

MID AMERICA BENGALI ASSOCIATION
322 Brook Mead Drive, Clarksville, Tennessee 37042

CONSTITUTION

This is the constitution of Mid America Bengali Association (**MABA**), approved at the General Body Meeting held at Louisville, Kentucky on **November 11, 2000**. Recognizing that service to the public is the fundamental obligation of the human beings, the MABA does hereby dedicate itself to the promotion and preservation of Bengali Culture, vital to the welfare of the community and mankind.

ARTICLE I

1. The name of the organization shall be **MID AMERICA BENGALI ASSOCIATION (MABA)**.
2. The Executive Committee shall be **elected every (2) Two Years** in the general meeting of MABA
3. The Executive Committee shall consist maximum of **(21) Twenty One** members consisting of one President, one Vice-President, two General Secretaries, one Treasurer and other (16) Members.
4. The tenure of MABA Executive Committee shall be **(2) Two Years**.
5. **The venue of BANGAMELA** (Annual Cultural Performance of MABA), shall be decided by MABA Executive Committee on a competitive basis from the participating Cities and will be hosted by **The Bengali Community** of the participating City.

ARTICLE II

Said Organization is organized exclusively for educational purposes, within the meaning of section: **501(c) (3)** of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding section of any future Federal tax code).

ARTICLE III

No earnings of the organization shall be used to the benefit of, or be distributed to its members trustees, directors, officers or private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of **Section 501(c)(3)** purposes. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE IV

Upon dissolution, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of **Section 501(c) (3)** of the Internal Revenue Code, such as charitable, educational, religious or scientific, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the Federal Government, or to a state or local government for a public purpose.

ARTICLE V

The objectives of MABA is:

1. **Promotion of Bengali Culture, Art, and Heritage** to the Bengali communities and general public
2. Maintenance and enhancement of co-operation and association among the people who are interested

in the objective of MABA.

3. Advancement of educational and cultural interest of MABA

ARTICLE VI

Section 1. The membership shall consist of:

- (a) Benefactors (Life Members)
- (b) Patrons
- (c) Family and Single Members
- (d) Honorary Members

Section 2. A benefactor (life member) shall be a member of MABA who is no longer required to pay dues provided he/she meets either one of the following requirements:

Either (a) has reached the age of (65) sixty five, retired from active career, and has been a member of MABA for (10) ten years prior to his/her retirement, and is a member in good standing at the time of application.

Or (b) has paid a sum of \$1000.00 in one or several installments within the first four years. Any member believing himself/herself to be eligible for this classification may apply in writing to the Executive Committee. The Committee's decision shall be final.

Section 3. A patron member shall be defined as a family composed of husband and wife upon a payment of \$500.00.

Both members shall have voting privileges

Section 4. A family member shall be defined as **a family composed of husband & wife** with/without children. All Members over 18 years of age shall have voting privileges.

Section 5. A single member shall be defined as a person who is over 18 years of age and is not married.

Section 6. An honorary member shall be a person who has attained eminence in the society and has been elected to such membership by the Executive Committee. An honorary member shall not pay any annual dues.

Section 7. All members other than **Honorary members** shall have voting privileges, and that only Benefactors, patrons, family and single members may hold any elected offices of MABA.

ARTICLE VII

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall determine the **Annual Membership dues**.

Section 2. The procedure for billing and collecting all dues shall be made by the Executive Committee as stated in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII

Section 1. The members of the Executive Committee shall be the **current registered members** in good standing.

Section 2. The duties of the officers shall be as defined in the Bylaws.

Section 3. The elected officers shall take office on **January 1** following their election and shall

hold office (**two years**) or until their successors have been duly elected and installed.

Section 4. Should a vacancy occur in the office of president, the order of precedence shall be the Vice-president and the General Secretary. Other vacancies occurring during the period shall be filled by appointment by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE IX

Section 1. Nomination for elective officers shall be made by the Nominating Committee or by petition as defined in Article IX, Section 3.

Section 2. Only **paid members** in good standing shall be eligible to hold any elective office

Section 3. The Nominating Committee shall make nomination for the Executive Committee Members at least (1) **one month** prior to the Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee shall consist of the President, immediate past President and three (3) other members of the Executive Committee. Nominations shall be delivered to the current General Secretary of the Executive Committee and published in MABA's Newsletter and submitted to the membership in accordance with the Bylaws.

Section 4. Nomination for any or all officers could also be made by a petition signed by at least (3) **three** voting members of MABA in good standing. Nominations by petition must be in the possession of the current General Secretary at least **twenty-five days** prior to the Annual General Body Meeting.

Section 5. Election of the Executive Committee shall be by letter ballot as defined in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE X

Section 1. An Annual General Meeting of which date, time, and place is to be fixed by the current Executive Committee. An agenda item shall be circulated to all member minimum two weeks in advance.

Section 2. Roberts Rules of orders (revised) shall constitute the accepted parliamentary procedures of the meetings.

ARTICLE XI

The Executive Committee shall determine the location of the Headquarter of MABA.

ARTICLE XII

Section 1. Sub-Committees or Functional Committees, as may be desirable, shall be established in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Bylaws.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall define the duty of Sub-Committees or Functional Committees.

ARTICLE XIII

Section 1. This constitution shall become effective upon its adoption by the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Any amendment to this Constitution, adopted according to the procedure specified herein, shall become effective as noted in **Article XIV, Section 2.**

Section 3. Amendment to the Constitution may be proposed by two-thirds vote of those present, eligible in voting at a regularly scheduled **Annual Meeting.**

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ARTICLE XIV

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall prepare and adopt a series of bylaws, which shall govern all procedures under this constitution.

Section 2. The bylaws may be amended by an affirmative vote of three fourths of all members of the Executive Committee present at a regular meeting providing that the text of a proposed amendment shall be furnished to each member of the Executive Committee at least ten days before the meeting at which a vote on the amendment will be taken.

ARTICLE XV

Section 1. All duly paid members shall have the following **rights and privileges to:**

- (a) Vote in the election of the Executive Committee.
- (b) Approve the constitution and the Bylaws and any subsequent amendments as they will arise.

Section 2. Bylaws:

I. The Executive Committee may take necessary action if an Executive Committee member can not attend at least one of three consecutive Executive Committee meetings.

II. The Executive Committee can be dismissed if two-third majority of the paid members' vote for the resolution of a "**No Confidence Motion**".

III. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for notifying and collecting annual membership dues.

IV. The Executive Committee shall form various Sub-Committees or Functional Committees to run the organization and assign responsibilities to each of the Sub-Committees.

V. The Executive Committee shall present the **annual budget** to the Annual Meeting of MABA for approval.

VI. The Executive Committee shall appoint a Certified Public Accountant for the **annual Audit** of the Income and Expenses Report.

CONSTITUTION STATEMENT: The undersigned MABA officers certify that the above constitution as submitted is a true, correct and complete copy of the MABA organizational document as approved and adopted by the membership on NOV 11 2020

Mihir K. Chaudhri (P. Bhattacharjee) (Partita Mukhopadhyay)
End of Constitution PARTITA MUKHOPADHYAY