

The *Constitution and Bylaws*

for

**THE SAIYONAN TEMPLE**  
*of Ritual and Devotion*



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## PREAMBLE

In reverence to The Divine Mother, and in alignment with Divine Law, we, the stewards and members of The Saiyonan Temple of Ritual and Devotion (the “Ministry”), establish this Constitution as our sacred charter. This document is rooted in the ancestral memory of the aboriginal people of this land and carries forward the enduring truths of harmony, justice, and communal stewardship. It affirms our right to self-governance, spiritual sovereignty, and sacred fellowship.

We ground this assembly upon the foundations of Spiritual Law (relationship with the Universe, Creator, and Creation), Natural Law, Ecclesiastical Law, Canon Law, Common Law, and the inherent rights recognized by International Human Rights.

## NON-COMMERCIAL & PRIVATE NATURE

The Saiyonan Temple of Ritual Devotion is a private, unincorporated ecclesiastical religious assembly and trust, operating strictly within a non-commercial, not-for-profit, and private ministerial capacity. The Ministry is foreign to corporate jurisdictions of the **UNITED STATES** and its **SUBDIVISIONS** except where limited interactions are necessary and undertaken without surrendering sacred rights or jurisdiction.

Our right to freely exercise and form a religious assembly is protected by the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) arts. 12, 18, 19, 20; International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) arts. 18, 19, 22, 27; Virginia Declaration of Rights (1776) and the First Amendment of the Constitution for the united States of America circa 1781, which guarantees the free exercise of religion, the right of assembly, and the separation of Church and STATE; and the maxims of Natural and Common Law.*

This Constitution binds us and those who come after us, preserving the sacred trust of The Divine, our ancestors, and guiding future generations in harmony, freedom, and divine order.

## ARTICLE I NAME, NATURE, MISSION

**1.1 Name:** The religious assembly shall be known as **The Saiyonan Temple of Ritual and Devotion.**

**1.2 Nature:** A private, unincorporated ecclesiastical assembly and trust convened by living women, men, and chosen self-identifications (in respect to human form) in sacred covenant, operating with deep reverence for ancestral heritage, ancestral veneration, ancestral magick, ceremony, rite of passage, divination, ritual, magick, witchcraft, sorcery, wizardry, and the land.

**1.3 Mission:** To help souls transcend beyond pain and suffering, manifest, and expand their consciousness while on their path of remembrance through spiritual devotion, breathwork, movement, journaling, silence, meditation, hoodoo, witchcraft, wizardry, sorcery, magick (ancestral, elemental, ceremonial), sacred education, astrology/soul-mapping, pastoral care, rites of passage, and intentional nourishment. Furthermore, we extend our offerings to help heal and restore balance through love, truth, peace, freedom, and justice.

**1.4 Non-Commercial Stewardship:** All offerings are donations and sacred exchanges, not sales of goods or services. The Ministry conducts no public business and operates entirely in a spiritual and private capacity.

The Temple may receive, acquire, prepare, consecrate, maintain, and distribute candles, oils, herbs, resins, sprays, waters, perfumes, colognes, books, ritual vessels, altar materials, written teachings, and other spiritual essentials for use in divination, healing, ceremony, ritual, seership, worship, spiritual education, member care, and devotional practice. The items are held as instruments of ministry and are not commercial inventory when acquired, maintained, or extended for Temple use. Members may donate to the Temple for the purpose of ensuring that ritual tools, spiritual essentials, and sacred materials remain available for community use, member support, ceremony, healing work, devotional practice, and other ministry functions. Such donations are received in support of the Temple's religious work and shall not be treated as commercial payments, product purchases, retail, or marketplace transactions.

**1.5 Atonomy:** The Ministry stands independent of all corporate jurisdictions and preserves its inherent right of worship, assembly, and self-governance. We uphold the separation of Church and STATE. We affirm that The Saiyonan Temple of Ritual and Devotion is governed solely by divine, natural, and ecclesiastical law. No **GOVERNMENT BODY, STATUTORY CODE, or REGULATORY AGENCY** derived from the **UNITED STATES CORPORATION** has authority over the Temple, doctrine, ministry, or practice of this assembly.

