

BYE-LAWS

OF

LODGE JURIS No. 417

HYDERABAD

1-9 FEB 2016

Meets on Forth Friday of every February, April, June, August, October and December  
at Ghoshamahal Baradari Masonic Building  
Ghoshamahal, Hyderabad 500 012.

BY-LAWS OF  
LODGE JURIS No. xxx, GLI

I. CONSTITUTION

1. **OFFICERS:** The office bearers of the Lodge shall consist of Worshipful Master, Immediate Past Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Chaplain, Treasurer, Secretary, Director of Ceremonies, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Bearers of Volumes of Sacred Laws, Sword Bearer, Assistant Secretary, Assistant Director of Ceremonies, Almoner, Organist, Inner Guard, Stewards and Tyler.
2. **REGULAR MEETING DAY:** The regular meeting of the Lodge shall be held on the fourth Friday of February, April, June, August, October and December.
3. **MEMBERS:** The Lodge shall consist of Resident, Absent, Honorary and Life Members.
4. **LIMITS OF JURISDICTION:** The word 'Station' shall be held to mean the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) Limits.

II. CANDIDATES

5. **CANDIDATES:** Every candidate for initiation or Brother for joining or rejoining must be proposed and seconded by members in good standing at the Regular Meeting of the Lodge.
6. Every candidate proposed for Initiation or any brother for Joining or Re-Joining, must be a qualified Law Graduate or diploma in Law from a UGC Recognized University / College that accord Academic Qualification in the Courses of Legal Studies.  
A Lewis (son of a Member of this Lodge or any other Craft Lodge) who is a bonafide student of a University or College and pursuing under-graduate course, or a Post-graduate degree course or diploma in Legal Studies may be proposed for Initiation, any time after his attaining 18 years of age.
7. After being regularly proposed and seconded as in By-Law No.5, all candidates for initiation or Brother for joining or rejoining shall meet with the Screening Committee, which after due examination, shall submit its recommendations to the Standing Committee. All candidates recommended by the Screening Committee must be introduced to the Standing Committee.
8. All such candidates as recommended by the Screening Committee and introduced to the Standing Committee, must be reported upon by the Standing Committee, before the ballot is proceeded with.
9. **LIABILITY OF PROPOSER & SECONDER:** The proposer and seconder shall be both responsible for all fees and expenses incurred on account of such brother for a period of 12 months from initiation.
10. **REJECTED CANDIDATES:** A candidate, who has been rejected by ballot, shall not be again eligible for proposal for twelve months.

III. BALLOT AND VOTING

11. **BALLOT:** The secrecy of the Ballot shall be held strictly inviolate, and when a Ballot taken either for initiation of a candidate or joining or rejoining of a Brother, unless a minimum of two thirds of the members present approve the proposal, the proposition of such candidature or Brother shall not be accepted.
12. **VOTING WHEN DEBARRED:** Any member whose subscription is in arrears for SIX months shall be debarred from balloting or voting on any question.
13. **VOTING BY PROXY:** No member shall be permitted to vote by proxy.

IV. LIFE, RESIDENT, ABSENT AND  
HONORARY MEMBERS

14. **LIFE MEMBER:** A resident member of the Lodge, who has been a subscribing member of one or more Lodges continuously for 20 years and has also attained the age of 55 years may become a Life Member of the Lodge on payment of 5 years' lumpsum subscription. This facility of becoming Life Member would also be available for one Lodge of the member's choice, if he has completed 20 years of continuous membership in more than one Lodge(s) and in such cases the Life Membership may be fixed at 50% more than that payable by other Life Members who have completed 20 continuous years in the same Lodge.
15. Moreover, the Life Membership subscription so paid will be exclusive of the Grand Lodge and Regional Grand Lodge dues which shall be payable in addition, at the rates as applicable from time to time. The subscription amount shall be as per By-Law No. 19.

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V. S. Patel

Member leaving the station shall be treated as Absent Member until he informs the same in writing to the Secretary or announces it in the open Lodge. No office bearer shall be allowed to become an Absent Member during his term of office.

17. **RETURN OF ABSENT MEMBERS:** Any member who has been placed as Absent Member under By-Law No. 16 shall on his return to the station inform the same to the Secretary, who shall at once place him as Resident Member.
18. **HONORARY MEMBER:** An Honorary Member shall be elected by Ballot as per Rule 142 of the Book of Constitutions after notice of such election is placed in summons. However, consent of the brother on whom the Honorary Membership is to be conferred shall be received by the Lodge prior to balloting.

