



CHARTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SUFI MOVEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ARTICLE I: THE OBJECT OF THE ASSOCIATION

We, united in the Message of Love, Harmony and Beauty, stand in collaborative co-leadership as The International Sufi Movement in the United States of America. We acknowledge the past articulation of the Articles of Incorporation set up by Hazrat Inayat Khan in 1923, and stand in unity with these ideals.

By the undersigned persons an association is formed that is affiliated with the International Sufi Movement. This association has for its object the administration, coordination, and development of the International Sufi Movement in the United States of America.

ARTICLE II. NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CO-REPRESENTATIVES

Let the Charter reflect the hope and direction of the living individual centers now functioning in the USA under the guidance of Murshida Rani Kathleen McLaughlin in Portland, Oregon operated and registered under The Sufi Movement in the United States; Murshida Nuria Stephanie Sabato in Kansas City, Missouri operated and registered under the International Sufi Movement USA; and Murshida Rabia Ana Perez-Chisti in San Francisco-Bay Area, California operated and registered under Sufi Movement International USA. Their united co-leadership is the National Council of Co-Representatives for the International Sufi Movement in the United States of America.

ARTICLE III. THE PURPOSES OF THE SUFI MOVEMENT

The purposes of the Sufi Movement are:

1. To realize and spread the knowledge of unity, and the religion of love and wisdom, so that the biases of faiths and beliefs may fall away by themselves. And that the human heart may overflow with love, and all hatred caused by distinctions and differences may subside.
2. To discover the light and power latent in humanity, the secret of all religion, the power of mysticism, and the essence of philosophy, without interfering with customs and beliefs.
3. To help to bring the world's opposing views, called East and West, closer together by the interchange of thought and ideals. To support the formation of the Universal [Sisterhood] Brotherhood, so that people may meet together beyond narrow national, racial, and ideological boundaries.

ARTICLE IV. THE BASIS OF THE SUFI MESSAGE

The Sufi Movement is based upon the Sufi Message borne to the Western World by Hazrat Inayat Khan. It springs from the following Sufi Thoughts:

1. There is one God, the Eternal, the Only Being; none else exists save God.
2. There is one Master, the Guiding Spirit of all souls, who constantly leads all followers towards the light.
3. There is one Holy Book, the sacred manuscript of nature, which truly enlightens all readers.
4. There is one Religion, the unswerving progress in the right direction towards the ideal, which fulfills the life's purpose of every soul.
5. There is one Law, the law of Reciprocity, which can be observed by a selfless conscience together with a sense of awakened justice.
6. There is one human [Sisterhood] Brotherhood, the [Sisterhood] Brotherhood, which unites the children of earth indiscriminately in the [Motherhood] Fatherhood of God.
7. There is one Moral Principle, the love, which springs forth from self-denial, and blooms in deeds of beneficence.
8. There is one Object of Praise, the beauty, which uplifts the heart of its worshipper through all aspects from the seen to the unseen.
9. There is one Truth, the true knowledge of our being within and without which is the essence of all wisdom.
10. There is one Path, the annihilation of the false ego in the real, which raises the mortal to immortality and in which resides all perfection.

ARTICLE V. ADMINISTRATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

The National Council of Co-Representatives will administer the Association. This organizational structure is one of cooperative leadership, and replaces previous organizational structures in the United States. Decisions will be taken, whenever possible, through consensus.

The National Council of Co-Representatives shall be designated by its Founding Members listed below. Each Co-Representative is responsible for the development and administration of the Five Principal Activities of the Sufi Movement in her or his own region. These are: the esoteric school of inner culture (named the Sufi Order), the religious activity (named the Universal Worship), social outreach (named the World Brotherhood-Sisterhood), the healing activity (named the Healing Order), and the work with symbology, nature and the elements (named Ziraat).

Each Co-Representative is responsible for the incorporation of her or his Center, and for its individual State and Federal filing codes. Other Centers may be formed, as necessary.

Methods for the administration of The International Sufi Movement in the United States can be developed as and when necessary by the National Council of Co-Representatives, including: guidelines, ethical procedures, guidelines for the formation of new Centers, appointment of a new Co-Representative in the case of illness or retirement of an existing Co-Representative, and other issues as they arise.

FOUNDING MEMBERS

The National Council of Co-Representatives of
The International Sufi Movement in the United States of America

Murshida Rani Kathleen McLaughlin, Portland, Oregon
Co-Representative for The International Sufi Movement in the United States of America
Pir-o-Murshid Council Consultant
Operating and registered under the name: The Sufi Movement in the United States


Murshida Rabia Ana Perez-Chisti, San Francisco-Bay Area, California
Co-Representative for The International Sufi Movement in the United States of America
Pir-o-Murshid Council Founding Member
Operating and registered under the name: Sufi Movement International USA

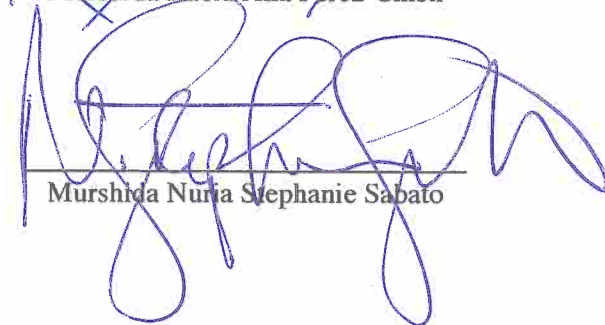
Murshida Nuria Stephanie Sabato, Kansas City, Missouri
Co-Representative for The International Sufi Movement in the United States of America
Pir-o-Murshid Council Founding Member
Operating and registered under the name: International Sufi Movement USA


Murshida Rani Kathleen McLaughlin


Murshid Hidayat Inayat-Khan


Murshida Rabia Ana Perez-Chisti


Murshid Karimbakhsh Witteveen


Murshida Nuria Stephanie Sabato