

NIGERIAN-AMERICAN MUSLIM INTEGRATED COMMUNITY, INC.

801 Dean Street, Brooklyn, NY. 11238

TEL: (718) 623-8193

FAX: (718)

In the name of Allah the Most Gracious the Most Merciful.

CONSTITUTION

Article 1. DESIGNATION:

This organization shall be known and called “NIGERIAN-AMERICAN MUSLIM INTEGRATED COMMUNITY, INC.” and it is hereafter referred to as “THE ORGANIZATION.”

Article 2. HEADQUARTERS:

The National Headquarters shall be in Brooklyn, New York, USA.

Article 3. PREAMBLE:

The Organization is a corporation as defined in section 2 (Definition of the Religious Corporation Law. It shall be non-sectarian and non-political. It shall have all the general powers enumerated in section 202 of the Not-for-profit Corporation Law, together with the power to solicit grants and contributions for the corporate purposes. It shall be a Type B corporation pursuant to Section 201 of the Not-for-profit Corporation Law. It is essentially an Islamic Organization one of whose primary aims and objectives is the creation of a well organized and efficient body for the services of Islam. It stands solely and wholly for the great fundamental principle embodied in the Holy Kalima “Laa ilaahu ila laahu Muhammad-ur-Rasul-u-lah” (i.e. There is no God but Allah and Muhammad – peace be on Him – is His Apostles on which not withstanding other differences the entire Muslim word is agreed thus forming the corner-stone on which rests the vast Islamic Brotherhood with one Allah, one book (Holy Quran) and one prophet (Hazrat Muhammed – peace be on HIM).

Article 4. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

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A. EDUCATION:

The ORGANIZATION shall

- a) found, build, and maintain educational Institutions*
- b) encourage literary and intellectual pursuits among all Muslims*
- c) keep and maintain library for the use of its members and*
- d) undertake generally other activities that may tend to promote education.*

B. REFORMATION:

The ORGANIZATION shall devise means and adopt measures to

- a) promote the religious moral and social advancement of all Muslims*
- b) perform Islamic wedding and naming ceremonies for our congregant in accordance with Islamic rules and doctrine.*
- c) Issue marriage and baptismal certificates for our congregant in accordance with Islamic rules and doctrine.*
- d) establish Day care center and etc.*
- e) eradicate all forms of evil that have crept or are likely to creep into the Islamic Religion and to foster feeling of brotherhood / sisterhood among all Muslims.*

C. FUNDRAISING:

The organization shall devise means and adopt measures as laid down in the Holy book of Quran and Hadith to solicit, collect, and raise funds, equipment, and medical supplies from Individual, Corporation, foundations and Hospital for charitable, educational and benevolent purposes.

D. PROPAGATION AND DEFENSE OF ISLAM.

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It shall be the duty of the ORGANIZATION to

- a) have a body know as the ASALAT and meet every Friday evenings and / or any other day that may be deemed necessary by the executive committee.*
- b) Carry the great message of Islam and disseminate true knowledge of the Holy Quran among all peoples.*
- c) Undertake the translation of Holy Quran and other Islamic books into any language possible and circulate these among Muslims as well as non Muslims.*
- d) Defend Islam against all attacks and aggression, remove all misconceptions and adopt all such measures as may be necessary to check or prevent the proselytization of Muslims by the adherents of other religions.*
- e) Establish and maintain periodicals, magazines, and newspapers devoted to the cause of Islam.*
- f) Rent, lease, buy vacant land and or buildings, and to alter, develop, build or repair same for use by the organization pursuant to section 6, Article 8 of the Religious corporation Law and dispose of same when no longer needed.*
- g) Purchase, accept, acquire, wholly or in part, and for any lawful use and purpose, and for and upon lawful consideration mortgage and other similar instruments, and any and all rights thereunder and property therein etc., pursuant to Article 8 of the Religious corporation Law of the State of New York and maintain mosques in such areas as may be decided upon from time to time.*

Article 5. MEMBERSHIP:

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All Muslims not below the age of 18 years are eligible to be a member of the ORGANIZATION but, in order to gain admission, a Muslim must be enrolled according to provision of Rule 6 hereafter.