## ARTICLE II

### SOURCES OF AUTHORITY AND INTERPRETATION

**2.1 Sources and Definitions:** For purposes of this Constitution and all internal norms: Divine Law refers to the will and wisdom of The Divine as apprehended by conscience, prayer, ancestral tradition, and right reason. Spiritual Law concerns the right relationship among the Creator, the living soul, the community, and creation, including duties of truthfulness, non-harm, restoration, and stewardship. Natural Law recognizes self-evident principles rooted in reality and justice (cause and effect, non-injury, the duty to keep covenant, and remedy where rights are infringed upon). Ecclesiastical/Canon Law refers to the Ministry's rules, customs, and disciplines for sacred assembly, doctrine, rites, and pastoral governance. Common Law refers to reasoned judgment, custom, equity, and due process—notice and an opportunity to be heard—applied within our private forum. International Human-Rights Norms refers to widely recognized standards (e.g., UDHR, ICCPR) used as moral guidance to safeguard dignity, conscience, association, privacy, and peaceful assembly. External Civil Obligations refers to narrowly applicable duties arising from interactions with civil authorities that do not infringe protected religious exercise.

**2.2 Norms, Customs, and Communal Order:** Internal interpretation follows this order of precedence: (a) Divine and Spiritual Law; (b) this Constitution and duly adopted ecclesiastical norms; (c) Natural-Law principles and Common-Law equity/due process; (d) International human-rights norms as moral reference; (e) External civil obligations to the extent consistent with sacred rights.

All norms of the Temple shall be interpreted in alignment with the purpose of remembrance, restoration, devotion, spiritual sovereignty, and right relationship among the living body of the assembly. No norm shall be read in a manner that severs the Temple from its mission, ancestral wisdom, ritual practice, spiritual conscience, or duty of care toward its members. Where interpretation is required, the Temple shall seek the meaning that most preserves spiritual integrity, communal harmony, collective accountability, and the free exercise of the Temple's religious nature.

**2.3 Resolutions and Ethical Conduct:** Questions of doctrine, faith, rites, ministerial duties, and membership are inherently ecclesiastical. Such matters are resolved within the Ministry and are not justiciable in civil or commercial venues. Resolutions are rooted in the protections given by the first amendment of the Constitution for the united States of America *circa 1781*.

**2.4 Private Ministerial Matters:** All internal disputes, questions of discipline, and interpretive issues shall proceed first through the Ministry pursuant to Article VIII. Participation constitutes agreement to this Ministry and its remedies.

**2.5 Non-Derogation of Rights:** The enumeration of rights and duties in this Constitution shall not be construed to deny or disparage other inherent rights retained by the Ministry and its members within constitutional law, universal law, spiritual law, and natural Law.

**2.6 Presumptions of Interpretation:** Unless expressly stated otherwise: (a) provisions are construed to preserve liberty of conscience and privacy; (b) relationships are presumed non-commercial and not-for-profit to uphold the mission and sacred relationship between the Ministry and its members; (c) consent is voluntary, informed, and revocable within the bounds of covenant by way of written and or oral communication; (d) the Ministry’s autonomy is preserved and is not severed upon the discretion of any **GOVERNMENT BODY, STATUTORY CODE, or REGULATORY AGENCY** derived from the **UNITED STATES CORPORATION** or by any individual, person, or soul within or outside the ministry.

**2.7 Conflict and Accommodation:** Where an external civil demand appears to conflict with ministerial duties, the Ministry shall: (a) seek accommodation or exemption in good faith; (b) narrowly comply only to the extent indispensably necessary; (c) preserve non-waiver of ecclesiastical rights and jurisdiction.

**2.8 Notice and Non-Waiver:** No custom, interaction, or omission shall constitute waiver of rights or consent to foreign jurisdiction. Waivers, if any, must be explicit, written, narrowly tailored, and approved by competent authority within the Ministry. No **GOVERNMENT BODY or REGULATORY AGENCY** derived from the **UNITED STATES CORPORATION** and its **SUBSIDIARIES** thereof may infringe upon any inalienable rights of the members of the ministry or the ministerial body.

