

MANITOBA ISLAMIC ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 1722  
Winnipeg 1.

June 12, 1970.

Dear Brother/Sister in Islam:

Assalam Alaikum

Our Association has accepted the challenge of building a mosque in the city of Winnipeg. Before launching a formal Mosque Fund raising campaign it is imperative that our constitution be set up in such a fashion that it provides an adequate machinery for the management of the Mosque Fund. It is with this aim in mind that the Executive nominated a constitution committee early this year. The committee has now submitted a draft of the new constitution, a copy of which is enclosed with this letter.

I urge you to make a careful study of this draft and submit your comments or proposals for amendments on or before June 30, 1970, by mail. The Association is also calling for an Extraordinary General Body Meeting to be held on July 5, 1970 at 3:00 P.M. at the Unitarian Church (Sargent & Banning) whose purpose is to adopt the new constitution if found acceptable by the membership. This is an important meeting and, therefore, I request all the members to be present on that day.

On behalf of the Association I wish to thank the members of the constitution committee for their contribution.

Yours sincerely,

Mohamed Inayatulla,  
President.

MI/jds



IN THE NAME OF ALLAH, MOST GRACIOUS,  
MOST MERCIFUL.

"O Mankind, surely we have created you of a male and a female, and made you nations and tribes that you may know each other. Surely the most honorable of you, in the sight of Allah is the most pious of you. Surely Allah is knowing, Aware."

Al Quran, Chapter 49, V. 13

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(DRAFT) CONSTITUTION OF MANITOBA ISLAMIC ASSOCIATION

Article I

Name and Nature

- Section (1) (a) The Association shall be called "The Manitoba Islamic Association";
- (b) The headquarters of the Association shall be in Metropolitan Winnipeg;
- Section (2) The Association shall be an independent, charitable, religious, social and cultural, non-profit, non-political, and non-sectarian organization.

Article II

Aims and Objectives

- Section (1) (a) To promote the principles of Islam;
- (b) To fulfill religious, social and cultural needs of the Muslims of Manitoba;
- (c) To promote the general welfare and to represent the interests of Muslim community in Manitoba;
- (d) To promote better understanding of Islam among peoples of all faiths; and
- (e) To own, acquire, establish, and maintain Islamic Center(s) comprising of a mosque, a library, and other appropriate facilities.

Article III

Membership

Section (1) The membership of the Association shall be open to:

(a) Full Members

All adult Muslims, male or female, citizens of Canada or landed immigrants in Canada residing in Manitoba



Provided

that the term "adult" in this context shall be interpreted according to the statutes and laws in force in Manitoba;

(b) Associate Members

- ( i) All Muslim non-immigrants residing in Manitoba and their spouses;
- ( ii) Non-Muslim spouses of Muslims;
- (iii) Any non-Muslim adult upon application subject to its approval by the Executive Council of the Association;

(c) Honorary Members

Individuals who, in the opinion of the General Assembly, are regarded to have rendered outstanding service to the cause of the Association.

Article IV

General Assembly

- Section (1) Full Members shall constitute the General Assembly of the Association;
- (2) It shall be the supreme authority of the Association.

Article V

Executive Council

There shall be an Executive Council consisting of seven duly elected Full Members comprising of the following office-bearers:

- (a) President
- (b) First Vice-President
- (c) Second Vice-President
- (d) Secretary
- (e) Treasurer
- (f) Two Executive Members

Provided

that one of the Vice-Presidents shall be a female member unless not available.

Article VI

Duties, Functions, and Powers of the Executive Council

- Section (1) The Executive Council shall implement and execute the decisions of the General Assembly;
- (2) It shall be empowered to
- (a) initiate activities to promote the objectives of the Association;



- (b) consider applications for Associate Membership;
- (c) prepare the general annual budget, have it approved by the General Assembly, and control funds and expenditures of the Association accordingly;

Section (3) The Council shall be accountable for all its actions and activities to the General Assembly.

#### Article VII

##### Election of Executive Council

- Section (1) The Annual General elections of the Association shall be held each year during the month of October;
- Section (2) (a) The elections of the Executive Council shall be conducted by an Election Steering Committee comprised of three Full Members to be elected immediately prior to the elections;
- (b) The members of the Steering Committee shall exercise the right of vote but shall not be eligible for any office;
- Section (3) It shall be the duty of the Steering Committee to ensure fair, free, and honest elections and to serve the reminder to the electorate that
- "race, color, national origin, regional and linguistic affiliations have no meaning in Islam".
- Section (4) (a) The term of office of the Executive Council shall be one year from the date of elections;
- (b) Members of the Council, either individually or jointly, shall not be awarded a monetary remuneration by the Association;
- Section (5) Every Full Member provided he(she) had paid his(her) dues shall have one vote; and
- Section (6) Voting in the election of the Council shall be by secret ballot.

