

Copy Submitted by Stakeal  
Ahmad to the Board on  
11/20/94

S.K. Mallory  
11/20/94

(Amended)

page 1  
MID-HUDSON ISLAMIC ASSOCIATION, INC

CONSTITUTION

EVIDENCE ©

OFFICIAL COPY

## ARTICLE I - THE ORGANIZATION

- Section 1: The name of the organization shall be MID-HUDSON ISLAMIC ASSOCIATION, INC. (Hereafter referred to as the Association or MHIA.)
- Section 2: The Association may work in cooperation with any organization engaged in religious, charitable, educational, literary, research, scientific, social and any other activity, the purpose of which is to improve the image of Islam and to bring Muslims together.
- Section 3: The Association shall be a non-profit Islamic organization.

## ARTICLE II - THE PURPOSE

The purpose of the Association shall be:

- Section 1: (a) To establish and maintain a Muslim community for the benefit of the Muslims in the Dutchess, Orange, Ulster, Putnam and Columbia counties of the NY State and their vicinities;
- (b) To make Islam better understood by Muslims, and to provide facilities, such as religious instruction classes for children, classes and discussion sessions for adults, help assist in the Islamic way of conducting marriage, help assist conducting burial services and such other activities which will provide an opportunity for the Muslims in the area to lead an Islamic way of life.
- Section 2: (a) To provide continuity of the activities described in Section 1 of this Article;
- (b) To establish and maintain one or more Mosques and/or an Islamic Center for the benefit of Muslims living in the Mid-Hudson Valley of New York State and vicinity.
- Section 3: (a) To strengthen fraternal bonds among Muslims living in the Mid-Hudson Valley of New York State and adjoining areas on the basis of brotherhood among all Muslims;

Signatures

1

10/1

10/1

10/1

- (b) To promote friendly relations with Muslim communities or associations in the U.S.A., Canada and other Muslim communities or associations throughout the world.

- Section 4:
- (a) To carry on religious, charitable, educational, literary, research, scientific, social or any other activity pertaining to the realization of an Islamic way of life;
  - (b) To make Islam better understood by non-Muslims. This includes contact with non-Muslim religious groups and/or organization.

### ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIPS

#### Section 1:

Any adult Muslim who believes that there is no one to be worshipped, except Allah (God), and that Muhammad Bin Abdullah, Hashimi, of Arabia (PBUH) is his last and final messenger, and that Quran and Sunnah are the guide for a Muslim's life is eligible for membership of the Association.

#### Section 2:

There will be three membership classifications, namely, (A) Charter Member, (B) Full Member, and (C) Associate Member and they are defined as follows:

- (A) Charter Members must satisfy all criteria listed below:
  - (a) Be a Muslim resident of Dutchess, Orange, Ulster, Putnam, or Columbia counties of the NY state and their vicinities;
  - (b) Any individual or immediate family member who has contributed atleast \$50.00 towards the Masjid fund of MHIA or those who have contributed atleast \$25.00 towards the MHIA membership during the calendar year 1989, even though they may not have filled out the membership form but meet all other criteria for membership
  - (c) Be 18 years old.
  - (d) Be of good standing in the MHIA.
  - (e) The number of Charter members will be fixed at the beginning, based upon their membership/contribution in 1989 to the MHIA.
  - (f) The number of Chartered Members is fixed and can not be increased.
  - (g) A vacancy in the Charter Membership category will be filled by nomination and election by a majority vote of the charter members. Only those adults who have been full members for atleast 3 years can become Charter Member based on their seniority.
  - (h) Only Charter members will be allowed to amend the constitution by a 3/4th majority vote.
  - (i) Has continuously made his/her annual due to the MHIA.

*Signature*  
SKM

*Signature*

*Signature*  
11/23/94

*Signature*  
11/20/94

(B) Full Members must satisfy all criteria listed below:

(a) Be a Muslim resident of Dutchess, Orange, Ulster,

Putnam,

or Columbia counties of the NY State and their vicinities;

(b) Should have been an Associate Member for atleast one full year;

(c) Has continuously made his/her contribution to the MHIA.

(d) Be 18 years or older; and

(e) Satisfy the requirement of Article III, Section 1.

