

The Constitution of The Association of Theologically Trained Women of India

ARTICLE I

Name : The name of the organization shall be "The Association of Theologically Trained Women of India (ATTWI). (hereinafter referred to as the Association).

ARTICLE II

Aims and Objectives of the Association

1. To bring Theologically Trained Women of India together in a visible fellowship for enrichment for experience and deepening personal commitment and service to God and community.
2. To unite in Prayer, Witness and Service, to contribute to the spiritual, social and economic life of the Church and Society.
3. To make the Church acknowledge the presence of Theologically Trained Women and to use their potential to the maximum in the total life of the Church, including decision making and in Ordained Ministry.
4. To encourage the Theologically Trained Women of India to re-read the Scriptures with new eyes, in the light of contemporary issues, based on their own life experiences, using womanist Biblical hermeneutical tools.
5. To empower women to affirm that women and men are created equally in the image of God and enable them to experience their right to equality at all levels.
6. To appeal to the Churches, Women's Desks, theological colleges and seminaries, to motivate and encourage women to pursue theological studies.
7. To organize periodical refresher courses for Theologically Trained Women to sustain them in their critical theological pursuit.
8. The Association shall work in close relationship with the Board of Theological Education of the Senate of Serampore College, All India Council of Christian Women, National Council of Churches in India, and other similar bodies.
9. It shall associate with the Ecumenical and Theological Organizations within and outside the country, whenever and wherever possible.

ARTICLE III

A. THE ASSOCIATION: Membership Classification

a. Regular Membership (with Indian citizenship)

1. All women having theological degrees / certificates from the Senate of Serampore College shall be the regular members as per the rules of the Association.
2. All women having theological degrees / certificates that are recognized by the Senate of Serampore College shall be the regular members as per the rules of the Association.
3. Only regular members are eligible to become life members.

b: Associate Membership:

1. Women who are not Indians but reside in India and who have theological degrees / certificates from the Senate of Serampore College or from other universities recognized by the BTESSC, may become Associate members as per the rules of the Association.
2. Non-resident Indian women, who have their theological degrees / certificates from the Senate of Serampore College or from other universities recognized by the BTESSC, may become Associate members as per the rules of the Association.
3. Indian women who have theological degrees / certificates from other than Senate of Serampore College may become Associate members as per the rules of the Association.

B. Membership Fee

The General Body from time to time will revise and fix the fee for regular and associate members.

Categories:

Regular membership : Rs. 100 (for every three years)

Associate Membership : Rs. 50 (for every three years)

Life membership : Rs. 500

Renewal of Life Membership: After every fifteen years: Rs. 100

C: General Body Meetings of the Association

The Association shall normally meet once in three years. Hospitality will be provided for all who attend the assembly. Notice for the General Assembly shall be dispatched to the members, at least sixty days in advance, in writing.

D: Quorum

One third of the total regular members present shall form the quorum

E: Officers of the Association

President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be the office bearers of the Association.

F: Regional Secretaries

To facilitate and co-ordinate the work of ATTWI, one person from each region shall be elected as Regional Secretaries in the triennial General Assembly:

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|---------------------|---|--|
| North India I | : | Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh |
| North India II | : | Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, New Delhi, Punjab |
| North East India I | : | Assam, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim |
| North East India II | : | Mizoram, Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura |
| Karnataka | | |
| Kerala | | |
| Tamil Nadu | | |
| Andhra Pradesh. | | |

G: Election

1. Only regular members are voting members.
2. Voting shall be by secret ballot
3. The Office bearers of the Association namely the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer and the Regional Secretaries shall be elected by the General Body at the triennial Assembly from among the regular members present, to serve on the executive committee for a term of three years.
 - A. The Officers shall be from different regions.
5. The Officers and the Regional Secretaries are not eligible to hold any office in the consecutive term.
6. The Regional Secretary should reside in the region during the time of election and also during the term of office. If there is any change during the tenure, the Executive Committee shall nominate another person in that place.

