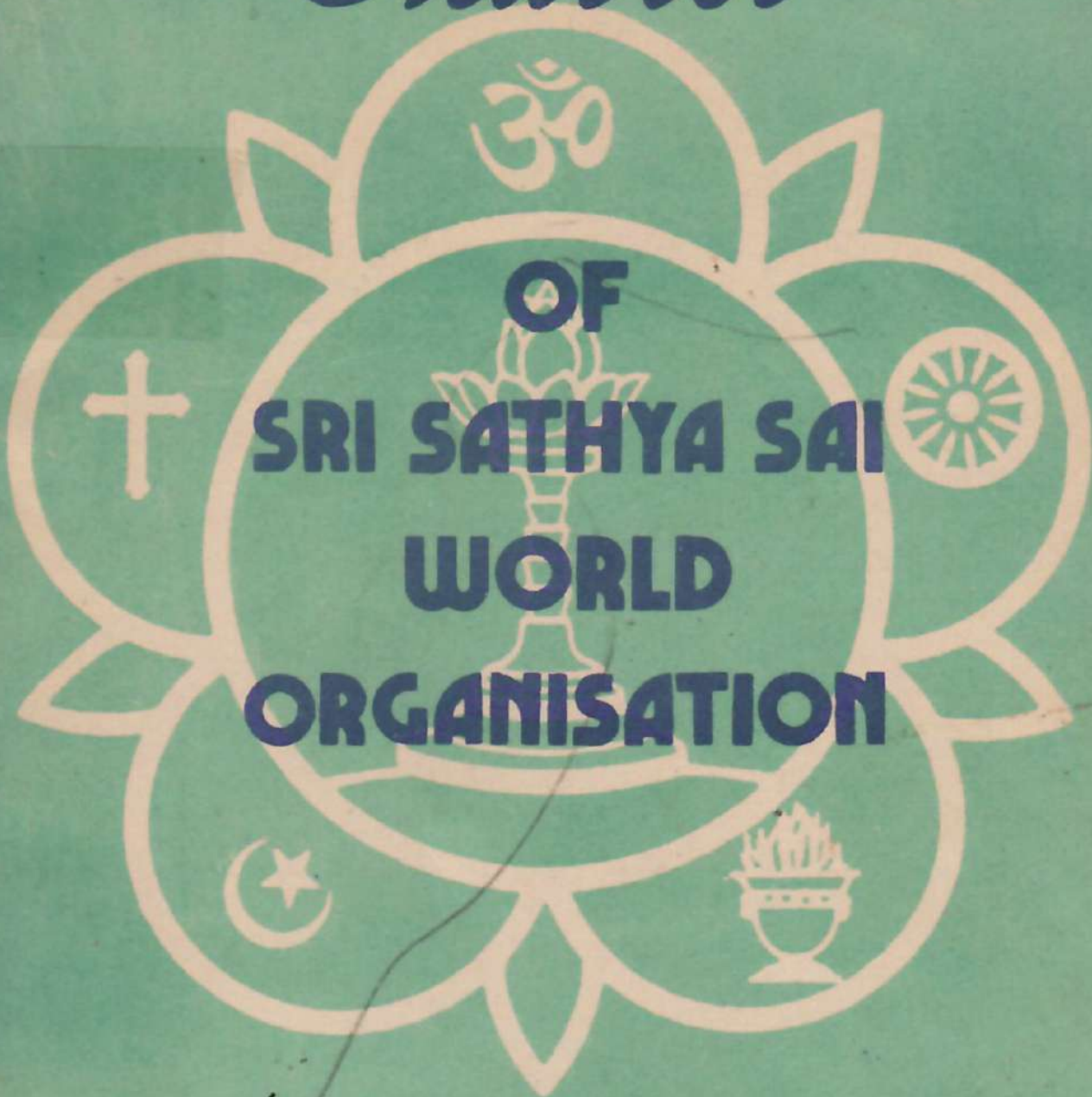


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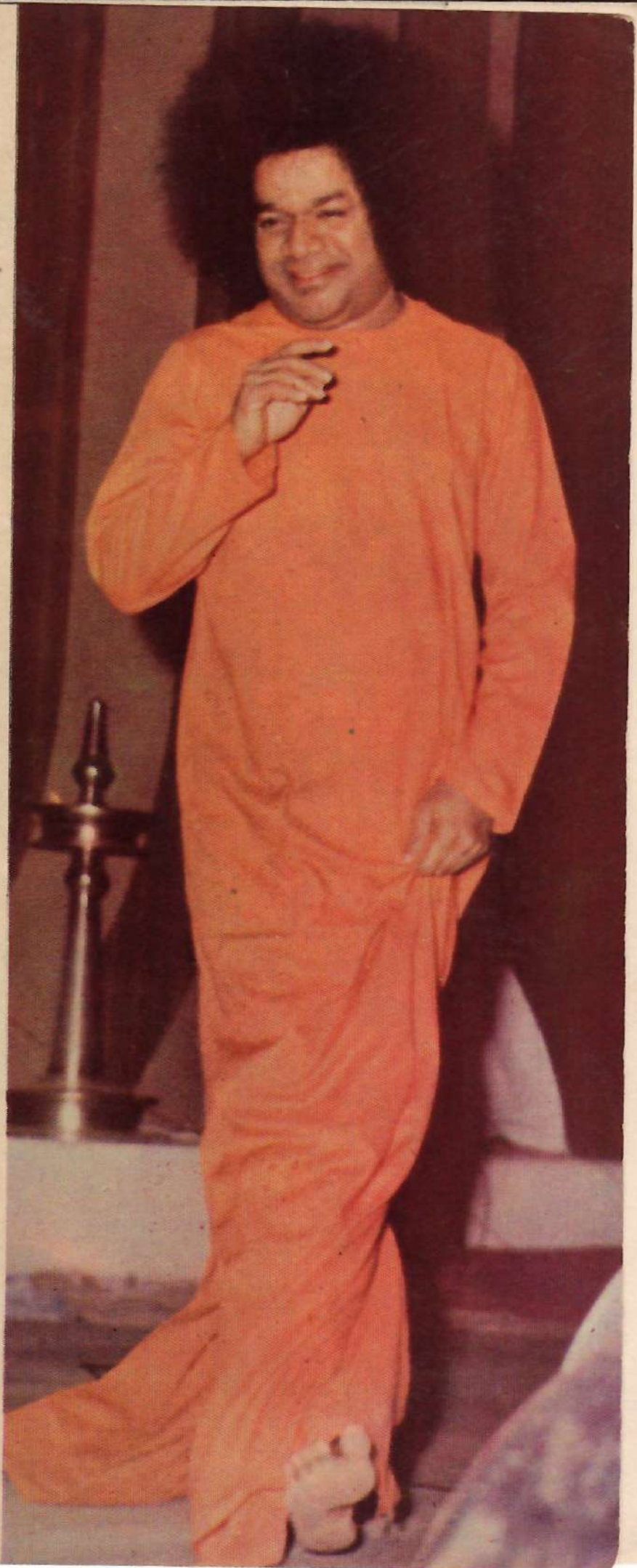


**OF
SRI SATHYA SAI
WORLD
ORGANISATION**

**RULES & REGULATIONS
FOR OVERSEAS CENTRES**

*Service to
the human community
is the best offering
you can make
to the Sovereign Lord*

Sri Sathy Sai Baba



CHARTER

Charter

OF

SRI SATHYA SAI

WORLD

ORGANISATION



RULES & REGULATIONS

FOR OVERSEAS CENTRES

CHARTER

PERMANENT CHARTER granted by BHAGWAN SHRI SATHYA SAI BABA to the SRI SATHYA SAI ORGANISATIONS, AT THE THIRD WORLD CONFERENCE DATED this 14th day of January, in the 55th year of His Advent, Anno Domini 1981. BHAGWAN SHRI SATHYA SAI BABA out of His Infinite Grace and Mercy sends Blessings to all to whom this Permanent Charter shall be seen, shewed or read.

WHEREAS the advent of Bhagwan Sri Sathya Sai Baba as declared by Him is for the establishment of Sanathana Dharma.

AND WHEREAS this World Organisation is a Spiritual Organisation founded for the whole Mankind, not recognising any distinction or separateness on the basis of religion, caste, colour or creed.

