



ARUNACHAL PRADESH BIKKHU SANGHA

BYE- LAWS

ESTD-1972



HEAD OFFICE

DHAMMABHUMI BUDDHIST CENTRE
ZERO POINT NANAM-SULONGTOO VILLAGE

P.O- NAMSAI-792103

DISTRICT NAMSAI

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

2

**ARUNACHAL PRADESH BHIKKHU SANGHA
CONSTITUTION***** BYE-LAWS**



CONTENTS

1. Introduction
2. Directive Principles
3. Constitution

Sections

Subjects

1. Name
2. Head Office
3. Area of Jurisdiction or operation
4. Definition
5. Aims and Objects
6. Membership
7. Membership fees
8. Funds
9. Control of funds
10. Meeting
11. General Body
12. Quorum
13. Function of the Executive body
14. Power and function of the Snaghanayaka
15. Power and function of the Upasanghanayaka
16. Power of the President
17. Power of Vice-President
18. Procedure in case of absence of President and Vice- President
19. Power and function of the General Secretary
20. Power and function of the Joint Secretary
21. Power and function of the Treasurer
22. Power and function of the Dhamma Affairs Secretary
23. Power and function of the publicity and literary Secretary
24. Power and function of the Organizing Secretary
25. Power and function of the General Body
26. Term of office
27. Procedure of election
28. Sangha as a non- political body
29. Disciplinary action



- 30. Resignation
- 31. Amendment
- 32. Dissolution
- 33. Date of enforcing the constitution
- 34. Residual matters
- 35. Registration certificate

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INTRODUCTION

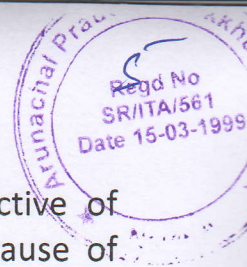
It is truism that the Buddha's teaching have been resounding in the world for the last 25th centuries. During his lifetime he organized, conducted and guided the 'Sangha' and 'Viharas' according to rules and constitutions of the various 'Sangha' himself as a prince, had well- adopted all- round wisdom in running institutions according to the rules of laws laid down by principles and constitutions of the Dhamma for many decades during his lifetime. He solved various problems that arose in the working of the order of monks. His teachings, rules and constitutions are preserved in the sacred text called the Tripitaka, for the guidance of monks and lay Buddhist.

From time to time healthy changes were incorporated in the procedure without forgetting the main principles. The appealing and persuasive force of his principles is based on time and space transiently.

A great man envisaged the universal truth with which nothing can be altered at any time and place. A small change in the procedure shows the elasticity of the rule.

There are places where lay Buddhist and monks are at different rungs of the ladder of self-realization, occasion arises when regional insistence sometimes obliterates the main aim. In such circumstances active endeavours become needs of the hour in order to correct the direction and bring the order back on an even keel. Buddhist history is full of such stocks taking, re-adjustment and revision. The senior monks have acted as beak on light to show the correct path. It is well to recall that a few weeks after Buddha's 'nirvana' the first council was held at Rajgriha in about 487 B.C. It was attended by 500 monks from various 'Sanghas'. A second council was held 100 years in 387 B.C. to correct the monk's Vaishali who had stayed from the rules of 'Vinayapitika'. A third council was held at Pataliputra during the reign of Ashoka, presided by Moggaliputta Tissa Mahathero to eliminate disruptive tendencies and to make clearance within the order this was punishable. The fourth council was held in Kashmir under Vasumitra and Asvaghosha during the reign of Kaniska. It settled down certain controversies.

The above enumeration of councils will serve a purpose if it reminds the order monks for corrective measures are needed from time to time. Besides the central council, it has been ordered recorded that all local differences were settled by a body of senior monks. Such a need has arisen today in the northeast, India. It has been observed that the solidarity, cohesion of a purposeful sense is missing in the



junior rank of the order, each and every monk is ordained in respective of antecedents of the person ordained. Small motive has been made a cause of controversy and is use to flout the great principles so much so that some place have become a laughing stock for the entire sundry. The present constitution of us is drawn to correct such practices and maintain the right order of Sangha.

DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLES

That there is nothing contrary to what had been laid down in the 'Vinaya Pitika' or the law of the land.

That the international character of the Dhamma shall be the guide of the order. That the challenges and demands of the present time are met fully.

That discipline, scholarship, the greatest good of the greatest number is the guiding principle.

That all monks abide by the present constitution and identity themselves as such

That political activity is kept at a distance.

CONSTITUTION

1. Name : Arunachal Pradesh Bhikkhu Sangha.
2. Head Office : DHAMMABHUMI BUDDHIST CENTRE
Zero Point Nanam-Sulongtoo Village
Dist. Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh, India
Pin code- 792103
3. Area of Operation : Arunachal Pradesh, India
4. Definitions : (i) **Order** :_means an assembly of monks
Which in a party to the formation and function of
the constitution of Arunachal Pradesh Bhikkhu
Sangha called 'Sangha'
(ii) **Monks**:_ Means the Bhikkhus ordained,
rectified and allowed to identify as such by the
executive body of Sangha constituted under
the constitution herewith.



5. Aims and objects

(iii) **Legal aid:** Means the assigning powers of attorney to lawyers for filling cases of defamation, fraud, and cheating and other civil or criminal cases.

(iv) **Constitution:** Means the rule or by-law and order of conduct laid down here under

: Shall concern the following element, the Bhikkhu and the Sangha, the property movable or immovable of the Sangha, publication and the laymen.

1. For the bhikkhu Sangha the Society shall shall aim

- a) To promote discipline, unity, religious activity and vigour in propagation of Dhamma.
- b) To advance the efficiency of bhikkhus.
- c) To provide training, apprenticeship, education and research.
- d) To promote dignity, sense of purpose and urgency.
- e) To assign an independent status to the Sangha so that it may acquire, modify, maintain, improve and dispose property both movable and immovable.

2. **For the Bhikkhu Sangha and Lay People**

- (i) To diversify its activities in the field of quality education, management of hostel, construction of temple, pagodas, library, meditation centre, monks training centre, etc.
- (ii) To start and run public libraries, reading room and study circle.
- (iii) To work for the greatest good of the greatest number.
- (iv) To propagate the teaching of the lord Buddha, to spread his message of compassion, wisdom and non-violence mentally, verbally and physically.
- (v) To preserve and promote Theravada Buddhist Culture and Arts.



7

- (vi) To develop Dhammabhumi Buddhist Centre into a Buddhist Cultural Resource and Training Centre.
- (vii) To work for marginalised section of the society-older people, PwD and people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV)
- (viii) To work for health and wellbeing
- (ix) To publish books, pamphlets, periodicals and other study material.

6. Membership: All Bhikkhu who work and reside within the area of operation of the Sangha shall compulsory be member of the Sangha. It shall be incumbent on them to obey the rules and code of conduct laid down in this constitution.

7. Membership fees and privilege:

- a) **Life members:** Bhikkhu who pay a sum of Rs.10000/-(rupees ten thousands) only shall become for whole life, only senior Bhikkhu shall enjoy the privileges of offering guidance and advance to the Sangha.
- b) **PATRONS OR DONORS:** who pay a sum of Rs. 50000/- (Rupees fifty thousands) only for three years consecutively shall become patron or donor.
- c) **Ordinary members:** all Bhikkhus shall be deemed as ordinary members who shall pay a sum of RS. 500/-and Rs. 1000/- only towards admission and annual fees respectively. Bhikkhu who do not accept donation in any form shall seek a waiver of fee from the executive of the Sangha.

8. Funds: The source of the fund shall be: - (a) Admission fee, (b) Membership fee, (c) Voluntary donation and collection (d) Government grants and Sponsorships.

9. Control of funds:

- a) The funds of the Sangha shall be deposited in the nearest bank in the joint name of the General Secretary and the Treasurer.
- b) Cash book, voucher, and receipt file, separate head- wise account shall be duly maintained.
- c) The record regarding funds shall be open to the inspection of any or all members after a week when a notice is receive to that effect.



