

BYE-LAWS
OF THE
MECCA TEMPLE No. 1
A. M. O. OF E.



MOTTO:
UNITY, LOVE AND CONCORD

COLON, REPUBLICA DE PANAMA
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PREFACE

The Ancient Mystic Order of Ethiopia, is an Ancient Secret Society of Ethiopia, and Mystic Masonic in its Principles. Its Members are filled with the Divine Spirit of the Fatherhood of God, and the Brotherhood of Man; Here the Principles of the Brotherhood of Man are made perfect and complete.

Its cordial virtues are to aid the sick, bury the dead, and to carry sunshine into dark places. It teaches how to become better Citizens in the different Countries where its members may reside, so that our Fraternity shall be the Beacon to guide the path to a better Spiritual understanding, and to enable our Members to be a Shining example to the Fraternal World at large.

It teaches the rites of the true and practical Christianity, it lends unto the Lord, through its liberality in giving unto the poor. It teaches and holds high above all other things, a hope which is as high as the stars above, and deeper than the depths of the Ocean, and that is, it teaches the Love of God, the Love of Country and the Love of Humanity.

**BYE-LAWS
OF THE
MECCA TEMPLE No. 1
ANCIENT MYSTIC ORDER OF ETHIOPIA
Colon, Rep. of Panama**

ARTICLE No. 1

SEC. 1. The name of this Temple shall be called Mecca Temple No. 1. Ancient Mystic Order of Ethiopia.

Time and Place of Meetings

SEC. 2. The regular meetings nights shall held on the second Fridays, and the fourth Thursdays of each and every month, commencing at 7:30 P. M. to 10:30 P. M. respectively, after which all business transactions of the Temple shall be closed, except on a motion duly made and seconded, and passed by the majority of the members present. Any seven members of the management committee, including the Worthy Select Master, Vice Select Master, and the Senior Warden assembled, shall form a quorum, and shall have full power

to superintend and conduct the business of the Temple.

SEC. 3. All meetings of this Temple shall be held in the effort Lodge Hall, situated between wrd. and 4th Street, Justo Arosemena Avenue building No. 3037, or any other place, as may be determined by the majority of its members present at a summoned meeting for that purpose.

Objects of the Temple

SEC. 4. The object of the Temple shall be to raise funds, by Entrance Fees, Contributions of Members, Fines, Taxes, Donation, etc. For insuring a sum of money to be paid on the death of a Financial Member, to his or her Nominee, and for the payment of sick allowances weekly to Financial Members, only when unable to follow their daily occupation.

All embers shall pay a monthly contribution fee of One Dollar \$1.00 U.S.Cy.

ARTICLE No. 2

Elegibility and making of Members

SEC. 1. All persons of the Negro Race, in whole or in part, who are not under the age of (18 years) eighteen years, are over the age of (45 years) forty-five years, shall be elegible for membership.

SEC. 2. The cost of initiation fee shall be according to the following rates, \$10.00 U.S.C.) from 18 years to 45 years, and for each additional year \$2.00 U.S.Cy.

Application for Membership

SEC. 3. All persons applying for membership must be proposed by a Financial Member, at a regular meeting. Application must be accompanied by part of Initiation Fee, and balance to be paid not later than the Night of Initiation.

SEC. 4. All applicants are obligated to present a Medical Certificate of health from a duly registered physician before they will be initiated.

SEC. 5. Any applicant who fails to present him or herself for Initiation within six months after notification of his or her election to membership, shall forfeit all claims to the amount which accompanied his or her application, unless he or she has been prevented by sickness or any other unavoidable cause, of which due notice must be given the Temple.

SEC. 6. All application must be made at a regular meeting the presiding Officer shall appoint a Committee of three on enquire, who shall report on the next Meeting Night, as to the character, physical appearance, and religious belief. Should the committee report fav-

orable, the Temple shall proceed to ballot by balls, more than three black balls reject the candidate.

SEC. 7. When an applicant is rejected the amount accompanied the application, shall be refunded. Any rejected candidate, after the expiration of six months can reapply for membership.

ARTICLE No. 3

Benefit to Members

SEC. 1. Any member of this Temple who has been a regular contributor to its funds for six months, and may be sick and unable to follow his or her daily calling, shall be entitled to \$5.00 U.S.Cy. per week for the first six weeks, and \$4.00 U.S.Cy for the next six weeks, and \$2.50 U.S.Cy. until recovery or death, all applications for sick benefit, must be accompanied with a registered Medical Certificate.

SEC. 2. No member is entitled to sick benefit when the sickness is caused by intemperance or immoral conduct.

SEC. 3. Should any member shall in receipt of sick allowances be known to work, get intoxicated, or in any way impose on the Temple, or being absent from their home, any time between the hours of 6:00 P.M. to 6:00

A.M. without a written permission from a properly Medical practitioner, he or she shall be deemed to commit an offence, punishable by a fine or suspension. In all cases when the permit is to be made available, immediate notice must be given to the Financial Secretary, or the Senior Warden, of the intention of the Sick Member, so that the Temple may communicate with him or her at any time during their absence from their home if necessary.

Declaring off the Sick Funds

SEC. 4. Any member declaring off the sick funds, and again claiming sick benefit before the expiration of twelve weeks from date of declaration off the funds, shall only be entitled to the benefits he or she was receiving at the time of such declaration, except in case of accident, making the present and former a continuous sickness, then he or she shall be entitled to benefits accordingly.

SEC. 5. Every member on recovering from illness, shall send to the Secretary a notice, declaring that they are off the sick funds of the Temple, with a registered Medical Certificate.

SEC. 6. Any member failing to send a declaration off the sick funds shall be fined (\$0.50) fifty cents per day, for neglecting to do so.

