

In the Name of Allah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful
Mississippi Muslim Association (MMA)
1465 Highway 51, Madison MS 39110

Constitution

ARTICLE I: NAME AND LOCATION

The Association shall be called "The Mississippi Muslim Association" hereafter referred to as "MMA". The permanent location of the MMA shall be near the majority of Muslims within the city of Jackson, Mississippi.

ARTICLE II: NATURE

The MMA shall be religious, educational, non-political, and non-profit in nature.

ARTICLE III: OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the MMA shall be:

1. Organize and establish Islamic institutions such as a Mosque, comprehensive religious educational facilities, Islamic library, funeral services arrangements, and various other facilities consistent with Islamic Shariah which will bring the local Muslim community to a deeper understanding of Islam.
2. Enable every Muslim to live his or her life according to the dictates of Islam.
3. Establish relations and cooperate with other organizations having similar objectives.
4. Develop a closer cooperation and understanding among people of different faiths in general and Muslims in particular.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

1. All Muslims shall be eligible to participate in the MMA's activities even without being a paying member. A Muslim is a person who believes that there is no one to be worshipped except Allah and that Muhammad (peace be upon him) Bin Abdullah Al Hashimi of Arabia is His last and final messenger and prophet.
2. Any Muslim(s) accepting the purposes and objectives of the MMA and the provisions of the constitution shall be eligible to become a member of the MMA by applying on the prescribed membership form.
3. Only paying members who are current with their dues for at least three months have the right to vote and seek an office (new members six months).
4. The membership dues shall be determined by the Executive Board every year after the new election.
5. The Executive Board shall have the right to reject an application for membership or cancel any membership if it believes that such a member or applicant is active in any way against Islam, Muslims, or MMA.
6. Donations to the Masjid or MMA shall not constitute payment of membership dues, until it is clearly designated by the payer and recorded by the MMA.

ARTICLE V: STRUCTURE

The MMA shall be organized and shall operate through a General Assembly and Executive Board.

A. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. All members of the MMA shall constitute the General Assembly.
2. The general Assembly shall elect the Executive Board of the MMA for a period of two years, which will be considered as one term.
3. The General Assembly shall hold its meeting annually during the month of September to consider the annual report of the President and the Treasurer.
4. A simple majority vote of the members present at any of the meetings shall be required to arrive at a decision, except for the amendment of the constitution as provided herein.
5. Special General Assembly meetings shall be called by the executive board, under emergency or extraordinary conditions, or when requested by at least one fourth (1/4) of paying members.
6. The office holder will not seek re-election for office more than two consecutive terms except for an office that is different from what he had previously held.

7. The General Assembly shall be able to demote any member of the board if they find any major misbehavior or actions that contradict the Islamic teachings after an emergency meeting.

8. Imam or Imamship committee shall be appointed by the Board on the basis of Islamic principles and those principles are the Holy Quran, Sunna, and paying members.

B. EXECUTIVE BOARD

1. The Executive Board shall consist of three office holders, namely a president, a general secretary, a treasurer, and two members.
2. All members of the Executive Board shall have to fulfill the following requirements:
 - a. They shall be good Muslims, observe their daily lives according to the teaching of Islam and are not involved in any un-Islamic activities, which could defame the MMA.
 - b. They shall be from the voting members of the MMA who have a membership standing for at least six (6) months.
 - c. They shall endorse the objectives and constitution of the MMA.
3. All members of the Executive Board shall have a term of three (3) years.
4. The Board meeting shall be held at least once a month and shall maintain proper minutes of all its meetings. At any meeting the three board members shall constitute the quorum.
5. The functions of the Board shall be:
 - a. Plan and execute appropriate programs and activities to accomplish the objectives of the MMA.
 - b. Hold in trust and serve as custodian of all their capital assets of the MMA and maintain, use and liquidate them in accordance with the principles of Islamic jurisprudence and to the intent of this constitution.
6. Every member will have one (1) vote. All decisions shall have to be arrived at by simple majority vote. In case of a tie the President shall have an extra vote.
7. An officer or executive member of the board who fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Board without prior notification or special reason of absence shall cease to be a member of the Board and vacancy shall be filled according to the rules herein.
8. Vacancies in the Executive Board exceeding three months shall be filled as mentioned herein.
9. Any officer or executive member of the Board who acts contrary to the aims and objectives of the MMA or if found guilty of any misconduct, or commits any unlawful act resulting in defaming the MMA shall be the object of a suspension, by a majority of four fifths (4/5) of the board members.