**2.9 Interpretation of Terms:** Terms used in the singular include the plural and vice versa; all genders include each other; “including” means “including without limitation;” “in writing” includes secure electronic forms recognized by the Ministry.

**2.10 Severability and Survival:** If any clause is deemed invalid by competent ecclesiastical authority or by unavoidable external effect, the remaining provisions continue in full force. Core protections—jurisdiction, privacy, confidentiality, non-commercial stewardship, sacred-use protections, ethical conduct, member accountability, and records of resolution—survive dissolution or reorganization.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **STATEMENT OF FAITH AND VALUES**

**3.1 Soul Identity:** We affirm that every living soul is a divine emanation of the Most High Creator (Divine Mother, Great Mother, Source, The Great Father, The Void in which we are a part) manifested in this three dimensional realm with purpose, memory, and an inner blueprint. Each soul carries within it the potential for wholeness, liberation, sacred mastery, and has a capacity to permeate love throughout every dimension and reality beyond space and time. Each soul is unique — its origin can be explained and expressed through occult knowledge and mysteries, intuitive explanation, philosophy, non-materialist science, and ontological mathematics.

**3.2 Healing and Remembrance:** True sovereignty is remembered through healing and the equilibrium of the mind, body, soul, and spirit.

**3.3 Practices:** Spiritual devotion, breathwork, movement, journaling, silence, meditation, hoodoo, witchcraft, wizardry, sorcery, magick (ancestral, elemental, ceremonial), sacred education, astrology/soul-mapping, pastoral care, rites of passage, and intentional nourishment are core tools of transformation and remembrance.

**3.4 Guidance and Wisdom:** The Ministry is guided by Source wisdom, ancestral wisdom, spiritual discernment, and divine authority embodied in sacred communities.

**3.5 Core Values:** Love, peace, truth, respect, responsibility, emotional maturity, justice, sacred service, devotion, spiritual discipline, honor, reverence, offerings, and tranquility.

**3.6 Practical Engagement:** Public guidance shall honor the privacy of inner spiritual work reserved for members.

## **ARTICLE IV JURISDICTION AND BOUNDARIES**

**4.1 Private Religious Status:** The Ministry operates solely in a private, spiritual, and religious capacity. This assembly is protected by the **first amendment of the Constitution for the united States of America (1781)**.

**4.2 Foreign to Corporate Jurisdiction:** The Ministry is separate and distinct from any corporate jurisdiction and does not voluntarily submit to such authority. No **GOVERNMENT BODY** or **REGULATORY AGENCY** derived from the **UNITED STATES CORPORATION** and its **SUBSIDIARIES** thereof may infringe upon any inalienable rights of the members of the ministry or the ministerial body.

**4.3 Notice:** These Divine Laws serve as continuing notice of the Ministry's private and ecclesiastical nature. Members of The Saiyonan Temple of Ritual and Devotion may be notified of amendments made to this constitution via electronic, written, or verbal communication. Updates and other notices will be made available on the website and within the Temple's archives.

## **ARTICLE V MEMBERSHIP**

**5.1 Classes of Membership:** The Ministry may recognize: (a) Candidates/Probationary Members (initial formation period); (b) Members (in full covenant); (c) Ministerial Members (commissioned for

defined service); and (d) Honorary/Emeritus (recognized for long service). Classes and privileges are defined by ecclesiastical norms.

**5.2 Admission Process:** Admission ordinarily includes: (a) application and interview held by the Head Witch; (b) orientation to the ministry, path, values, and private forum; (c) reading and initialing the membership agreement sections; (d) signature of the covenant; and (e) a probationary period (typically 60–120 days) focused on practice and alignment.

**5.3 Affirmations of Covenant:** Each member affirms to: (a) welcome healing and remembrance; (b) uphold love, peace, truth, respect, responsibility, discipline, devotion, emotional maturity, accountability, and justice; (c) honor sacred privacy; (d) refrain from all forms of harm of self and others; (e) support the community through presence, service, and offerings as able.

