# AMENDED BYLAWS OF ANANDA MARGA, INC.

#### ARTICLE 1: Name

Section 1. The name of this corporation shall be "Ananda Marga, Inc." Section 2. This corporation is the parent organization for the North American Continent, designated as the New York (North American) Sector.

Section 3. This corporation is affiliated with "Ananda Marga Pracaraka Samgha, Central", the global parent organization.

#### ARTICLE II: Purposes

Ananda Marga, Inc. is formed for religious, charitable, educational, literary, and scientific purposes. Its main objective is to propagate the philosophy and practices of Yoga, which is a science of the body and the mind. The religious purpose of the corporation is to be interpreted in this sense: that the Corporation wishes to preach a "universal religion." Other aims and objects of Ananda Marga, Inc. are as follows:

- A. To work for the development of the universal society and for the welfare of all human beings.
  - B. To exert all resources for creating unity, social security, and peace.
- C. To work for the benefit of all humanity without any distinctions based on sex, race, creed, religion, or nationality, and to help the government in all its constructive and welfare activities, without participating in any political activity.
- D. To raise funds for the activities of Ananda Marga through appeals for charity, donations, or otherwise, subject to the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation and other articles and sections of these Bylaws.

### ARTICLE III: Membership

Section 1. All persons wishing to follow the ideals of Ananda Marga may be considered members. All participants in affiliated organizations, as provided hereinafter, may also be considered members of Ananda Marga, Inc.

Section 2. There will be no membership fee. Participants may contribute such amounts as they are able to further the ideals of Ananda Marga.

#### ARTICLE IV. Affiliate Organizations

Section 1. "The Corporation" in these Bylaws refers to Ananda Marga, Inc., whose jurisdiction is the designated areas and affiliate organizations of this Corporation contained within North America. "Regional Offices" in these Bylaws refers to the designated areas known as the Regions. "Local Chapters" in these Bylaws refers to an affiliate local organization of this Corporation, also known as Units. "Projects" in these Bylaws refers to any and all outreach activities of this Corporation and its regional offices and local chapters. "Affiliate Organizations" in these Bylaws refers to Regional Offices, Local Chapters, Projects, and other entities which may be recognized by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Affiliate Organizations may initially be recognized as being qualified subordinates upon approval of their application, Articles of Incorporation, and Bylaws by a consensus of the Board of Directors of the Corporation, including the approval of the Sectorial Secretary.

Section 3. Qualified subordinates must make an annual request for continued inclusion in the Federal Group Tax Exemption of the Corporation and must fully comply with their Articles and Bylaws to remain as qualified subordinates. Failure to comply with either of these provisions is grounds and

cause for termination of qualified subordinate status and affiliation with the Corporation.

Section 4. All assets of the Affiliate Organizations are subject to the ultimate control of the Corporation. Custody and management of all assets under the jurisdiction of the Affiliate Organizations are entrusted to them subject to their on-going qualification as subordinates with the parent Corporation. In the case of disqualification from qualified subordinate status, and subsequent and ensuing termination of affiliation with the parent Corporation, custody of all assets of the affected Affiliate Organization reverts to the parent Corporation.

#### ARTICLE V: Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Corporation shall be the Sectorial Secretary, a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer (Finance Secretary), and, if the Board so designates, such other assistant officers as Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer.

Section 2. The Sectorial Secretary is appointed by the General Secretary of Ananda Marga Pracaraka Samgha, Central. The remaining officers shall be appointed by the Sectorial Secretary.

Section 3. The Sectorial Secretary and other officers shall have the authority to buy, sell, sign checks, and otherwise manage and control all the temporal assets of the Corporation in accordance with the provisions relating to specific offices.

ARTICLE VI: Duties of the Sectorial Secretary

Section 1. The Sectorial Secretary shall be the overall in-charge of the Corporation.

Section 2. The Sectorial Secretary shall be a member of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, and an ex-officio member of all standing programs and committees.

Section 3. The Sectorial Secretary shall have the power to suspend or remove any director, officer, agent, program secretary, or employee of this Corporation with or without cause.

Section 4. The Sectorial Secretary may call such special meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee as he deems necessary.

Section 5. The Sectorial Secretary shall countersign with the Corporate President and Secretary all legal documents concerned with all movable and immovable properties, either purchased or donated.