- d) The account shall be closed on 31st March every year.
- e) The account shall be subject to audit every year and a printed report shall be circulated to all members and donors.
- f) There shall be a body of two members and donors other than office bearers to form an audit committee. The time of the audit shall be within fifteen days after the closure of the account, during which the related records shall be made available to auditors. If the opinion of the auditors is found adoptable that may be incorporated in the processes of audit of the funds.
- g) Other kind of properties of both movable and immovable shall be subjected to yearly inspection by the sub-committee formed for those properties.

10. Meeting

The executive body shall meet at least three times a year or whenever necessary. In case of absence of quorum the president shall adjourn the meeting without transacting any business and decide another date, time and place for the next meeting. Quorum requirement shall not be observed for adjourned meeting. Notification of time, place and date for the meeting will be circulated well ahead and ensure that all executive members have received the notice well in time. General meeting of the APBS shall meet every year after the auditor submits the report of the account of APBS.

11. General body

All members who maintain the rules and norms of the bye-law shall form a general body and shall elect/select the following office bearers and executive members to run the affairs of the Sangha.

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. Sanghanayaka | 2. Three post Upa- Sanghanayaka |
| 3. President | 4. Two post Vice-President |
| 5. General Secretary | 6. Two Joint Secretary |
| 7. Treasurer | 8. Assistant Treasurer |
| 9. Dhamma Affairs Secretary | 10. Assistant Dhamma Affairs Secy. |
| 11. Publicity & Literary Secretary | 12. Organizing Secretary |
| 13. Assistant Publicity and Literary Secretary | 14. Assistant Organizing Secretary |
| 15. Ten Executive members. | |



12. **Quorum:** One third of the total selected member and office bearers in the general and executive body respectively.

13. **Function of the Executive body**

It shall be the apex body and shall endeavour to accomplish the aim and objective of the Sangha.

01. To implement the resolution and program passed in the general meeting.
02. Collect, control and defray funds.
03. Take initiative for activities in accordance with the aims.
04. Submit an annual report of the position of the fund, properties and activities conducted by the Sangha.
05. Decide matter of indiscipline cropped up within and take appropriate action.
06. Decide resignation fill up vacancies, co-opted members.
07. Decide and stand on legal matter of suing or when sued, to assign powers of attorney.
08. Accept, reject, construct, sell and purchase property on behalf of the Sangha.
09. Frame rules for the proper conduct of the affairs of the Sangha.
10. Decide an issue on matter of policy, issue direction and circular to branches.

14. **Sanghanayaka**

- (i) Sanghanayaka is the supreme patriarch of the Sangha.
- (ii) Sign higher ordination certificate of Bhikkhu and confer award to the member of the Sangha.
- (iii) If any disciplinary matter arises it should be forwarded to the Sanghanayaka by the governing body. The decision taken on the ground of material and evidence prove by the governing body shall be final and binding.
- (iv) He shall inaugurate and preside over the general meeting of the Sangha.
- (v) He shall appoint the co-opted members, members of the audit committee and other sub-committee.
- (vi) He shall administer the oath of allegiance to all members of the governing body and the members of the committee.
- (vii) **Qualification:** he must be well-educated in the Dhamma and Vinaya and has capacity to lead the Sangha.
- (viii) **Term of Office:** the tenure of the Sanghanayaka is for a period of five years and he may be re-elected by the majority of the General Body.



15. Upa-Sanghanayaka

- a) In the absence of Sanghanayaka the Upa-Sanghanayak shall act as Sanghanayaka.
- b) The Sanghanayaka himself may request the Upa-Sanghanayaka to perform the duties during his absence. In such case a circular shall be issued to this effect for information to the governing body as well as executive members.

16. President

- (01) The President shall be the head of the constitution of the sangha and shall be responsible for looking after the sangha and its affairs.
- (02) Shall preside over the meeting of the governing body and other committees appointed by the Sanghanayaka.
- (03) Authorize the Vice-President to the act on his behalf in his absence.
- (04) Sanction a sum of rupees upto Rs. 50000/- (Rupees fifty thousand) only at a time only for any purpose or programme.
- (05) Act as custodian, guardian, mantle and controller of the Sangha, its properties and function.