Article 6. ENROLLMENT OF MEMBERS:

- a) A prospective member seeking admission shall be required to complete and sign a membership form (Appendix A). This form the declaration on which shall be read out by the prospective member at the first meeting shall be accepted as Oath and shall constitute a BOND between such member and the Organization.*
- b) The form duly completed with two recent passport photographs shall be forwarded to General Secretary who shall register such member in the book provided for that purpose and issue to him/ her a membership card.*
- c) Before admission however every prospective member shall be sponsored by one active member of the ORGANIZATION for the regular attendance and general performance of such member for a period of six months.*

Article 7. ENROLLMENT FEES:

Before registration, every male member shall pay an enrollment fee of Twenty Dollar (\$20.00) which must accompany the membership's form. In the case of female member this fee shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00). The fee may be reviewed from time to time by the Executive Council.

Article 8. SUBSCRIPTIONS:

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Except as provided under rule 9 hereof every male member shall be required to pay a minimum subscription of Ten Dollar (\$10.00) payable in advance and in the case of female member a minimum of Five Dollar (\$5.00).

Article 9. EXEMPTION:

Any member, who due to loss of employment or other reasonable cause, is reduced to indigent circumstances may make representations to the General Secretary, who will determine on merit the justification for such exemption and advise the Finance Board, who will issue an exemption order for such member for the duration of the financial difficulty. The cases of such members shall be reviewed every six months by the financial Board.

Article 10. COUNCILS AND YOUTH ASSOCIATION:

A WOMEN ADVISORY COUNCIL.

There shall be Women Advisory Council whose activities shall be subject to the directives and control of the Executive Committee. The officers of the Women Advisory Council shall comprise the following:

The Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, and Social Secretary. The Council can create any such offices as deem necessary from time to time in consultation with the Executive Committee.

B. YOUTH ASSOCIATION.

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There shall be Youth Association whose activities shall be subject to the directives and control of the Executive Committee. The officers of the Youth Association shall comprise the following:

The Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, and Social Secretary. The Council can create any such other offices as deemed necessary from time to time in consultation with the Executive Committee.

C. COUNCIL OF MISSIONERS.

There shall be Council of Missioners whose duties shall be the performance of all Religious Rites and activities of the organization.

The composition shall be:

1) The Chief Missioner as the Chairman.

2) Secretary to the council of missioners (Members recommended by the council of Missioners and appointed by the Executive Committee).

3) An active members as defined in Article 5 and must have been with the Organization for at least two (2) years.

4) Responsible for Islamic Education and Integration of members and non-members.

In the absent of the Chairman at any of the Council's meetings, one among the members present shall be elected to preside at such a meeting. The Council shall have the right to Copt competent member or members subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

D. COUNCIL OF LEGAL ADVISERS.

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There shall be a council of Legal Advisers.

The composition shall be:

The Legal Adviser is to be appointed by the Executive Committee and who shall be the chairman.

The Secretary to the Council shall be elected from among the member. Its duty shall be to advise the organization on all legal matters and any other matters which may be referred to the council by the Executive Committee.

Article 11. OFFICES.

The ORGANIZATION shall create and establish the following honorary offices and appointments for the regular and proper conduct of the general transaction and ordinary business of the ORGANIZATION VIZ:

President, Vice President, General Secretary, Assistant General Secretary, Treasurer, Organizing Secretary, Financial secretary, Publicity Secretary, Auditor, and Legal Adviser.

These officers who shall constitute the officers of the ORGANIZATION shall be elected by the members of the ORGANIZATION. The President, the General Secretary, the Assistant General Secretary, the Treasurer shall be nominated by the Executive Committee

Article 12. APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF MISSIONER.

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- a) *The Executive Committee in consultation with the council of missioners shall appoint a Chief Missioners who shall be responsible for the proper conduct of the religious activities.*
- b) *For the purpose of uniformity and succession, the Executives Committee shall lay down specific guideline in the appointment of the Chief Missioner.*
- c) *The Organization shall also create and establish such religious officers and appointments as may be deemed necessary.*
- d) *The Organization may appoint paid officers as and when necessary.*

Article 13. DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

- A. *The President shall preside at all meetings of the Organization and shall be responsible for the proper conduct of business at such meeting. He will ensure that members behave in a constitutional manner and do everything that will tend to the welfare and progress of the ORGANIZATION generally.*
- B. *The Vice President shall assist the President generally and deputize for him during his absence and in all ramifications. In case both of them (President and Vice President) are absent, a member (of the Executive Committee) shall be elected to act among (Executive Committee) members present.*
- C. *The General secretary shall:*
 - I) *summon all meetings of the ORGANIZATION*
 - II) *keep record of minutes of the meeting of the ORGANIZATION.*
 - III) *Keep or supervise the keeping of all records and documents of the ORGANIZATION.*
 - IV) *Submit report of the activities of the ORGANIZATION*
 - V) *deal with correspondence of the ORGANIZATION.*