**5.4 Duties of Members:** Duties include continuous devotional participation in agreed practices, respectful conduct in all ministry spaces, adherence to confidentiality, the protection and respect of the temple, its members, and property, timely communication with the coven and council, and cooperation in restorative processes where harm has occurred.

**5.5 Prohibited Conduct:** Blatant disrespect; abuse (spiritual, verbal, psychological, emotional, physical); coercion or threats; malicious misrepresentation; breach of confidentiality; disruption of sacred space; misappropriation of teachings or property; or acts causing harm to living souls or community life will result in immediate suspension or termination and, as warranted, spiritual and lawful recourse. All members must govern and conduct themselves with integrity, respect, and reverence for themselves and others.

**5.6 Pastoral Care Boundaries:** Spiritual devotion is distinct from medical, psychological, or legal services. The Head witch and all members must avoid all legal diagnosing or the prescribing of any medications. Referrals are offered when needs exceed spiritual scope.

**5.7 Confidentiality and Data:** Member information is collected minimally and used solely for ministry purposes. Recording of sessions or gatherings by anyone other than appointed by the ministry requires explicit permission. Unauthorized disclosure is a breach of trust subject to the termination of membership.

**5.8 Donations and Sacred Exchange:** All offerings, tithes, gifts, and donations made to the Temple are voluntary sacred contributions given in support of the Temple's religious mission, ministries, teachings, operations, and charitable works. Such offerings are made as expressions of devotion, participation, stewardship, and commitment to the spiritual life of the community.

Donations are non-refundable and do not constitute the purchase of goods, services, privileges, spiritual outcomes, ministerial favor, or commercial rights. Participation in the Temple and its ministries is grounded in faith, mutual respect, and shared purpose rather than commercial exchange.

The Temple may establish suggested donation levels, contribution tiers, or membership offerings to support varying degrees of formation, engagement, education, fellowship, and ministry participation.

Such designations are intended solely for administrative and organizational purposes and shall not be construed as creating ownership interests, contractual rights, or commercial entitlements.

The Temple recognizes that financial circumstances vary among individuals. Requests for accommodation, reduced contributions, or alternative forms of service and support may be considered pastorally and at the discretion of Temple leadership in accordance with the values of compassion, equity, and spiritual care.

**5.9 Discipline and Restoration:** Where concerns arise, the Ministry favors admonition and restorative steps: ministerial counsel, corrective plans, temporary suspension, and, if necessary, termination. Serious violations may warrant immediate action. Restoration requires acknowledgment, repair, and renewed covenant.

**5.10 Termination:** Grounds include violations listed in §5.5, persistent breach of values, refusal to observe privacy, or conduct substantially injuring the mission. Termination may be permanent and may include a bar to re-entry.

**5.11 Withdrawal:** A member may withdraw by oral or written notice. Confidential data remains protected; donations offered to date remain sacred gifts.

**5.12 Reinstatement:** Former members may petition for reinstatement after a sixty (60) day period of reflection. Reinstatement is discretionary and may require conditions for healing and accountability.

**5.13 Records and Privacy:** Membership rolls and ministerial notes are private ecclesiastical records. Access is limited to those with a defined need in ministry governance or care.

**5.14 Convocations and Counsel:** The Ministry may convene member gatherings for formation, counsel, and community input. Advisory votes may be taken; philosophy and core governance remain the responsibility of the Steward, Council, and Trustees under this Constitution.

**5.15 Non-Assignability:** Membership is a personal spiritual relationship and cannot be assigned or transferred.

## **ARTICLE VI GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP**

**6.1 Founding Steward:** Head Witch serves as the primary custodian of the Temple's spiritual vision, sacred traditions, teachings, philosophy, and ministerial discernment. The Head Witch is entrusted with preserving the integrity of the Saiyonan Path and ensuring that the Temple remains aligned with its mission, foundational principles, and divine purpose as expressed within this Constitution.

