

Charter of the Afghan Unity

Introduction:

In the name of Allah and in pursuit of the guidance of sacred religion of Islam, we Afghans who reside in the state of Texas with the help and guidance of the Almighty Allah establish this organization. This association is free of any discrimination based on ethnicity, language, gender or religion. The purpose of establishing the organization is to expand and strengthening social relations, introduce and promote our culture, traditional values, and to preserve our country's national assets in accordance to standards of the fundamentals of this organization and under the laws of the state of Texas.

Article I

Name

The name of this organization shall be the Afghan Unity, hereafter referred to the Afghan Unity.

Article II

Mission

The unity is a non-profit organization and does not belong to any political movements. The Unity is organized for the purpose of achieving the following goals for those Afghans who live in North Texas:

Section 1: to create, strengthen, and support social relations, brotherly love, unity, and solidary among all Afghans.

Section 2: to raise funds to assist our poverty stricken compatriots around the world and specially those who live in Afghanistan.

Section 3: to provide the opportunity to our children and youth to learn Afghan national languages and history.

Section 4: to celebrate our national, cultural, and religious holidays.

Section 5: to hold recreational activities to bolster social and cultural relations among Afghans.

Section 6: to provide obituary information and offer financial assistance to the needy grieving families.

Section 7: to purchase and establish an Afghan cultural center in North Central Texas.

Section 8: to create a board to provide funeral insurance for Afghans residing in North Central Texas.

Article III

Organization

The Unity consists of the following organizations whose officials are not monetary compensates.

A) General Assembly

Section 1: The General Assembly is the highest organ of the Unity consists of all registered members who pay their membership dues.

Section 2: the General Assembly meets regularly once a year and it is convened and led by the President and Vice President who are temporary elected by members of the General Assembly. Special meetings of the General Assembly can be convened at the request of the Shura (Council) or the Board of Directors.

Functions

Section 1: to elect members of the Board of Directors.

Section 2: to amend the bylaws upon recommendation of the Shura and Board of Directors.

Section 3: to dissolve the Unity by majority vote at presence of its three-fourths of its members.

Section 4: to hear and approve the Board of Directors' report.

Section 5: to decide on unexpected issues in the Charter, which is outside jurisdiction of the Shura and the Board of Directors.

B) Shura (Council)

The Shura consists of eleven members who are experienced and well-known among Afghan community. The Board of Directors will recommend the names of the Shura members to be confirmed by majority vote of the members of the General Assembly.

Functions

Section 1: to make recommendation to the Board of Directors to better perform their functions to successfully achieve the mission of the Unity.

Section 2: to create and promote understanding and accommodation and prevent inception of any kind of religious, social, political and cultural divisiveness among Afghan community.

Section 3: to convene extraordinary sessions of the General Assembly when it is perceived that the Board of Directors undermine the provisions of the Charter of the Unity.

Section 4: to review the Board of Director's bank account report, financial report, and to authorize expenditures of over \$2000.00 and the approval for purchase of non-moveable assets for the Unity.

Section 5: to approve changes and modification of the functions and dissolution of committees based upon recommendation of majority members of the Board of Directors.

Section 6: to fill vacancies in the Board of Directors by appointing new members to the Board.

C) The Board of Directors

The Board of Directors consist of nine members who are elected by majority vote of the members of the General Assembly. Under extraordinary circumstances, the members of the *Shura* by majority vote can choose the Board of Directors and extend the term.

Functions

Section 1: to establish subcommittees for the purpose of accomplishing goals of the Unity.

Section 2: to prepare the annual budget and other plans of the Unity in consultation and cooperation of the Council.

Section 3: to prepare annual report of the Board to the General Assembly.

Section 4: to authorize purchases and expenditures of the Unity up to \$2,000.00

Section 5: to gather donations, alms, and membership dues and explore other sources of financial help.

The revenues are used for the sole purpose of achieving the mission of the Unity. In obtaining and disposing of revenues, expenditures, and donations, it is the responsibility of the Board to observe the IRS rules and regulations.

D) The Treasurer

The functions of the Treasurer are created within the framework of the Board of Directors.

Section 1: to collect revenues from membership dues and other sources and pays for the expenditures of the Unity.

Section 2: to prepare a financial report twice a year to be approved by the Board members and evaluated by the Shura members.

Section 3: to prepare financial and tax report to the IRS.

E) Publication

The person in charge of publications is the head of the Board of Writers and Publication Committee.

Functions

Section 1: to gather information from multimedia to inform, enlighten, and entertain the Afghan community.

Section 2: to make sure that the information shared with the Afghan community are void of endorsing or opposing any political movement or political ideology.

Article IV
Membership

Section 1: Every Afghan who resides in Texas and who is at least seventeen year of age can become a member of the Unity by paying his/her membership due. Only registered member can vote.

Section 2: One's membership can be terminated based on the following reasons:

- a. Upon his/her own initiate
- b. Leaving Texas for another destination
- c. Not paying his/her membership due
- d. When a member dies

Article V
Miscellaneous Provisions

Section 1: Quorum for convening of the Unity meetings is the presence of its two-thirds members.

Section 2: Decisions are reached by majority of the vote of its members present unless the Bylaws says otherwise.

Section 3: Elections of the Unity are organized by the Board members and administered by the Council.

Section 4: The Board in consultation with the Shura members shall determine membership fees.

Section 5: Quorum for the General Assembly meetings is 51 percent of its members present.

Section 6: If there is lack of quorum on the floor of the General Assembly, decisions will be reached by two-thirds of its members present.

Section 7: It is the responsibility of the Board members to enforce the Bylaws of the Unity.

Section 8: The signatures of two Board members, at approval of the Board President, are required for expenditures of the Unity.

Chapter VI
Dissolution

Section 34: The Unity will be dissolved by three-fourths vote of its members.

Section 35: Then the Shura or the General Assembly will form a board whose members will be in charge of liquidating the assets and financial accounts of the Unity.

Chapter VII
Certification

We the undersigned certify that the Charter consists of seven articles and 35 sections and its original copy was approved by majority vote of the General Assembly.