H. Functions of the Association:

1. To elect new Officers and Regional Secretaries of the Executive Committee once in three years.
2. To receive and approve the reports of the Officers and render valuable suggestions for the development of the Association.

3. To approve the budget for three years.
4. To decide the membership, the fee for each category of membership in accordance with the bye-laws of the Constitution of the Association.
5. To choose the Principal / his or her nominee of one of the Indian Theological Colleges, on rotation basis, to serve on the Executive Committee of the Association for a term of three years.

ARTICLE IV

Executive Committee of the Association:

A. Composition:

1. The Officers of the Association namely the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.
2. Regional Secretaries elected by the Association in its triennial meeting.
3. The immediate past president of the Association
4. The President / Vice President of the AIGCW
5. General Secretary of the NCCI or his /her nominee
6. One Principal / Vice Principal or his / her nominee in rotation for a term of three years.
7. The Registrar of the Senate of Serampore College
8. The Director of the Board of Theological Education of the Senate of Serampore College.

B. Functions

1. To organize triennial meetings, to frame policies and give direction to the vision and mission of the Association.
2. To plan and carry out the programmes based on the aims and objectives of the Association during their term on the Committee.
3. To maintain good relationship with the Churches, Theological Institutions and other religious and secular organizations and women's movements.
4. To elect new officers, regional secretaries for a period of three years.
5. To receive the Presidential address and approve the reports of the office bearers and the regional secretaries and to give future directions for the development of the Association.
6. To receive the annual audited reports from the treasurer and to approve the annual budget and raise funds for programmes and projects of the Association.

7. To fill in vacancies of the Executive Committee and subcommittees of the Association if they occur during the triennium.
8. To act on behalf of the Association during the three years.
9. To co-opt members without vote for any specific need and for a specific time.
10. To appoint a full time General Secretary on probation for a year, which may be extended to two more years, a person who will execute the programmes suggested by the Executive for different regions during their triennium. (In the place of a secretary??)

C. Meeting:

1. The Executive committee shall meet at least once a year.
2. At least three weeks notice shall be given prior to the meeting of the Executive Committee and the Agenda be circulated in advance.
3. Any matter that the Executive Committee finds as urgent can be acted upon by mail. It shall be conveyed by the secretary to the members of the Executive members through post and will be acted upon the vote of majority of executive members. If no reply is received within thirty days from the day of dispatch, then it shall be considered as approved.

D. Quorum

Simple majority shall form the quorum.

ARTICLE V

Finances and Property:

1. All funds of the Association shall be kept in a recognized Bank, approved by the Executive Committee of the Association, in the name of the Association of Theologically Trained Women of India.
2. The treasurer, together with the President or in her absence, either the Vice President or the Secretary, shall be authorized to sign all the cheques to withdraw money for any expenditure approved by the Executive Committee.
3. The Income and Property of the Association wheresoever derived shall be used solely towards the promotion of the aims and objectives of the Association as stated in the constitution. No portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly by way of dividend bonus or otherwise by way of profit to any member of the Association without the approval of the Association.
4. The financial year of accounting shall be from April 1st to March 31st of the following year.



ARTICLE VI

A. Duties of the Officers of the Association:

1. President:

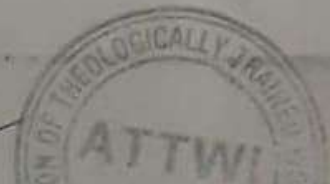
- a. She shall preside at all the meetings of the Association and of the Executive Committee.
- b. She shall promote the work of the Association and shall work in full co-operation with other Officers of the Association.
- c. She shall sign along with the Treasurer, all the cheques for payment of bills that have been approved by the Executive Committee.
- d. The President or the Vice-president shall represent the Association at the AICCW Executive Committee and when invited by any other organization.
- e. The President will appoint in consultation with the Executive Committee, the Nomination Committee, Courtesy Resolution Committee or any other committees that are necessary from among the members of the Association, in the opening session of the triennial meeting.