#### V. FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

19. The following shall be payable to the Lodge by the members. The bi-monthly subscription shall be payable in advance.

Initiation Fee	Rs. 2,000
Joining & Rejoining Fee	Rs. 1,000
Subscription per Annum	Rs. 1,200
Absent Member (per Annum)	Rs. 600
G.L.I and R.G.L Dues	At Actuals.
20. As part of Annual subscription, the Lodge shall pay for and provide Grand Lodge Certificate to every Master Mason, Installed Master's Certificate to all the Installed Masters, aprons for the use of all members, dues to Grand Lodge and Regional Grand Lodge.
21. Should an Absent Member attend the Lodge or the Banquet, he shall be charged full subscription for the meeting attended.
22. Should the subscription of a member of the Lodge remain unpaid for one full year, the Secretary will send a registered notice to him requesting for settlement within one month from the date thereof.
23. If the payment is not received as stipulated, the Secretary would report to the Standing Committee. The Committee in turn may recommend to the Lodge at the next regular meeting to exclude the said member under Rule 124 of the Book of Constitutions.
24. **CAPITAL FUND:** A sum of Rs. 2,00,000 (Rupees two lakhs only) shall be built up and be maintained as capital fund. These funds shall be invested in Fixed/Term Deposits with the Bank/s and the interest accrued shall be added to Lodge General Fund or otherwise decided by the Lodge.
25. In the event of any necessity arising for the withdrawal of funds out of the Capital Fund of the Lodge, instituted as per By-Law No. 24, the notice of the same shall be brought in the summons. A majority of not less than three-fourths of the brethren in good standing present at the meeting shall be required to sanction the same in regular manner.
26. **BENEVOLENT FUND:** The benevolent fund will consist of the following:
  - a. Half of initiation, joining and rejoining fees collected.
  - b. Charitable collection in the meeting
  - c. Voluntary donations.
  - d. Other contributions from General Fund as the Lodge may determine from time to time.
27. The Benevolent Fund shall be solely devoted for charitable purposes. A sum of Rs.2,000 from this fund shall be held by the Worshipful Master, which may be utilized for any emergent cases of distress. The utilization of such funds by the Master shall be informed in the next regular meeting of the Lodge by the Worshipful Master.
28. **GENERAL FUND:** The amounts other than of Benevolent Fund under By-Law No. 26 and Capital Fund under By-Law No. 24 shall constitute General Fund. Any amount in excess of Rs.50,000 (Rupees Fifty Thousand only) of these funds in the Bank accounts shall be placed, either in short or long term fixed deposits as decided by the Standing Committee. Any fixed deposit of the General Fund may be encashed, after the same is approved in the open Lodge by the majority of brethren in good standing present at the meeting.

*V.K. Gupta*

30. **SPECIAL BANQUET FEE:** It shall be within the powers of the Lodge to levy a special fee, on all members on any occasion on which a special banquet or other entertainment should be given, such as in the case of the reception of Regional Grand Lodge or Grand Lodge or other Masonic functions.

#### VI. PROPOSITIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

31. **PROPOSITIONS:** 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 vote; but no vote shall be taken on any proposal until due notice has been given in the summons. This By-Law shall not have reference to the subject matter pertaining to correspondence brought up by the Secretary, subject to the discretionary powers of the Worshipful Master.

32. **MEMBERS RIGHT TO SPEAK:** No member shall be entitled to speak more than once upon any question before the Lodge, except strictly in explanation; but the member shall have the right of reply, after all the members, who may wish to do so, shall have addressed the Lodge.

33. **ADDRESSING LODGE:** Whenever a Brother may have occasion to speak in Lodge, he shall do so standing, in order, and shall address his remarks to the Worshipful Master in calm and decorous language.

34. **DISCUSSIONS:** To preserve the harmony of the Lodge, the Master shall have the discretionary power, at any stage of a discussion, to stop its being proceeded with.

35. **RESOLUTION:** Any resolution passed in the open Lodge shall be binding on all the members of the Lodge.

#### VII. ELECTION & INSTALLATION

36. **ELECTION OF MASTER, TREASURER AND TYLER:** The Worshipful Master, Treasurer and Tyler shall be annually elected by ballot, at the Regular Meeting in December.

37. **DATE OF INSTALLATION:** The Worshipful Master shall be duly installed at the Regular Meeting in February.

#### VIII. SECRETARY

38. **SECRETARY'S DUTIES:** The Secretary shall issue the summonses for, and record the Minutes of all Meetings and Committees, keep the Register of Members, and discharge such other duties as may be delegated to him by the Worshipful Master.

#### IX. TREASURER

39. **FUNDS WITH TREASURER:** The Treasurer shall collect all dues and fees and deposit all sums in excess of Rs.1,000 (Rupees One Thousand only) in his possession for over a week, in the Bank in the name of the Lodge with such Banks as may be decided by the Lodge. Funds in excess of Rs.50,000 (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only) shall be kept in Fixed/Term Deposits. All cheques must be signed by <sup>THE MASTER</sup> any one of the following, viz., the Worshipful Master, and the Secretary.

40. **DUTIES OF THE TREASURER:** The Treasurer shall not pay any moneys of the Lodge, except the Statutory dues/levies and as otherwise provided for, without the direction of the Master and the brethren in the Lodge assembled.

#### X. TYLER

41. **TYLER'S DUTIES AND FEES:** The Tyler shall be paid in honorarium per meeting as decided by the Lodge from time to time. A subscribing member serving as Tyler shall be exempt from payment of Annual subscription only. He shall be responsible for the cleanliness of the Lodge and correct disposition of the Lodge furniture during the meeting.