17. Vice-President

1. Preside at the meeting of the Sangha in the absence of the president.
2. Act as President of sub-committee standing or other bodies.
3. Carry out function assigned to him by the President.

18. In absence of both President and the Vice- President

The Executive Body may select President for the particular meeting and get the proceeding rectified later on from either of them.

19. General Secretary

- (i) Conducting the affairs of the Sangha and executive resolution and programme of the Sangha before initiating any plan and action.
- (ii) Prepare and keep all records, accounts, and proceedings of meetings.



- (iii) Be responsible for the safety and keep up of Sangha's properties.
- (iv) Prepare annual reports, audit accounts, balance sheets, and budget and present them to the general body for rectification.
- (v) Inspect and issue direction for the implementation of programmes and policies of the Sangha.
- (vi) Sanction sum not exceeding Rs. 40000/- (Rupees forty thousand) only at a time only for the projects.
- (vii) Make and publish press statements.

20. Joint Secretary: -

The Joint Secretary shall assist the General Secretary in the activities of the Sangha and in his absence he may perform all the functions of the General Secretary.

21. Treasurer shall

- a) Deposit all amount receipt to the bank.
- b) Keep proper accounts, vouchers and other financial records.
- c) Inspects and checks accounts kept by the General Secretary.

22. **Dhamma Affairs Secretary:** - The Dhamma Affairs Secretary will look after the affairs of the Sangha at home and abroad.

23. **Publicity and Literary Secretary:** - To publish books, pamphlets, periodicals and other study materials time to time and Press release and shall hold literary programmes and other educational activities.

24. **Organizing Secretary:** - He can organize Sangha activities as resolved in the meetings.

25. General Body Shall

- (A) Be composed of all members specified in article 7 (c) of this constitution.
- (B) Review the activities of the Sangha annually.
- (C) Discuss and consider the annual report.
- (D) Pass resolution, approve budgets, approved proposed programmes in the meetings.
- (E) Elect office bearers in the meetings.

(F) Make its decisions bindings on the executive body and members in their public dealings.

(G) Suggests proper action in case of any immoral offence.

26. Term of Office:

The executive body by majority vote shall remain in office for five years and ex-office bearers may seek re-election/selection.

27. Procedures

- (1) For election of executive body by majority vote.
- (2) For any or project, members may forward copies of programmes, proposals to the President within 7 days before the meeting held by the General body
- (3) A special meeting may be held after a notice given before a month if requested by the half of the members.

28. Sangha as a non-political body:

The Sangha shall refrain from political activities and concentrate only on social, cultural, spiritual, health and educational and economics programmes and projects.

29. Disciplinary action may be

- (i) Invited by the Executive body against any offence.
- (ii) The final decision of the Executive body shall be binding on the accused member.
- (iii) In case if the accused members do not amend themselves, the legal cases may be Filed in the civil or criminal courts and he may be expelled from the Sangha.

30. Resignation: -

- (a) If the President desires his Resignation Letter should be submitted to the Executive body through the General Secretary.
- (b) All others shall submit their Resignation Letter to the President.
- (c) Such resultant vacancies may be filled up by adhoc appointments may be regularized by the Executive body in due time.





31. **Amendments:** - By the 2/3rd majority in the General meeting.
32. **Dissolution:** - This shall be governed by section 13/14 of the society's Act 1860.
33. **Date of enforcing the constitution:** - The constitution functions itself immediately after approval of the house.
34. **Residual Matters:-** Residual matters may be dealt by the President with certain suitable rules.
35. **Registration certificate:** - An outline for the removal of malpractices within the Sangha is to be cited under this certificate. It is not an exhaustive list. It only indicates the direction.
- Misuses, misappropriation and division of the property of the sangha movable or immovable.
 - Acceptance of invitation to participate in religious observations without either the presence or permission of the monk in-charge of particular place.
 - Use of profane language, abuse and improper behaviour.
 - Upholding or serving the people who never discharge their obligations to Dhamma or Sangha and not offer any reason for not doing so.
 - Any layman who seeks higher ordination should undergo at least three years training under a particular preceptor. The preceptor should obtain consent for his higher ordination from the Arunachal Pradesh Bhikkhu Sangha.