**6.2 Ecclesiastical Council:** The Ecclesiastical Council shall consist of no fewer than three (3) and no more than seven (7) members in good standing. The Council shall provide guidance concerning doctrine, ethics, spiritual formation, member care, ministerial standards, and matters affecting the life of the Temple. The Council must reach decisions through discernment, wisdom, and consensus whenever possible. When consensus cannot be reached, final decisions will be made by The Head Witch in Her divine order.

**6.3 Board of Trustees:** The Board of Trustees shall consist of no fewer than three (3) and no more than seven (7) Trustees responsible for the temporal stewardship of the Temple. Trustees shall oversee property, financial affairs, records, risk management, and other administrative matters necessary for the lawful operation and sustainability of the Temple. Trustees shall perform their duties with loyalty, care, prudence, good faith, and fidelity to the Temple's mission.

**6.4 Conflict of Interest:** All officers, ministers, trustees, council members, and individuals serving in positions of authority shall disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest. Persons with a conflict shall recuse themselves from deliberations and decisions concerning the matter in question. No part of the Temple's donations, assets, or resources shall inure to the private benefit of any individual except as reasonable compensation for services rendered in furtherance of the Temple's mission.

**6.5 Ministerial Orders:** The Temple may establish ministerial orders and paths of service, including but not limited to witches, wizards, sorcerers, sorceresses, priests, priestesses, manbos, hounsans, educators, rites leaders, ritual facilitators, and other offices deemed necessary for the fulfillment of the Temple's mission. Individuals may be recognized, commissioned, ordained, or appointed according to standards established by the Head Witch in Her divine order and the governing documents of the Temple.

**6.6 Meetings and Quorum:** The Ecclesiastical Council and Board of Trustees shall gather as necessary to provide spiritual guidance, stewardship, discernment, and oversight for the Temple and its ministries. Such gatherings may occur in person or through appropriate electronic means when circumstances require.

The Head Witch shall constitute a quorum for the consideration of matters brought before the Temple. Decisions shall be made in Her divine order, in good faith, with wisdom, discernment, and consideration for the well-being of the Temple, its members, and its mission.

Records of significant decisions, appointments, resolutions, and actions shall be maintained within the confidential archives of the Temple for the preservation of continuity, accountability, and institutional memory.

**6.7 Succession:** The Head Witch shall maintain a written instrument identifying interim steward(s), succession procedures, or other measures necessary to ensure continuity of leadership. Any permanent successor to the office of the Head Witch shall be confirmed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Coven/Council and a majority vote of the Board of Trustees unless otherwise provided by a valid succession instrument.

**6.8 Removal from Office:** Any officer, trustee, council member, minister, or appointed leader may be removed from office for cause, including but not limited to gross misconduct, abuse of authority, breach of fiduciary duty, violation of ethical standards, abandonment of duties, or conduct materially harmful to the Temple. Removal shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Coven/Council and a majority vote of the Board of Trustees following notice, review, and a reasonable opportunity to be heard.

## **ARTICLE VII DONATIONS, ASSESTS, AND PROPERTY**

**7.1 Offerings:** Financial support for the Temple shall be received through tithes, offerings, gifts, and other sacred donations voluntarily given in support of its religious mission, ministries, charitable works, and operations. All such contributions are donations and non-refundable.

**7.2 Use of Funds:** All funds, assets, and resources of the Temple shall be used solely in furtherance of its religious, educational, charitable, and ministerial purposes. Such uses may include ministerial support and care, educational programs, benevolence, community outreach, facilities, sacred materials, stipends, operational needs, and prudent reserves for future contingencies.

**7.3 Property and Assets:** All property, assets, and resources of the Temple are held in trust for the fulfillment of its mission and shall not be distributed for private benefit except as reasonable compensation for authorized services rendered. Upon dissolution of the Temple, any remaining assets shall be transferred to one or more religious, charitable, or educational organizations whose purposes are substantially similar to those of the Temple, as determined by the Coven/Council and Board of Trustees.