AND WHEREAS this Organisation takes within its fold persons belonging to all religions in order to establish unity of all faiths AND WHEREAS, it is for establishing and promoting the content of Such Sanathana Dharma and also to establish oneness of all thoughts that the Sri Sathya Sai Organisations are taking existence.

AND WHEREAS the most fundamental object of this Organisation as laid down by Bhagwan is to "*Awaken in Man the awareness of the Divinity INHERENT in him*" by propogating through practice and examples the basic principles of Sathya, (Truth), Dharma (Righteousness), Santhi (Peace) and Prema (Love) set by Bhagwan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

CHARTER

AND WHEREAS to experience this Divinity, mere environment and circumstances outside are not sufficient but a change in the minds of men is necessary.

AND WHEREAS the activities of the Organisation are only means to the spiritual progress in this direction and which progress will ultimately enable everyone to enjoy inner peace notwithstanding the stresses and strains, the frustrations and sorrows, the defeats and successes, the ups and downs of life.

AND WHEREAS to achieve maximum results towards these objectives.

IT IS HEREBY DECLARED :

- A. That this shall be the Charter governing the Sathya Sai Organisations all over the World.
- B. That all the office bearers and members of this Organisation at present and all those who will join this Organisation shall be one in Deed and in Name, by the name of Sri Sathya Sai Organisations and as such, they shall be entitled to carry on the activities in the name of the Organisation.
- C. That in order to achieve the objectives as laid down hereinabove, the members shall follow a strict code of Conduct of Sadhana (Spiritual Exercises) so that they become worthy instruments of our Divine Master in the efforts to fulfill the objectives of this Organisation.
- D. That no person shall be qualified to associate himself or herself as office bearer or worker with this Organisation who wilfully deviate from the Code of Conduct laid down hereinafter.

CODE OF CONDUCT

That in order to remember continuously Bhagwan's teachings and in order to put the same into practice and to be worthy instrument of our Divine Master every member must undergo, Sadhana, a spiritual discipline which should be merged with day to day life so as to make Sadhana (Spiritual Exercises) a part of his or her worldly life, and Every member shall make his or her "Family as a Unit" for such Sadhana (Spiritual exercise):

Thus with a view to qualify to be a true member of the Organisation the following guidelines shall be followed:

1. Every day meditation — Jap.
2. Bhajan with all members of the family once a week.
3. Participation in Bal Vikas Programme by Children of the family.
4. Participation in community work and other programmes of the Organisation.
5. Attendance at least once a month at Bhajan or Nagar Sankirtan Organised by the Organisation.
6. Regular study of Sai Literature.
7. To speak softly with everyone.
8. Not to indulge in talking ill of others specially in their absence.
9. Narayana Seva — Some careals to be kept separate every day to feed the needy and to form habit not to waste food.

Thus he or she, through practice of this Spiritual exercises, will develop the quality of selfless love, which in turn will qualify the individual to transmit to others the Divine message of Bhagwan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

- E. That in view of the Objectives laid down hereinabove there shall be only one set of basic norms applicable to all the constituents of the Organisation in all the countries of the World.
- F. That there shall be a World Council of Sri Sathya Sai Organisations, as an apex body having its central office situate at Prasanthi Nilayam, P. O. Pin: 515 134, India, having Chairman and 10 members nominated by Bhagwan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

The duties and responsibilities of the World Council will be —

- i) To guide and supervise the working of the various constituents of the organisations all over the world.
- ii) To frame rules & regulations for India and Overseas countries for governing the functional pattern of the organisations from time to time.
- iii) To issue the guidelines for conducting activities of different wings of the organisations from time to time.
- iv) To maintain liasion between various constituents of the Organisations through State Presidents in India, Presidents of Central Councils in overseas countries and convenors of co-ordinating committees in overseas countries or in any other manner

as prescribed by the world council.

