

KERALA CATHOLIC BIBLE SOCIETY



PASTORAL ORIENTATION CENTRE

P.B. No. 2251, PALARIVATTOM,
KOCHI - 682 025, KERALA, INDIA

Tel: 0484 2805897

Formation of KERALA CATHOLIC BIBLE SOCIETY

Kerala Catholic Bible Society began its activities with the approval of KCBC in 1990. The idea of forming the Bible Society was proposed by Mar George Punnakkottil, Chairman of the Bible Commission in a general body meeting of P.O.C held on 14th June 1990. Everybody whole heartedly welcomed the idea. Another meeting was held on 19th July 1990 in order to form the Bible Society. The meeting discussed every point concerning the Society and an *ad hoc* committee of eleven elected members was formed to do the necessary things in constituting a Bible Society. On 30th November 1990 the *ad hoc* committee gathered in P.O.C and took decisions about the official inauguration.

The Bible Society was inaugurated on 11th December 1990 in a meeting held in P.O.C. His Grace Cardinal Mar Antony Padiyara, His Grace Arch bishop Cornelius Elenjikkal, KCBC Chairman, Mar George Punnakkottil, chairman of Bible Commission, Mar James Pazhayattil Secretary of KCBC and Mar Ephreme Secretary of CBCI

were present in the meeting. After the general meeting, the first meeting of the Bible Society was held under the chairmanship of Mar George Punnakkottil. Important decisions about the future programmes and about the registration of the Society were taken in the meeting. On the day of inauguration itself 73 persons took membership in the Society.

The Society was registered on 25th September 1991 under the 12th Registration act of 1955 of Travancore Cochin Sahitya-Sastra Dharma Sangangal. Registration No. is 649/91.

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KERALA CATHOLIC BIBLE SOCIETY

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

1. Name: KERALA CATHOLIC BIBLE SOCIETY
2. Registered Office: The office of the Society shall be at Pastoral Orientation Centre Palariavattom, Kochi - 682 025

or such other place as may be decided by the Managing Council from time to time.

3. Aims and objectives

- a) To foster Bible Apostolate according to the teachings of the Catholic Church.
- b) To impart Biblical orientation for the people to lead a Christ-centred life.
- c) To supply leaflets, booklets, prayers etc. so as to inculcate Biblical culture.
- d) To make available to the people the latest information on Bible literature and also on other related activities.
- e) To assist all concerned in the meaningful celebration of Bible Day, Bible Week etc.
- f) To provide with adequate number of copies of Bible in Malayalam to the people at a subsidised price.

g) To co-operate with the Kerala Catholic Bishops' Council (KCBC) in the field of Bible Apostolate.

4. The Association shall have the power to do all things and acts necessary and incidental to the above mentioned objects and without prejudice to the generality of the above to do the following things in particular:

a) To construct buildings of every description and tenements to carry on the activities of the Association and to maintain, alter, demolish or reconstruct the same or any portion or portions thereof for the purpose of the Association.

b) To acquire by purchase, lease, grant legacy, gift, bequest or otherwise any land, building and other movable and immovable property or rights therein, privileges attaching thereto and to hold, manage, develop, sell, mortgage, transfer, let on lease or otherwise dispose of or turn to account the same as may be deemed expedient or convenient for the purposes of the Association.

c) To buy, sell, endorse, negotiate or transfer government or other securities, negotiable instruments, including hundis, and to collect and realise interest, bonus, dividend and profits on the same for the purpose of the Association.

- d) To borrow and raise money for the purpose of the Association whether with or without security and as security for any such moneys so borrowed or raised to mortgage, pledge, charge or hypothecate the whole or any part of the property or assets of the Association, both present and future, on such terms and conditions and in such manner as may seem expedient.
- e) To invest and deal with the moneys of the Association, not immediately required in such manner as may from time to time be determined by the Executive Committee of the Association.
- f) To negotiate with and to enter into any manner of arrangements with any government or authority, whether central, state, local or otherwise or any public or private body or individuals as may seem conducive to the promotion or accomplishment of the objects of the Association or any of them and to apply for, obtain, collect or receive from any such government or authority or body such grants, allowances, concessions, rights or privileges as may seem from time to time, desirable, and to carry out, exercise, comply with and use the same.
- g) To raise funds for the purposes of the Association by appeals for public subscription or by organising charity shows, entertainments, fairs, exhibitions or other activities.

