

In the Name of Allah the Most Gracious the Most Merciful

BYLAWS

"Anniston Islamic Center"

PREAMBLE

We the Muslims of the Calhoun County and the surrounding areas do hereby establish this organization, for the upholding, preservation and dissemination of the principles and practices of the religion of **ISLAM**, to the end that this both may be governed in an orderly manner consistent with the accepted tenets and the framework of **ISLAM**, we do declare and enact this bylaws subject to articles of incorporation. Any activity contrary to, or in conflict with the "**Qur'an**" and "**Sunnah**" shall not be permitted within, or under the auspices of this organization. The principle of "**Shoora**" shall be the governing principle in arriving at decisions.

**ARTICLE I
NAME**

The name of this corporation shall be "Anniston Islamic Center" hereinafter referred to as the AIC.

**ARTICLE II
NATURE**

The AIC has been formed under the Alabama Section 10-4-20 of the Alabama Code of 1975 for the religious purposes described in this document and the Articles of the Incorporation, and shall be nonprofit.

**ARTICLE III
PRINCIPAL OFFICE**

The principal office of the transaction of business of the corporation is located in Calhoun County, Alabama.

ARTICLE IV PURPOSE

The purposes of the AIC are to carry on religious, charitable, and educational activities in conformity with the religion of **Islam**; to do each and every thing necessary, suitable, or proper for the accomplishment of these objectives, including, but not limited to the following:

1. To conduct religious services and daily prayers.
2. To teach, and to disseminate the faith among Muslims and non-Muslims.
3. To establish mosque, Islamic center, Islamic school, and meeting places.
4. To cooperate with other Muslim organizations.
5. To procure in its affairs and activities, the participation, AIC and representation of Muslims of all races, gender, national origin, linguistic and ethnic backgrounds.
6. To promote interfaith dialogue and interaction in order to make the religion of Islam better understood to the larger American society as a religion of tolerance that promotes friendly relations and peaceful coexistence and understanding between Muslims and followers of other faiths.

ARTICLE V GENERAL

Section 1 Qur'an

Qur'an is the holy book of the Muslims revealed to Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him).

Section 2 Muslim

For the purpose of this Constitution and Bylaws, a Muslim is a person who believes in Allah (the one true God); in Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), upon whom the Qur'an was revealed, as the last and final prophet and messenger of Allah; in the Qur'an; in the angels; in the hereafter; and in the destiny "Qadar". Also, believes in the Qur'an and the Sunnah as the bases for the binding guidance in life.

Section 3 Conformity to Islam

All acts of the AIC shall be in conformity with the shariah (Islamic Law), the basic sources of which are the Qur'an and the Sunnah.

Section 4 Sunnah

Sunnah is the authentic tradition of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) which was related to us through a Hadith (sayings of the prophet) or an action or an approval of action by the Prophet (PBUH).

Section 5 Shoora

The AIC shall practice Shoora on all its matters in the broadest forum possible. The decisions of the AIC, become binding to all members after proper Shoora action is taken, regardless of their position on the particular issue.

ARTICLE VI MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Category of Members

The AIC shall have two categories of members which are designated as follows:

- A. **Regular Members:** All Muslims who reside in Calhoun County and the surrounding areas either on permanent or temporary basis and are in full agreement with the purpose of the AIC shall be eligible to become regular members.
- B. **Voting Members:** Every regular member of the AIC who has paid their annual membership dues, and who is eighteen years of age or older who completes a registration form and establish resident in this area for period no less than one year and active participant in the Masjid shall become a Voting Member of the AIC.

Section 2 Voting Rights

Only voting members shall have voting rights. Each voting member shall be entitled to one vote only. New members who have paid their due shall not have voting rights until 365 days have elapsed since their joining the AIC.

ARTICLE VII GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly shall consist of all voting members. Non-voting members can attend and participate in the meeting but have no right to vote. The General Assembly shall be the supreme body of the center.

Section 1 - General Powers and Responsibilities

Subject to the provisions of these by-laws, the affairs of the AIC shall be managed by its Executive (Shoora) Committee which is elected by the General Assembly. The elected Executive Committee shall be responsible only to the General Assembly. Executive Committee members shall have no power to buy, sell, exchange, mortgage, lease, pledge, transfer or dispose of, in any manner, any property of the AIC without specific vote of the General Assembly authorizing such action. Responsibilities of the General Assembly members shall be to safeguard the ideological integrity of the AIC; provide policy guidelines for the programs and activities and overall objectives of the center.