- v) To deal with all matters of where difficulties arise necessitating an authoritative decision for the Organisation;
 - vi) The members of the world council will meet at least once a year in Prasanthi Nilayam at the time of the Birthday Celebration.
- G. That in order to enable the Organisation to be one in Deed and Name, every constituent of the Organisation shall have to compulsorily affiliate with the World Council of this Organisation.
- H. That no constituent of the Organisation not affiliated to the World Council shall be entitled to use the name of Bhagwan Sri Sathya Sai Baba in any of the activities carried on by such organisation.
- I. That the membership in any Sathya Sai Organisation shall not be claimed as a matter of right. Membership in any Sathya Sai Organisation shall be a privilege solely dependent upon the pleasure of the World Council. No person shall have any legal or enforceable right or claim to be a member of any Sathya Sai Organisations or to hold any office therein. In the event of any difficulty or dispute arising with respect to the affairs of the Organisations or the interpretations of application of rules, Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust shall be the final authority to give a decision on the same and the Central Trust's decision shall be final, conclusive and binding on all parties.

J.

IN INDIA

- i) That in India, the Organisation shall be divided statewise with the State President as the head in each State.
- ii) That such State President shall be nominated by Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust.
- iii) That groups of individuals within each state shall be termed as Bhagwan Sri Sathya Sai Seva Samithis. Such Samithis shall function under the authority and supervision of the State President of that State.
- iv) That every Samithi or State in India shall function strictly in their own areas.
- v) That the functional pattern of the Organisation in India and the rules and regulations governing such functional pattern shall be as separately laid down.

K.

IN OVERSEAS COUNTRIES

- i) That there shall be a Central Council in every Country where there are ten or more than ten centres with the President as the head of the council.
- ii) That the President shall be nominated by Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust.
- iii) That if there are less than ten centres in any country, there shall be a co-ordinating committee with a convenor.

- iv) That group of individuals within the country shall be termed as Sri Sathya Sai Baba Centre of (*Location*).
 - v) That such Centres shall function under the authority and supervision of the Central Council of the Country and shall compulsorily affiliate with the Central Council.
 - vi) That every Council, Co-ordinating Committee and affiliated Centres shall function strictly in their own areas.
 - vii) That the functional pattern of the Organisation in overseas Countries and the rules and regulations governing such functional pattern shall be as separately laid down.
- L. That every member shall pledge to abide by this Charter and strictly follow the rules and regulations laid down hereunder, so as to earn the grace of our Divine master to achieve the objectives of the Organisation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, SRI SATHYA SAI CENTRAL TRUST have set and subscribed its seal, the date and year first hereabove mentioned.



Sd./ S. Bhagavantam

MEMBER SECRETARY.

**RULES AND REGULATIONS, FOR
THE CENTRAL COUNCIL
FOR OVERSEAS COUNTRY**

I. FORMATION :—

- (a) The World Council of Sri Sathya Sai Organisation shall permit the formation of a Central Council in each Country and shall be subject to the CHARTER.
- (b) The Founder President shall appoint a President as the head of the Central Council.

II. MEMBERSHIP :—

The Founder President shall appoint and nominate 11 members to be on the Council from amongst the Active members as defined under Rules & Regulations of the Centre, and so as to provide adequate representation to all the Constituent States of the Country.

III. FUNCTIONS :—

(1) The Central Council shall guide and supervise the overall working of the various organisational activities in the Country and shall maintain a liaison between World Council and the Centres.

(2) The President of the Central Council shall maintain liaison between the members of the Central Council and the President and members of the Centres in their Country.

(3) The Central Council shall receive reports from the various Centres in the Country and present it to the World Council.

(4) The Central Council shall have the power to add, delete or amend the rules and regulations laid down for the Centre by the World Council with the permission of World Council to suit the conditions prevalent in their country, subject to the charter of Sri Sathya Sai Organisation.

(5) All applications for formation of Centres shall lie to the Central Council of the Country wherever it exists. The decision of the Central Council to grant or not to grant application to the centre shall be final.

(6) The Central Council, at first shall grant only interim accreditation to the centre concerned and only after it is satisfied with the functioning of the Centre, will it grant a permanent accreditation to the Centre.

(7) The Central Council, on granting a permanent accreditation to the Centre shall allot a permanent affiliation number to such a Centre.

(8) The Central Council shall maintain an upto-date Register of all its affiliated constituents along with the names and addresses of each member in each constituent with a copy to the World Council.

(9) The Central Council shall have the authority to take necessary action against any of its consti-

tudents or its members, who violate the provisions and declarations of the Charter or the Rules and Regulations laid down thereunder or work against the interest of the Organisation.

