, Emergency or Special Meeting of the Lodge which shall be credited to the Lodge Benevolent Fund.

16. This Fund is solely for acts of Masonic benevolence and shall not be appropriated for any other purpose. In making disbursement from this Fund the needs of also other than local necessities should be considered. In all cases it shall be voted for by the Lodge on the recommendation of the General Committee.

17. In case of emergency it should be competent for the Master to give a sum of not more than Rs.200/- if the emergency of the case shall not appear to him to admit of any delay subject to an annual maximum of Rs.500/-.

GENERAL FUND

18. All fees and subscriptions received from the Members after appropriation to

- Lodge Benevolent Fund/Charity Fund
- Stewards Fund

shall form the General Fund of the Lodge.

STEWARDS FUNDS

- All sums appropriated from the subscription of Resident Members vide By-Law No.8 Section F shall be credited as Stewards Fund and may be used for meeting, banquet charges, refreshment charges etc at the meeting of the Lodge.
- Out of the balance amount remaining in credit after disbursement of banquet, and other chargers, 75% shall be credited at the end of each half to the Lodge Benevolent Fund and 25% retained in the Stewards Fund for the future exigencies.

SPECIAL FEES

- If, in the opinion of the General Committee, a special fee, for any purpose other than for banquets, be necessary, the same shall be regularly proposed in open Lodge and shall appear as an item in the agenda for the next meeting of the Lodge following that on which the proposition is made, for decision.
- The fee to be charged in the event of any special banquet being necessary, such as in the case of reception of Grand Lodge or an Installation banquet, shall be decided by the General Committee and regularly proposed and approved of the open Lodge if such proposition be possible. Such fee shall be binding on all members who attend the banquet and those who introduce any guests.

LODGE GUESTS

- The decision as to who shall be Lodge Guests at the

Initiation or other Banquets, shall be vested with the General Committee.

- B. A lumpsum grant of Rs.85/- per Lodge Guest invited vide Section A above, shall be made available from the Stewards Fund towards their expenses at the Festive Boards of such banquets.
- C. A separate Account of the expenses incurred at the Installation Meetings on Banquets and Festive Boards shall be maintained and any shortfall or deficiency in expenses shall be debited to the Installed Master.

ARREARS

- 23. A. A member is in default in the payment of his subscription for a period of over three months after their becoming due, shall be deprived, while so in default, of the rights of voting, proposing or seconding motions, or candidates for initiation, or joining, and from being appointed or elected to any office in the Lodge.
- B. A member whose subscription dues have been in arrears of six months or above, will be called upon by means of a registered notice of demand, calling his attention to Rule 156 of the Book of constitution of the G.L.I., and if the arrears remain unpaid for 12 months he shall automatically cease to be a Member.

PROPOSITIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

- 24. No proposition shall be entertained until it has been duly seconded and, when an motion has been duly made and

seconded, the opinion of the Brethren present, who may wish to speak thereon, shall be taken before it is put to vote.

- 25. No member shall be entitled to speak more than once upon any question before the Lodge except strictly in explanation; but the mover shall have the right of reply after all the members who may wish to do so, shall have addressed, the Lodge.
- 26. To preserve the harmony of the Lodge the Master shall have the discretionary power, at any stage of the discussion to stop its being proceeded and refer it to the General Committee or any other Special Committee constituted for the purpose, as follows:
 - i. The Master may appoint a Special committee or committee of not more than seven members, for considering upon any matter which in the opinion of the Master require full consideration.
 - ii. The Master and Secretary of the Lodge shall be Ex-officio Chairman, and convenors respectively of such Committee.
 - iii. The term of such committee(s) shall be until the issue under consideration is completed or three months which ever is less its report presented to the open Lodge.

ELECTION AND INSTALLATION

- 27. The Master, Treasurer and Tyler shall be elected at the Regular Meeting of the Lodge in December and they shall be duly Installed at the next Regular Meeting in January, or at any subsequent meeting convened by dispensation.

SECRETARY

28. The Secretary shall issue the summons for and record the minutes of all meetings and committees; keep the register of members and correspond with members and discharge such other duties as may be delegated to him by the Master. Should he so desire, he shall be exempted from the monthly dues.