(C) Associate Members satisfy the criteria listed below:

(a) Muslim, not a resident of the areas defined above;

(b) Muslim residents who apply for initial membership;

(c) Must pay his/her Annual Dues to the MHIA;

(d) Must satisfy the requirement of Article III, Section 1.

Section 3: Membership Privileges

(a) All members shall have the right to attend all general Association meetings, as described in Article VIII, Section 1, Paragraph (a); to take part in all activities of the Association; and to express their opinions concerning the welfare of the Association;

(b) Only Chartered and Full Members shall have the right to vote on matters concerning the business of the Association, provided they have paid their annual dues as described in Article III, Section 5. Such members shall hereafter be referred to as Voting Members;

(c) Only voting members shall have the right to be eligible for elective office within the Association;

(d) All members shall have the right to be notified of all general Association meetings and to receive any publications of the Association. However, only the Charter and Full members shall be eligible to vote except the amendments to the MHIA Charter, to which only Charter members shall be eligible to vote.

(e) Only those voting members who have paid their dues by March 31st, shall be eligible to vote for that year.

Section 4: Membership Obligations

(a) All members must support the provisions of this constitution;

(b) All members must pay the annual membership fee (dues) set forth in Article III; Section 5;

(c) All members shall cooperate with the Association's

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten signature]*  
11/23/94

*[Handwritten signature]*  
11/20/94

SKM 11/20/94

trustees, officers and representatives in furthering the goals of the Association.

Section 5: Membership Dues Or Annual Required Contribution

- (a) Each single person or atleast one member of the family shall make an annual contribution towards the individual or family membership.
- (b) The amount of membership dues for an individual or a family shall be determined by the Executive Committee and approved by the Association's voting membership at the first duly constituted Association meeting, as described in Article VIII, Section 1, Paragraph (b), of the calendar year by a majority vote of those present, in person or by written proxy at said meeting;
- (c) The amount of dues shall be equal for all Full or Associate Members and shall be payable by October 31st of each calendar year for the following calendar year.
- (d) The mebership year will be the calendar year according to the Gregorian calendar.

Section 6: Membership Termination

- (a) Membership will be terminated for failure to pay the annual dues for two (2) Consecutive years;
- (b) Open defiance to Sunnah or Shariat as described by the Holy Quran and the Holy prophet Muhammad (PBUH) will immediately nullify the membership in the Association;
- (c) Any member may resign his/her mebership.

ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Section 1: A Board of Trustees shall advise and consent with the Executive Committee, described in Article V, Section 2, Paragraph (a), in the establishment of the Association's policies in accordance with the purpose stated in Article II, Sections 1 through 4.

Section 2: The Board of Trustees shall oversee that the functioning of the Association is in keeping with the policies established according to Section 1 of this Article.

Section 3: The Board of Trustees shall consist of:

- (a) Nine (9) Charter Members. These nine (9) members will be elected by the Charter Members of the Association.
- (b) Each Trustee will have a term of Nine (9) years, except at the inception when all nine (9) Trustees shall be elected

Signature

SKM 11/20/94

[Signature]

[Signature]

11/23/94

11/20/94

as follows:

- i. Three (3) Trustees for a term of Nine (9) years who get the highest number of votes,
- ii. Three (3) Trustees for a term of six (6) years, who get the next higher number of votes, and
- iii. Three (3) Trustees for a term of three (3) years who get the next high number of votes.

(c) Thus, atleast three (3) Trustees will be up for election every three (3) years.

(d) Same rules apply to termination of the Board of Trustees as those of Executive Committee.

(e) In case of a mid term vacancy, the Board of Trustees will elect a Trustee for the remaining term.

Section 4: The Trustees, who have to be elected, shall be elected at the first duly constituted general Association meeting of the calendar year.

Section 5: The Board of Trustee shall meet at least once a year.

Section 6: The Board of Trustees shall have the following responsibilities:

(a) Control and own the assets of the Association.

(b) Set the policies of the Asscoiation and monitor the operation of the Association to ensure consistency with the Will of Allah as prescribed in the Quran and Hadith and as described in the Association's Constitutional and the by-laws;

(c) In case of Non-Performance by the Executive Officers, the Board of Trustees shall dismiss the officers by a vote by atleast two-third (2/3) majority and hold fresh elections of the Executive Officers within three (3) months.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS, ELECTIONS AND TERMS

Section 1: Officers of the Association shall be one (1) President, one (1) Vice-President, one (1) Secretary, one (1) Treasurer and one (1) Ladies Representative.