(10) The Central Council shall write to all the existing non affiliated organisations to merge or affiliate their activities with the Central Council. In the event of their refusing or not agreeing to do so, an announcement may be made in the Centre's bulletin or any local news papers disclaiming such organisation as having anything to do with or having any relation to the Sri Sathya Sai Organisations.

(11) The Central Council shall see that none of the affiliated Constituents is associated with any non affiliated organisations. Any member found to be doing so shall be forthwith suspended and every constituent found to be doing so shall be derecognised.

(12) The Central Council shall be the authority in charge of publication of books, records, tapes, photos etc. in the Country, in consultation with the Sathya Sai Central Trust, India.

(13) The Central Council will organise the entire sale of Books, records, tapes, pictures etc. through its constituents in order to see that such sale is carried on in a proper way keeping minimum margin to cover the overhead expenses.

(14) The Central Council may form Sub-Committees to look after and conduct various activities of the Organisations from amongst the active members as defined under rules & regulations of the Centre.

(15) Such sub-Committee shall function under the direct supervision of the President and shall follow the guide lines provided by the World Council for the Conduct of such activities with freedom to deviate but in such cases the spirit of the guidelines shall be followed.

(16) The Central Council shall conduct training programmes for Bal Vikas Teachers and of Bhajan Leaders.

(17) The Central Council shall conduct celebrations at the Country level in consultation with the World Council.

IV. The Central Council shall submit its report every quarter to Central Office, World Council, Prasanthi Nilayam, India.

In witness hereof, World Council of Sri Sathya Sai Organisations has set and subscribed its seal, the date and year first herein mentioned.



14-1-1981

Sd./ Indulal Shah

CHAIRMAN
WORLD COUNCIL

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE IN OVERSEA'S COUNTRY OR A GROUP OF COUNTRIES.

FORMATION :—

- (a) The World Council shall authorise the formation of a Co-Ordinating Committee in a Country or a group of Countries where there are less than 10 Centres.
- (b) The Committee shall consist of one member representing each Centre.
- (c) There shall be a Convenor for Co-ordinating Committee appointed from amongst the members by such members themselves.

FUNCTIONS :—

- (1) The Co-Ordinating Committee shall maintain a liaison between the World Council and the Centres.
- (2) The Co-Ordinating Committee shall receive reports from the various Centres in the Country and present it to the World Council.
- (3) The Co-Ordinating Committee shall have the power to add or to delete or amend the rules and regulations for functioning of centres applicable to them to suit the conditions prevalent in their region with the permission of the World Council.

- (4) The Co-Ordinating Committee may recommend to the World Council in India for affiliation new Centres being formed in their region.
- (5) The Co-Ordinating Committee shall do all other work assigned to it by the World Council.
- (6) The Co-Ordinating Committee shall draw the World Council's attention and suggest necessary action against any of its constituents or its members, who violate the provisions and declarations of the Charter or the Rules and Regulations laid down thereunder or work against the interest of the Organisation.
- (7) The Co-Ordinating Committee shall see that none of the affiliated Constituents shall associate with any non affiliated organisations. Any member found to be doing so shall be forthwith suspended and every constituent found to be doing so shall be derecognised by the World Council on the advice of the Co-Ordinating Committee.
- (8) The Co-Ordinating Committee will organise the sale of Books, records, tapes, pictures etc., through its constituents in consultation and supervision of the World Council in order to see that such sale is carried on at the reasonable price.
- (9) The Co-Ordinating Committee may conduct training programmes for Bal Vikas Teachers and of Bhajan Leaders.

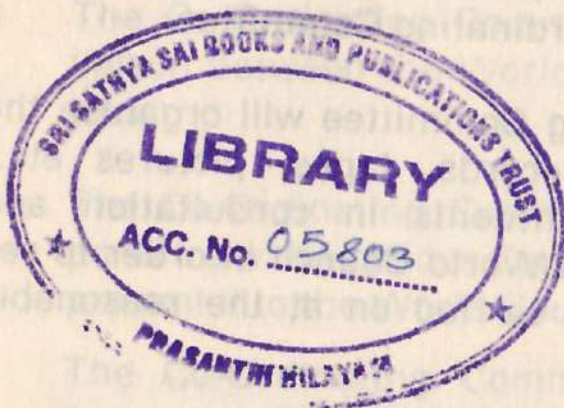
(10) The Co-Ordinating Committee may conduct celebrations at the Country level.