**7.4 Transparency:** The Temple shall maintain honest and responsible stewardship of its resources and affairs. Periodic summaries concerning the financial health, activities, and operations of the Temple may be provided to members in a manner deemed appropriate by Temple leadership. Detailed financial records, books, and supporting documentation shall remain confidential but shall be available for review by authorized Trustees, members of the Coven/Council, and designated Coven leadership in accordance with their duties and responsibilities.

**7.5 Stewardship and Significant Expenditures:** Expenditures exceeding thresholds established by the Temple shall require the approval of both the Coven/Council and the Board of Trustees. Such review shall ensure that significant uses of Temple resources remain aligned with its mission, long-term stability, and sacred responsibilities. In circumstances requiring immediate action to protect the Temple,

its members, property, or ministries, emergency expenditures may be authorized in accordance with the provisions set forth in Article XVI.

## **ARTICLE VIII DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

**8.1 Principles.** Disputes are to be handled in peace, confidentiality, timeliness, fairness, and fidelity to this Constitution. The intentions are to adhere to truth, restore where possible, and protect the community.

**8.2 Direct Dialogue:** Parties first seek resolution by direct conversation within 15 days of awareness of the issue, documenting concerns and proposed remedies in good faith.

**8.3 Mediation:** If unresolved, either party may request mediation by an appointed minister or neutral from the Council. Mediation should commence within 30 days and conclude within 45 days unless extended for good cause.

**8.4 Arbitration Tribunal:** Unresolved matters proceed to private arbitration before one or three neutral panelists selected by the Council with party input. Panelists must be free of conflict of interest and well versed in this Constitution and the Ministry's Book of Ethics.

**8.5 Procedure:** When a dispute, grievance, or allegation is brought before the Coven/Council, all parties shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard and to provide any information relevant to the matter. The Coven/Council may review written statements, supporting materials, witness accounts, and other information it deems helpful in reaching a fair and informed decision. Proceedings may be conducted in person or through appropriate electronic means. In all matters, the Coven/Council shall seek truth, fairness, restoration, and the preservation of harmony within the Temple, rendering its decisions according to wisdom, discernment, equity, and good conscience.

**8.6 Resolutions:** The Coven/Council may recommend or require actions intended to restore harmony, accountability, trust, and balance within the Temple. Such actions may include apologies, corrective measures, restitution where appropriate, fulfillment of covenant responsibilities, temporary suspension of privileges, removal from positions of service, termination of membership, or other measures deemed necessary for the protection and well-being of the Temple community.

**8.7 Decisions and Records:** The Coven/Council shall issue a written decision setting forth its findings and any actions required. Such decisions shall be preserved within the confidential archives of the Temple. Sensitive information may be restricted or sealed when necessary to protect privacy, safety, or the well-being of those involved.

**8.8 Review of Decisions:** A party may request review of a Coven/Council decision within twenty (20) days if substantial new information becomes available, a significant error is believed to have occurred, or material unfairness affected the process. A review panel appointed by the Temple may uphold, modify, or reconsider the decision as wisdom, fairness, and justice require.

**8.9 Costs:** The Tribunal may recommend a fair allocation of reasonable costs associated with a proceeding, taking into consideration the circumstances of the matter, the good faith of the parties, and the interests of equity. Such allocations shall not be punitive in nature.

**8.10 Protection from Harm:** Nothing in this Constitution shall prevent any person from seeking lawful protection, assistance, or remedies in circumstances involving harm, abuse, fraud, threats to safety, or other serious matters where immediate action is necessary. The Temple's expectations regarding confidentiality shall remain in effect to the fullest extent permitted by law.

**8.11 Timeliness:** Concerns, grievances, and disputes should ordinarily be brought before the Coven/Council within one (1) year of their discovery. The Coven/Council may extend this period when fairness, justice, or the circumstances of the matter reasonably warrant additional consideration.

## **ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS**

**9.1 Proposals:** Amendments may be proposed by the Head Witch, any Trustee, or any two Council members.

**9.2 Adoption:** Amendments require two-thirds Council approval and majority Trustee approval.

**9.3 Review:** This Constitution is reviewed every five years for clarity and fidelity to mission.

**ARTICLE X  
ADOPTION**

Adopted as the supreme divine Laws of The Saiyonan Temple of Ritual and Devotion on this

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_\_.

