

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ISLAMIC ASSOCIATION OF FORT WORTH

Article I: NAME

The name of the Association shall be the **Islamic Association of Fort Worth**, referred to as the **IAFW**. Each facility, building, or committee within the IAFW may also be referred to by a specific name. The facility located at 5747 Westcreek Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76133 is to be referred to as the **Dar UN-Noor Islamic Center**. The facility located at 6001 Chapman Rd, Watauga, TX 76148 is to be referred to as **Musjid Al-Sahaabah**. The school is to be referred to as the **ECRA Academy**.

Article II: BASIC PRINCIPALS

1. The Association is organized exclusively for Islamic religious activities. All its activities shall be in accordance with the Qur'an and Sunnah of the prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) and his companions. This will be done according to the interpretation and accepted view of the Ahlus Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah and as expounded by the four recognized Mazahib of Jurisprudence i.e. Hanafi, Shafi'i, Maliki and Hambali.
2. The meaning of Ahlus Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah will be as expounded by the following Ulema: - Moulana Muhammad Qasim Nanotwi, Moulana Khalil Ahmed Sahranpuri, Moulana Mahmoodul Hasan Deobandi and Moulana Ashraf Ali Thanvi Rahmatulaa Alayhi.

Article III: PURPOSE

In particular, the Association shall strive for:

1. Establishing the five pillars of Islam: -
 - a. Belief that our success in this life and the next is in obeying the commands of Allah and following the Sunnah of the prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam).
 - b. Perform Salaah five times daily.
 - c. Pay Zakaat.
 - d. Fast in the month of Ramadaan.
 - e. Perform Hajj once in a lifetime.
2. Encouraging people to practice upon the Qur'an, Sunnah and Shariah.
3. Providing an environment conducive to Islamic Ideals and values.
4. Establishing and maintaining facilities that would benefit the Muslim community e.g. Mosques, schools, community centers, libraries, baitul-maal, cemeteries, clinics, etc.
5. Providing assistance to needy people of any religious background. E.g. orphans, widows, destitute, refugees, uneducated people, etc. This assistance may include financial, medical, educational, counseling, legal, administrative help or any other help that may be required.
6. Promoting relations and understanding between Muslims and non-Muslims.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

1. All individuals who fulfill the following conditions shall be eligible to be on the board of trustees: -
 - a. Subscribe to the purposes of the Association as set forth in Article II and Article III.

- b. Salaah has to be performed daily in the facility provided by the I.A.F.W. If a person is not able to be present for any significant period of time then an exemption may be taken from the respective board of trustees.
- c. Membership will be subject to the approval of the respective and the executive Shura.
- d. Subject to the bylaws of the Association.

ARTICLE V: DECISION MAKING

1. All decisions will be made strictly according to Islamic law by consensus of the Shura members who are present.
2. If consensus cannot be reached then the decision of the president/amir of the board shall be final, and shall constitute the decision of the Shura.

ARTICLE VI: ORGANIZATION

1. The Association shall have two types of Board of trustees:
 - a. Executive Board. (Board of Directors).
 - b. Local Boards (Multiple may exist)
2. Responsibilities, duties, and powers of the Boards of Trustees shall be defined in the bylaws of the Association.
3. The Boards of Trustees may receive and accept property, whether real, personal, or mixed, by way of gift, bequest, or devise from any person, firm, trust, or corporation, to be held, administered, and disposed of in accordance with and pursuant to the provisions of these Articles and the wishes of the giver. But no gift, bequest, or devise of any such property shall be received or accepted if it is conditioned or limited in such a manner as to require the disposition of the use, income, or its principal for any purpose other than the purposes set forth in Article II and III hereof; or as shall in the opinion of the Board of Trustees jeopardize the Federal Income Tax Exemption of this Association pursuant to Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code of 1954, as now stands in force or afterwards amended.
4. No part of the net earnings of the Association shall incur to the benefit of or be distributed to its Trustees, Officers, or other private persons, except that which the Association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distribution in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article II and III hereof.
5. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, the Association shall not carry any other activities not permitted to be carried on:
 - a. By any organization exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code of 1954, as now stands in force or afterwards amended,
 - b. Or By any organization, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(C)(2) of the Internal Revenue Service Code of 1954, as now stands in force or afterwards amended.