The abovementioned Articles (1 to 35) that formed the Bye-Laws or Constitution of the Arunachal Pradesh Bhikkhu Sangha were dully approved and passed unanimously by all members present at a special General Meeting held on 10th May 1997 at Chongkham Buddhist Vihara.

1. Ven. Indravansa Mahathero
Sanghanayaka

Mahathero

2. Ven. Narinda Mahathero
President

NBhiku

Rahadegon
General Secretary
Arunachal Pradesh
Bhikkhu Sangha

38

14



3. Ven. Gyanatissa Bhikkhu
Vice-President
4. Ven. Ratnadeepa Bhikkhu
General Secretary
5. Ven. Dhammkitti Bhikkhu
Joint Secretary
6. Ven. Vimalananda Thero
Treasurer
7. Ven. Ginavangsa Bhikkhu
Literary and Publicity Secretary

G Bhikkhu

Ratnadeepa
11/11/98

Dhammkitti

Vimalananda

Ginavangsa

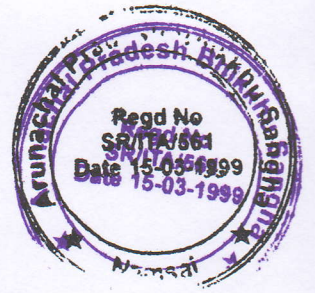
The office bearers and executive members elected are as follows:-

Sl/No.	Name	Address	Designation	Signature
1.	Ven. Indravansa Mahathero	Weingko	Sanghanayaka	Mahathero
2.	„ Panyasiha „	Chowkham	Upa-Sanghanayaka	Pinggatiha
3.	„ Narinda „	Miao	President	N Bhikkhu
4.	„ Gyanatissa Bhikkhu	Nalung	Vice-President	G Bhikkhu
5.	„ Ratnadeepa Bhikkhu	Itanagar	General Secretary	Ratnadeepa 11/11/98
6.	„ Dhammakitti „	Kherem	Joint Secretary	Dhammkitti

General Secretary
Arunachal Pradesh
Bhikkhu Sangha

39

15



- | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------|----------------------------|------------------|
| 7. „ Vimalananda Thero | Momong | Treasurer | <i>Don</i> |
| 8. „ Mangaliko Bhikkhu | Sarnath | Dhammaduta Secretary | <i>Mangaliko</i> |
| 9. „ Gyanavangsa Thero | Dumba | Organizing Secy. | <i>G. Thero</i> |
| 10. „ Ginavangsa Bhikkhu | Diyun | Literary & Publicity Secy. | <i>Bhikkhu</i> |

Executive Members

1. Ven. Khemachara Thero
2. Ven. Nagasen Thero
3. Ven. Subita Mahathero
4. Ven. Gyanodoy Bhikkhu
5. Ven. Varadhamma Bhikkhu
6. Ven. Aggravangsa Mahathero
7. Ven. Gunanada Bhikkhu

Khemachara Thero

K. Thero
Gyanodoy Bhikkhu
Varadhamma
A. Mahathero
G. Bhikkhu

Certified that this is the correct copy of Bye-laws/Memorandum of Association of Arunachal Pradesh Bhikkhu Sangha.

N. Bhikkhu
Ven. Narinda Mahathero
President
Arunachal Pradesh Bhikkhu Sangha

M. Mahathero
Ven. Indravansa Mahathero
Sanghanayaka
Arunachal Pradesh Bhikkhu Sangha

President
Arunachal Pradesh Bhikkhu Sangha

R. Bhikkhu
Ven. Ratnadeepa Bhikkhu
General Secretary
Arunachal Pradesh Bhikkhu Sangha.
General Secretary
Arunachal Pradesh Bhikkhu Sangha

Ratnadeepa
General Secretary
Arunachal Pradesh
Bhikkhu Sangha