Section 2: (a) The Executive Committee of the Association shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Ladies Representative.

(b) The Officers of the Association shall be elected by the Charter and the Full members.

*Signature*

*Signature*

*Signature*

11/20/94

(c) The tenure of the Executive Committee will be one (1) year starting from January 1, through December 31, of each calendar year.

Section 3: Elections of Officers of the Association shall be conducted during the first two weeks of November of each calendar year at a duly constituted general Association, for a term of one (1) year by a majority vote of the voting members present, in person or by written proxy, at said meeting.

Section 4: (a) No person shall be elected to the same office for more than two (2) consecutive terms;  
(b) No person shall be elected to more than one (1) office at the same time.

Section 5: In the event of a vacancy in an elected office, the Executive Committee shall appoint a voting member of the Association to fill that office. An appointment must then be approved by the voting membership at the next duly constituted general Association meeting.

Section 6: The President shall appoint, whenever necessary, committees from the membership, which shall be responsible to the Executive Committee. The committees shall have a chairman who will be appointed by the President, and the chairman shall appoint other member(s) to his committee. The Committees shall include (a) Masjid Affairs Committee, (b) Education Committee, (c) Communication Committee, (d) Nomination/Election Committee, (e) Constitution By-Laws and (f) Fund-Raising/Membership.

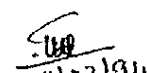
ARTICLE VI - DUTIES OF OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Section 1: Duties of Officers of The Association

(a) President

The President shall:

1. Be the official spokesperson of the Association;
2. Promote purpose and interest of the Association;
3. Be responsible to the members in reference to the progress and work of the Association;
4. Preside at all general Association meetings;
5. Be an Ex-Officio (Non-Voting) of the Board of Trustees;



6. Be a chairman of the executive Committee;
7. Have a casting vote in case of a tie in the Executive Committee meetings;
8. Be responsible for enforcing the "Code of Conduct".

(b) The Vice-President shall:

1. Assist the President in his/her duties;
2. Coordinate the Association's subcommittee activities;
3. Be a member of the Executive Committee;

(c) Treasurer

The Treasurer shall:

1. Be responsible for all assets and financial records of the Association;
2. Coordinate the collection of annual dues, contributions and other accounts receivable/payable by the Association.
3. Authorize expenses from the operating expense fund described in Article VI, Section 2, Paragraph (c);
4. Report to the members, at each general Association meeting, the financial status of the Association;
5. Be a member of the executive Committee;

(d) Secretary

The Secretary shall:

1. Handle all general correspondence on behalf of the Association with members and/or third parties;
2. Record minutes of all Executive committee and general Association meetings;
3. Report written minutes of prior meetings at each Executive and/or general Association meeting;
4. Be a member of the executive Committee.

Section 2:

Duties of Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall be the governing body of the Association responsible to the Association's membership for:

- (a) Initiating, establishing in concert with the Board

*you*

*AW*      *CDU*

*SW*

*HA*

of Trustees, and implementing policies for the conduct of the Association's business in accordance with the purposes stated in Article II, Sections 1 through 4;

- (b) Exercising judgement in directing help and action where needed to keep the Association's business running;
- (c) Establishing an Operating Expense Fund for the usual and normal expenses of the Association;
- (d) Authorizing unusual expenditures on behalf of the Association to the extent that the voting membership has authorized in the by-laws.

Section 3: Duties of Subcommittee chairmen

The subcommittee chairmen shall:

- (a) Coordinate business and activities of their respective subcommittees;
- (b) Report subcommittees activities and decisions to the Executive Committee, and
- (c) At the request of the Executive Committee report the final outcome or decision of his/her subcommittee at the general Association meeting.

ARTICLE VII - TERMINATION OF OFFICERS OR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS OR MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Section 1: Resignation from Office

An officer of the Association may voluntarily resign his/her office with the final approval to be made by the Board of Trustees.

