

**MAHARISHI DAYANAND INSTITUTE ACT**

Act 10 of 1984 – 6 April 1984

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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**MAHARISHI DAYANAND INSTITUTE ACT**

**1. Short title**

This Act may be cited as the Maharishi Dayanand Institute Act.

**2. Interpretation**

In this Act—

“Arya Samaj society” means an Arya Samaj society affiliated to the Arya Sabha of Mauritius;

“Board” means the Board referred to in section 6;

“Chairperson” means the Chairperson of the Board;

“Institute” means the Maharishi Dayanand Institute established under section 3;

“member” means a member of the Board and includes the Chairperson.

**3. Establishment of Institute**

(1) There is established for the purposes of this Act the Maharishi Dayanand Institute.

(2) The Institute shall be a body corporate.

(3) The Institute shall consist of ordinary, life, donor and patron members who are of age and are members of Arya Samaj societies.

**4. Objects of Institute**

The objects of the Institute shall be to—

- (a) impart and promote the study of Hinduism and all its scriptures in the light of the life and teaching of Maharishi Dayanand;

- (b) promote the study of comparative theology and philosophy in their widest forms and assist in bringing about the harmony of religions;
- (c) assist any deserving and needy student in the pursuit of the higher studies of the Vedas and Vedic literature with a view to performing Vedic missionary work in Mauritius or in any other country designated by the Institute;
- (d) encourage students, by means of scholarships, to undertake research work in Vedic literature in order to highlight facts yet unknown about the Vedic Dharma; and
- (e) publish, sell or distribute, gratuitously or otherwise, such journals, periodicals, books or leaflets relating to Hinduism and Vedic literature as the Institute thinks fit.

#### **5. Application for membership**

(1) Every person who wishes to become a member of the Institute shall make a written application in the prescribed form to the Secretary of the Board.

(2) An application under subsection (1) shall be—

- (a) signed by the applicant and by 2 members of the Institute; and
- (b) accompanied by a certificate from an Arya Samaj society attesting that the applicant is a regular member of the society.

(3) The Board may, on receipt of an application under subsection (1), accept the application or reject it.

(4) Where an application is accepted under subsection (3), the applicant shall pay such membership fee as may be prescribed.

#### **6. The Board**

(1) The Institute shall be managed by a Board consisting of—

- (a) a Chairperson;
- (b) a Vice-Chairperson;
- (c) a Secretary;
- (d) an Assistant Secretary;
- (e) a Treasurer;
- (f) an Assistant Treasurer; and
- (g) 5 other members,

to be nominated and elected in such manner as may be prescribed.

(2) —

(3) No member shall receive any fee or remuneration for his services.

(4) The Chairperson may at any time call a meeting of the Board at such time and place as he may direct and shall call such a meeting within 14 days of receiving a request in that behalf addressed to him and signed by no fewer than 25 members of the Institute.

(5) Six members shall constitute the quorum.

(6) Subject to subsections (4) and (5), the Board shall regulate its meetings and proceedings in such manner as may be prescribed.

#### **7. Execution of documents**

No document shall be executed by or on behalf of the Institute unless it is signed by the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer of the Board.

#### **8. Publication of accounts**

The Board shall, on or before 1 September in every year, publish in the *Gazette* an audited statement of its accounts in respect of the 12 months ending 30 May in that year.

#### **9. Donations and legacies**

Article 910 of the Code Civil Mauricien shall not apply to the Institute.

#### **10. Dissolution of Institute**

(1) The Institute may, on the unanimous decision of the Board, be dissolved in such manner as may be prescribed.

(2) In the event of the dissolution of the Institute, all assets of the Institute remaining after the winding up shall be transferred to such other religious organisation as may be designated by the Board.

#### **11. Regulations**

(1) The Board may make such regulations as it thinks fit for the purposes of this Act.

(2) The regulations may provide for the levy of membership fees.

(3) Notwithstanding the Interpretation and General Clauses Act, regulations made under this section shall not be required to be—

- (a) approved by the Minister;
- (b) laid before the Assembly; or
- (c) published in the *Gazette*.