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- VI) have executive control over all paid officers of the ORGANIZATION and*
- VII) perform all secretarial and administrative duties as may be allocated to him by the Executive Committee.*
- D. The Assistant General Secretary shall assist the General Secretary in the discharge of his duties and perform any secretarial and other duties that may be allotted to him by the General Secretary. He will act for him (General Secretary) during his absence.*
- E. The Treasurer shall issue receipts for all sums of money paid to him, he shall keep correct account of income and expenditure of the ORGANIZATION. He shall make no payments unless upon authority of the Executive Committee or general Secretary counter-signed by the President. He shall keep the following books vital: Cash Book, Receipt Books, Ledger, Journal, and such other books as may be directed by the ORGANIZATION.*
- F. The Financial Secretary shall be the Secretary of Finance Board. He shall be responsible for collection of all Monies (cash and convertible) due to the ORGANIZATION and hand them (Monies) over to the Treasurer. He shall help the Treasurer in keeping all the account books of the ORGANIZATION.*
- G. The Organizing Secretary shall be responsible for dealing with matters pertaining to the ORGANIZATION on the direction of the Executive Committee.*
- H. The Publicity Secretary shall be responsible for publicizing the activities of the ORGANIZATION. He shall be the chairman of Publicity Committee to be set up by the Executive Committee after each election.*

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- I. The Auditor shall audit all accounts of the ORGANIZATION four times a year (January, April, July, & October). He shall be responsible for reviewing Annual, Quarterly and all other reports to be filed with Governmental Agencies.*
- J. LEGAL ADVISER: The Legal Adviser shall advise the ORGANIZATION on all legal matters and any other matter that may be referred to him.*

Article 14. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- A. An election of member to fill the respective offices provided for under rule 11 shall be made by secret ballot at the general election of the ORGANIZATION.*
- B. The general election of the officers shall be held every three years in the month of September.*
- C. Quorum for the election shall not be less than one-third (1/3) of the eligible voters.*
- D. No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice.*
- E. Neither shall any person be eligible to the office of President who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty five years.*
- F. Any elected officer who becomes inactive for a period of six months with reasonable explanations shall be removed from office after proper investigation by two-third majority vote of the members of the Executive Committee and his office declared vacant.*
- G. An officer shall cease to hold office if he:*
 - I. resigns.*
 - II. Becomes insane.*

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III. Is convicted of a criminal offense involving dishonesty by a court of competent jurisdiction.

IV. If found to belong to any secret organization.

V. Is found to be a member of any other religious body whose aims and objectives are identical with those of Nigerian-American Muslim Integrated Community Inc., New York.

H. All officers shall hold their offices until next general election when newly elected officer are sworn in the following month after the election.

Article 15. ELECTION OF COUNCIL OFFICERS.

a) An election of members to fill the respective offices provided under rule 10 shall be made by secret ballot at the general election.

b) Council officer who becomes inactive for a period of six month without reasonable explanation shall be removed from office by two-third majority votes of the members of the council and his office declared vacant.

c) (c) A Council officer shall cease to hold office if he:

I. resigns.

II. becomes insane.

III. is convicted of a criminal offense involving dishonesty by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction.

IV. is found to belong to any secret society.

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VI. is found to be a member of any other Organization having identical aims and objectives with those of the Nigerian-American Muslim Integrated Community, Inc., New York.

Article 16. QUALIFICATION AS A VOTER.

The qualification to vote or to be voted for shall be based on regular payment of monthly subscriptions and attendance at the three quarter (3/4) of the meeting held during the year and or determined by the Executive Committee.

Article 17. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The management of the affairs and general concern of the ORGANIZATION shall be in the hand of the Executive Committee the numbers of which shall consist of all the Officers appointed under rule 11 and the ex-office member thereof. The President should be the Chairman. All members of the Executive Committee must be subscribing members and not in arrears of subscriptions. Not less than One-third of the members shall form quorum. The Executive Committee shall take precedence over all other Committee, Council, and Association of the ORGANIZATION.

