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All-Ceylon Young Men's Muslim Association Conference (Incorporation) Act, No. 31 of 1968

Date of Assent : June 22, 1968

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*All-Ceylon Young Men's Muslim Association
Conference (Incorporation) Act, No. 31 of 1968*

L. D.—O. 46/67.

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE ALL-CEYLON YOUNG
MEN'S MUSLIM ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

[Date of Assent: June 22, 1968].

WHEREAS a Conference of representatives of several Young Men's Muslim Associations has hitherto been established at Colombo under the style of "The All-Ceylon Young Men's Muslim Association Conference" for the purpose of effectually carrying out its objects according to the rules agreed to by its members:

Preamble.

And whereas the said Conference has heretofore been successfully carrying out its objects, and it is now desirable that the said Conference should be incorporated:

BE it enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and the House of Representatives of Ceylon in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the All-Ceylon Young Men's Muslim Association Conference (Incorporation) Act, No. 31 of 1968.

Short title.

2. The members for the time being of the Conference known as the All-Ceylon Young Men's Muslim Association Conference (hereinafter referred to as "the Conference") shall be a body corporate (hereinafter referred to as "the Corporation") with perpetual succession, a common seal, and the name "The All-Ceylon Young Men's Muslim Association Conference". The Corporation may sue and be sued in such name.

Incorporation of the All-Ceylon Young Men's Muslim Association Conference.

3. The general objects of the Corporation shall be—

General Objects of the Corporation

(a) to aim at developing a generation of men worthy of the highest traditions of Islam and capable of the highest deeds to serve their country in every branch of modern life;

(b) to spread the virtues of Islam and its culture;

(c) to bring about an Islamic synthesis of the culture of the East and the West by accepting what is good in them;

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- (d) to promote the cause of education generally and of adult education in particular;
- (e) to render assistance to all Young Men's Muslim Associations in Ceylon in all matters of common interest;
- (f) to arrange inter-Young Men's Muslim Association debates, oratorical contests, games and other activities;
- (g) to maintain contacts with similar institutions in Ceylon and abroad, *inter alia*, by subscribing to magazines and periodicals, inviting delegates to participate in annual conferences and arranging lectures and discourses by prominent personalities;
- (h) to collect and disseminate all such information that may be considered useful for all Young Men's Muslim Associations in Ceylon, and to advise such Associations in implementing the recommendations and proposals that may be contained in such information;
- (i) to arrange annual conferences to be held in Colombo or in rotation in other parts in Ceylon, where delegates may discuss matters of common interest, exchange views and establish contacts with each other;
- (j) to foster inter-communal amity;
- (k) to arrange sports meets, picnics, camps and educational tours in Ceylon and abroad;
- (l) to publish an annual journal of the Conference;
- (m) to initiate, assist, co-ordinate and conduct youth activities;
- (n) to disseminate information and exchange ideas regularly for the benefit of the general membership; and
- (o) to take all other steps that are necessary and desirable for the promotion of the above-mentioned aims and objects.

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4. (1) The affairs of the Corporation shall, subject to the rules for the time being of the Corporation, be administered by an Executive Committee which shall consist of the office-bearers of the Corporation, elected at the annual general meeting of the Corporation, and all persons who were formerly Presidents and General Secretaries of the Conference.

The affairs of the Corporation to be administered by an Executive Committee.

(2) The Executive Committee may delegate any of its functions to one or more Standing Committees or Sub-Committees.

5. (1) The General Secretary of the Corporation shall keep a register of the members of the Corporation.

Register of members.

(2) The register of the members of the Corporation shall contain the following particulars:—

(a) In the case of affiliated members of the Corporation—

(i) the name and full postal address of each Association which is an affiliated member;

(ii) the date of inception of such Association;

(iii) the date on which the first annual general meeting of such Association was held;

(iv) the date on which such Association was enrolled as an affiliated member; and

(v) the date on which such Association ceased to be an affiliated member:

Provided, however, that in the case of affiliated members existing at the commencement of this Act, the requirements of subparagraphs (ii), (iii) and (iv) may be dispensed with.

(b) In the case of special members, past Presidents, past General Secretaries, and office-bearers and members of the Executive Committee—

(i) the name, full postal address and rank, profession or occupation of each such person;

(ii) the date on which such person was elected as a member; and

(iii) the date on which such person ceased to be a member.

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Rules.

