

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION
OF AMERICA



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Amended by the
71st Annual National ZOA Convention
September 12-15, 1968
Washington, D. C.

PREAMBLE

We, Zionists of the United States of America, in order to promote the work of Zionist and Jewish activities in the United States, and to further the objects and purposes hereinafter set forth, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this Organization shall be Zionist Organization of America.

ARTICLE II OBJECTS AND PURPOSES

The objects and purposes of the Organization are as follows:

- a) To implement the aims and intents of the Program in fostering and strengthening the concept of Jewish renaissance through the rebirth of Israel as a nation in its ancient homeland, to secure for the survival of Judaism wherever Jews live, and particularly in the United States of America;
- b) To aid in the further development of the State of Israel as the home of the Jewish people and the spiritual and cultural center of Jewish life;
- c) To foster among its members and sympathizers among Jewish youth the object and ideal of Judaism through a program of Jewish education and the study of Hebrew culture and language.

and strengthen the spiritual unity of the Jewish people.

- d) To build a bridge of understanding between the Jewish people of the United States and the Jewish people in other countries and especially in Israel.
- e) To gather and spread information among its members and the public at large with respect to happenings and events that may affect the Jewish people.
- f) To foster and encourage among its members a growing appreciation for the democratic way of life in the United States of America and the ideas upon which it is grounded.

ARTICLE III INCORPORATION AND NON-PROFIT STATUS

The Zionist Organization of America is a religious corporation incorporated by Special Act of the Legislature of the State of New York and is not organized for pecuniary profit.

ARTICLE IV AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Jewish organizations which shall subscribe to the program of the Zionist Organization of America may be chartered as Affiliated Organizations by the Executive Committee upon such terms and conditions and with such rights, privileges, powers and obligations as the Executive Committee shall prescribe.

ARTICLE V MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

Every Jew male or female 18 years of age and residing in the United States or America or its territorial possessions who shall subscribe to the principles of the Zionist Organization of America and abide by its Constitution and by laws may become a member of the Zionist Organization of America.

Section 2

All members irrespective of class or color shall have equal rights and privileges.

ARTICLE VI DUES

Section 1

- a) Membership dues of the Zionist Organization of America shall be a minimum of \$20.00 per annum. Upon payment of membership dues a member shall elect to include his spouse and dependent children 22 years and over residing in the same household.
- b) Life Membership dues shall be \$500.00 to include husband and wife. All Memberships heretofore created shall continue in full force and effect.
- c) Dues of Synagogue Members shall be a minimum of \$5.00 per annum. For each family in the same household.

agogue provided the synagogue will enroll its members in the membership of the Zionist Organization of America.

d) Dues may be changed upon resolution of the Executive Committee when ratified by the next succeeding Convention.

Section 2

The Executive Committee may create other classes of membership, but limited only to young Zionists and other youth groups and fix the dues for members thereof of under 30 years of age notwithstanding Section 1 of this article.

ARTICLE VI FUNDS

All funds, including ones raised or collected for the Zionist Organization of America by any District, District Person or other agency acting on behalf of the Organization shall become the property of the Zionist Organization of America immediately upon collection thereof and such funds shall either be retained immediately to the National Organization or be placed at its disposal in accordance with its instructions.

ARTICLE VII DISTRICTS

Section 1

Any group of not less than 25 dues-paying members of the Zionist Organization of America in good standing

ing, may apply for a Charter as a District from the Administrative Board. The application for a Charter shall be filed with the Secretary of the Zionist Organization of America. A copy of the application shall be submitted by the Secretary to the appropriate Region for recommendation, and he shall submit the application together with the recommendation, if any, to the Administrative Board for approval. Upon approval, a Charter shall be forthwith issued to the District.

Section 2

Each District shall adopt by-law, and shall administer its affairs in accordance with this Constitution, and in accordance with the by-laws of the Region in which it is located.

Section 3

Each District is charged with the responsibility for holding regular meetings, and with the duty of enforcing the resolutions and programs of the National Administration and its Region. No District may engage in any activities inconsistent with such resolutions and programs.

Section 4

Districts presently chartered shall not be required to obtain a new Charter.

ARTICLE IX REGIONS

Section 1

The Administrative Board shall have the power to charter any group of Districts as a Region. Any such group of Districts may apply to the Administrative Board for such a Charter.

Section 2

All Districts are subject to the supervision and control of the Regions in which they are located.

Section 3

Each Region is charged with the duty of executing the resolutions and programs issued by the National Administration and with coordinating the activities of the Districts in order to implement such resolutions and programs.

Section 4

Each Region shall have the fullest measure of autonomy and authority in the execution of its duties in its territory provided that it is in accordance with the resolutions and programs of the National Administration and subject to the control and supervision of the Executive Committee and the Administrative Board as provided in the Constitution.

ARTICLE V CONVENTION

Section 1

The Convention shall be the annual meeting of the General Organization of the National Administration, held at the National Administration Building, Washington, D.C., on the first day of January of each year.

Section 2

The Convention shall meet annually at the place fixed by the Executive Committee. The time thereof shall be given to the Regions, Districts and Affiliated Organizations at least one month in advance.

Section 3

Each District shall be entitled to one vote at the Convention for each 25 paid-up members. The Executive Committee may increase the vote of a District from 25 paid-up members to not more than 50 Members. No increase in the vote of a District shall be effective unless approved by the Executive Committee not later than six weeks preceding the date of the Convention.

Section 4

Each Region shall be entitled to one vote at the Convention for each 500 paid-up members, and in no event less than one vote.

Section 5

Delegates to the Convention shall be elected only by paid-up members.

Section 6

No member shall be elected as a delegate to the Convention unless he has been a member of record of a District for at least six months prior to the election and at the time of election is a paid-up member.

Section 7

The Executive Committee shall establish rules for the election of delegates and their alternates.

Section 8

A quorum shall consist of one-third of the total number of delegates registered at the Convention.

Section 9

All decisions of the Convention, unless otherwise provided for herein, shall require a two-thirds vote of those present and voting.

Section 10

The Convention shall elect its officers, and adopt rules for its procedure.

Section II

The President, with the consent of the Administrative Board, or the Executive Committee, shall have the right to call a Special Session of the Convention at any time upon such notice to the Executive Committee and Affiliated Organizations as he may deem proper. Such special session shall be composed of the members who had been elected to the Convention in the last such call.

ARTICLE XI NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION

The Administration of the Zionist Organization of America shall be vested in its Officers, the Executive Committee and the Administrative Board.

ARTICLE XII OFFICERS

Section 1

The Officers and Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee, Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Administrative Board, Secretary, Treasurer, Finance Chairman, and such other officers as may be determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 2

All Officers except the Secretary shall be elected at the Convention. The Secretary shall be elected by the Executive Committee at its first meeting following the Convention. All Officers shall hold office until their successors are elected.

Section 3

1) Duties of the President. The duties of the President shall be to preside over the Convention and to see that the Convention is conducted in accordance with the Bylaws. The President shall be either the Chairman of the Executive Committee or the Chairman of the Board or a Vice President. Should the President fail to designate such person, then such person shall be designated by the Administrative Board and shall likewise be either the Chairman of the Executive Committee or the Chairman of the Board or a Vice President. The designation shall be approved by the Executive Committee. If such designation shall not be approved by the Executive Committee, then the Executive Committee shall designate such person in accordance with the Bylaws.

2) The Officers shall have the right to call a special meeting of the Convention at any time and place they may deem proper. The Officers shall also have the right to call a special meeting of the Executive Committee at any time and place they may deem proper.