Article 18. POWER OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

a) The Executive Committee shall make all such rules and regulations as they shall from time to time deem necessary for the internal management, the promotion of order and the good Government and well-being of the Organization. The rules and regulations so made shall be binding upon all members of the Organization provided that the views of all members will be taken into consideration in deciding such matters affecting them in particular.

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b) When question arises which, in the view of the Committee, comes within the scope or is one of the object of the Organization work an Emergency Meeting of the Committee shall be arranged at which the question shall be looked into fully and discussed. Any decision arrived at shall represent the general policy of the Organization on such question.

Article 19. PETITIONS, COMPLAINTS, MATTERS etc.

Any member or members having petition or complains against the Organization or any of its functionaries or seeking a redress or desirous of bringing any special matters to the notice of the Organization shall be required to forward such petitions, complains or matters etc through their Councils, or Associations' Secretary to the General Secretary for consideration for consideration and action of Executive Committee.

Article 20. INFRACTION OF RULES.

a) Any member infringing or willfully violating any of the rules and regulations or By-Laws of the ORGANIZATION for the time being in force shall be dealt with by the Executive Committee as may deem fit and such member shall be liable to discipline according to the seriousness and gravity of the offense.

b) Provided always that such a member shall be given an opportunity for a fair hearing.

**Article 21. EXPULSION OR SUSPENSION FROM MEMBERSHIP OF
NIGERIA-AMERICAN MUSLIM INTEGRATED COMMUNITY, INC.**

Any expulsion or suspension (of a member or members of the ORGANIZATION) for breach of any of the Rules and Regulations or By-Laws of the ORGANIZATION for time being in force shall be

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the act of the Executive Committee. It is for the Councils and Association to make recommendations.

Article 22. SPECIAL CLAUSE.

- a) The income and Property of the ORGANIZATION wherever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objectives of the ORGANIZATION as set forth in these RULES AND REGULATIONS/ CONSITUTION and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus, or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to members of the ORGANIZATION.*
- b) Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the ORGANIZATION is organized exclusively for one or more of the purposes as specified in section 501 (C) (3) OF THE INTERNAL Revenue Code of 1954 and shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under IRS section 501 (C) (3) or corresponding provision of any subsequent Federal tax laws.*
- c) No part of the net earnings of the ORGANIZATION shall inure to the benefit of any member, trustee, director, officer of the corporation or any private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services render to or for the corporation per Article), and no member, trustee, officer of the organization or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any dissolution of the organization.*
- d) No substantial part of the activities of the ORGANIZATION shall be carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation (except as otherwise provided by Internal Revenue Code section 501 (h)) or participating in or intervening in (including the publication or distribution of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.*

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- e) In the event of dissolution, all of the remaining assets and properties of the ORGANIZATION shall, after necessary expenses thereof, be distributed to another organization exempt under section 501 (C) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or corresponding provisions of any subsequent Federal tax laws or to the Federal government or State or local government for public purposes subject to an order of a Justice of the supreme court of the State of New York.*
- f) In any year in which the ORGANIZATION is a private foundation as described in section 509 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code 1954, the corporation shall distribute its income for said period at such time and manner as not to subject it to tax under section 4942 of the code; and the corporation shall not:*
- (a) engage in any of self-dealing as defined in section 4941(d) of the code;*
 - (b) retain any excess business holdings as defined in section 4943 (c) of the code;*
 - (c) make any investments in such manner as to subject the corporation to tax under section 4944 of the code;*
 - (d) make any taxable expenditures as defined in section 4945 (d) of the code or corresponding provision of any subsequent Federal tax laws.*

Article 23. MERIT AWARD.

There shall be provision for the society's MERIT AWARD TO DESERVING MEMBER AT ALL LEVELS. The modalities of such award shall be the responsibility of the Executive Committee, which can be reviewed from time to time.

Article 24. ENACTMENT.

- a) The Executive Committee shall have power to add, to delete from, rescind, annul, modify or amend the whole or any of the provisions of the foregoing or expedient from time to time with*

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the approval of the Chief Missioner or whosoever is authorized by him subject ratification by the National Conference.

b) The Constitution (Rules and Regulations is subject to modification or alteration only with the written consent of the Chief Missioner or his successor in office.

The foregoing Constitution, Rules and Regulations were passed at the general meeting of the Nigerian-American Muslim Integrated Community Inc. Held

atthis.....day

of.....19.....

Interpretation of the Constitution

Should the question arise as to the correct interpretation of any parts of this Constitution, the decision of the Executive Committee shall be final.