ARTICLE No. 4

SEC. 1. On the death of a financial member, whose death is not caused by immoral conduct on his or her part, the sum of (\$90.00 U.S.Cy.) shall be granted to his or her nominee to defray his or her funeral expenses. All financial members shall be taxed accordingly so as to replace the amount that has been taken.

SEC. 2. Any indebtedness to this Temple that may be owed by a member at the time of his or her death, shall be deducted from his or her death grant.

SEC. 3. On the death of financial member's husband or wife, the sum of \$25.00 U. S. Cy.) Twenty-Five Dollars, shall be given to assist defraying funeral expenses, providing that no separation or divorce is between them. And further provided, that such wife of husband is not living a life of adultery. All financial members shall be taxed accordingly so as to replace the amount that has been taken.

SEC. 4. On the death of a financial member's child, providing such child is under fourteen years of age, and over seven years of age, the sum of \$15.00 U.S.Cy.) Fifteen Dollars shall be given, to assist defraying funeral expenses, if the child is under seven years of age the sum of \$6.00 U.S.Cy.) Six Dollars, shall be given. All financial members shall be taxed

accordingly so as to replace the amount that has been taken.

SEC. 5. Should in case the funds of the Temple, cannot meet her obligations accordingly to Article 3, Section 1 and Article 4, Section 1, 3, and 4, the management committee is in power to make reduction to suit all purposes of the Temple.

ARTICLE No. 5

SEC. 1. Members who have been regular contributors, for a period of twenty years, after such period, will be carried free on the books of the Temple, and will be entitled to three quarters of the weekly sick benefit, and all the rights and privileges of the Temple providing said member or members had not broken their membership and was reinstated during this period of twenty years this twenty years period shall be considered in action commencing from the inactment of this Bye-Laws on May 10th, 1948, and all members are guided by same.

SEC. 2. Any financial members who have been a regular contributor for a period of five years, upon leaving these shores to reside in any other country where there is no Temple or Chapter of this Order, shall be entitled to the sum of \$50.00 U.S.Cy.) Fifty Dollars providing said member or members have not

drawn any sick benefit for that period, and any member or members who have been a regular contributor for a period of five years, under the same conditions above stated, but who have drawn sick benefit for the period, shall receive the sum of \$25.00 U.S.Cy.) Twenty-Five Dollars.

ARTICLE No. 6

SEC. 1. All motions must be seconded before they can be entertained.

SEC. 2. The worthy select master while presiding, shall state every question coming before the Temple, immediately, before placing it to the vote.

SEC. 3. All members while speaking or making a motion shall stand and address the chair, while speaking the members shall strictly adhere to the question under debate.

SEC. 4. No member shall speak more than twice on the same subject, unless by permission from the Chair, with exception to the proposer.

SEC. 5. Should two or more members rise at the same time to speak the Worthy Select Master, shall give preference to the furthest from the Chair.

SEC. 6. Any member can appeal from the decision of the Chair. He or she when making

such appeal, shall do so in a respectful way, by addressing the Chair, and state their appeal, briefly. After which same shall be decided by the majority of votes.

SEC. 7. All questions, unless fixed by law, shall be decided by the majority of votes.

ARTICLE No. 7

Miss-Demeanor

SEC. 1. Note Article 52 and 53 of General Law. These laws shall be binding.

SEC. 2. No member or members shall use any indecerous language of personal reflection on officers and members of the Temple while in secession, to do same the member or members shall be fined (\$1.00).

ARTICLE No. 8

SEC. 1. All fines, levies and taxation, shall be collected by the permanent secretary, after a duration of thirty days from their dues, if the members fail to pay same before.

SEC. 2. Improvement committee shall be consisted of seven members, appointed yearly by the Temple.

ARTICLE No. 9

SEC. 1. If any member being suspended

from benefit, or charge or charges, preferred against them and do not comply with the rules his or her contributions, shall not be received until such act is performed, and in the event of none compliance, his or her membership shall cease.

ARTICLE No. 10

SEC. 1. The Bye-Laws of this Temple may be amended from time to time as may be deemed fit and proper. All amendments of the Bye-Laws must be sanctioned by the majority of members present at summoned meeting. Where the Bye-Laws are silent on any question the general laws of the Supreme Temple of this Order shall apply.

ARTICLE No. 11

SEC. 1. Whereby as the permission of the book of the Constitution. The Ancient Mystic Order of Ethiopia, the Supreme Grand Temple of the Ancient Mystic Order of Ethiopia Inc. authorize this Temple in full power to enact laws, and regulation for better internal management.

ARTICLE No. 12

SEC. 1. By a motion of Brother Aston P. Weir seconded by Sister Maude Rowe this Bye-

Laws was accepted unanimously on this 9th day of July 1948 in the City of Colon, Rep. of Panama, by the memberships.

Approved.

Alfred S. Reid,
Worthy, Select Master

Signed Reginald Warren
Permanent Secretary.

Drafting Committee

Arthur B. Gaynor
Chairman

Egber Robinson,
Past Select Master

Sarah Shoy,
Past Lady Matron

Jonas A. C. McGhann
Past Select Master

Maud Rowe
Past Lady Matron

Orlina Bernard
Past Lady Matron

OPENING ODE

(1) O Lord how joyful tis to see
Thy brethren join in love to thee
On this alone their hearts rely
Their only strength thy grace supply

(2) The world without may rage but we
Will only cling more close to thee
With hearts to thee most wholly given
More weard from earth more fix on heaven.

CLOSING ODE

(1) Now our work is ended
Joys are ever o'er
Watchful spirit guide us
While we sleep at night.

(2) When the morning cometh
Life and faith renewed
While our mystic conclave
Unite in bond of Love.
or any other resolution made by the Temple,

ESTRELLA DE PARANÁ - 1963 - 1 - 60