



**GE RAJASABAI  
No. 212  
MADURAI  
BYE-LAWS**

## CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Messages	1
Officers of Lodge Rajasabai No. 212	3
Preamble	5
By laws of the Lodge	7
Warrant of constitution	26
Roll of founder members	30
List of consecrating officers	31
First officers of the lodge	32
Past officers of the lodge	33
Concordat between Lodge Pandyan and Lodge Rajasabai	35
Some salient features	40
Distinction in Ritual Working Competitions	43
Masonic Degrees in Madurai	45
Schedule of Masonic meetings in Madurai	47

OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 2005-2006

W.Bro. K. Kumaresan	W.M
W.Bro Mahesh B Chhabria	IPM
Bro. Dr. S.Prabhu	S.W
Bro. T.Malaiyaran	J.W.
W.Bro.Dr.S.Subbiah	Chaplain
Bro. N.Mahadevan	Treasurer
W.Bro. Dr.V.Sreenivassan	Secretary
W.Bro. P.K.Murugesan Durai	D of C
Bro. S.Chellakumar	S.D.
Bro. Dr. A.Rathnavel	J.D.
Bro. Dr. K.Raman	Br. of VSL
Bro. R.Ramesh	Br. of VSL
Bro. T N Sekar	Br. of VSL
Bro. Ramesh Rathinam	Br. of VSL
Bro. S.N.Mothilal	Br. of VSL
Bro. V Sathian	Swd Br
W.Bro. S. Jeyaprakash	Asst. Secy
W.Bro. Manoj V.Reheja	Asst D of C
Bro. L Madhav Muthiah	Almoner
Bro. O.B.D.Bharath	I.G.
W.Bro Vashdev Talreja	Chmn.Stwds
Bro. R Shanmugasundaram	Stwd
Bro. M Lakshmanan	Stwd
Bro. M.Sivabalasubramanian	Tyler
W.Bro. Dr. P K Muthukumaraswamy	Chairman, Masonic Information

## **PREAMBLE**

Whereas under the constitution of the Grand Lodge of India, every daughter lodge has the power of framing proper bye-laws for its government, the same not being contrary to or in constitutions of the order;

The following bye-laws having been framed and duly approved by the founder members, adopted at the consecration meeting of the Lodge, approved by RW the Regional Grand Master and by Most Worshipful the Grand Master;

These by-laws and such alterations, additions or amendments as may be made from time to time (in conformity with the rules and regulations governing the same) shall be binding on all members of the Lodge Rajasabai No. 212 on the Register of the Grand Lodge of India, under the jurisdiction of the Regional Grand Lodge of India, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Southern India.

By Order

**VSARANGAPANI**

## THE BYE -LAWS OF Lodge Rajasabai No. 212

Without due order and decorum, harmony cannot be preserved nor the business of masonry properly – conducted ; therefore, at the stroke of the Master's Gavel profound silence shall be observed.

### Members

1. The members of the Lodge shall comprise of four classes, viz: (i). Resident (ii). Out-Station (iii) Non-resident (iv) Honorary and (v) Life Members.
2. (a) Resident members shall be those who normally reside within the revenue districts of Madurai and Ramanathapuram.  
(b) Out-stations members shall be those who normally reside outside the revenue districts of Madurai and Ramanathapuram, but within the jurisdiction of the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India.  
(c) Non resident members shall be those who normally reside outside the jurisdiction of the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India.  
(d) Honorary-members shall be those who are elected as such for services rendered to Masonry in general or to this Lodge in particular, in accordance with the provisions of Rule 141 of the Book of Constitutions.

(e). Life members are those who pay a one time jurisdiction of a lump sum as determined by the Lodge from time to time under by law- 6 (a) (iv). They must have been a member of this Lodge for a continuous period of not less than 20 years and must have completed 50 years of age.

## II. Meetings

The Regular meeting of the Lodge shall be held at the Masonic Temple ,Freemasons' Hall, Madurai, on the third Saturday of every month, except in the month of May.

The expenses of an Emergency meeting shall be defrayed by the brother or brethren on whose account the Lodge is summoned, in addition to the dispensation fees, if any. But when an Emergency meeting is called for the Lodge's purposes, all expenses shall be defrayed from the Lodge funds.

## III. PROCEDURE AT MEETINGS

Any number of amendments duly proposed and seconded may be made to any proposition, in which case, the amendments shall be put first and if they are negatived, the original proposition shall be put to the vote; if any amendment is carried, the proposition as amended shall be put to the Lodge.