ARTICLE VII: EXECUTIVE BOARD OF TRUSTEES (Executive Shura)

1. The Executive Board of Trustees shall be responsible for safeguarding the ideological integrity of the Association, providing policy guidelines for programs and activities and perform such acts that may be necessary for the achievement of the overall objectives of the Association.
2. This board of Trustees shall be responsible for all assets of the Association. The Board shall have the power to buy, sell, exchange, lease, pledge, transfer, maintain, modify or dispose of in any other manner any property of the Association.

3. The Executive Board of Trustees shall be responsible for all employees of the Association. The Board shall have the responsibility of hiring and dismissing employees. It shall also pay remuneration and provide benefits to employees.
4. This board is responsible for the legal, accounting and financial affairs of the organization. It may open and operate bank accounts. It may make, draw, endorse, accept, extend, execute and issue checks, promissory notes, bills of exchange and other negotiable or transferable instruments.
5. This board may collect rent of the properties of the trust. It may hire or evict tenants if and when necessary.
6. This board may create other committees, as they are required.
7. Board of Trustees shall consist of members who have been appointed by consensus of the board.
8. The Board of Trustees shall consist of the following Office bearers of the Association:
 - a. President (Amir)
 - b. Vice President (Naib Amir)
 - c. Secretary (Naazim)
 - d. Treasurer (Khaazin)
 - e. Other office bearer positions may be created by the board of trustees and members appointed for the position by consensus of the board.
9. Term:
 - a. The board of trustees shall appoint office bearers and from among the people who fulfill the necessary criteria as stated in Article II and III.
 - b. No member shall hold more than one position in any single Board of Trustees.
 - c. The office bearer will terminate the duties upon resignation, death or acts contrary to article II or III or as determined by the shura.
 - d. The Executive Board of Trustees shall meet once a month or as directed by the Amir.
 - e. If any vacancy occurs in the Board of Trustees, the Board, by consensus shall appoint a member to fulfill the vacated seat.

ARTICLE VIII: LOCAL BOARDS OF TRUSTEES (Local Shuras)

1. The Executive Board of Trustees may create or disband a Local Board of trustees as and when necessary.
2. The local Board of Trustees that will be responsible for the actual day-to-day care and running of a specific property or properties or activities of the Association as deemed by the Executive Board of Trustees.
3. This Board of Trustees shall consist of members who have been appointed by consensus of the local board of trustees and approved by the Executive Board of Trustees.
4. The Local Board of Trustees shall consist of:
 - a. Office bearers of the Association:
 1. Amir / Co-coordinator
 - b. Other office bearer positions may be created by the local board of trustees and members appointed for the position by consensus of the local board.
5. Membership.
 - a. Dues paying membership to the local shura body requires the permission of the Executive shura.
 - b. The Local shura or the Executive shura may dissolve the membership with a majority vote of the shura.
6. Term:

- a. The local board of trustees shall appoint office bearers and from among the people who fulfill the necessary criteria as stated in Article II and III.
- b. The Local Board of Trustees shall meet once a week or as directed by the Amir.
- c. This Shura may change the Amir with the consent of the Executive Shura.
- d. The office bearer will terminate the duties upon resignation, death or acts contrary to article II or III or as determined by the shura.
- e. If any vacancy occurs in the Local Board of Trustees, the Local Board, by consensus shall appoint an eligible person to fulfill the vacated seat.
- f. The executive board members may participate in full in any of the local boards.

ARTICLE IX: EXPULSION OF BOARD MEMBER

The Executive board of trustees may expel a person from any board. A local board of trustees may expel any board member within its own board whom: -

1. Ceases to meet the requirements of Article II or III.
2. Does not attend three consecutive meetings without informing the committee. The committee is to be informed in advance if possible.

This person shall be notified. If no response is received within thirty (30) days of such notification, the position to the board shall be deemed to have terminated.

ARTICLE X: ARBITRATION

1. If a local board of trustees is unable to agree on any particular matter then the executive board shall reside on this matter.
2. If the executive board of trustees is unable to agree on any particular matter then the decision shall be taken for arbitration to the Shariah Board in Chicago.

ARTICLE XI: DISSOLUTION

1. The Association can not dissolve itself or its assets without a unanimous decision of the Executive Board of Trustees.
2. Upon dissolution of the Association, the Board of Trustees shall after paying or making provision for the payment of all outstanding liabilities of the Association, dispose of all the assets of the Association, exclusively for the purposes of the Association to another Islamic Association as shall at that time qualify as an exempt organization under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as now in force or afterwards amended.

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENT

1. These Articles of the constitution may be amended by a unanimous decision of the Executive Board of Trustees.