

Mar Gregorios Orthodox Christian Student Movement (MGOCSM) of India

CONSTITUTION

NAME

The name of the organization shall be Mar Gregorios Orthodox Christian Student Movement (MGOCSM) of India.

PATRON

His Holiness the Catholicos of the East and Malankara Metropolitan shall be the patron of the Movement.

EMBLEM

The emblem contains the motto Worship, Study and Service. The cross symbolizes worship, the books stands for study and the light for service.

OFFICE

The Office of the Movement shall be at the Mar Gregorios Orthodox Christian Student Centre, Kottayam.

JURISDICTION

The jurisdiction of the Movement shall be the same as the jurisdiction of the Catholicate of the east.

OBJECTS

The Objects of the Movement shall be:

- a) To bring together the students of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church with a view to deepening their spiritual lives and creating in them a deep sense of Christian fellowship;
- b) To enable the members to bear witness to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in every of life and to help the spread of the Gospel; and
- c) To help its members and others to grow up as true disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ and loyal members of the Church.

The movement shall seek to promote these objects through:

1. Worship

The Movement shall encourage the spirit of worship and train the youth of the Church in private prayer as well as in corporate worship and shall endeavor to teach them the meaning of the liturgy and other forms of worship, by inculcating the habit of regular participation at the Holy Qurbana and arranging retreats and special days of prayer;

2. Study

The Movement shall organize study groups, lecture series, seminars, symposia and regional and annual conferences for the study of the Bible, History and Faith of the church and social concerns; and

3. Service

The movement shall foster the spirit of service among the youth of the church in total commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ and his words: "Truly I say to you, as you did to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Mathew 25:40).

In furtherance of the objects, the Movement shall endeavor:

- 1) To provide financial assistance for education to deserving students by way of grants, loans, scholarships, etc.
- 2) To render financial help to poor and deserving people and shall minister to the sick and provide medical care wherever possible;

- 3) To publish pamphlets, periodicals and books relevant to the objects of the Movement;
- 4) To cooperate or federate with national and international organizations and institutions with similar or allied objects.
- 5) To start educational institutions, hostels, student centers and other institutions for the benefit of students and youth in important places;
- 6) To purchase, hire, take on lease or otherwise acquire all kinds of property, movable or immovable, which may be deemed necessary for the attainment of the objects of the Movement and to sell, mortgage, pledge as security or otherwise dispose of any such property, subject to the constitution of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church;
- 7) To take loans or otherwise borrow money on such securities as may be decided upon from time to time by the MGOCSM Assembly of the Movement;
- 8) To deposit in the banks or to invest in securities such funds of the Movement as are not immediately required;
- 9) To organize a special Registered MGOCSM Charitable Society for the furtherance of these objects; and
- 10) To take all possible, legitimate steps or measures in order to achieve these objects do all such other lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of these objects.

MEMBERSHIP

Any student of a college, higher secondary or high school who belongs to the Malankara Orthodox Church shall be eligible to become a member of the Movement. Any person other than a student, belonging to the Church and subscribing to the aims and objects of the Movement, shall also be eligible to become a senior member of the Movement.

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION (RULES)

DEFINITIONS

1. The 'Movement' means Mar Gregorios Orthodox Christian Student Movement of India.
2. Except where it is repugnant to the context 'Member' means a person enrolled as per Rule (1 enrolment).
3. The 'Church means the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church.
4. 'Conference', 'MGOCSM Assembly', 'Executive Committee', 'Unit', 'President', 'Vice-President', 'General Secretary', 'Associate Secretaries', 'Student Secretaries', 'Diocesan / Zonal Secretaries and 'Treasurer' shall mean respectively of the Movement, constituted, elected or appointed in accordance with these Rules.

RULES

1. ENROLMENT

Any Student or non-student who is a member of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church intending to become a member / a senior member of the Movement shall forward to the General Secretary through the Unit Secretary / directly to the General Secretary an application in the prescribed form along with the membership fee. The Executive Committee may approve or reject any such application with out assigning reasons.