IN WITNESS HEREOF, World Council of Sri Sathya Sai Organisations has set and subscribed its seal, the date and year herein mentioned.



Sd./ Indulal Shah
CHAIRMAN
WORLD COUNCIL

14-1-1981



RULES & REGULATIONS GOVERNING SRI SATHYA SAI BABA CENTRES IN OVERSEAS.

These Rules and Regulations shall govern Sri Sathya Sai Baba Centres as declared in the Charter granted to the Sri Sathya Sai Organisations at the 3rd World Conference, 1980, and shall be subject to the CHARTER.

I. INTERPRETATION CLAUSE :

Unless it be repugnant to the context or meaning thereof.

- i) "The Centre" shall mean Sri Sathya Sai Baba Centre affiliated to the World Council of Sri Sathya Sai Organisations with its Central Office at Prasanthi Nilayam, India, either directly or through the Central Council of that country.
- ii) "The Charter" shall mean the Charter granted to Sri Sathya Sai Organisations at the 3rd World Conference of Sri Sathya Sai Organisations in November, 1980.
- iii) The "Central Council" shall mean the Central Council of the country in which the centre is situated.
- iv) "Co-ordinating Committee" will mean — the Committee formed in a country where there are more than five centres but less than ten centres;

v) "Constituent" shall mean and include the Central Council, the co-ordinating committee, the Sathya Sai Baba Centres, Bhajan Centres, Study classes, Publication and Sales Centres, and shall also include all places where any activity of the Sri Sathya Sai Organisation may be carried on.

vi) "World Council" shall mean that apex body of the Sri Sathya Sai Organisations as declared in the Charter, having its Central and Administrative Offices in India.

vii) "Guide Lines" shall mean the guide lines as laid down separately by the World Council from time to time for the conduct of the activities and administration of Sri Sathya Sai Organisations. In case of any conflict between the guide lines given by the World Council and the local circumstances prevailing in any particular place, the spirit of the guidelines may be followed as against the words thereof.

viii) "He" includes "She"

II. HOW TO FORM A CENTRE :

In order to form a SRI SATHYA SAI BABA CENTRE :

a) A minimum number of 9 members are

essential.

- b) Such members shall actively participate or shall be ready to actively participate in the activities of the centre.
- c) Such members joining the centre shall have to be signatories to the copy of the Charter and the Copy of the Rules and Regulations in token of according their acceptance thereto.
- d) Such members must be carrying on a minimum of two activities i.e. Public Bhajan session and Study Class for members.
- e) Such members who are interested in starting a centre shall have to obtain interim accreditation from the Central Council of the Country in which it is situate or from the World Council Office in India in case there is no Central Council in that Country.

III. NOMENCLATURE :

All Centres shall be called Sri Sathya Sai Baba Centre of (location of the centre).

IV. MEMBERS :

The Members of the Centre will be either active members or Associate Members as under:—

- i) The Active or Associate Members of the

Centre shall be persons having spiritual aspiration and faith in the teachings of Bhagwan Sri Sathya Sai Baba and are wedded to the Charter of Sri Sathya Sai Organisations.

- ii) Active members are those who regularly devote time to the conduct of activities and administration of the Centre, over and above their spiritual Exercises as mentioned in the Charter.
- iii) The age of the members shall normally be not less than 25 years.
- iv) There shall be a minimum of 9 members in each centre.

V . OFFICE BEARERS :

- a) From amongst the active members of the Centre the following office bearers shall be elected.
 - 1. The President.
 - 2. The Secretary.
 - 3. The Treasurer.

The election to these posts shall be held once in two years.

- b) No active member can become an office bearer of the Centre if one is already an office bearer of any other spiritual or philosophical organisation.