Head Witch: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Coven/Council Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Coven/Council Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Coven/Council Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Trustee: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Trustee: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Trustee: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Official Seal:

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **PRIVACY, RECORDS, & COMMUNICATIONS**

**11.1 Stewardship of Information:** The Temple shall collect and maintain only such information as is reasonably necessary for its religious, educational, charitable, and ministerial purposes. Records shall be securely maintained and access shall be limited to those entrusted with a legitimate ministry-related responsibility.

**11.2 Private Communications:** Spiritual counsel, ministerial communications, confessions, and other sensitive communications shared in trust shall be treated with the highest degree of confidentiality and respect, consistent with the laws applicable to the Ministry.

**11.3 Public Communications:** Public statements, publications, and communications issued on behalf of the Temple shall reflect truthfulness, humility, dignity, and fidelity to the Temple's mission and values. Private matters shall not be disclosed without consent except where required by law or necessary to prevent serious harm.

## **ARTICLE XII**

### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & MINISTERIAL WORKS**

**12.1 Stewardship and Ownership:** The teachings, rites, liturgies, curricula, writings, recordings, symbols, sacred texts, educational materials, and other tangible or intangible works created by or for the Temple shall be held in stewardship for the benefit of the Ministry and its mission.

**12.2 Permitted Use:** Members may utilize Temple materials for personal study, devotion, spiritual formation, and participation within the Ministry. Reproduction, distribution, adaptation, publication, or creation of derivative works is strictly prohibited unless given expressed consent by the Head Witch or anyone who has created materials. Permission is required from the appropriate Temple authority.

**12.3 Protection of Sacred Works:** Unauthorized use, misappropriation, or misuse of Temple materials may constitute a breach of covenant and may result in spiritual, ecclesiastical, and lawful remedies as appropriate.

## **ARTICLE XIII**

### **EXTERNAL RELATIONS, COMITY, & CIVIC PEACE**

**13.1 Peaceful Coexistence:** The Temple seeks peaceful and respectful coexistence with civil authorities, communities, organizations, and individuals while preserving its religious liberty, conscience, and spiritual autonomy.

**13.2 Courtesy and Mutual Respect:** The Temple extends courtesy, respect, and goodwill toward people of differing beliefs, traditions, and paths, seeking cooperation where possible and peaceful disagreement where necessary.

**13.3 Fellowship Beyond Borders:** The Temple may establish relationships, alliances, and fellowship with like-purposed ministries, communities, and assemblies throughout the world. Indigenous traditions, ancestral wisdom, and cultural heritage shall be approached with honor, respect, reverence, and integrity.

## **ARTICLE XIV**

### **REVIEW & INTERPRETATION**

**14.1 Principles of Interpretation:** This Constitution shall be interpreted in a manner that preserves the Temple's religious mission, liberty of conscience, dignity, privacy, and spiritual integrity.

**14.2 Clarity:** Where ambiguity exists, interpretations that best uphold the Temple's purpose, private character, non-commercial nature, and commitment to harmony shall be upheld.

**14.3 Preservation of Spiritual Autonomy:** Nothing contained herein shall be construed to surrender the Temple's authority over its philosophy, practices, internal governance, ministerial affairs, or matters of conscience.

## **ARTICLE XV**

### **SUCCESSION & CONTINUITY OF GOVERNANCE**

**15.1 Succession Instrument:** The Temple shall maintain a written succession instrument among its confidential records identifying interim steward(s), emergency delegates, succession procedures, and other measures necessary to ensure continuity of leadership.

**15.2 Vacancy or Incapacity:** In the event of vacancy, resignation, removal, death, or incapacity of the Head Witch, designated interim steward(s) shall serve until a successor is confirmed in accordance with this Constitution.