2. MEMBERSHIP FEE

The membership fee shall be Rs. 5 or \$1 for students and Rs. 25 or \$5 for non-students per annum, half of which shall be retained by the unit of local expenses.

3. OFFICIAL YEAR

The official year of the Movement shall be from 1 April to 31 March.

4. FUNDS

- a) The funds of the Movement shall consist of membership fees, donations, and the movement may raise such other moneys as from time to time.
- b) The funds of the movement shall be deposited in the name of the movement in a nationalized or scheduled bank approved by the Executive Committee and the account shall be jointly operated by the President and the Treasurer.

- c) The General Secretary may keep an imp rest of a sum not exceeding Rs. 5000/-
- d) All payments shall be made on proper vouchers, and within budget allotments.
- e) The funds of the Movement shall be used solely for the promotion of the objects Movement and no portion thereof shall be divided or distributed in the form of profit, dividend or bonus.

5 BUDGET AND ACCOUNTS

- a) The annual budget shall be prepared by the Executive Committee, and passed by the Assembly.
- b) The accounts of the Movement shall be maintained by the Treasurer.

6 ANNUAL REPORT AND AUDIT

It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to place before the Assembly every year an audited statement of

- a) Income and Expenditure, and
- b) Assets and liabilities along with the Annual Report of the working of the Movement.
- c) This report with a detailed list of donors and recipients shall be published every year.

7. LOCAL UNITS

- a) A unit of the Movement shall be constituted in every educational institution where there are ten or more members.
- b) Units in Parish or Centers may be constituted with the consent of President Metropolitan and Diocesan Metropolitan, where there are ten or more members.
- c) The administration of the Unit shall be vested in the committee of the Unit consisting of the President, Vice-President, Senior friends, two student secretaries, of whom one will be a woman, Treasurer and five other members of the unit.
- d) The President and the Secretaries of the Unit for the coming year shall be elected at the concluding annual meeting of the Unit in the first week of February. The other members of the committee shall be elected at the beginning of the following academic year.
- e) The Unit committee may raise way of subscription or donation such funds as may be necessary for the working of the Unit.
- f) The Unit secretary shall forward to the General Secretary a report of the activities of the Unit with a statement of income and expenditure for each year within fifteen days of the end of the year.
- g) It shall be the duty of the Unit Committee to carry out the decisions of the Assembly and the Executive Committee and generally to promote the objects of the Movement.

8. WINGS a) In order that Units of the same category and members with similar aptitudes may work efficiently for common good by sharing their experience and aspirations, the Movement shall have the following Wings:

1. Collegiate Wing:- Unit in Arts, Science and Law Colleges
 2. Medical Auxiliary: - Unit in Medical Colleges and Para Medical Institutions.
 3. Technical Auxiliary: - Units in Engineering and Technical Institutions.
 4. Higher Secondary / High School Wing: - Units in Higher Secondary / High Schools.
 5. Literary and Cultural Forum: - Members of the Movement engaged or interested in literary and cultural activities shall constitute this wing.
 6. Missionary Form: - Members of the Movement engaged or interested in missionary activities shall constitute the Missionary Forum. This shall incorporate the Bishop Pakenhalm-Walsh Memorial Teaching Mission also.
 7. University Teachers' Orthodox Christian Association: - University and College teachers of the Movement shall constitute this Wing.
 8. Orthodox School Teachers' Association: - School teachers in the Movement shall constitute this Wing.
 9. Communication and Publication Wing:- Book shops and other allied organization help to develop audio visual programmes.
 10. Educational scholarships and other charity programme.
 11. Education Orientation Programme
- b) The administration of each of the Wing shall be vested in a committee consisting of the President and the General Secretary of the Movement, and Vice-President, student Secretaries, Treasurer and not less than five

other members elected from among the members of the Wing.

9. ADMINISTRATION OF THE MGOCSM

The administration of the Movement shall be vested in:-

- a) The MGOCSM Assembly and
- b) The Executive Committee of the Movement.