- h) To engage, appoint, promote, suspend, remove or dismiss necessary staff to carry on the activities of the Association.
- i) To publish, issue and distribute journals, magazines, periodicals, brochures, pamphlets and leaflets in connection with or for the purpose of the Association.
- j) To do all such other acts and things as are incidental or may be thought conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them.
- 5) The area of operation of the Association shall be the whole of India.

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No.	Name	Address	Occupation
1.	Cardinal Antony Padiyara	Cardinal's House Ernakulam - 682 031	Archbishop
2.	Archbishop Cornelius Elenjikal	Latin Archbishop's House Ernakulam - 682 031	Archbishop
3.	Archbishop Benedict Mar Gregorios	Archbishop's House Pattam Trivandrum	Archbishop
4.	Mar George Punnakottil	Catholic Bishop's House Kothamangalam Pin - 686 691	Bishop
5.	Prof. P.A. Daniel	Pulikkathara House Ayyappankavu, Kochi - 682 018	Retired Professor

6.	Adv. Cyriac Joseph	Janatha Road, Palarivattom, Kochi - 25	Advocate
7.	Adv. Kurian Joseph	Azad Road Kaloor, Kochi -17	Advocate
8.	Rev. Fr. Mampra C.M.I.	CMI Generalate, KarikamuryErnakulam	Priest
9.	Rev. Fr. Ambrose Arackal	St. Francis Xaviers Church Ponel, Kochi - 682 026	Priest
10.	Rev. Fr. C.A. Abraham	St. Thomas Malankara Church	Priest
11.	Rev. Fr. Paulinus O.C.D	Carmelite Provincial House, P.B. 3032, Carmel Junction, Kochi -18	Priest
12.	Mother Marina CTC	CTC Generalate Edappally Toll, Kochi - 682 024	Religious
13.	Mother Prima CMC	Mount Carmel Generalate, Thaikattukara Alwaye - 683 106	Religious
14.	Rev. Sr. Helena SIC	P.O.C Palarivattom, Kochi - 682 025	Religious
15.	Mr. M. J. George	Jose Electricals, Kochi	Business
16.	Mr. Isaac Francis	Kurethadam Kaloor Road, Kochi -18	Business

RULES & REGULATIONS

MEMBERSHIP

1. The Association shall have a minimum of seven members.
2. Any person or institution or organization accepting the aims and objectives of the Society shall be eligible for membership in the Society.
3. The Society shall have the following classes of members:

A. Individual members

I. Patron members: All Catholic Bishops of Kerala shall be patron members of the Society.

II. Honorary members: Diocesan Directors of Bible Apostolate of the Catholic Dioceses in Kerala shall be Honorary members of the Society.

III. Sponsor life member: Any person desiring to become a sponsor life member shall pay a lumpsum amount of ¹Rs. 20,000/- as membership subscription.

IV. Special life member: Any person desiring to become a special life member shall pay a lumpsum amount of ²Rs. 10,000/- as membership subscription.

1. For figures Rs. 10,000/- substituted by the Amendment, dated 10th July, 2002

2. For figures Rs. 5,000/- substituted by the Amendment, dated 10th July, 2002

V. Life member: Any person who applies for life membership shall pay a lumpsum amount of ³Rs. 2,000/-.

VI. Special member: Any person desiring to become a special member shall pay a lumpsum amount of ⁴Rs. 1,000/-

VII. Ordinary member: Any person desiring to become an ordinary member of the Society shall pay either ⁵Rs.200/- initially and ⁶Rs. 50/- annually or pay a lumpsum amount of ⁷Rs.500/-

B. Institution members:

I. Institutions including religious communities and their units

Institutions including religious communities and their units accepting the aims and objectives of the Society may be given either sponsor life mem-

3. *For figures Rs. 1,000/- substituted by the Amendment, dated 10th July, 2002*

4. *For figures Rs. 500/- substituted by the Amendment, dated 10th July, 2002*

5. *For figures Rs. 100/- substituted by the Amendment, dated 10th July, 2002*

6. *For figures Rs. 25/- substituted by the Amendment, dated 10th July, 2002*

7. *For figures Rs. 250/- substituted by the Amendment, dated 10th July, 2002*

bership on payment of ⁸Rs. 20,000/- or life membership on payment of ⁹Rs. 2,000/-