6. (1) The Corporation may, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting at a general meeting of the Corporation, make rules for admission to and removal from, membership of the Corporation, for the performance of the duties of the office-bearers and other members of the Executive Committee of the Corporation, for the procedure in the transaction of business, and otherwise generally for the management of the affairs of the Corporation and the accomplishment of its objects.

(2) Any of the rules of the Corporation, excepting the rules appearing under Articles 1 and 2 in Chapter I of those rules, may be amended or rescinded by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting at a general meeting of the Corporation, provided that such amendment or rescission shall have been previously approved by the Executive Committee.

(3) Subject to the provisions of sub-sections (1) and (2) of this section, the rules set out in the Schedule to this Act shall be the rules of the Corporation.

Liabilities of
and debts due
to the
Conference.

7. All debts of the Conference existing at the commencement of this Act shall be paid by the Corporation and all debts due and fees, subscriptions and grants payable to the Conference shall be paid to the Corporation.

The Corporation
may hold
property.

8. The Corporation may acquire and hold any movable or immovable property by right of purchase, grant, gift, testamentary disposition or otherwise and, subject to the rules for the time being of the Corporation, may sell, mortgage, lease, exchange or otherwise dispose of any movable or immovable property of the Corporation.

Seal of the
Corporation
and the
procedure for
affixing it.

9. The seal of the Corporation may be altered at the pleasure of the Corporation. The seal shall not be affixed to any instrument whatsoever except in the presence of two office-bearers of the Corporation one of whom shall be the President or in his absence a Vice-President, who shall sign their names on the instrument in token of their presence, and such signing shall be independent of the signing of any person as a witness.

Custody of the
seal of the
Corporation.

10. The General Secretary of the Corporation shall have the custody of the seal of the Corporation.

11. Nothing in this Act contained shall prejudice or affect the rights of Her Majesty the Queen, Her Heirs and Successors or of any body politic or corporate or of any other person except such as are mentioned in this Act and those claiming by, from or under them.

Saving of
the rights of
Her Majesty,
etc.

SCHEDULE

*Rules of the All-Ceylon Young Men's Muslim Association
Conference.*

CHAPTER I.

Name, Scope and Objects of the Conference.

Article 1.—Name:

The name of the Association shall be "The All Ceylon Young Men's Muslim Association Conference", hereinafter called "the Conference".

Article 2.—Scope:

The Conference may participate in all activities, other than party politics, that promote good life according to the principles of Islam.

Article 3.—Aims, Objects and Powers:

The general objects of the Conference shall be—

- (a) to aim at developing a generation of men worthy of the highest traditions of Islam and capable of the highest deeds to serve their country in every branch of modern life;
- (b) to spread the virtues of Islam and its culture;
- (c) to bring about an Islamic synthesis of the culture of the East and the West by accepting what is good in them;
- (d) to promote the cause of education generally and of adult education in particular;
- (e) to render assistance to all Young Men's Muslim Associations in Ceylon in all matters of common interest;
- (f) to arrange inter-Young Men's Muslim Association debates, oratorical contests, games and other activities;
- (g) to maintain contacts with similar institutions in Ceylon and abroad, *inter alia*, by subscribing to magazines and periodicals, inviting delegates to participate in annual conferences and arranging lectures and discourses by prominent personalities;
- (h) to collect and disseminate all such information that may be considered useful for all Young Men's Muslim Associations in Ceylon, and to advise such Associations in implementing the recommendations and proposals that may be contained in such information;

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- (i) to arrange annual conferences to be held in Colombo or in rotation in other parts in Ceylon, where delegates may discuss matters of common interest, exchange views and establish contacts with each other;
- (j) to foster inter-communal amity;
- (k) to arrange sports meets, picnics, camps and educational tours in Ceylon and abroad;
- (l) to publish an annual journal of the Conference;
- (m) to institute, assist, co-ordinate and conduct youth activities;
- (n) to disseminate information and exchange ideas regularly for the benefit of the general membership; and
- (o) to take all other steps that are necessary and desirable for the promotion of the aims and objects as set out in this Chapter.

CHAPTER II

Membership and Privileges.

Article 1.—Qualification for Membership:

(a) All Young Men's Muslim Associations seeking to promote the general aims and objects of the Young Men's Muslim Association movement as outlined in Articles 2 and 3 of Chapter I shall be entitled to membership of the Young Men's Muslim Association Conference. Applications for such membership shall be made to the Executive Committee through the Honorary General Secretary. The Executive Committee in its discretion may accept such applications subject to the approval by the Conference at its next Annual General Meeting. The Executive Committee shall make a report to the Conference at its Annual General Meeting with regard to the eligibility for membership of the applicant.