TREASURER

29. A. The Treasurer shall maintain, or cause to be maintained, all Books of Account such as, subscription Register, Cashbook and Ledger of the Lodge.

B. He shall be responsible for collecting all fees and subscriptions and any other special fees and shall deposit all such sums with him in excess of Rs.100/- in any Scheduled Bank at Secunderbad/ Hyderabad which the Lodge may decide.

C. All the Bank and/or other Accounts shall be operated by any two of the Master, Secretary, and the Treasurer.

D. The Treasurer shall make all the regular current and recurring disbursements vouched for by the Secretary; but shall not pay amount without the sanction of the Lodge as per its By-Laws.

E. The Treasurer shall close all the Accounts of the Lodge once a quarter at the end of March, June, September and December and shall prepare Statements of Accounts in respect of Receipts and payments, and list of names of members who are in arrears of subscription for three months and above and shall present the same to the

General Committee at its meetings in April, July, October and January and at the time of audit of accounts.

F. The Treasurer shall, at the conclusion of his year of office prepare a Balance Sheet of all accounts (General Fund, Benevolent Fund, and Stewards Fund), as of 31st December, which shall be included in the Agenda and Minutes of the Regular Meeting at January, so that an account of the year of the Worshipful Master's office shall be on record.

30. The Master, the Treasurer and Secretary or any two of them one of whom should be the Treasurer deposit of the Securities, Government or otherwise, in which the Lodge funds shall be invested for safe custody in any Schedule Bank at Secunderbad of Hyderabad which the Lodge may decide and keep the same always so deposited in the name of "Lodge Ekram, No.45. G.L.I." except for such time as the same may be withdrawn for the purpose of renewal or for carrying or transporting the investments under the powers herein contained. The aforesaid officers of the Lodge or any two of them are authorised to endorse in favour of the Bank the Securities forming part of the Lodge Funds and are deposited or to be deposited hereafter for the purposes of enabling the Bank to retain the same in its custody and to realise interest thereof without any powers of attorney being executed by the aforesaid Officers of the Lodge in favour of the bank for this purpose.

31. The Master, the Treasurer and the Secretary or any two of them one whom should be the Treasurer are also empowered to buy, sell endorse, transfer and or negotiate or otherwise deal in securities, Government or otherwise, forming part of the Lodge Funds and are deposited or to be deposited in the Bank as the Lodge may decide.

TYLER

32. a. The Tyler if a Serving Brother shall receive Rs.25/- per meeting and Rs.10 for each candidate who receives a degree in the Lodge for his services and shall be responsible for the cleanliness of the Lodge and the correct disposition of its furniture at the time of meeting.
- b. The Annual remuneration as decided by the Lodge from time to time as recommended by the General Committee shall be paid to the Tyler.
- c. If the Tyler elected as per By-Law No.27 is a subscribing member, he may be exempted from payment of his monthly subscription, if he so desires.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

33. At the installation meeting two members shall be appointed to audit the accounts quarterly, in April, July, October and January, and their report if adopted shall be recorded in the minutes book.

GENERAL COMMITTEE

34. There shall be a committee styled the General Committee of the Lodge, which shall consist of the Master, Immediate Past Master, All Past Masters, the Senior and Junior Wardens, the Secretary and Treasurer and two more co-opted members; any five of the above shall constitute the quorum for the General Committee.

35. The Master shall be the President, and the Immediate Past Master the Vice-President of the General Committee and in their absence, the Senior Brother present shall preside.

36. The Secretary shall convene a Meeting of the General Committee when requested to do so by the Master or by three members of the Committee, the agenda of business being entered in the notice.

37. The Master is hereby authorised and empowered to refer to the General Committee for consideration and report, at any stage, any matter or proposition that may be brought before the Lodge previous to putting the same to the vote, and on the Master so referring the same, all discussions thereon in Lodge shall immediately cease.

38. Whenever, the Master shall refer any motion to the General Committee, the proposer and seconder shall be invited to be present for the consideration of that particular question, and the Secretary, shall send them notice of the time appointed for the meeting.

39. At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge following that in which any reference has been made, the General Committee shall present their report and the Master shall cause the same to be read in open Lodge, after which, its adoption or rejection shall be decided upon, in the usual way, on a motion duly made and seconded.

40. The General Committee is hereby authorised and empowered to summon any member to give information on any matter referred to it by the Lodge.