2. Vice President:

- a. She shall perform all the duties of the President in her absence.
- b. She shall perform all the duties that are assigned to her by the President or the Executive Committee from time to time.

3. Secretary:

- a. In consultation with the President, she shall convene the meeting of the Executive Committee and the Triennial meeting and shall prepare the Agenda for them.
- b. She shall be responsible for keeping the accurate minutes of the proceedings of the Executive Committee and that of the Association.
- c. She shall be responsible for all correspondence assigned to her in connection with the work of the Association,
- d. She shall circulate the minutes and any information to the members of the Executive Committee, members of the Association and the leaders of the Churches or institutions as required.
- e. She shall present a report of her work to the Executive Committee annually and to the Association in its Triennial meeting.
- f. In the absence of the President and the Vice-president, the Secretary shall be authorized to jointly sign the cheques with the treasurer, to withdraw money for any expenditure approved by the Executive Committee.



- g. She shall keep a record of regular membership of the Association and try to enlarge the membership through correspondence and through personal contacts.
- h. She shall issue News Letter twice a year.

4. Treasurer:

- a. She shall be responsible to account for all the funds received and disbursed on behalf of the Association.
- b. She shall keep accounts and have them audited annually.
- c. She shall prepare and present the Triennial budget for the approval of the Association. She shall submit annual statement of accounts duly audited to the Executive Committee annually and to the General Body Meeting of the Association triennially.
- d. The treasurer and the President, or in her absence, either the Vice-President or the Secretary, shall be authorized to sign the cheques to withdraw money for any expenditure approved by the Executive Committee.

5. Regional Secretaries:

- a. The Regional Secretaries may be engaged in membership drive and pass on the updated list of members to the Secretary, from time to time.
- b. To scrutinize the documents presented by the aspiring members of respective regions and propose to the secretary, the status of the members.
- c. To assist the secretary to prepare the membership cards for the members from the region.
- d. To carry out the programmes proposed by the Executive Committee in the respective region.
- e. To submit the reports of activity at least twice a year to the Executive Committee with a copy to the Secretary.

ARTICLE VII

Amendment

- a. The Constitution shall be amended by the following procedure.
- b. Amendment to the Constitution may be proposed by ten regular members of the Association represented from different regions, who shall give in writing to the Executive Committee, reasons for any amendment. After discussion in the Executive Committee, the proposed amendments shall be circulated to all regular members of the Association by the Secretary, at least three months before the triennial General Body of the Association for approval and implementation.

- c. To amend the memorandum of the Association, the quorum required is two thirds of the total voting members of the Association.
- d. The Amendments come into force after the end of the subsequent General Assembly of the Association.

ARTICLE VIII

1. If at any time, the officers fail to fulfill their responsibilities, the Association shall hold an Emergency General Body meeting and replace the officer by a simple majority.
2. At any given time, if the Association ceases to serve its objectives, then two thirds of the voting members may decide to dissolve the Association and its assets and properties, moveable and immovable, shall be transferred to the Senate of Serampore College or the National Council of Churches in India.

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1. Rev. M. Thyathi Sunder. President - Thyathi
2. Mrs. D.S. Hagla Thabatha. Vice-President Thabatha
3. Rev. Salome Joshua. Treasurer - Salome Joshua
4. Rev. Angela Veronica, A.P. Regional Secretary - Angela Veronica
5. Rev. Kirubai Kumari, TN " " Kirubai
6. Rev. S. Vijaya Kumari, Telangana " " Vijaya
7. Rev. M.G. Balanathi, North India " " Balanathi
8. Rev. Dr. Paderiam T. Samuel, Director, HMI Paderiam T. Samuel
9. Rev. Dr. Santano Patro, Registrar, Senate. Santano Patro
10. Rev. Dr. T. Matthews Emmanuel, Secretary BTESSC Matthews Emmanuel
11. Rev. Jesse Rajan - Outgoing Secretary - Jesse Rajan
12. Mrs. Elizabeth Joseph - Outgoing Treasurer - Elizabeth Joseph