Section 6. The Sectorial Secretary may assign salaries for officers and all employees of the Corporation as he sees fit. The Sectorial Secretary himself shall be unsalaried.

Section 7. The Sectorial Secretary may appoint standing programs and all programs and committees not otherwise provided for.

Section 8. The Sectorial Secretary shall determine that the Corporation maintains appropriate records relative to the Federal and other tax exemptions and complies with all requirements thereof.

Section 9. In the case of the death, resignation, prolonged absence, or disability of the Sectorial Secretary, a Sectorial Secretary Pro-tem (also known as the Acting Sectorial Secretary) will be appointed by the General Secretary of Ananda Marga Pracaraka Samgha, Central. This Sectorial Secretary Pro-tem will assume all the responsibilities of the Sectorial Secretary until a successor for the Sectorial Secretary is appointed according to Article V, Section 2 of these By-laws.

Section 10. The Sectorial Secretary shall have such further powers and duties as may be granted to him in other articles and sections of these Bylaws.

ARTICLE VII: Duties of the President

Section 1. The President shall chair the Board of Directors and the

Executive Committee.

Section 2. The President shall countersign with the Sectorial Secretary and the Corporate Secretary all legal documents concerned with all movable and immovable properties, either purchased or donated.

Section 3. The President shall countersign all checks, bills, notes, and vouchers issued by the treasurer on behalf of the Corporation and may delegate this authority to other staff empowered by a legally negotiated power of attorney, upon such circumstances as he deems desirable, and contingent upon the written approval of the Sectorial Secretary.

Section 4. The President shall have the power to retain counsel on any and all matters pertaining to the business of the Corporation, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 5. The President shall have such further powers and duties as may be granted to him in other articles and sections of these Bylaws.

#### ARTICLE VIII: Duties of the Vice-President

In the case of the death, resignation, disability or prolonged absence of the President, the Vice-President shall assume all the responsibilities of the President until a successor to the President has been appointed by the Sectorial Secretary.

ARTICLE IX: Duties of the Secretary

Section 1. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the  $\operatorname{Board}$  of  $\operatorname{Directors}$  and the  $\operatorname{Executive}$  Committee.

Section 2. The Secretary shall have charge of the corporate seal and affix the same on all corporate legal documents.

Section 3. The Secretary shall read and preserve all legal documents of the Corporation.

Section 4. The Secretary shall issue summonses for all regular and special meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee.

Section 5. The Secretary shall-have such further powers and duties as may be granted to him in other articles and sections of these Bylaws. ARTICLE X: Duties of the Treasurer

Section 1. The Treasurer shall make arrangements for receiving all funds paid into the Corporation and for immediately making a record of the same in books kept by him for that purpose. The Treasurer shall arrange for the deposit of such funds in a bank designated by the Corporation.

Section 2. The Treasurer shall arrange for keeping a record of any and all funds paid out by the Corporation and shall provide for the disbursement of such funds.

Section 3. The Treasurer shall report to the Board of Directors the financial standing of the Corporation each month.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall have such further powers and duties as may be granted to him in other articles and sections of these Bylaws.

## ARTICLE XI: Board of Directors

Section 1. There shall be a Board of Directors of the Corporation. The Board shall consist of the Sectorial Secretary, the President, and no more than six other Directors, who shall be appointed by the Sectorial Secretary.

Section 2. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held every twelve months. Meetings of the Board shall be held at such time and place as may from time to time be determined by resolution of the Board.

Section 3. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the Sectorial Secretary on notice to each Director by any means of communication. Special meetings shall be held at such time and place as may be specified in the notice thereof.

Section 4. A two-thirds majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for all purposes, provided the Sectorial Secretary (or

his duly qualified, appointed acting representative) is present.

Section 5. A member may vote by proxy. Each proxy validation must be notarized and executed in writing and shall not be valid after the expiration of one month from the date of its execution. In each and every case, the appointed proxy must be approved by the Sectorial Secretary. The proxy may be terminated prior to the one month period if the concerned board member so desires.

Section 6. Formal notice of any meeting may be waived in writing by the members of the Board of Directors.

Section 7. In the intervals between meetings of the Board of Directors, the Sectorial Secretary or the President of the Corporation may refer and submit to the members of the Board by any means of communication such issues relating to the affairs of the Corporation as, in the opinion of the Sectorial Secretary or the President, require immediate action on the part of the Board of Directors. Any resulting decisions, requiring a majority approval of the Board of Directors, including the approval of the Sectorial Secretary, shall control the action of the Corporation's Board of Directors, officers, programs, agents, and employees.