VI . DISQUALIFICATIONS :

Any Office Bearer or Active member shall cease to be so if,

1. he resigns
2. he is adjudged insolvent
3. he is convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude.
4. he absents himself from three consecutive Bhajan meetings without leave or does not make up 60% of attendance in the Bhajan meetings in a year.
5. he is found lacking in any of the qualifications laid down in rule IV hereinabove or is found working against the interest of the Centre.
6. he ceases to reside in the functional area of his or her centre.
7. he associates with any non-affiliated body claiming to be a constituent of Sri Sathya Sai Organisation.

VII . DUTIES OF THE OFFICE BEARERS AND SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS :

- i) The Office Bearers and the members of the Sub-Committee formed by the Office Bearers are expected to devote some time every week for the activities of the Organisation. They will carry out the work allot-

ted to them from time to time by the President of the Centre.

- ii) The Office bearers of a Centre shall ensure that the Centre is run according to the rules of the Organisation and in accordance with the guidelines of the activities given to them from time to time by the Central Council and/or the World Council as the case may be. The President will be the over-all authority of the Centre.
- iii) The Secretary is the Chief Executive and his duty will be to look after the daily routine work of the Centre and implementation of the decisions taken by the Active Members.
- iv) The President of the Centre may form a separate Women's Wing for carrying on activities from amongst the women only. This Wing will have a separate President and Secretary to Conduct the activities. The President of the Centre may form a separate Seva Dal Wing (or Volunter Corps) for carrying out various service Activities and to conduct the training for the active workers for specialising in different service activity programmes.

VIII. SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRE :

The Scope of the activities of the Centre shall be as defined by the World Council of Sri Sathya Sai Organisations and such activities shall be carried on in accordance with the guide

lines provided for such activities by the World Council. The main activities can be from amongst the following: —

- i) Bhajan or Namasmaran or group devotional singing, preferably at public places both for Gents and Ladies.
- ii) Bhajan or group devotional singing for ladies, only, if a separate ladies wing is formed by the Centre.
- iii) Nagar-Sankirtan, wherever possible according to the conditions in the country concerned.
- iv) Study Circles for the active and associate members.
- v) Public lectures and classes with audio-visuals aids on the life and message of Bhagwan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.
- vi) Spiritual Education and Education in Human Values for the young.
- vii) Publication and sale of Sathya Sai literature as approved by the Sathya Sai Central Trust.
- viii) Various service activities for the needy and weaker sections of the society.

IX. COLLECTION OF FUNDS :

- i) The Centre shall have nothing to do with any admission charges or membership fees.

- ii) As far as possible, the spiritual activities will be conducted without any expenses.
- iii) The Centre will not collect any funds by way of donation by public appeal.
- iv) The only area open for donation is for conducting educational and public health programme by the Centre. But no project should be undertaken that is beyond the means of the active members of the Centre. At the meetings of active members after the project is explained and approved, the members may gather in a separate room and one by one, may place their donation in the covered box individually. The entire procedure has to be secret. When the procedure is closed, the office bearers will count the money and if the same is short, the members may take-up the shortage on an equal basis.
- v) As to current expenses of the Centre, the Centre may try to cover the expenses from voluntary contributions in kind and/or from the surplus from the sale and supply of Sai literature, photos, tapes etc.

vi) Expenses for Celebrations:

Expenses to be incurred in connection with the celebration of festivals like Dassera, Maha Shivrathri and Birth-day Celebrations should be met only from voluntary contribution from the members of the Centre. Due care has to be taken that there is no pressure on any one and

that no high low complex is created among the members. For this, the same procedure as laid down in (iv) above may be followed.

X. MEETINGS :

a) **Membership Meeting:**

All the members of the Centres shall meet at least once every quarter.

b) **Officers Meeting:**

The Officers of the Centre shall meet at least once every month.

c) **Other meetings viz. Bhajan Meeting, Study Class Meetings, Public Meetings etc. shall be held and conducted as per the Guidelines separately laid down for such activities.**

XI. REPORTS :

- 1) Each Centre will submit its report every quarter to the Central Council of the Country if there is any.
- 2) Other Centre shall submit its report once in every six months to World Council at its Central Office at Prasanthi Nilayam, India.

613

NOTES

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, World Council of Sri Sathya Sai Organisations has set and subscribed its seal, the date and year hereby mentioned:

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CHAIRMAN
WORLD COUNCIL

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