## IV. DUES and FEES

6. The fees and subscriptions payable to the lodge shall be as follows :

(a) Subscriptions for each year.

i) Of Resident member	: Rs. 600-00
ii) Of Out station member	: Rs. 550-00
iii) Of Non-resident member	: Rs. 400-00
iv) Life Member one time subscription	: Rs. 5000-00

(b) Initiation fee : Rs. 2500-00

(c) Joining fee from Indian Constitution :

(i) Brethren of Lodge Pandyan and Lodge Meenakshi	: Rs 1000-00
(ii) From Other Lodges	: Rs 1500-00

(d) Joining fee from Other Constitutions : Rs 2000-00

(e) Re-joining fee : Rs.1500-00

(f) Installation fee of honour payable by and devoted to charity funds of the lodge

WM	: Rs 250-00
SW	: Rs 100-00
JW	: Rs. 100-00

(g) Fee for an Emergency meeting : Rs. 150.00

(h) Entrance fee for Madurai Masonic Trust : Rs. 50.00

(i) Annual Subscription for Madurai Masonic Trust: Rs. 50-00

(j) Madurai Pandyan Masonic Charitable Hospital: Rs. 2000-00

(k) as may be decided from time to time

Note : All Members of the Lodge shall be members of the Madurai Masonic Trust and shall pay the entrance fee (along with the Initiation or Joining fee ) and also the annual subscription both of which shall be considered as dues.

7. All subscriptions & fees shall be payable annually in advance and the Official year be from 1<sup>st</sup> July of every month English calendar year.
8. All sums payable by the members under By-laws No. 31 and 32 and charged to their respective accounts shall be considered as "Dues" and are payable within the next month.

#### **V. ADMISSION OF MEMBERS & MEMBERSHIP**

9. No candidate for initiation or joining or Re-joining shall be balloted for unless the prescribed fees shall have been previously paid and the prescribed forms duly filled in by the candidate, and all other consequential documents, if any, have all been previously deposited with the secretary and approved by the admission Committee.
10. No candidate for Initiation or joining shall be admitted, if on the ballot, two black balls appear against him. No rejected candidate shall be again proposed until six months have elapsed.
11. If a candidate for Initiation is not initiated within twelve English Calendar months after the date of the ballot at which he was elected, his election shall be void.
12. In the event of rejection of the candidate for initiation or joining or deferred initiation for over twelve English calendar months, the admission fees previously paid shall be returned.

13. A member of desirous of terminating his membership of the lodge shall tender his resignation in writing, or orally in open Lodge, and he shall be entitled to the certificate mentioned in Rule 150 (a) and (b), Book of Constitutions, stating the circumstances in which he left the Lodge. The resignation shall become effective as soon as it is accepted.

14. No brother who has resigned or has been excluded for non payment of dues, shall be permitted to rejoin unless he shall have paid up all Dues including rejoining fee and unless he is again regularly proposed and seconded and balloted for in the usual course.

15. (a) Except with the special permission of the Master or unless recommended by the Committee for General Purposes, no proposal shall be brought forward for consideration by the Lodge unless it is proposed and seconded in open Lodge at the regular meeting or is given in writing to the Secretary duly proposed and seconded fifteen days prior to the next regular meeting. With the Exceptions noted above, no proposal shall be considered in the Lodge unless it has been notified in the summons for the meeting concerned.

(b) whenever it shall happen that the votes are equal upon and question to be decided by a majority, either by ballot or otherwise, the Master in the Chair or the Warden ruling the Lodge, shall give a second or casting vote.

#### **VI. ARREARS OF DUES**

16. When the subscription of a member remains unpaid within six months from the beginning of the official year, he will be ineligible to vote, propose, or to be appointed or elected to office.

He will cease to be a member under rule 124 of the Book of Constitution, should the subscription of the member to any lodge remains unpaid for the full year.

## VII. NOTICES AND SUMMONSES

17. a). Notices and Summons which are required to be sent to any member, shall be deemed sufficiently served, if sent through ordinary post to the last known address of a member. Every notice of exclusion or intended exclusion shall be sent through registered post with acknowledgement due.  
  
b). All changes of addresses shall be invariably notified to the secretary in writing by members, immediately as they occur.

**Note :-** The secretary and Treasurer shall always be addressed as such, by their office, and never by name, as it frequently happens that letters addressed to the Lodge officers by name are forwarded as private letter, if such officers have left the station.