(b) *Cancellation of Membership:* The Conference at its Annual General Meeting by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting may cancel the affiliation of any member Young Men's Muslim Association on the recommendation of the Executive Committee. Such recommendation shall be included in the agenda of the Annual General Meeting.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of sub-paragraph (b), any member Young Men's Muslim Association which fails to hold its Annual General Meeting for two consecutive years shall, *ipso facto*, cease to be a member Young Men's Muslim Association.

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Article 2.—Fees:

Young Men's Muslim Associations seeking membership shall pay a fee of not less than ten rupees per annum.

Article 3.—Classes of Members:

There shall be two classes of members of the Conference—

- (a) Ordinary; and
- (b) Special.

Ordinary members shall represent the member Associations while Special members shall be chosen from the Muslims of Ceylon who have rendered useful service to the Young Men's Muslim Association movement. There shall be at least one member of the first category from each member Association and not more than twenty members of the second category (of whom not more than ten may be Life-members) elected at the Annual General Meeting on the recommendation of the Executive Committee.

Article 4.—Privileges:

(1) (a) Special members shall be entitled to one vote each at any general meeting.

(b) Each member Young Men's Muslim Association shall be entitled to send one or more delegates to the Conference. If the delegation consists of two or more persons, it shall be entitled to two votes at the Conference. If, however, the delegation consists of one person, it shall be entitled to one vote only.

(2) Any member Association shall cease to enjoy privileges if it is in arrears of fees for more than two years. The Association concerned shall pay up all arrears in the event of seeking privileges unless specifically exempted partly or wholly by the Executive Committee. The Honorary General Secretary or his Assistant shall present, at the Executive Committee meeting immediately after the closing of nominations, a list of member Young Men's Muslim Associations entitled to the abovementioned privileges. Such list shall be circulated along with the list of nominees for the various posts.

CHAPTER III.

PATRON, VICE-PATRON AND OFFICE-BEARERS.

Article 1.—Patron:

A Patron of the Association shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting.

Article 2.—Vice-Patrons:

There shall be two Vice-Patrons of the Conference who shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting.

Article 3.—President:

There shall be a President of the Conference who will also function as Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Article 4.—Vice-Presidents:

There shall be three Vice-Presidents of the Conference.

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Article 5.—Secretaries:

There shall be one General Secretary and two Assistant Secretaries (Administrative Assistant and Public Relations Assistant). The General Secretary shall propose the names of the two Assistants to be approved at the Annual General Meeting of the Conference. The Secretary of the Conference or one of the Assistants, in the absence of the Secretary, shall also be the Secretary of the Executive Committee.

Article 6.—Treasurer:

There shall be a General Treasurer and an Assistant Treasurer of the Conference.

Article 7.—Librarian:

There shall be a Librarian elected at an Annual General Meeting.

Article 8—Executive Committee:

(a) Besides the President, the three Vice-Presidents, the Honorary General Secretary, the two Assistant Secretaries, the Honorary General Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer and the Librarian, the Executive Committee shall be composed of seven others to be elected by the Conference at the Annual General Meeting. All past Presidents, past Secretaries of the Conference shall also be members of the Executive Committee.

(b) Any office-bearer or elected member of the Executive Committee who absents himself from three consecutive meetings of the Executive Committee without a valid excuse given in writing, shall, *ipso facto*, cease to be a member of the Executive Committee.

Article 9—Auditor:

There shall be an Auditor elected at an Annual General Meeting.

Article 10—Central Council:

Besides the Executive Committee, the Central Council shall be composed of at least one member (maximum three) to be chosen by each member Young Men's Muslim Association.

CHAPTER IV.

MEETINGS AND MINUTES.

Article 1—The Conference:

(1) The Annual General Meeting of the Conference shall be held during the first-half of the year on a date to be fixed by the Executive Committee or at a Special General Meeting of the Conference.

(2) At all general meetings the quorum shall be seven member Young Men's Muslim Associations. Ten days' notice shall be given of all general meetings.

(3) Special General Meetings may be summoned either by the Executive Committee or on the requisition of seven member Young Men's Muslim Associations or five member Young Men's Muslim Associations and two members of the Executive Committee. Notice relating to such meetings shall state the object for which the meetings are to be held. The notice shall be sent to the General Secretary with a copy to the President.