#### XI. AUDIT COMMITTEE

42. **AUDIT COMMITTEE:** An Audit Committee shall be elected by the Lodge at the Installation Meeting, which shall consist of any three members with knowledge of accounts. The audit committee shall certify as per Rule No. 129 of the Book of Constitutions after due examination of the accounts of the lodge.

#### XII. STANDING COMMITTEE

43. **STANDING COMMITTEE:** There shall be a committee styled the "Standing Committee" of the Lodge, which shall consist of the Worshipful Master, the Immediate Past Master, the Senior and Junior Wardens, the Treasurer, the

*✓ K. J. P.*

Ceremonies, the Inner Guard, the Almoner, Tyler (if he is a subscribing member of the Lodge), All Founder Members of the Lodge, all the Past Masters of the Lodge, all the Past Wardens of the Lodge and any FIVE of the said Standing Committee shall form a quorum.

44. **PRESIDENT OF STANDING COMMITTEE:** The Worshipful Master shall be the President, and the Immediate Past Master the Vice-President, of the Standing Committee, and in their absence the Senior Brother present shall preside.
45. **STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING:** The Secretary shall convene a meeting of the Standing Committee, when requested to do so by the Master.
46. **REFERENCE TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE:** The Worshipful Master is hereby authorised and empowered to refer to the Standing 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 vote and on the Worshipful Master so referring the same, all discussions thereon in the Lodge shall immediately cease.
47. **NOTICE TO PROPOSER AND SECONDER:** When the Worshipful Master shall refer any motion to the Standing 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.
48. **RULES FOR THE STANDING COMMITTEE:** The Rules for Lodge discussion shall also apply to discussions before the Standing Committee, the Presiding Officer whereof, for the time being, shall be entitled to the same respect as the Worshipful Master in the Lodge.
49. **STANDING COMMITTEE'S REPORT/ MINUTES:** At the regular meeting of the Lodge following that at which any reference has been made, the Standing Committee shall present its report/minutes and the Worshipful Master shall cause the same to be read in the open Lodge, after which its adoption or rejection shall be decided upon in the usual way on a motion duly made and seconded.
50. **STANDING COMMITTEE'S POWER:** The Standing Committee is hereby authorised and empowered to summon any member to give information on any matters referred to it by the Lodge.

### XIII. SCREENING COMMITTEE

51. **SCREENING COMMITTEE:** A Screening Committee shall be elected by the Lodge at the Installation Meeting, which shall consist of any three senior brethren of the Lodge in good standing.
52. The Screening Committee shall meet every candidate proposed for initiation or every brother proposed for joining or rejoining, to ascertain the suitability of the Candidate/brother. The Screening Committee may visit the candidate's/brother's home and/or his place of work, meet with his family and may make any such due enquiry to its satisfaction.
53. The Screening Committee shall submit its report with its recommendations to the Standing Committee at its next meeting.

### XIV. GENERAL

54. **VISITOR:** Every Visitor must be well vouched for or required to produce his Grand Lodge Certificate and undergo an examination.

### XV. LODGE PROPERTY

55. **LODGE PROPERTY:** Property of every description belonging to the Lodge shall be vested in the worshipful Master and the Wardens for the time being, in trust for the Lodge, except as may be otherwise provided for.
56. **INVENTORY:** An inventory of the whole of the Lodge property shall be entered into a book, which shall be verified by the Worshipful Master on his installation and shall be countersigned by himself and his Wardens. Such verification shall be reported in the immediate regular meeting after installation.
57. The Warrant, Jewels and Working Tools belonging to the Lodge, shall be in charge of the Worshipful Master, or of such other Officers as he may appoint.

### XVI. BY-LAWS

58. **BY-LAWS:** These By-Laws shall be read in the open Lodge at such time as the Worshipful Master may think proper or at least once a year, and each newly initiated or joining or re-joining brother shall be furnished with a copy.

V.K. (Signature)

majority of the members present at a Regular Meeting of the Lodge, notice of the proposed alteration being given at the previous Regular Meeting and circulated with the Summons of the Regular Meeting at which it is to be considered and confirmed at the next Regular meeting and approved by R.W. the Regional Grand Master and M.W. the Grand Master.

These By-Laws were adopted in the Consecration meeting of Lodge Juris No. 417 held on Friday, February 5, 2016 at Goshamahal Baradari Masonic Building, Hyderabad - 12.

Sd/  
Worshipful Master  
W.Bro. xxxxxx

Rajiv Deshpande  
( Rajiv Deshpande  
J. W )

R. Sankar  
( J.W )

Sd/  
Secretary  
W.Bro. xxxxxx

Place: Chennai  
Dated 10-02-2016

Approved by R.W. The Regional Grand Master  
R. Sankar  
Regional Grand Master

Place: New Delhi  
Dated: 19-03-2016

Approved by M.W. The Grand Master  
V.K. Jyoti  
Grand Secretary

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