## VIII. ELECTION OF MASTER, TREASURER AND TYLER

18. The Master and Treasurer shall be elected by ballot and the tyler elected by show of hands at the regular meeting in june every year. The Master shall be installed at the next Regular meeting in july.

## IX. COMMITTEE FOR GENERAL PURPOSES

19. A committee for General Purposes, consisting of the Master, Wardens, Past Masters, Treasurer, and secretary of the Lodge for the time being and two members elected by the Lodge at the Regular meeting in july, shall, conduct all business of the Lodge, superintend the finances and the property of the Lodge and consider any subject relating to its interest. It shall meet at least once a month when summoned by the Master (three to form a quorum) and the result of its proceedings shall be reported at the regular meeting of the Lodge.

## X. ANNUAL AUDIT COMMITTEE

20. As the regular meeting in june of each year the Lodge shall appoint the Audit Committee, consisting of three members. The Secretary and the Treasurer shall attend the meetings of the Audit Committee.
21. The duties of the Audit Committee shall be:-
  - i). To inspect and to take an inventory of the property of the Lodge, mentioning its state and condition :
  - ii). To examine the Secretary's books and audit the Treasurer's accounts ;
  - iii). To draw up a report of the result of their examinations and of the working of the Lodge during the past year; in this respect they may suggest any matter tending to promote the welfare of the Lodge.

The Report of the Annual Audit Committee shall be submitted to the Lodge at the Regular meeting in July of each year before the installation of the Master, which after being read, shall be entered in the minutes book and printed and distributed for the information of the brethren.

Any suggestion made in the Annual Audit Report must be put to the Lodge in the shape of a Proposition duly proposed and seconded, approved by the brethren and confirmed before being carried into effect.

## XI. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- a) There shall be constituted a committee on admissions of new candidates, consisting of the Master and two Brethren, elected in open Lodge at the installation meeting in July each year. It shall be the duty of this committee to consider and report to the Lodge on all proposals for membership.
  
- b) The Lodge may, at its discretion, nominate other committees for the conduct and consideration of special subjects consisting of not less than three members, a Past Master being included, if possible, with three to form a quorum. The results of its proceedings shall be reported at a regular meeting of the Lodge and any suggestions made by it must be put to the Lodge in the shape of a proposition as in By-Law No. 23.

## XII. WARRANT, PREMISES, FURNITURE, ETC., OF THE LODGE.

- 25. The jewels, regalia, achieves and all properties of the Lodge a list of which shall be kept by the secretary shall vest in and be under the absolute control of the Master and Wardens for the time being in trust for the members of the Lodge but shall not be sold or otherwise disposed off, except by resolutions of the brethren in open Lodge assembled, regularly proposed, carried and confirmed. No property of the Lodge including the premises shall be lent or hired except for purely Masonic purposes.

## XII. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

### TREASURER

- 26. a) All moneys due to or held for the Lodge shall be paid or remitted to the Treasurer direct, who shall without undue delay, deposit the same in an account or accounts opened in the name of the Lodge at a bank or banks previously approved by resolution of the Lodge. The Lodge funds so deposited with a bank or banks will be subject to withdrawals against the joint-signatures of any two of the Master, the Treasurer and the Secretary.
- b) Except for routine expenses no sum of money shall be expended by the Treasurer without the sanction of the Lodge.
- c) He shall keep a cash account of all receipts and disbursements and a ledger account for each member which later shall be opened for inspection of the member to whom it relates on application to the Treasurer.

d) He shall maintain separate accounts for the general funds, charity funds and each and every other special fund, that may be in existence or may be set up, from time to time, and also as far as possible deposit them in separate accounts with a bank or banks as may be approved by the Lodge.

e) The accounts shall be made up by him and audited by the committee appointed under By-law No.20. He shall also prepare the annual balance sheet and present it to the Audit Committee (for this purpose 1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> June shall be taken to be the official year of the Lodge).

f) To enable By-Law No. 16 to be enforced, the Treasurer shall report at each meeting the names of members who are in arrears for over six months.

A) The Treasurer shall before the end of the month of June of each year transfer from the general fund of the Lodge :

i) Rs. 30-00 per member per year to the charity fund of the Lodge.

ii) A Contribution of not less than Rs. 125/- for resident and Rs. 100-00 per Out-station member as on the rolls as on 1<sup>st</sup> June of every year (or at the rate of contribution to be decided by the Lodge from time to time) to Lodge Pandyan No. 49 (No contribution is payable for non-resident members).

iii) Amounts collected under Bye-Law No.6 (h) and 6 (i) to

the Madurai Masonic Trust.

iv) ~~Rs. 100-00~~ <sup>200/-</sup> per Resident member per year to the stewards fund.

v) Rs. 2000-00 in respect of every member newly admitted in the Lodge to the hospital.