ARTICLE XII: Duties of the Board of Directors

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall:

- A. Manage and control all assets and activities of the Corporation in accordance with the directions of the Sectorial Secretary.
- B. Establish major administrative policies governing the affairs of the Corporation and devise and mature measures for the organization's growth and development.
- C. Provide for the maintenance of the Corporation's North American Headquarters and for making such office the center of activities of the organization, including such work of the officers and programs as may be deemed expedient; provide for the proper care of materials, equipment, and funds of the Corporation and for the payment of any and all legitimate expenses.
- D. Assume responsibility with regard to acceptance, on-going recognition, and disqualification of affiliate organizations as qualified subordinates of the Corporation as specified in Article IV of these Bylaws.
  - E. Hold meetings of the Board of Directors as provided herein.
- F. Recommend to the Sectorial Secretary the creation of and appointments to such committees as may be deemed necessary to carry on the functions of the Corporation.
- Section 2. There shall be an Executive Committee of the Board of Directors composed of the Sectorial Secretary, the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and available members of the Board of Directors. This committee shall report to the Board of Directors business of an emergency nature requiring action between Board meetings, but may act only and solely with the consent of the majority of the Board.

ARTICLE XIII: Financial Appropriations and Responsibilities

Section 1. No money of the Corporation shall be appropriated for any purpose except for the following:

- A. Conducting the Corporation's day-to-day affairs.
- B. Carrying out the purposes of the Corporation as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation and any amendments thereto, and in these Bylaws.
- C. Maintenance and general expenses of directors, officers, agents, program secretaries, and employees of the Corporation as designated by the Sectorial Secretary.
- D. Expenses of any other person which the Corporation may invite for its benefit with the prior approval of the Sectorial Secretary.
  - E. No funds of the Corporation shall be used for political purposes.

ARTICLE XIV: The fiscal year of the Corporation shall be the calendar year.

ARTICLE XV: Standing Programs and Program Secretaries

Section 1. Secretaries for the following standing programs shall be appointed by the Sectorial Secretary:

- A. Finance (Treasurer)
- B. Education, Relief, and Welfare (ERAWS)
- C. Public Relations
- D. Dharma Pracar
- E. Renaissance Artists & Writers Association (RAWA)
- F. Society-Building
- G. Publications
- H. Renaissance Universal (RU)
- I. Office
- J. Such others as are deemed necessary

Section 2. The responsibilities of the program secretaries shall be as designated by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XVI: Appointments and Terms of Office

Section 1. The appointment and term of office of the Sectorial Secretary shall be at the discretion of the General Secretary of Ananda Marga Pracaraka Samgha, Central.

Section 2. All Directors, Corporate officers, program secretaries, agents, and employees of the Corporation shall be appointed by the Sectorial Secretary and may be removed from their positions at any time by him in accordance with Article VI, Section 3 of these Bylaws. They shall serve for such term of office as may be designated by the Sectorial Secretary.

Section 3. Any participant may be appointed to hold one or more program secretary's position at any time.

ARTICLE XVII: Ratification of Amendment of Bylaws

Section 1. These Amended Bylaws shall be ratified upon the consensus of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. These Bylaws may be amended only with the prior written approval of the Sectorial Secretary. Subsequent approval shall remain as contingent upon the consensus of the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

Section 3. At intervals of four (4) years of less, the Board of Directors shall review the extant Bylaws to determine if they clearly represent the evolving purposes of the Corporation.

We the undersigned, being the Board of Directors of Ananda Marga, Inc., do hereby certify that we have, on this 21st day of July, 1982 adopted these Amended Bylaws as the Bylaws of and for this Corporation.

Edward J melanson

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## Certificate

The undersigned hereby certifies that he is the duly-appointed, qualified and acting Secretary of Ananda Marga, Inc. and that the foregoing annexed Amended Bylaws constitutes a true and complete copy of the Bylaws of said Corporation currently in full force and effect.

In witness whereof, the undersigned has signed this Certificate and affixes

hereto the seal of the Corporation.

Dated this 21st day of July, 1982.

Corp. Seal

Edward Melmoun Corporate Secretary