

Constitution of the Civic Society Buddha Mangala

Article 1

Name and Characteristic of the Society

The civic society has accepted the name Buddha Mangala. It is a voluntary and independent society of citizens and juristic persons who are interested in Buddha's philosophy and wisdom, theory and practice of Buddha's teaching and Buddhist meditation.

Article 2

Sphere of Activity and Residence

Sphere of Activity of the civic society Buddha Mangala covers the whole country. It resides in Prague 5, Churanovska 5.

Article 3

Purpose of the Civic Society

1. To help the members of the society and other interested people to live their own lives in accordance with universal standards of morals and common ethics, to help to remove the cause of unnecessary suffering, to work on minimizing the greed, hatred, delusion, and ignorance, to support them in cultivation and improving their own lives.
2. To make the Buddha's teaching available to those who express their interest (principles of Buddha teaching consists in cultivation of life ethics, cultivation of mind and cultivation of knowledge) and to offer them help in this frame.
3. To contribute to a deeper understanding of their own existence and the world. To create an environment that would help people to get orientated in their lives and to find its deeper meaning. To support study and practice of Buddha's teaching.
4. To function actively against intolerance of opinions and spiritual views.
5. To invite teachers, to organize lectures, seminars and retreats, to publish articles, books, leaflets and periodicals.
6. To create suitable environment for the members of society and other interested people for meetings, studies and meditation practice.
7. To support the work of meditation teachers as far as their activities are in accordance with the civic society purpose, to arrange their stay, especially to provide food, accommodation and medical treatment if necessary and things like that.

A civic society works on following principles:

- a) People, who perform all the educational and organisational activities in the frames of the civic society, should regard their work as a material and an opportunity for their own growth, for cultivation of their mind according to a Buddha's philosophy. That means non attachment, mutual understanding and universal friendship.
- b) This work for the civic society should become a source of joy and is supposed to be done with joy – all this work is a voluntary, honorary activity without asking any reward, award or appreciation.
- c) Concerning their own growth active members of the civic society should be open to both justified and unjustified critical words, they should be honestly interested in acknowledging their weaknesses – in case there is some real imperfection they should do their best to make it right – they should be grateful for a well meant justified critics.
- d) These active members of the civic society should not be overburdened by their voluntary activity.

Article 4

The executive body of Buddha Mangala.

1. The supreme body is the general meeting, which is convened by the committee according to needs, at least once a year.

The general meeting

- a) approves the constitution and its changes

- b) approves the report on activities, report on economy, administration and proposals for the next period (usually next year)
- c) votes the committee and the supervisor of the Civic Society. The supervisor is not a member of the committee
- d) decides on establishing branches of the legal subject.

The general meeting is entitled to act and to accept resolution when more than a half of the members is present. If the required number of members is not present at the announced time of the beginning of the meeting the general meeting will start 15 minutes after this time regardless the number of present people. The general meeting accepts the resolution by a simple majority, changes of the Constitution require two thirds majority for their approval. One person has one vote.

2. The committee of the Civic Society runs activities and accounting of the Civic Society. It consists of 3 to 7 people. The election period of committee members is two years. Repeated voting is possible.

The committee of the Civic Society Buddha Mangala

- a) votes the president, the secretary and the bursar and accredits other its members, ordinary members and supporters to execute actual tasks
- b) can co-opt new committee members, their number must not be higher than half of all committee members
- c) is convened by the president, if he is not present it is done by the secretary, according to needs, at least four times a year
- d) is entitled to act and to accept resolution when more than a half of its members is present. Simple majority of present committee members is necessary to accept the resolution, in case of equanimity of votes the president's vote is decisive
- e) the president or entitled committee member acts in the name of the Civic Society externally
- f) prepares the changes of the Constitution
- g) ensures the to elaborate the annual report on activities and the annual economic report
- h) prepares the program of activities and presents it to the General Meeting for approval
- i) issues internal regulations
- j) decides the acceptance of new members

The Supervisor

is the auditing person who reports to the General Meeting. It executes the audit of accounting and economy of the Civic Society, notifies the Committee about found faults and proposes their adjustment. He executes the audit at least once a year. He works out the report about the results of audit for the General Meeting.

Article 5

Counsellor

1. This position of the counsellor of the civic society is held by a spiritually experienced and wise physical person. During the decision making the committee is always obliged to take into consideration the counsellor's recommendations. For committee members the counsellor should be the symbol of higher humanistic and spiritual qualities, cultivation of which is the goal of the civic society. Counsellor's post should bring both deeper life and spiritual maturity and wisdom into the committee's decisions.
2. The committee votes a new counsellor in accordance with recommendations of the previous one.
3. The term of counsellor's office is not limited.