II. a) Any Catholic parish may be given life membership on payment of ¹⁰Rs. 20,000/- as membership subscription

b) Any Catholic parish may be admitted as ordinary member of the Society on payment of either ¹¹Rs. 2000/- initially & ¹²Rs. 500/- annually or on payment of a lumpsum amount of ¹³Rs. 5000/-

c. Catholic Organizations recognized by the Church

i. Any Catholic organization recognized by the Church may be admitted to the Society as life member on payment of ¹⁴Rs. 2000/-

8. *For figures Rs. 10,000/- substituted by the Amendment, dated 10th July, 2002*

9. *For figures Rs. 1,000/- substituted by the Amendment, dated 10th July, 2002*

10. *For figures Rs. 10,000/- substituted by the Amendment, dated 10th July, 2002*

11. *For figures Rs. 1,000/- substituted by the Amendment, dated 10th July, 2002*

12. *For figures Rs. 250/- substituted by the Amendment, dated 10th July, 2002*

13. *For figures Rs. 2,500/- substituted by the Amendment, dated 10th July, 2002*

14. *For figures Rs. 1,000/- substituted by the Amendment, dated 10th July, 2002*

ii Any Catholic organization recognized by the Church may be admitted to the Society as ordinary member on payment of ¹⁵Rs. 500/-

C. ¹⁶For Those who live abroad

1. Sponsor Life \$ 500 (Equivalent)
2. Special Life \$ 250 (Equivalent)
3. Life \$ 100 (Equivalent)

4. Procedure for membership

Those who are eligible for membership in the Society may submit an application to the Executive Committee and the Executive Committee may admit the applicant as a member. However the Executive Committee shall be competent to reject an application without assigning any reason.

- 5.**
- a) Every member irrespective of the category shall have full membership rights including the right to vote. One member shall have only one vote.
 - b) Parish members shall be represented by the parish priest or person delegated by him.
 - c) Institution members including religious communities shall be represented by the head of the institution / community or a person delegated by him.

15. For figures Rs. 250/- substituted by the Amendment, dated 10th July, 2002

16. Added by the Amendment, dated 4th June, 1994

- d) Catholic organization members shall be represented by the president or chairman, whatever the case may be, or by a person delegated by him.

6. General Body

- i. The General Body shall consist of all the members of the Society.
- ii. The Annual General Body shall be convened once a year to transact the following:
 - a. To consider and adopt the annual report and audited statement of accounts presented by the Executive Committee.
 - b. To consider any other matter brought forward by the Executive Committee.
 - c. To appoint statutory auditors.
 - d. To elect 22 members to the Managing Council.
- iii. The quorum for the meeting of the general body shall be the 1/20 of the total number of members of the Society or 100 members, whichever is less.

7. Office Bearers

Office bearers of the Society shall be the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Joint Secretary and the Treasurer.

- a) **Chairman:** Chairman of the KCBC Bible Commission shall ex-officio be the Chairman of the Society.

- i. Chairman shall preside over the meetings of General Body, Managing Council and Executive Committee of the Society.
 - ii. The Chairman shall have overall control over the Society and he shall supervise and guide the working of the Society.
- b) **Vice-Chairman:** A layperson shall be elected from among the members of the Executive Committee as Vice-Chairman. The Vice-Chairman will assist the Chairman and also discharge the duties of the Chairman in his absence.
- c) **Secretary:** The Secretary of the KCBC Bible Commission shall ex-officio be the Secretary of the Society.
- i. He shall be responsible for implementing the decisions and recommendations of the General Body, Managing Council and the Executive Committee.
 - ii. He has the authority to spend money in accordance with the budget and with the approval of the Chairman.
 - iii. The secretary shall be in charge of the office, keep inventory of the assets of the Society, carry on correspondence and other executive work in consultation with the Chairman and convene meetings and keep minutes of the business transacted.

iv. The Secretary represents the Society before all courts of law, local and revenue authorities and other public offices.

d) **Joint Secretary:** There shall be a Joint Secretary appointed by the Managing Council. The Joint Secretary shall assist the Secretary in the discharge of his duties and act as Secretary in his absence.

e) **Treasurer:** There shall be a Treasurer appointed by the Managing Council.

i. The Treasurer shall keep proper accounts and prepare the annual statement of account.

ii. He / She shall present the statement of accounts to the Executive Committee and the Managing Council.

