



By-Laws
of
Lodge "Ekram"
No. 45 G. I. I.
Secunderabad - Andhra Pradesh

Revised: 1962

BY-LAWS
OF
LODGE "EKRAM" No. 45 G. L. I.

SECUNDERABAD — ANDHRA PRADESH

REVISED : 1962

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 Rt. Wor. Bro. Ardashir R. Pilcher, Master of Lodge "St John," Secunderabad, Rt. Wor. Bro. C. Saddler, Past Master of Lodge "Royal Jubilee," Sholapur, Rt. Wor. Bros. Raghunath Prasad and B. J. Stone, Past Masters of Lodge "Morland," Hyderabad, and Rt. 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 Hyder-

abad 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 its jurisdiction on Friday 24th November 1961, and under the jurisdiction of the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India, Madras, on Saturday, 9th December 1961, and was numbered "45 G. L. I.," Mo. Wor. Bro. Major General His Highness Nawab Dr. Sir Syed Raza Ali Khan, G. C. I. E., K. C. S. I., L. L. D., D. Litt., Nawab of Rampur, being the first Grand Master of India and Rt. 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, Almoner, Inner Guard, Steward & Tyler.

REGULAR MEETINGS

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 Members.

LIMITS OF JURISDICTION

6. The word "Station" shall include every place within a radius of 7 miles 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. Initiation	Rs.	140
Joining from a Lodge not under G. L. I.	,,	40
Joining from a Lodge under G. L. I.	,,	30
Rejoining	,,	20
Resident Member monthly	,,	5
Absent Member monthly	,,	2

Should an Absent Member attend any meeting he shall be charged full fees for the month

Charges for dinners and drinks as charged by the Caterers.

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

9. All Charges 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 a 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 or vote on any matter, or submit any proposition to the Lodge, nor shall he be eligible to fill or retain any office in the Lodge.

ABSENT MEMBERS

14. Members, leaving the station for two 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.

15. No officer shall be allowed to place his name on the absent list.

16. Any member who has been placed on the absent list under By-Law 14 shall notify the Secretary in writing when he returns to the station and he will then be placed on the Resident List. The Secretary is however empowered to add a member's name to the Resident List on his return to the station even if the member has not notified his return.

LODGE BENEVOLENT FUND

17. There shall be and is hereby established a Benevolent Fund in connection with this Lodge. It shall be maintained by contribution from the General Fund of 0-25 nP. per mensem for each Member (Resident or Absent) who has paid his subscription and by the transfer of such additional sums as may be regularly passed by the Lodge. A box shall be placed in a convenient and prominent position for voluntary contributions.

18. This Fund is solely for acts of masonic benevolence and shall not be appropriated for any other purpose. In making disbursements 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.

19. In case of emergency it should be competent for the Master to give a sum of not more than Rs. 20 if the emergency of the case shall not appear to him to admit of any delay, subject to an annual maximum of Rs. 50.

20. All sums received on account of and distributed from the Benevolent Fund to be kept in a separate Bank account and the Treasurer shall submit a regular account of the Fund for audit at each quarterly meeting of the General Committee.

SPECIAL FEES

21. 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.

22. 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 in 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.

23. The decision as to who shall be a Lodge guest shall be vested in the General Committee. A lump sum grant of Rs. 50/- shall be made from the General Fund of the Lodge towards the expenses in connection with the entertainment of Lodge guests at the Installation banquet. A separate account of the expenses incurred for the Installation banquet shall be main-

tained. The amount contributed from the General Fund towards Lodge guests and the recoveries effected from the members on account of Installation banquet shall be credited, if there is any deficiency it shall be debited to the Installed Master.

ARREARS

24. Where the dues of any Resident or Absent Member shall have fallen into arrears to the extent of six months, the defaulter shall be called upon by means of a registered notice to show cause within two weeks why he should not be dealt with under Law 120 & 123; if he does not pay his dues before the next Regular Meeting of the Lodge after expiry of the notice period or render any satisfactory explanation of his failure to do so, the members present at the Meeting may decide by a majority to take action against him under Law 120 & 123, and the decision shall be communicated to the Regional Grand Lodge.

25. Where the dues of any Member shall have fallen into arrears to the extent of two years, he shall cease to be a Member at the expiration of that period. He can only become a Member again by regular proposition and ballot and after payment of all his arrears.

PROPOSITIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

26. No proposition shall be entertained until it has been duly seconded and, when a 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 the vote.

27. 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.