Section 2- Annual Meeting

Annual meeting of the General Assembly shall be held during the month of June (except if it coincides in ramadan, then we in each year, for the purpose of acting on the president's Annual Report, Financial Report, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Section 3 - Election Meeting

A regular meeting of the General Assembly members shall be held during the second week of June for the purpose of electing the Executive Committee members for the following two years. The election results shall be announced within the meeting. The General Assembly shall then elect the President from among the elected Executive Committee members. The incoming Executive Committee members shall hold a meeting within two weeks and will elect from themselves a vice president, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and such other officers as may be appointed in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws.

Section 4 Special Meeting

A special meeting of the General Assembly may be called by the president or the two third (2/3) of the Executive Committee members. Special meetings may also be called by a written petition signed by 51% of the voting members.

Section 5 Notice of Meeting

Notice stating the place, and time of any meeting of the General Assembly shall be delivered, either personally or by general announcement, to members, not less than seven days, nor more than thirty days before the date of such a meeting by or at the direction of the president, or the secretary, or the officers or person calling the meeting, except that a minimum of ten days notice shall be required for Annual Meetings. The purpose and agenda of the meeting shall be stated in the notice. If mailed, the notice of a meeting shall be deemed delivered when deposited in United States mail addressed to the member at his/her address as it appears on the records of the center, with postage prepaid.

Section 6 Quorum

The General Assembly holding 51% of the voting members shall constitute a quorum. If such a quorum is not present within 30 minutes of the specified time the meeting will be adjourned. In case the meeting is adjourned another meeting should be scheduled

Section 7 Voting

At any meeting, a voting member may vote only in person No person shall vote on behalf of another person. For all votes by the General Assembly with an established quorum, a simple majority vote will be sufficient for action except in the following three situations where an 80% majority vote will be required:

- a) The vote for either the dissolution of the AIC;
- b) The selling of property belonging to the AIC;
- c) The purchasing of real estate by the AIC.

ARTICLE VIII EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1 General Powers and Responsibilities

Subject to the provisions of these Bylaws, the affairs of the AIC shall be managed by its Executive Committee, which will be responsible to the General Assembly. The Executive Committee shall take the actual care of the properties, but shall have no power to buy, sell, exchange, transfer or dispose of, in any manner, any real estate property of the AIC without specific vote of the General Assembly authorizing such action.

Responsibilities of the Executive Committee shall include:

- 1) Safeguarding the ideological integrity of the AIC.
- 2) Providing policy guidelines and executing the programs and activities.
- 3) Approving Budget.
- 4) Long range planning.
- 5) Insuring permanency and continuity in operations and programs.
- 6) Providing financial stability to the AIC.
- 7) Performing the overall objectives of the AIC.
- 8) Assigning the Imam.

Section 2 Structure of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall consist of five members plus the Imam who shall be an ex-officio non-voting member. Each member of the Executive Committee shall hold office until his successor shall have been elected. The Executive Committee shall consist of the following officers:

- 1) President (Ameer)
- 2) Vice President
- 3) Treasurer
- 4) General Secretary
- 5) Personal Relations Secretary

Section 3 - Executive Committee Member Qualifications

Qualifications of the Executive Committee member shall include: sound Islamic beliefs and practices, conducts all business in accordance with Islamic principles; be a voting member of the AIC for at least one year; and be in good standing with the Muslim community.

Section 4 - Regular Meetings

The Executive Committee shall hold regular meetings at least once every three months, to approve programs, plans, budget and any other business that may come before the Committee.

Section 5 - Resignations

The Executive Committee has the right in a regular meeting to accept the resignation of any of its Members.

- 1) Any officer who fails to attend three consecutive Executive Committee meetings without a legitimate reason accepted by the Executive Committee will be considered as resigned from his position.
- 2) Any officer who is relocated outside this area to another city for a period exceeding six consecutive months should be advised to resign.

Section 6 - Vacancies

Vacancies of the Executive Committee officers for any reason may be filled by two-third vote of the Executive Committee members. In the case of the vacancy of three or more members during its term the Executive Committee should be considered dissolved, and the General Assembly should be called in an emergency meeting to elect a new Executive Committee.

Section 7- Quorum and Manner of Acting

Quorum shall consist of a simple majority of the members of the Executive Committee which should include the President or his designee from amongst executive committee. Without the President or the designee, any meeting of the Committee shall not be considered official. All decision of the board shall be carried by a simple majority vote, except for the cases otherwise stated in these Bylaws.

Section 8 Responsibilities of the Officers

A) The President (Ameer)

The President shall be the principal executive officer and the spokesperson and the Representative of the AIC. The President shall:

- 1) Preside over the meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Assembly.
- 2) Direct and coordinate all the activities of the AIC.
- 3) Appoint special and standing committees for various functions with the consensus of the Executive Committee.
- 4) Sign, with the treasurer or any other officer of the AIC authorized by the Executive Committee, any deeds, contracts and the AIC checks.
- 5) Present the annual report to the General Assembly.