#### SECRETARY

27. a) The Secretary shall issue summons to all the members of the Lodge at least seven days prior to each regular meeting setting forth all the business to be entered upon; the amount of dues, if any, for each brother shall be entered on his summons.

b) He shall also keep proper minutes of the proceedings of the Lodge.

c) He shall keep a register, which shall give full particulars concerning all the members of the Lodge as required by the Rule 121 of the Book of Constitutions. He shall prepare for the signature of the Master, all the necessary and regular returns required by the Grand Lodge of India and by the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India.

d) All Letters from the members of the Lodge shall be addressed to him.

e) He shall keep a list of all Lodge properties.

1) He shall be ex-officio member and secretary of all committees and special committees appointed by the Lodge, and send out the necessary notices.

## STEWARDS

28. The stewards, shall have charge of all Lodge furniture and regalia and shall see that the Tyler keeps them in good order and provides everything requisite in the Lodge. They shall see that the Lodge is always properly prepared for meetings and shall make the necessary arrangements about refreshments, banquet, etc.

## THE TYLER

29. The Tyler shall take care of, and keep in good order the Lodge furniture, regalia etc. He shall prepare the Lodge before meetings and shall see that every person, whether member or visitors enters his name in the attendance register previous to his admission to the Lodge.

30. (a) The Tyler, if he happens to be a serving brother shall be paid a fee of Rs. 50/- for each meeting attended and his dinner charges also shall be paid from out of the general fund of the Lodge.  
(b) The Tyler if he happens to be subscribing member of the Lodge may resolve that the payment of his services be

equivalent to the subscription of the Lodge, so long as the new the office of the Tyler.

30. A. The Tyler need not be a member of this Lodge in accordance with the rule 93 of the Book of constitution.

## XIV. BANQUETS, REFRESHMENTS, ETC.

31. All expenses connected with banquets or refreshments except for Resident members and Lodge guests shall be borne by the members partaking of the same and shall be charged to their accounts. Charges for private guests will be paid by the members inviting them.

The above arrangement with regard to the Resident members shall not include Festive Boards in connection with the meetings held elsewhere, emergency and special meetings, Ladies Night and such other meetings, get together or gatherings for which charges will become payable extra.

## XV. ALMS (Charity Fund)

32. Before closing, at each meeting, (regular or emergency), the Master may direct the charity box to be circulated in order that all the brethren present may deposit of their own free will, offerings towards charity.

33. The sum thus collected shall be kept separate from the Lodge funds and appropriated to such charitable purposes as the brethren in the open Lodge may direct.

#### XIV. RELIEF

34. A sum of Rs. 50 shall be held at the disposal of the Master annually to meet urgent cases of distress but every case so relieved shall be intimated to the brethren at the next regular meeting and all ordinary cases of distress shall be presented duly attested in open Lodge.

#### XIV. MISCELLANEOUS

35. Members introducing visitors shall see that the visiting brethren introduced by them sign the attendance register.

#### XVII. BYE-LAWS.

36. Every member of the Lodge, (initiated or joining) shall be presented with a printed copy of the By-Laws, free of charge. The Bye-laws shall be read in the Open Lodge once every year and at such other time as the Master may think it proper.

37. No alterations, additions or amendment shall be made to these By-Laws unless moved and seconded in Open Lodge, due notice of such motion having been sent in the summonses to each member, nor shall such alteration or amendment be considered carried unless two-thirds of the members present vote in its favour. The alteration, addition or amendment shall come into force only after it is duly

approved by R.W. the Regional Grand Master, Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India and M.W. the Grand Master.

Adopted unanimously at the first Regular Meeting of the Lodge on the 21<sup>st</sup> October, 1972.

A.S. RAJASABAI  
Wor. Master

K. Raman  
Senior Warden

W.P.A.R. Nagarajan  
Junior Warden

V. SARANGAPANI  
Secretary

Approved by the R.W. Regional Grand Master.

Madras  
November 9, 1972

(sd.) K. VEERASWAMI  
Regional Grand Master.

Approved by the M.W. The Grand Master

New Delhi  
November 15, 1972.

(Sd.) P.M. SUNDARAM  
Grand Secretary.