ARTICLE VI: DUTIES

A. PRESIDENT

1. Work for the promotion and advancement of the MMA and for the implementation of its constitutions.
2. Plan and execute appropriate programs for accomplishing the objectives of the MMA and assume responsibilities for the overall management of the MMA.
3. Represent or arrange for its representation in outside activities and in its relation with outside persons or organizations in consultation with the board.
4. Convene and preside over all meetings of the board and General Assembly.
5. Set up new committees, appoint committee chairmen, and assign special duties and responsibilities to individual board members with the approval of the board. Also to coordinate the work of all the committees and to attend their meetings.
 - a. The school committee shall be appointed by the MMA.
6. Present the annual report of the MMA to the General Assembly at its annual meeting.
7. Co-sign with the Treasurer all the checks of the MMA.

B. GENERAL SECRETARY:

The duties of the General Secretary shall be:

1. Prepare and maintain the minutes of all the meetings.
2. Prepare the agenda and notify the members of the Executive Board and the General Assembly.
3. Keep and record all the documents of the MMA except those specifically assigned to others.

4. Take over the duties of the President in his absence.
5. Carry day-to-day activities of the MMA.
6. Co-sign with the treasurer all the checks of the MMA.

C. TREASURER:

The duties of the treasurer shall be:

1. Maintain the account books of the MMA and have them audited by an auditor appointed by the Board at the end of the fiscal year.
2. Collect, receive and deposit all amounts payable to the MMA, including members' dues, contributions, and any special donations, in the bank account of the MMA.
3. Prepare a quarterly financial report and budget of the MMA, and have it approved by the board and posted in the MMA office.
4. Sign all withdrawal checks on behalf of the MMA.

D. IMAMSHIP COMMITTEE'S DUTIES:

1. The Imamship committee shall be responsible for appointing the Khateeb of Jumua and Eid prayers.
2. Imamship committee shall be responsible for keeping the Masjid clean and organized.
3. The Jumua khotba shall be in English (except the essential parts that shall be in Arabic), so that every Muslim shall get benefits out of it.
4. Imam or Imamship committee shall be removed by the Board if the one of these two fails to perform their duties properly or the conduct of either entity is against Islam.

ARTICLE VII: ELECTIONS

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

1. The election will be held in the month of September of each term to elect members of the Executive Board.
2. The General Secretary shall inform all the members of the date, time and place of the election fifteen (15) days in advance.
3. The board members will choose three people from the General Assembly who will be assigned to conduct the elections.
4. Simple majority vote shall decide the election.
5. The election shall be held by secret ballot.
6. Fifty (50) percent of valid voters will fulfill the quorum.

ARTICLE VIII: MISCELLANEOUS

1. The source of the finance for the MMA shall be:
 - a. Member dues as determined by the board.
 - b. Voluntary individual or organizational contributions.
2. All expenses exceeding twenty five (25) dollars shall be made with the approval of the President. However all expense vouchers have to be approved by the President.
3. The accounts of the MMA shall be audited once every year by an auditor and the auditor's report shall be presented in the annual meeting of the General Assembly.
4. The bank account of the MMA shall be maintained by an interest free checking account.
5. All checks shall have to be signed by the Treasurer and either by the President or the General Secretary.
6. Fiscal year of the MMA shall be from Election Day to the consecutive Election Day.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS

1. Amendments to the constitution shall be submitted to the General Secretary.
2. The executive board, after approving the proposed amendments by two thirds (2/3) majority vote, shall present it to the General Assembly.

ARTICLE X: SUCCESSION AND HANDOVER

A. SUCCESSION:

Upon resignation or suspension of a member of the board from his or her position, or in case of becoming incapacitated, the order of succession shall be as follows:

1. The General Secretary shall succeed the President.
2. The position of General Secretary shall be filled through the Executive Board by election from within the board members.
3. Other positions falling vacant shall be filled by the President within the active members

associated with the MMA. These new members shall have to be approved by the board.

B. HANDOVER:

The outgoing office holders shall handover all files, documents and any property of the MMA at their disposal to the incoming office holders within a month of assuming office.

ARTICLE XI: DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution of the MMA, the executive board shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all the liabilities of the MMA, surrender all its assets to the North American Islamic Trust (NAIT).