Section 2: Dismissal from Office

Any officer, member of the Executive Committee, or the entire executive Committee or member of the Board of Trustees may be relieved of their duties under one or more of the following conditions:

- (a) Failure to Perform Duties - An Officer or an Executive Committee member may be relieved of his/her office by impeachment, as described in Article VII, Section 3, for reason of failure to perform duties of said office;
- (b) Acts Counter to the Purposes of the Association. No Officer or Executive Committee member shall be allowed to retain his/her office if he/she has been found to

*[Handwritten signatures and initials at the bottom of the page]*

act willfully against the purposes of the Association as stated in Article II, Sections 1 through 4. The dismissal shall be carried out by impeachment;

(c) For not attending atleast half of the meetings.

Section 3: Impeachment Procedures

- (a) At least fifteen (15) voting members or ten percent (10%) of the voting membership, whichever is higher, shall be required to submit a written accusation against an officer or Executive Committee member under the provisions of Article VII, Section 2 to the Executive Committee;
- (b) An Executive Committee session, with atleast three-fourth (3/4) of the officers and members, excluding the accused party, being present, shall conduct hearings and determine the validity of the accusations. A two-third (2/3) majority vote, excluding the vote of the accused, shall be required to establish grounds for impeachment;
- (c) In case the Executive Committee fails to establish grounds for impeachment, the accusing party may appeal to the Board of Trustees for action;
- (d) A majority vote of the Board of Trustees shall be required to establish grounds for impeachment after the process established in Article VII, Section 3(b) has taken place;
- (e) Once grounds for impeachment of an officer or an Executive Committee member have been established, impeachment shall be carried by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of a duly constituted general Association meeting.

ARTICLE VIII - MEETINGS

Section 1: General Association Meetings

- (a) There shall be atleast one (1) general Association meeting in the first quarter of each calendar year. Thereafter, meetings can occur quarterly or as may be deemed necessary;
- (b) Duly Constituted Meetings - A general Association meeting shall be considered competent to make decisions that do not affect this Constitution when written notification of the meeting was given to the membership at least ten (10) days in advance and when a quorum of atleast thirty percent (30%) of the voting membership is

*Signature*

*Signature*

*Signature*

*Signature*

present in person or by written proxy;

(c) General Association Meetings shall be called by any one (1) of the following methods:

1. At the previous general Association meeting by a majority of those present;
2. By a majority of a duly constituted Executive Committee meeting described in Article VIII, Section 2;
3. By petition where at least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership are signatories.

Section 2: Executive Committee Meetings

(a) Executive Committee meetings shall be held at least nine (9) times in a calendar year at nearly regular intervals within that year;

(b) An Executive Committee meeting shall be considered competent to transact business when at least twenty four hours' notice was given and when a majority of the officers and members are present in person or by written proxy.

ARTICLE IX - APPROVAL OF AND AMENDMENTS TO THIS CHARTER

Section 1: Approval of the Constitution shall be by a majority vote of the Charter Members who present themselves or by a written proxy.

Section 2: Amendments to this Constitution shall be made by a three-fourth (3/4) majority of the Charter members present, in person, or by written proxy at a general Association meeting duly constituted for this purpose. Meetings for the Amendment to the Constitution consisting of only Chartered Members shall be considered competent when written notification of the meeting was given to the membership at least twenty (20) days in advance.

Section 3: Any proposed amendment(s) to be discussed at a general Association meeting must be presented to the Executive Committee, in writing, at least forty five days (45) days in advance of such meeting.

Section 4: The executive Committee must notify the voting membership of any proposed amendment(s) at least twenty (20) days before the general Association meeting at which such amendment(s) is (are) expected to be voted upon.

*mynd*

A,      *CPM*      *SM*      *US*

Section 5: There shall be no amendments to Article I, Sections 2 and 3, Article II, Sections 2 and 3, Article III and Article IV Sections 1, 2 and 3.

ARTICLE X - BY-LAWS

Section 1: By-Laws of the Association shall be installed by a majority of those voting members who are present in person or by proxy, at a duly constituted general Association meeting.

Section 2: A proposed by-law or by-law change shall be announced, in writing, to the membership at least twenty (20) days prior to the general Association meeting at which it will be voted upon.

ARTICLE XI - DISSOLUTION

Section 1: Upon dissolution of the Association, the Board of Trustees and the executive Committee shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all liabilities of the Association, dispose of the remaining assets of the Association to one or more non-profit Islamic organization, or organizations working in the cause of Islam according to Islamic principles, such as Islamic Society of North America (ISNA).

END

*[Handwritten signatures and initials at the bottom of the page]*