**15.3 Continuity of Operations:** The Temple shall maintain procedures governing signatory authority, custody of records, preservation of archives, access to essential accounts, and protection of seals and instruments necessary to ensure uninterrupted operation of the Ministry.

## **ARTICLE XVI EMERGENCY PROVISIONS**

**16.1 Emergency Council:** During periods of crisis, disaster, incapacity, significant disruption, or other extraordinary circumstances affecting the Ministry, an Emergency Council consisting of the Head witch (or designated interim steward), two members of the Coven/Council, and one Trustee may take temporary actions necessary to protect members, records, property, and the continuity of the Ministry.

**16.2 Temporary Authority:** Extraordinary measures exercised under this Article shall remain temporary in nature and shall expire within ninety (90) days unless renewed by the Coven/Council and Board of Trustees.

**16.3 Record and Review:** All actions taken pursuant to this Article shall be documented and reviewed following the conclusion of the emergency for purposes of accountability, learning, and institutional improvement.

## **ARTICLE XVII PRINCIPLES & GUIDING MAXIMS**

**17.1 Good Faith:** All members shall act with honesty, integrity, respect, sincerity, and good faith in their dealings with the Temple and one another.

**17.2 Non-Injury:** Members shall avoid causing unnecessary harm and shall seek restoration where injury has occurred.

**17.3 Truth and Integrity:** Truthfulness shall be honored in word and deed. Deception, fraud, and deliberate misrepresentation undermine sacred trust and covenant.

**17.4 Consent:** Agreements, covenants, and commitments shall be entered freely and with informed consent. Anyone entering agreements, covenants, and commitments shall do so under sound mind. Coercion, manipulation, or deception shall invalidate genuine agreement.

**17.5 Stewardship and Responsibility:** Rights and privileges within the Temple carry corresponding duties and responsibilities, which shall be exercised with wisdom and care.

**17.6 Equity and Fairness:** Matters of governance, discipline, and dispute resolution shall be approached with fairness, discernment, compassion, and consideration of all relevant circumstances.

**17.7 Reason and Capacity:** No member shall be expected to perform duties beyond their reasonable scope, capacity, or circumstances.

**17.8 Voluntary Participation:** Silence, fear, coercion, or undue pressure shall not be interpreted as consent, agreement, or voluntary participation.

**17.9 Dignity and Privacy:** Every member possesses inherent dignity and shall be treated with respect. Privacy shall be honored in a manner consistent with conscience, safety, and the well-being of the community.

## ARTICLE XVIII

### ANCESTRAL HONOR, ABORIGINAL RELATIONS & EARTH STEWARDSHIP

**18.1 Honor to American Aborigines:** The Temple recognizes, honors, and respects the enduring relationship between American Aborigines, their cultures, their histories, their lands, and their spiritual traditions. Where the Temple serves, it shall endeavor to learn local histories and extend respect and courtesy.

**18.2 Honor to Ancestors:** The Temple recognizes, honors, and respects the sacred relationship between the living and their ancestors. Ancestral remembrance, wisdom, guidance, and veneration are recognized

as meaningful aspects of the Temple's philosophy, spiritual practice, and understanding of continuity across generations.

**18.3 Cultural Respect and Self-Determination:** The Temple affirms the dignity, cultural heritage, self-determination, and sacred traditions of American Aborigines and seeks to conduct itself in a manner consistent with respect, reciprocity, and honorable relationship.

**18.4 Stewardship of Creation:** The Temple recognizes the living world as a sacred trust and shall encourage mindful stewardship of land, water, fire, air, resources, plants, animals, and ecosystems for the benefit of present and future generations.

**ANNEXES**  
**INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

**Annex A.** Declaration of Faith & Purpose.

**Annex B.** Ministry Membership Agreement.

**Annex C.** Code of Ethics & Safeguarding Policy.

**Annex D.** Ecclesiastical Dispute-Resolution Rules (mediation & arbitration procedure).

**Annex E.** Financial Stewardship Policy (donations, reserves, spending thresholds).

**Annex F.** Records, Privacy & Data Security Policy.

**Annex G.** Succession Instrument & Continuity Protocols.