EQUIRY COMMITTEE

41. There shall be an enquiry Committee consisting of the Master, I.P.M., Wardens, Secretary, Treasurer and two other Brethren duly elected by the Lodge on the day of Installation, who will scrutinize into the character and status of every candidate for Initiation and Joining, and shall submit a report in writing to the General Committee before the ballot for such candidates is taken up.

VISITORS

42. The Master may proffer the hospitality of the Lodge to visitors as far as he may consider it discreet to do so. No visitor shall be entertained as Lodge Guest on more than one occasion if he is a resident of the station. On all subsequent visits he must be a Guest of a member.

COMPLAINTS

43. In the event of any complaint being preferred against a member of this Lodge on any Masonic matter, it shall be referred to the General Committee, who shall, after due enquiry, submit its opinion to the Lodge, whose decision shall be final, unless appealed against within one month thereafter.

44. In the event of any member feeling himself aggrieved by any decision or procedure of the Lodge, he shall be at liberty to appeal, in the first instance, to the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India and afterwards to the Grand Lodge of India, but he must do so within one month thereafter.

LODGE PROPERTY

45. An inventory of the Lodge property shall be entered in the

Minutes Book, which shall be verified by the Master on his Installation, and shall be countersigned by himself and his Wardens.

46. The Warrant, Jewels and Working Tools belonging to the Lodge, shall be in charge of the Master or such other officer as he may appoint.

BY-LAWS

47. These By-Laws shall be read in open Lodge at such time as the Master may think proper, and each newly initiated or joining Brother shall be furnished with a copy.

48. Every member shall sign the Lodge copy of these By-Laws, (which shall be kept for that purpose by the Secretary) as a further token of his submission thereto.

49. No New By-Law can be enacted, nor any existing ones be amended, unless:

A. Notice of motion in writing of the intended amendment is given by a member in the open Lodge at a regular meeting and duly seconded by another member;

B. Such motion of the proposed amendment(s) is set out in the summons for next regular meeting or for an Emergency Meeting specially called for the purpose and is discussed, and put to vote as such or with accepted change or further amendments and carried by two thirds majority of members present and voting.

C. Such amendments as carried above shall be set out again in the summons for the next Regular Meeting or an Emergency meeting called for the purpose with one month

gap from the meeting under Section B above and if carried by two thirds majority of the members present and vote the amended By-Laws shall be deemed to have been confirmed.

- D. Notwithstanding anything contained in these By-Laws of Lodge Ekram No.45, wherever any By-Law is silent on any Masonic, Administrative, Technical or Legal matter, the provisions of the Constitution of The Grand Lodge of India and the By-Laws of The Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India, shall be applicable and shall prevail.
- E. The amended By-Laws will become effective only as per the Rule 111 of the Book of Constitution of the Grand Lodge of India.

The foregoing revised By-Laws were confirmed at the regular meeting of Lodge Ekram No.45 G.L.I. held at St. John's Hall, Secunderabad on first Thursday of every month.

Raghu Sreepathi,
Worshipful Master

Approved by
V.W. Bro. Justice Ratnam
Dy. Regional Grand Master Incharge
Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India, Dt. 22-12-1995
Madras.

Approved by
M.W. The Grand Master
Most W. Bro. K.L. Reddi

Signed
N.L. Duggal, Grand Secretary,
New Delhi 19-1-96.

ROLL OF PAST MASTERS

| | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Nawab Ekramullah Khan | 1888 |
| N.P. Wadia | 1889 |
| K.T. Mody | 1891 |
| T. Srinivasacharya | 1892 |
| N.P. Wadia | 1893 |
| Burjorji Pestonji | 1894 |
| A.G. Fellowes | 1895 |
| A.G. Fellowes | 1896 |
| M.P. Baliwalla | 1897 |
| P.P. Baliwalla | 1898 |
| J.J. Porter | 1899 |
| P.N.R. Wadia | 1900 |
| H.J. Chenai | 1901 |
| D.D. Sowcar | 1902 |
| Framroz Jung | 1903 |
| M. Kelly | 1904 |
| V.R. Naik | 1905 |
| J.F. Cornelius | 1906 |
| Bezonji Faridoonji | 1907 |
| H.I. Lewis | 1908 |
| S. Kalyanram Iyer | 1909 |
| S. Kalyanram Iyer | 1910 |
| C.D. Nariman | 1911 |
| Mirza Mahomed Ali Khan | 1912 |
| Nawab Mirza Husain Khan | 1913 |
| Nawaf Mirza Abdul Lateef Khan | 1914 |
| E.C. Harris | 1915 |