28. 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 with, refer it to the General Committee or refer the same to any subsequent meeting.

ELECTION AND INSTALLATION

29. The Master and Tyler if a Serving Brother shall be elected at the Regular Meeting in December and the Master shall be duly installed at the Regular Meeting in January.

SECRETARY

30. The Secretary shall issue the summonses 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

31. The Treasurer shall maintain the Subscription books and collect all dues and fees and deposit all the sums with him in excess of Rs. fifty in any Schedule Bank at Secunderabad or Hyderabad which the Lodge may decide, in the name of the Lodge to be operated upon by any two of the Master, Secretary and Treasurer, one of whom should be the Treasurer. He shall make all regular, current and recurring disbursements, vouched for by the Secretary; but shall not pay any monies otherwise, without the sanction of the Lodge or its By-Laws.

32. The Treasurer shall close his accounts once a quarter at the end of the months of March, June, September and December and prepare an abstract thereof and a list of the names of those who are defaulters to the amount of three months dues or more, with the amount due from each, and shall deliver the same to the General Committee at the time of audit. He shall at the conclusion of his year of office, prepare a balance sheet of all accounts. This balance sheet shall be included in the minutes so that an account of the year of the W. M's office shall be on record.

33. The Master, the Treasurer and Secretary or any two of them one of whom should be the Treasurer shall deposit all the Securities, Government or otherwise, in which the Lodge funds shall be invested for safe custody in any Schedule Bank at Secunderabad or 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.

34. The Master, the Treasurer and the Secretary or any two of them one of 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

35. The Tyler if a Serving Brother shall receive Rs 10 per meeting and Rs. 1 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.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

36. 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

37. There shall be a Committee, styled the General Committee of the Lodge which shall consist of the Master, Immediate Past Master, all Past Masters of the Lodge, Senior and Junior Wardens, the Secretary, Treasurer and Almoner and any five of the said General Committee shall form a quorum.

38. 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.

39. 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.

40. 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.

41. 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.

42. At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge following that at 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.

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

ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

44. There shall be an Enquiry Committee consisting of the Master, I. P. M., Wardens, Secretary, Treasurer and two other fully qualified Brethren nominated by the Lodge on the day of election, who will scrutinise into the character and status of every candidate proposed for initiation or brother proposed for joining and submit a report in writing before the ballot for such candidates is taken.

VISITORS

45. 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 a 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

46. 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.

47. 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

48. An inventory of the whole 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.

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

BY-LAWS

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

51. Every present and future 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.

52. These By-Laws, or any portion of them shall not be altered without the sanction of at least two-thirds of the qualified members present who vote at a Regular Meeting of the Lodge, notice of the proposed alteration being given at the previous Regular Meeting and circulated with Summons of the Regular Meeting at which it is to be considered.

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 Thursday, 2nd August 1962.

B. J. Panthaky,
P. R. G. Chaplain,
Secretary.

K. Gangaraju,
Wor. Master.

Approved
S. T. Srinivasa Gopala Chari,
Rt. Wor. Regional Grand Master,
Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India,
Madras, Dated 8-9-1962.

Approved by M. W. The Grand Master,
M. P. Dube,
Ag. Grand Secretary,
New Delhi. 18th September, 1962.

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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
	...	...	...	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
	...	...	...	1910
C. D. Nariman	...	...	...	1911
Mirza Mahomed Ali Khan	...	...	...	1912
Nawab Mirza Husain Khan	...	...	...	1913
Nawab Mirza Abdul Lateef Khan	...	...	...	1914
E. C. Harris	...	...	...	1915
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
	...	...	...	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
S. Raja Ram	...	...	...	1945
T. R. Janardhan	...	...	...	1946
M. A. Khambatta	...	...	...	1947
Erach Dosabhoy	...	...	...	1948
Vishvanath S. Naik	...	...	...	1949
Sorab E. Nakra	...	...	...	1950
George E. Cox.	...	...	...	1951
Samuel Nainee	...	...	...	1952
N. Venkatraman	...	...	...	1953
P. Chander Rao	...	...	...	1954
G. Jagannadham	...	...	...	1955
M. G. Lakshminarsu	...	...	...	1956
C. R. Deshpande	...	...	...	1957
Burjorji P. Debara	...	...	...	1958
Rustomji P. Debara	...	...	...	1959
Phiroze P. Debara	...	...	...	1960
B. S. Ananthaswami Rao	...	...	...	1961
K. Gangaraju	...	...	...	1962