

CHAPTER OM VIGNESWARA
No.82
BY-LAWS

We, the Principals and Companions of Om VIGHNESWARA, R.A. Chapter No.82, are now bringing into force the By-Laws for this Chapter, with a view to preserving harmony and have therefore thought it proper to establish and subscribe to the following Rules and Regulations :

Date of Charter	:	21st March 1983 30th Palghuna, 1904 Saka Era
Date of Consecration	:	20th April, 1983
Regular convocations	:	Second Wednesdays in the months of March June, September and December
Place for holding the convocation	:	Freemasons' Hall 87, Ethiraj Salai Chennai - 600 008.

1. Regular Convocations

The Regular Convocations of this Chapter shall be held at the Freemasons' Hall, Chennai, on Second Wednesdays in the months of March, June, September and December and at such times as the Principals may fix from time to time.

2. Election of Officers

The Principals shall be elected annually by ballot in the month of June and shall be installed at the next convocation of the Chapter in September.

The Treasurer shall also be elected by ballot on the same day as the election of the Principals, viz. in June and invested at the next convocation of the chapter in September.

Companions should empower the principals Elect to appoint the rest of the officers under R.A. Regulation No.52.

The Janitor shall be elected by show of hands on the regular day of Election in June.

3. Emergency Convocations

Emergent Convocations may be called by summons of the First Principal or the other two Principals with the concurrence of the first Principal, provided a Dispensation, shall first have been granted, on good cause shown, by M.E. The Grand Superintendent.

4. Candidates for Admission

The candidates for admission into this Chapter or Companions desirous of being admitted as members of this Chapter, shall submit an application in the form approved by the Supreme Grand Chapter of India and must be duly proposed and seconded at a regular convocation or at an Emergency Convocation by dispensation. No ballot shall take place unless the full name of the candidate, with his occupation (if any) and place of abode and other particulars required under Regulation No.70 of R.A. Regulations as well as the names of his proposer and seconder shall have appeared on the summons.

All applications for Exaltation and joining shall first be placed before the Permanent Committee for recommendation and therefore included in the summons for the next convocation at which a ballot is to take place. Two opposing votes or black balls will negative the proposal.

5. Exaltation and Joining Fees

The fees to be paid for exaltation including Grand Chapter Certificate and also for joining shall be as follows.

Exaltation fees	:	Rs.800
Joining from the Supreme	:	Rs.500
Grand Chapter of India		
Joining from Sister Constitutions	:	Rs.500
Rejoining	:	Rs.500

6. Membership and subscription

Every Companion shall pay an annual subscription of Rs.600/- The subscription shall be paid in advance.

a) If any companion is in arrears of subscription to this Chapter for 6 months the Scribe E, shall advise him of the amount due by him by Registered post, and if the full amount be not paid within thirty days from the date, he shall be excluded in accordance with Reg.75 of R.A. Regulations.

If the subscription of a companion to his chapter remains unpaid for one full year, at the expiration of the period, he shall cease to be member of the Chapter and the fact shall be reported to the Chapter at its regular Convocation and recorded in the Minutes.

In either case, he can become a member again, only by payment of the arrears followed by regular proposition and ballot according to Reg. 70 of R.A. Regulations.

b) The Janitor, if he is a Serving Companion, shall be paid a remuneration of Rs.50/- for each Convocation of the Chapter. He shall be exempted from payment of subscription.

7. PERMANENT COMMITTEE

There shall be a Permanent Committee composed of the three Principals, two Scribes, the Treasurer and the Director of Ceremonies of the Chapter. The duties of the Permanent Committee shall be to consider the applications of candidates / companions for Exaltation and joining, check the accounts of the Chapter and present annually at the installation convocation a Report on the working of the Chapter for the previous year and to consider such other matters the chapter may refer to the committee.

8. TREASURER AND ACCOUNTS

The Treasurer with the assistance of the Scribe E, shall receive all moneys and settle accounts of the Chapter. An annual audited Financial Statement of the chapter shall be drawn up at the close of every year prior to the Installation convocation. An audit committee consisting of two companions who are not members of the Permanent Committee, shall scrutinise the Accounts. All moneys of the Chapter shall be deposited in a scheduled Bank in the name of the Chapter. The bank accounts of the Chapter shall be operated by the Treasurer, and the first Principal or Scribe E. All payment over Rs.100/- shall be generally made by cheques.

9. FUNDS

The moneys belonging to the Chapter shall be held under the following heads.

GENERAL FUND : Subscriptions paid by the Companions of the Chapter, Exaltation or Joining Fees, as well as such moneys not otherwise specified shall be credited to the General Fund.

CHARITY FUND : The Charity Fund shall consist of Charity collections made at Chapter Convocations and voluntary contributions of the fund. No amount of the Charity Fund shall be transferred or expended on any other account except Charity. Further, Charity Fund shall not be accumulated or deposited in Fixed Deposit Account, but expended regularly for Charitable purposes duly voted in open Chapter.

10. RESIGNATIONS

Any member wishing to resign, must do so in open Chapter or by letter addressed to the Scribe E, when on his dues being fully paid up, he shall be furnished with a clearance certificate.

11. PROPERTY

Furniture, Regalia, the Charter and other properties of the Chapter shall be vested in the care of the Three Principals. An Inventory of such property shall be recorded by them in a Book kept for that purpose and such Inventory shall be presented at the Installation Convocation signed by the Three Principals.

The Principals, if they so desire, may entrust the properties mentioned above to the Scribe E on their behalf for proper care and custody.

12. BY-LAWS

The By-Laws of the Chapter shall be read in a year, in open chapter. Every companion, on becoming a member of the chapter, shall be presented with a copy of these By-Laws.

No alteration or addition to these By-Laws may be made unless the same is duly proposed and seconded in open Chapter at a Regular Convocation and included in the Agenda for the next convocation at which the amendment or alteration shall be confirmed and then applied for due approval of M.E. The Grand Superintendent and M.E. The First Grand Principal.

Adopted at the Regular (Installation) Convocation held on 20th April 1983.

Sd/- First Principal	Sd/- Second Principal
Sd/- Third Principal	Sd/- Scribe E

Approved by M.E. the Grand Superintendent

Place : Chennai
Date : 28.03.2002

Sd/-
Grand Superintendent

Approved by M.E. The First Grand Principal

New Delhi
19.04.2002

Sd/-
(Harish Gupta)
Grand Scribe E