#### Article VIII

##### Resignation(s) and Removal

Any elected member of the Executive Council who fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Executive Council without prior notification to the President or one of the Vice-Presidents shall be considered to have resigned from the Executive Council.

#### Article IX

##### Board of Trustees

- Section (1) There shall be a Board of Trustees comprising of at least three Full Members;



- Section (2) (a) The members of the Board of Trustees shall be elected by the General Assembly for a period of three years subject to the provisions of Section (4) (b) in Article VII;
- (b) In the first election of the Board, one member shall be elected for one year, second member for two years, and the third member for three years. Thereafter, each year a board member shall be elected for a period of three years;
- (c) In the event of a membership falling vacant for whatever reason, it shall be filled by a duly elected member only for the remainder of the duration of the vacant membership;
- (d) The member elected for the interim period referred to in Section (2) (c) above shall be eligible for re-election for a full term after the expiry of the interim period.

#### Article X

##### Objectives, Functions, and Powers of the Board of Trustees

- Section (1) (a) The Board of Trustees shall be entrusted with and empowered for the complete management of all designated funds for the establishment of an Islamic Center or Centers;
- (b) The general plans and estimated expenditures for the disposal of the designated funds must be approved by the General Assembly.
- Section (2) (a) The Board of Trustees shall be empowered to call an Extraordinary meeting of the General Assembly in consultation with and/or on written request to the Executive Council;
- (b) The procedure to be followed for convening an Extraordinary meeting shall be the same as provided in Article XI.

#### Article XI

##### Meetings of the General Assembly

- Section (1) (a) The General Assembly shall meet from time to time as may be considered necessary but not less than twice each year. One of these meetings shall be the Annual General Meeting at which meeting the election of the Executive Council shall take place, an audited financial statement presented, and an Auditor appointed;
- (b) A minimum notice of one week by the Executive Council shall be required for calling a meeting of the General Assembly;
- (c) Upon receipt of a written request signed by at least 20 per cent of the Full Members, the Executive Council shall be required to call a meeting of the General Assembly within two weeks of receipt of written request;



- Section (2) (a) Agenda for all General Assembly meetings shall be clearly mentioned in the notice for the meetings;
- (b) Any member of the General Assembly shall have the right to propose the inclusion of any item to the Agenda by serving a notice of motion to the Executive Council two weeks prior to the forthcoming General Assembly meeting.

Article XII

Quorum

- Section (1) Fifty per cent of the paid Full Membership shall constitute a quorum;
- Section (2) All decisions except for amendments to the Constitution shall be by a majority vote of those present;
- Section (3) If a quorum is not present at the first meeting called for within one hour then that meeting shall be postponed for two weeks, notice for which shall be duly given to the membership and the members so present in that meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Article XIII

Annual Dues

- Section (1) The fiscal year of the Association shall end on September 30th of each year;
- Section (2) The annual dues for various memberships shall be approved by the General Assembly and reviewed from time to time on the recommendation of the Executive Council.

Article XIV

By-Laws

- Section (1) By-laws may be added to this Constitution;
- Section (2) By-laws and amendments thereto shall follow the same procedure as to the amendments to the Constitution except that such amendments thereto can be effected by a majority vote in a General Assembly meeting.

Article XV

Amendments to the Constitution

- Section (1) (a) The Constitution of the Association may be amended at an Extraordinary General Assembly meeting specifically called for this purpose;
- (b) Notice of the proposed amendment(s) must be given to the Executive Council in writing, signed at least by 20 per cent of Full Members, two weeks before the proposed meeting;



Section (2) The President of the Association shall notify the members of the proposed amendments at least one week before the scheduled meeting;

Section (3) No amendment to the Constitution shall be regarded as ratified unless a two-thirds of the Full Membership is present in a duly constituted Extraordinary meeting and meets the approval of three-fourths of those present.

#### Article XVI

##### Dissolution

Section (1) The General Assembly may decide to dissolve the Association, if the need so arises, provided that seventy-five per cent of the Full Membership so approves;

Section (2) In the event of its dissolution all the assets of the Association, after payment of liabilities, shall be distributed amongst one or more recognized Muslim charitable organizations in Canada.

#### Article XVII

##### Ratification and Enforcement of the Constitution

The ratification of this Constitution shall take place at any time prior to October 1970 where two-thirds of the present membership is present and three-fourth of those present so approve but it shall come into force with effect from October 1st, 1970.

#### Article XVIII

##### Saving Clause

The decisions and actions undertaken by the Association prior to the ratification and enforcement of this Constitution shall remain in force unless inconsistent with this Constitution.

#### Constitution Committee

1. Dr. Abdul Malik (Chairman)
2. Mr. Mustafa Jamal (Member)
3. Dr. Moosa Khalidi (Member)
4. Dr. Ameer Ahsan (Member)
5. Mr. Iqbal Junaid (Member)