8. **Managing Council**

Managing Council shall consist of :

(1) Chairman

(2) Vice-Chairman

(3) Secretary

(4) Joint Secretary

(5) Treasurer

- (6) All Diocesan Bible Directors shall be ¹⁷ex-officio members
- (7) One representative from KCMS
- (8) ¹⁸a. Director of P.O.C shall be ¹⁹ex-officio member
 - b. Chairman of KST shall be ²⁰ex-officio member
- (9) One member elected from among the member institutions
- (10) Two members elected from among member parishes
- (11) 5 members elected from among individual sponsor life and special life members
- (12) 22 individual members of whom at least 5 shall be ladies elected from among the members by the General Body
- (13) The Managing Council shall meet at least once in six months to transact business as per agenda prepared for such meetings
- (14) The Managing Council shall appoint a Joint Secretary and Treasurer

17. *Inserted by the Amendment, dated 11th August, 2012*

18. *Renumbered by the Amendment, dated 11th August, 2012*

19. *Inserted by the Amendment, dated 11th August, 2012*

20. *Inserted by the Amendment, dated 11th August, 2012*

- (15) The Managing Council shall elect 7 lay members of whom 2 should be ladies from among the Managing Council members, to the Executive Committee
- (16) The quorum for the meeting of the Managing Council shall be 15.
- (17) The term of Managing Council shall be three years. The retiring members of the Managing Council are eligible for re-election. However no person other than ex-officio members shall be eligible to be elected as member of the Managing Council for more than ²¹three consecutive terms.
- (18) A member of the Managing Council shall cease to be a member if he or she fails to attend three consecutive meetings without leave of absence

9. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee consists of:

- a) Chairman
- b) Vice-Chairman
- c) Secretary
- d) Joint Secretary

21. The word substituted by the Amendment, dated 15th September 1999

- e) Treasurer
- f) Director of P.O.C.
- g) One member from among the Diocesan Bible Directors elected from among themselves
- h) One member from KCMS elected from among themselves
- i) 7 lay persons of whom two shall be ladies elected from the Managing Council
- j) The Executive Committee shall elect the Vice-chairman of the Society from among the lay members in the Executive Committee
- k) The quorum for the meeting of the Executive Committee shall be five
- l) The term of Executive Committee shall be three years. The retiring members of the Executive Committee are eligible for re-election. However no person other than ex-officio members shall be eligible to be elected as members of the Executive Committee for more than ²²three consecutive terms.
- m) A member of the Executive Committee shall cease to be a member if he or she fails to attend three consecutive meetings without leave of absence

10. Properties and Funds

- a) All acquisitions and alienations of properties for and on behalf of the Society shall be effected in the name of the Society.
- b) The fund shall consist of membership subscriptions, annual contributions, other donations ²³and receipts from other activities as per the aim and objectives of the Society.
- c) The fund shall be kept in any scheduled Bank in the name of the Society or in any financial institution recognized by RBI, Income Tax Department and the Government. The bank account shall be operated by the secretary ²⁴along with the chairman or the Treasurer.

11. Removal from membership

If the Managing Council is of opinion that a member has acted against the aims and objectives of the Society or the better interest of the Society, the Managing Council may remove that member from the membership of the Society, after giving him an opportunity to offer his explanation. The decision of the Managing Council in this matter shall be final.

23. *Inserted by the Amendment, dated 11th August, 2012*

24. *Inserted by the Amendment, dated 11th August, 2012*

12. Dissolution

In the event of dissolution of the Society the net assets, if any, will be either transferred to any society having the same or similar objects or shall vest with the government.

13. Amendments

- a) Any amendment to this Memorandum of Association and rules and regulations shall be made only by a two third majority of the members of the General Body present and voting in the meeting convened for the purpose.
- b) Before placing any proposal for amendment before the General Body the same shall be approved by the Executive Committee and the Commissioner of Income Tax.

14. Interpretation of rules

The Executive Committee shall be the final authority to interpret the provisions of this memorandum of Association and rules and regulations.

15. If any dispute arises regarding the constitution or working of the Society such dispute shall be referred to the KCBC Bible Commission and the decision of the KCBC Bible Commission shall be final.

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