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(4) At all such general meetings (annual and special) only member Young Men's Muslim Associations, Special members and elected office-bearers shall have the right to vote.

(5) Seven days' notice shall be given of all Special General Meetings.

Article 2—Executive Committee:

(a) The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a month and the quorum for the meeting shall be five. At least five days' notice shall be given of such meetings.

(b) The Executive Committee shall have the power to elect a member or members from among its members or from the membership of the member Young Men's Muslim Associations to fill casual vacancies in the Executive Committee.

(c) An emergency meeting of the Executive Committee may be summoned either by the President or the General Secretary. At least twenty-four hours' notice shall be given of such meetings.

Article 3—Minutes:

The Secretary shall maintain a proper and systematic record of the deliberations of all meetings. At the Annual General Meeting, the Honorary General Secretary shall present a Report on behalf of the Executive Committee.

Article 4:

The Central Council shall meet at least once in three months preferably out of Colombo, and the quorum shall be seven out of which at least five should be member Young Men's Muslim Associations. At least one week's notice shall be given of such meetings.

CHAPTER V.

OFFICE-BEARERS, THEIR STATUS AND POWERS.

Article 1—President and Vice-Presidents:

The President shall preside at all meetings at which he is present, and in the absence of the President one of the Vice-Presidents present may officiate for the President.

Article 2:

(a) The Executive Committee shall have in its charge the administration, conduct and control of all affairs of the Conference on behalf of the members according to these Rules.

(b) The Central Council shall be responsible for all policy-making and decisions of the Conference.

(c) At all meetings of the Central Council, member Young Men's Muslim Associations, Special members, elected office-bearers and past Presidents and Secretaries of the Conference shall have the right to vote.

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Article 3:

The Honorary General Secretary shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Conference and shall have such powers and rights as are recognised by the Executive Committee.

Article 4:

The Honorary Treasurer shall be responsible for the custody of all monies belonging to the Conference, their collection and disbursement, for the keeping of the books of account and for the rendering of true accounts whenever called upon by the Executive Committee.

Article 5:

Notwithstanding the provisions of the foregoing sub-rules, all office-bearers and members of the Executive Committee shall perform their several duties subject to these Rules and according to such directions as may be given to them from time to time by the Executive Committee; and the Executive Committee shall have the power to suspend from office any office-bearer and such office-bearer shall forthwith be reported to a general meeting, and if he is removed from office by a majority of those present and voting at such general meetings, a successor shall be elected in accordance with these Rules.

Article 6:

If the President or the General Secretary intends to seek candidature at a parliamentary election, or a local election, he shall be required to resign his office. Due publicity shall be given of such vacancies.

CHAPTER VI.

SUB-COMMITTEES.

Article 1:

The Executive Committee may appoint such sub-Committees as are required for the smooth and efficient working of the Conference and the members of a sub-Committee shall hold office until election of new members to such sub-Committee at the first meeting of the Executive Committee held after an Annual General Meeting.

Article 2:

Sub-Committees may, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, draft rules for their own working and decide on the programme of work to be followed during the year.

Article 3:

All sub-Committees elected by the Conference and the Executive Committee shall include the President, the Honorary General Secretary and the Honorary General Treasurer as *ex officio* members. The *ex officio* members need not necessarily be the Chairman and Secretary of a sub-Committee. In the absence of the Secretary, one of the Assistants nominated by the General Secretary shall represent the General Secretary at sub-Committee meetings.

Article 4:

All acts and resolutions of a sub-Committee shall come up for ratification at the meeting of the Executive Committee.

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CHAPTER VII.

CONTROL AND ADMINISTRATION OF PROPERTY AND FUNDS.

Article 1:

Powers of the Executive Committee regarding Property and Funds:

- (a) The Executive Committee shall have the general control and management of all property and funds of the Conference, and may for the purposes of the Conference—
 - (i) dispose of any movable property having a value not exceeding Rupees One Thousand,
 - (ii) incur in addition to the ordinary expenditure of the Conference, any extraordinary expenditure not exceeding Rupees Five Thousand in any one year, without the authority of a general meeting or of the Trustees.
- (b) Except as provided for in the foregoing sub-Rule, no act of the Executive Committee shall be valid or effective for the disposing of the immovable property of the said Conference or transferring any rights of the movable property or the funds of the Conference or for creating any liability or claim against the Conference, unless such act has been previously authorised at an Annual or Special General Meeting after due notice in writing has been given to all members in respect of such transaction, and such authority has been approved by a majority of the Trustees voting at a meeting of the Trustees as provided for in these Rules.