B) The Vice President

The Vice President shall:

- 1) Assume the functions of the President during his absence, in the event of resignation or inability of the President or when requested by the President.
- 2) Assume any duties assigned to him by the President

C) The General Secretary

The General Secretary shall:

- 1) Handle and keep records of all official correspondence of the AIC.
- 2) Take minutes of all meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Assembly.
- 3) Coordinate; distribute information regarding membership and activities of the AIC.
- 4) Maintain up-to-date membership roster.
- 5) Be responsible for the legal matters of the AIC.

D) The Treasurer

The Treasurer shall:

- 1) Receive all contributions, donations on behalf of the AIC.
- 2) Maintain up-to-date financial records for the AIC and have it audited annually.
- 3) Present financial reports at the Executive Committee meetings and the General Assembly.
- 4) Be responsible for the banking activities and day- to-day expenses of the AIC and be the cosignatory with the President on its bank accounts.

E) Personal Relations Secretary

The Personal Relations Secretary shall:

- 1) Organize and execute all the social and religious activities of the AIC.
- 2) Plan, develop and execute programs for the educational activities in the AIC, such as the Islamic weekend school, and summer school.
- 3) Initiate and maintain programs to help the new comers to the community.
- 4) Introduce programs that help in strengthening the brotherhood in the community.
- 5) Assist Treasurer in collecting and distributing Zakat and other charity funds.

Section 9 - Functioning Subcommittees

Only the Executive Committee has the power of forming special subcommittees for certain tasks. All subcommittees will be governed by the Executive Committee. Subcommittees must define their rules and regulations in the form of a handbook which must be submitted for approval by the Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE IX
IMAM**

Section 1 Definition and Responsibilities of the Imam

Imam is the person who will be in charge of leading the five daily prayers in the Masjid and responsible for organizing the Juma (Friday) and Eid prayers. He may designate someone else from a list of preselected Imams, to lead the prayers. He shall consult with

other members of the Executive Committee for the scheduling and assigning the Juma and Eid prayers Khateeb (the one who delivers the speech). The qualifications of the Imam shall be those which are determined by the Sunnah which include:

- 1) Righteousness and piety.
- 2) Knowledge of Islamic teaching.
- 3) Memorization and good recitation ability of the Qur'an.
- 4) Avoiding all the major sins.
- 5) Sound beliefs and practice of Islam.

Section 2 - Imam Assignment

The Imam shall be chosen by the Executive Committee. He shall be an Ex-Officio non-voting member of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE X Irrevocable Dedication

Section 1

All possessions of the AIC are irrevocably dedicated to charitable purposes, and no part of the net income or assets of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of any private person or Officers of the AIC. The Committee may hire employees or independent contractors as necessary to maintain the Mosque.

Section 2

All financial transactions such as purchasing, trading, and investing, performed on behalf of the AIC with any third -party business have to be approved by the Executive Committee.

Section 3

There shall be no preference made on the part of the AIC or any of its Officers to perform trading (buying and selling) with any third party businesses that have any of the Officers or Members as shareholders or beneficiaries on condition that more convenient and competitive alternatives are available in the market.

Section 4

Reimbursement shall be made for any purchases made on behalf of the AIC after their approval as mentioned in (Article X, Section 2) and after submitting the bill of sale or receipts of these transactions to the Treasurer.

**ARTICLE XI
DISSOLUTION**

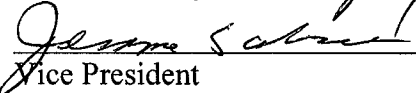
In the event of liquidation or dissolution, all assets are to be transferred to a tax-exempt Muslim organization, under the tax laws of the United States, such organization shall be determined by an 80% majority of the members attending a General Assembly meeting called after dissolution proceedings have started.

**ARTICLE XII
AMENDMENTS**

These Bylaws may be amended at the Annual meeting of the General Assembly or a special meeting duly called for this purpose. The notice for such a meeting shall be announced on three consecutive Friday prayers and/or mailed to the members before the proposed meeting. The two-third vote of the attending members shall be required to amend the Bylaws, except for Article VII, Section 7 where an 80% majority is required.

**ARTICLE XIII
RULES OF ORDER**

The meetings of the General Assembly and the Executive Committee shall be conducted with observance of the manners of Islam and all debates shall be carried out in an atmosphere of Islamic brotherhood.

Adopted this 5th day of July, 2008


Vice President