10. MGOCSM ASSEMBLY

The term of the assembly shall be one year. There shall be two meetings:

- a) One in January to elect the office bearers of the coming year and for the presentation of the budget and
- b) Another in August, to pass the accounts and annual report.

10.1) The Assembly shall consist of:

- a). The President, Bishop Vice-Presidents, the senior Vice-President; two student vice presidents, one of whom shall be a woman; the general secretary; two associate secretaries - both non students -; two student secretaries, of whom one shall be a woman; the regional secretaries; treasurer; and not more than six persons nominated by the President of whom, two shall be experts in education.
- b) The President or a Vice- president (non-student) of each Unit as decided by the Unit.
- c) The student Secretaries of each Unit (one male and one female).
- d) The vice presidents and secretaries of the various wings.

10.2) There shall be at least two meetings of the assembly every year. More meetings of the assembly may be held whenever the president deems it necessary.

10.3) The assembly of the movement shall be the statutory general body of the movement competent to take final decision on all matters relating to the business of the Movement.

10.4) 15 days notice shall be given for a meeting of the assembly.

10.5) The quorum for a meeting of the assembly shall be one third of its members or twenty-five whichever is less.

10.6) The assembly shall elect the Senior Vice president, two students vice presidents of whom one shall be a woman, two associate secretaries both non students, one of whom shall be a woman, two student secretaries of whom one shall be a woman, eleven members of the Executive Committee of whom seven shall be students.

11. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

a. The Executive committee of the Movement elected for a period of one year shall consists of the President, Bishop Vice Presidents, the senior vice president, two student vice presidents, the general secretary, two associate secretaries, student secretaries, treasurer, eleven members elected by the assembly of whom seven shall be students of which two shall be from higher secondary wing. Outgoing general secretary, the general secretary of the Orthodox Youth Movement of the church who shall be an ex-officio member of the Committee, two educational experts nominated by the president and the secretaries of various wings and zonal secretaries. The Programme secretary, organizing secretaries, Diocesan organizers and hostel wardens, shall be invited as special invitees provided however they shall have no voting right.

b. There shall be at least three meetings of the Executive Committee every year. More meetings of the executive committee may be held whenever the President deems it necessary.

c. Seven days' notice shall be given for a meeting of the Executive Committee. However, if necessary an urgent meeting of the Executive committee may be convened at a shorter notice.

d. The quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be one-third of its members of seven whichever is less.

e. The Executive committee shall:

1. Prepare the budget to be passed by the Assembly,
2. Prepare the annual report and statement of accounts,
3. Supervise, control the work of the office-bearers and make by- laws for the effective functioning of the students centre and other institutions,

4. Shall appoint or remove any employee of the movement and
5. Shall fix the terms and conditions of employment and the wages of the employees of the movement.
- f. The committee shall have the powers to constitute special committees and sub-committees, as it deems necessary.
- g. The minutes of every meeting shall be circulated to the members with in ten days after the meeting.

12. THE WORKING COMMITTEE

Working committee shall consist of the president, bishop vice presidents, senior vice president, general secretary, treasurer and 4 members nominated by the president from among the members of the Executive Committee of whom, two shall be students and of whom one shall be a woman. The quorum of the working committee shall be 5 or 40% of the members. The working committee shall implement the decisions of the executive committee. On emergency, the committee can take decisions and that shall be ratified in the next executive committee.

13. OFFICE – BEARERS

The office bearers of the Movement shall be:-

1. The President,
2. The Bishop Vice Presidents,
3. The Senior Vice President
4. Student Vice Presidents
5. The General Secretary,
6. The Associate Secretaries.
7. Two Student Secretaries,
8. The Treasurer.

14. THE PRESIDENT

- a) The President of the Movement shall be a Metropolitan nominated by the Holy Episcopal Synod of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church.
- b) The President shall have the general control and supervision of the administration of the Movement.
- c) All bonds and documents in favor of the Movement shall be in the name of the President and he shall execute all bonds and documents of the movement.
- d) The President shall appoint the General Secretary and the Treasurer
- e) Full time workers and Organizing and Zonal secretaries shall be appointed by the President.