CHAPTER VIII.

Trustees.

Article 1.—Custody of property:

The custody of all immovable property belonging to the Conference shall be vested in a Board of Trustees consisting of five Trustees.

Article 2.—Election of Trustees:

- (a) The Trustees may be elected at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting and shall hold office for five years.
- (b) Any vacancy or vacancies among Trustees thereafter shall be filled by election at a Special General Meeting, within a period of three months; and the person or persons so elected shall hold office for the unexpired period only.
- (c) Not more than two office-bearers or members of the Executive Committee shall be eligible to be nominated or elected as a Trustee.
- (d) The rules regarding the procedure for the nomination and election of the office-bearers shall, *mutatis mutandis*, apply in regard to the nomination and election of Trustees.

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Article 3.—Disqualification from being elected a Trustee:

No person shall be elected or remain a Trustee if—

- (a) he is not a member of a member Young Men's Muslim Association or past President or past Secretary of the Conference; or
- (b) he is not a Muslim; or
- (c) he is less than thirty-five years of age; or
- (d) he is an undischarged bankrupt or insolvent, having been declared as such by any competent court; or
- (e) he is convicted on a criminal charge by any competent court; or
- (f) he is of unsound mind.

Article 4.—Powers of Trustees:

- (a) The Trustees shall have the power to grant or refuse to grant their approval to any disposition of property, or investment of funds or other transaction for which approval of the Trustees may be required by the operation of Article 1 of Chapter VII of these Rules.
- (b) The purchase of any immovable property for the Conference and the power to sell, mortgage, lease or otherwise alienate the immovable property belonging to the Conference shall be vested and exercised by the Board of Trustees provided, however, that such powers shall not be exercised without resolution of the Executive Committee approving the said purchase or alienation.

Article 5.—Duties of Office-bearers as regards transaction:

No office-bearer may place his signature to any document in respect of any transaction affecting the property of the Conference requiring the approval of the Trustees in accordance with Article 1 of Chapter VII of these Rules, unless he has first satisfied himself that the approval in writing of the Trustees to such transaction has been duly obtained.

Article 6.—Vacancies among the Trustees not to affect decisions:

No decision of the Trustees shall be deemed invalid by reason of any vacancy among them provided that such decision has been approved by not less than three Trustees at a meeting of the Trustees.

CHAPTER IX.

Miscellaneous.

Article 1.—Amendments:

Any amendment of these Rules, other than to Articles 1 and 2 of Chapter I, shall be passed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting at an Annual General Meeting of the Conference. All amendments from member Young Men's Muslim Associations to the Conference shall reach the Honorary General Secretary at least two months prior to the Annual General Meeting and shall be circulated to member Young Men's Muslim Associations with the notice convening the Annual General Meeting.

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Article 2:

The Office of the Conference shall be situated preferably in Colombo and selected by the Executive Committee.

Article 3.—Exemption from liability:

All persons entering or using any part of the Conference premises shall do so at their own risk and the Conference shall under no circumstances be liable to indemnify or compensate any such person for any loss, damage or injury suffered by him on the premises.

Article 4.—Nomination:

- (a) Nominations for the following posts shall be submitted to the Secretary seven days before an Annual General Meeting duly proposed and seconded by voting members and bearing the consent of the nominee:—

One President; Three Vice-Presidents; One Honorary General Secretary; One Honorary General Treasurer; One Librarian; Seven members of the Committee.

- (b) The Executive Committee shall meet within three days after the closing of the nominations and all nominations received shall be tabled at the meeting; and the list of nominees for the various offices shall be circularised to all voting members, including members of the Executive Committee.

Article 5.—Resolutions:

All resolutions to be moved at the Annual General Meeting shall first be submitted to the Executive Committee.

Article 6.—Bank Account:

The accounts of the Conference shall be kept with such bank or banks as the Executive Committee may determine and all cheques drawn against such accounts shall be signed by not less than two such office-bearers as the Executive Committee may decide.

Article 7.—Interpretation:

The decision of the Executive Committee shall be final regarding any interpretation of these Rules or anything not specifically provided for in these Rules.