

Zangskar Nuns Association (ZNA): Constitution

This document serves as the constitution of the Zangskar Nuns Association (ZNA).

The ZNA shall be registered with the J & K Govt. under the Act VI of 1998 (1941 A.D.)

- The main office of the Zangskar Nuns Association will be at the Dudzin Phodrang in Padum, Zangskar.
- The address of the ZNA shall be: Dudzin Phodrang, Padum Zangskar, District Kargil, J & K State, 194302.
- The ZNA will open an account at the State Bank of India, Leh Branch.

1. The nunneries included under the umbrella of the ZNA are:

1. Karsha Chuchikjall Kachod Grubling
2. Pishu Namgyal Choling
3. Zangla Byangchub Choling
4. Rizhing Dorje Dzong
5. Tungri Phuntsog Ling
6. Sani Kachod Ling
7. Skyagam Phagmo Ling
8. Manda Padma Choling
9. Bya Dolma Choling
10. Chumig Gyartse Namtak Choling

2. Major Aims of the ZNA:

- To organize, uplift, and educate the nuns of Zangskar.
- To provide nuns sufficient means to conduct and maintain a full ritual calendar, including daily assemblies and prayer sessions.
- To provide the necessary construction and technical facilities to house a growing number of nuns across Zangskar.
- To provide the necessary means to enable nuns to complete their meditation retreats.
- To look after the welfare and health of aged nuns, especially those without family.

3. Specific Objectives of the ZNA:

- **Classrooms, Residential Cells, and Meditation Cells:** ZNA shall attempt to provide nunneries with classrooms, residential cells, meditation cells, and other facilities. These rooms shall be constructed with local materials and designed to maximize passive solar heating capacities.
- **Ritual Assemblies, Individual Stipends:** ZNA aims to provide nunnery assemblies and individual nuns with subsidies to help defray the expense of rituals, training sessions, and meditation retreats. Ultimately, the goal is to train nuns to become fully self-sufficient.

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- **Orchards, Gardens, Greenhouses, Compost Toilets:** ZNA plans to assist in the design and construction of gardens, orchards, greenhouses, and compost toilets at all nunneries that lack such facilities. The biomass from the compost toilet will be fed into the gardens and greenhouses, for which the ZNA will design improved gravity fed irrigation systems.
- **Solar Lamps, Smokeless Stoves:** ZNA shall plan to bring solar lamps and locally designed stoves (bokhari) to all nunneries that lack such equipment.
- **Water Supply and Storage:** ZNA aims to help all nunneries obtain water supply pipes and storage tanks for the communal kitchen and other communal facilities.
- **Medical Awareness:** The ZNA aims to train nuns to help raise awareness of women's and health issues, especially maternal and child health.

4. Rules, Regulations, and Definitions of the ZNA:

The ZNA shall consist of an Executive Committee and a Working Committee which is answerable to the General Body.

- I. **Executive Committee:** The Executive Committee, hereafter **EC**, shall oversee the workings of the ZNA. The EC members shall be elected by the Working Committee for 2 year terms. The EC may include laypeople and monastics.
- II. **Working Committee:** The Working Committee, hereafter **WC**, shall be responsible for carrying out the day to day activities of the ZNA, including financial and technical activities. It shall consist of ten delegates, one from each of Zangskar's ten nunneries. These delegates shall be nominated by their respective nunneries for five year terms.
- III. **General Body:** The general body, hereafter **GB**, shall include all resident nuns at Zangskar's ten nunneries listed above and any new nunneries arising in the future.

5a. Powers and Functions of the Executive Committee (EC):

1. The EC shall meet at quarterly to oversee the activities of the WC and to vote on any additional by laws or amendments to the constitution of the ZNA.
2. EC shall be empowered to direct the activities of the WC, including initiating new projects, programs, expenditures, and fundraising activities.
3. The members of the EC shall be nominated and elected by the WC every two years.
4. If a member of the EC resigns, the WC shall find a replacement within the year.

5b. Offices of the Executive Committee:

- **President:** The president of the WC shall be responsible for directing and supervising the activities of the ZNA

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- **Secretary:** The secretary shall be responsible for preparing annual statements documenting activities and future plans of the ZNA.
- **Treasurer:** The treasurer shall be responsible for preparing all financial statements of the ZNA. The treasurer shall register all income such as grants and donations against proper receipts and payments, while preparing the account register for regular audits.
- **Honorary Advisor:** The honorary advisor shall oversee the ZNA's current and long term plans as well as advising on collaborations with other organizations.

5c. Executive Committee Members:

- President: Ven. Skalzung Lhamo, r/o Karsha, Zangskar
- Secretary: Ven. Skalzung Dorje, r/o Karsha, Zangskar
- Treasurer: Sri Konchog Drolma, r/o Karsha, Zangskar
- Chief Advisor: Ven. Yangchen Choedzom, r/o Zangla, Zangskar

6a. Powers and Functions of the Working Committee (WC):

1. The WC shall be answerable to and elected by the General Body.
2. The WC shall prepare and implement annual plans which include detailed statements of aims and objectives, as well as summaries of past accomplishments.
3. WC shall meet regularly to discuss current and future activities for the ZNA.
4. The WC shall work with the treasurer to handle the ZNA finances by managing both income and outlays or expenditures for the projects under its auspices.
5. A member of the WC may resign by submitting a resignation, upon which a new delegate will be elected by the nunnery in question.
6. The Working Committee shall be composed of ten delegates, one from each of Zangskar's ten nunneries.

6b. Current Delegates to the WC Are:

1. Thuje Drolma, Karsha Khachod Grubling
2. Tsering Yangskyid, Pishu Namgyal Choling
3. Tandzin Palmo, Zangla Byangchub Choling
4. Tundup Drolma, Rizhing Dorje Dzong
5. Ngawang Drolma, Tungri Phuntsogling
6. Kunzang Drolma, Sani Kachodling
7. Dechen Palmo, Skyagam Phagmoling
8. Dorje Drolkar, Manda Padma Choling
9. Lobsang Palmo, Bya Dolma Choling
10. Lobzang Chosdzom, Chumig Gyartse Namtak Choling

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7. Powers of the General Body:

The General Body consisting of all member nuns residing in Zangskar's ten nunneries shall be empowered to elect delegates to the WC and to be apprised of the current and future activities of the ZNA.

This concludes the by-laws and regulations of the **Zangskar Nuns Association**.

Dated: April 15, 2007.