15. THE VICE PRESIDENTS

The Vice Presidents shall be Bishops nominated by the Holy Episcopal Synod/appointed by the President, and they shall assist the President in the discharge of his duties.

16. THE GENERAL SECRETARY

The General Secretary shall

- 1 (a) submit to the president regular reports of the working of the Movement.
 - b) conduct all correspondence on behalf of the Movement.
 - c) convene meetings.
 - d) maintain books and registers other than account books.
 - e) pass bills for payment.
 - f) do in consultation with the President and subject to the direction and control of the executive committee such other things as may be necessary for the proper administration of the movement.
2. The general secretary shall convene at least one meeting of the principals of the college/ higher secondary school/ head masters of the institutions of our church every year to plan the activities of the MGOCSM.
 3. The general secretary shall circulate to the members of the Executive Committee an annual audited statement of account and balance sheet 15days before the general assembly of the year
 4. The general secretary shall convene quarterly evaluation meeting of the full time workers.
 5. The budget for the following financial year shall be presented by the Treasurer at the meeting of the Executive Committee to be held before the end of current financial year.

6. The annual statement of accounts and balance sheet shall be intimated to the Episcopal Synod and the Managing Committee of the Church.

7. All officers and full time workers of the movement shall be directly under the supervision of the general secretary.

8. The Office Secretary shall help him in all these activities and shall keep a record of all activities of the MGOCSM Units, regions, wings and Student Centers and prepare a monthly report to be presented to the president and general secretary. He shall also keep all records of the MGOCSM including details of office bearers of each units, regions, wings and centers and update the same periodically.

9. The Programme Secretary shall assist the General Secretary in the conduct of all the programme of MGOCSM.

10. General Secretary shall publish the annual report with a detailed list of donors and recipients in a book form in every year.

17. THE ASSOCIATE AND JOINT SECRETARIES

The associate and joint secretaries shall assist the General Secretary in the discharge of his duties.

18. THE TREASURER

a) The treasurer shall collect all fees, donations and such other money as are due to the Movement issue receipts, make payments and maintain the accounts of the movement.

b) There shall be an Accounts officer for the MGOCSM of India to assist the Treasurer in all his duties. He shall co-ordinate the work of those who keep accounts at the various centers and activities of the MGOCSM and consolidate those accounts for presentation to the Treasurer and the General Secretary of the Movement.

c) The accountants of the various centers of the MGOCSM shall collect fees and donations and receive all other moneys of the MGOCSM, charity, hostels and other activities on behalf of the General secretary of the MGOCSM. Similarly all budgeted expenditure approved / directed by the General Secretary shall be accounted by them. They shall also prepare monthly statements of receipts and payments and present them to the Accounts officer, Treasurer and the General Secretary before the 10th of every next month.

d) The General Secretary shall deposit all money on behalf of the Treasurer, in Government treasury, a Nationalized bank or Scheduled bank approved by the Executive Committee in the joint names of the President, treasurer and general secretary.

19. AMENDMENTS.

The rules of the Movement may be amended by a resolution passed by a two third majority of the members present and voting at a meeting of the assembly, provided noticed of such resolution has been given along with the notice of the meeting. The amendment shall be presented to the Holy Episcopal Synod for conformation/approval.

20. GENERAL

a) The assembly and the executive committee shall have the power to frame their own rules of procedure.

b) The president shall be the chairman at all meeting of the annual conference the assembly and the executive committee. If he is not present, one of the Bishop vice presidents authorized in writing by the president shall preside over the meeting.

c) Except where otherwise provided all questions coming up before a meeting for the annual conference assembly of executive committee shall be decided by a simple majority of the members present and voting. In case of a tie the chairman shall have a casting vote.

d) The term of the office bearers, the working committee, the executive committee and assembly shall be one year provided however that they shall continue to function until their successors are elected, appointed or constituted.

e) All suits and proceedings by or against the MGOCSM shall be filed and defended in the name of general secretary and the general secretary shall be empowered to make sign, verify and present all plaints.