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|-------------------------------|------|
| Mir Asker Ali | 1916 |
| A.C.D. Gloria | 1917 |
| W.W. Long | 1918 |
| H.C. Tripp | 1919 |
| A.H.E. Johnston | 1920 |
| C.H. Kelly | 1921 |
| Rev. C.C.P. Hill | 1922 |
| S. Venkatasubbia Naidu | 1923 |
| A.P. Emmer | 1924 |
| A.P. Emmer | 1925 |
| C.E. Lee Anan | 1926 |
| S. Kalyanram Iyer | 1927 |
| V.R. Naik | 1928 |
| S.V.C. Reddy | 1929 |
| E.P. Mistri | 1930 |
| Brg. Genl. Sir T.H. Keyes Kt. | 1931 |
| Capt. S. Rutheven Mackey | 1932 |
| Dinshaw D. Italia | 1933 |
| H.E. Williams | 1934 |
| G.M. Hopewell | 1935 |
| Sohrabji P. Debara | 1936 |
| T.E.O. Moore | 1937 |
| A.B. Parker | 1938 |
| Sridhar V. Naik | 1939 |
| B.A.J. Dunlop | 1940 |
| S.M.H. Nakavi | 1941 |
| Dwarka Pershad | 1942 |
| Basil Schaffter | 1943 |
| T. Venkatrow | 1944 |

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|-----------------------|------|
| S. Raja Ram | 1945 |
| T.R. Janardhan | 1946 |
| M.A. Khambatta | 1947 |
| Erach Dosabhoj | 1948 |
| Vishanath S. Naik | 1949 |
| Sorab E. Nakra | 1950 |
| George E. Cox | 1951 |
| Samuel Nainee | 1952 |
| N. Venkatraman | 1953 |
| P. Chander Rao | 1954 |
| G. Jagannadam | 1955 |
| M.G. Lakshminarsu | 1956 |
| C.R. Deshpande | 1957 |
| Burjorji P. Debara | 1958 |
| Rustomji P. Debara | 1960 |
| B.S. Ananthaswami Rao | 1961 |
| K. Gangaraju | 1962 |
| Fardoon P. Daver | 1963 |
| Jaffer Tayabally | 1964 |
| C.R. Deshpande | 1965 |
| Minoo S. Kasad | 1966 |
| D. Srima Sastri | 1967 |
| Nareiman S. Baxter | 1968 |
| Framji J. Jussawalla | 1969 |
| M. Durga Prasad | 1970 |
| Mirza Khusru Ali Baig | 1971 |
| G. Asokavardhan | 1972 |
| K.S. Rustomfram | 1973 |
| K.B.R. Naidu | 1974 |

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|----------------------|------|
| V.S. Shekhawat | 1975 |
| K. Lakshmanan | 1976 |
| K.G.E. Pochkhanawala | 1977 |
| G. Rama Mohan Rao | 1978 |
| K.L. Reddi | 1979 |
| K.L. Reddi | 1980 |
| V. Sukumar | 1981 |
| K. Sitram Reddi | 1982 |
| K. Krishna Reddi | 1983 |
| B. Rami Reddi | 1984 |
| Kuruvuilla John | 1985 |
| Vasant Roy C. Vora | 1986 |
| W.P.R. Naidu | 1987 |
| Vasant Roy C. Vora | 1988 |
| Dr. Purshotam Rao | 1989 |
| Bharat Chand Gupta | 1990 |
| W.P.R. Naidu | 1991 |
| G.B. Thomas | 1992 |
| G.P. Surana | 1993 |
| Mathews Peter | 1994 |
| Rankaj. Mehta | 1995 |
| Raghu Sreepathi | 1996 |
| S.P. Chari | 1997 |
| Mathews Peter | 1998 |
| Kedarnath Subba Rao | 1999 |
| Vishwanathan Ganesan | 2000 |
| Naresh Lakhotia | 2001 |
| T. Shankar Rao | 2002 |