

CHALDEAN EDUCATIONAL CENTER OF AMERICA

DUNS # 621104558

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PREAMBLE

The Chaldean Educational Center of America (henceforth **CECA**) is a non-profit organization which was established in MI since 1974.

Members of CECA envision a multi-dimensional perception of cultural, educational and recreational centers for the Chaldean community.

We seek to reach out to those folks and give them an alternative perspective on life in general and cater for the needs of the rapidly expanding populations of Chaldeans as a result of immigration through systematically educational, cultural, and art-oriented programs.

The basic premise of our programs is reviving the legacy of ancient Chaldeans (Native Iraqis) and implementing it in productive ways through artistically and culturally oriented activities that will bring about skillfully trained individuals who will in turn improve the quality of life by adding up to the life stream achievements.

The major activities utilized to carry out our programs can be outlined as follows:

- 1- Setting up workshops for training and skills development.
- 2- Setting up a permanent craft center to explore talents and improve them.
- 3- Training youths to equip them with the basics needed in desktop (Computer) and manual Graphic Design.
- 4- Initiating a Mesopotamian line of products by training participants to use our ancient writing systems and symbols to apply them to their art products.
- 5- Developing our already existing publishing department to multiply the releases and consequently enriching the intellectual life of people.

CECA's main agenda concentrates upon:

- 1 - Linking education and community development, relying on the wisdom and energy of local people to solve their own problems while building their skills and sense of pride.

- 2 - Through CECA's programs, we can stimulate other kinds of neighborhood development. Thus, giving big corporation an opportunity to help make community changes on a large scale and a wider scope, with the potential for great and long-term impacts on other communities.

CHALDEAN EDUCATIONAL CENTER OF AMERICA

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I: DEFINITIONS

- a - Chaldean: A national “ethnic” term denoting all Mesopotamians (Native Iraqis) including Syriacs and the Chaldean Nestorians also known by the new name Assyrians.
- d - Governing Board or Board of Directors is the highest body of the association. Its temporary headquarter is Detroit.

ARTICLE II: VISION AND MISSION

VISION:

CECA Focus is upon :1 - Linking culture, education and community development, by relying on the wisdom and energy of local people to solve their own problems while developing their skills and sense of pride.2 - Building up an awareness of Chaldean historical and cultural figures by unfolding and spreading ancient and contemporary Chaldean / Mesopotamian heritage and culture to reflect the accomplishments of Chaldean people regardless of their diverse designations.

MISSION:

1 - Stimulating all kinds of neighborhood developments. Thus, giving big corporations an opportunity to help make community changes on a large scale and a wider scope, with the potential for great and long-term impacts on other communities.2 - Holding meetings, delivering lectures and setting up visual art and language workshops for both youth and adult participants.3 - Promoting cultural and educational research and enriching Chaldean library with published references to enhance global and Chaldean cultures in English, Chaldean and other languages.4 - Participating in the activities of the annual festival (AKITU) Chaldean Babylonian new year, on April 1st - 11th .5 - Teaming up with the Babylonia Museum of the Native Iraqis (Chaldeans & Jewish of Babylon) to achieve other long term goals.

ARTICLE III: ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

CECA is comprised of a Chairman: A non-elective guiding position composed of one chairperson. The lifetime Chairman is Fr. Jacob Yasso. Amer Hanna, the Co-Founder will take over, when Fr. Yasso is incapable of assuming his position. The founder can assume the President's position when a term is ended without electing a new executive board.

CECA organization is comprised of the following representatives:

A Chairperson, executive board/officers (President, Vice president, Secretary, and Treasurer), board of directors (heads of committees), and members.

All the CECA members, directors, officers, and the president are on a volunteer basis except when receiving a grant that requires payment for involved members.

ARTICLE IV: FINANCIAL RESOURCES

- 1 - Monthly membership fees of \$ 10 per member (Optional).
- 2 - Grants and in-kind donations from prospective individuals as well as private, governmental foundations, and corporations.

ARTICLE V: MEETINGS AND VOTING

Meetings, throughout the preparatory years, are to be exclusive to the board of directors. For the second term, the board is to set forth procedures of convening meetings or calling for a general conference encompassing the board and committees' heads.

At any rate, each member has only one vote when vote casting. However, the non-present member shall vote via writing mailed / email to the General Secretary who is in charge of coordinating between the governing board, organizations and members.

ARTICLE VI: REPRESENTATION

CECA president can sign any contract, including buying or selling agreement on behalf of the Chaldean Educational Center of America. He / She has to report the signed and dated agreement to the Treasurer who is responsible for Banking, book keeping and record keeping.

If the CECA president for unknown reason(s) is not available to sign, then the power to execute CECA president's authority goes to his vice president, then to the Executive Director in case the vice president is not available too. The other scenario is to give the authority to both the secretary and the treasurer to sign together the above mentioned contracts and agreements.

ARTICLE VII: MEMBERSHIP, APPEALS, TERMINATION, AND INACTIVATION

a - Membership :

- 1- Every person who is originally Native Iraqis is eligible for membership in CECA.
- 2 - Every person who is not originally Native Iraqis and believes in the CECA goals . *The last provision require recommendations from two members of CECA board of directors.*

b - Appeals :

Any applicant denied admission to CECA may reapply for membership provided his / her appeal petition is accompanied with a letter signed by the head of membership committee within 30 days of his/her denial in writing.

c - Membership Termination or Inactivation :

A membership is terminated or inactivated if:

1 - He/She causes material or moral damages to the association, or in case of his / her request for resignation.

2 - A member is considered inactive for one year due to absence and not attending CECA's meetings for three consecutive times with no justifiable excuse.

However, the absentee might submit a written excuse to the General Secretary within the first week of absence, if he/she was not sick or out of MI. This same resolution is applicable to the board of directors, so has the general secretary to submit his/her excuse of absence to the executive director.

ARTICLE VIII: BOARD OF ADVISORS

A board of advisors is to exist continually consisting of appropriate individuals from the community, the business sector and other relevant population categories. These individuals are to be appointed by the executive director at the recommendation of the nominating committee.

ARTICLE IX: ELECTIONS

Elections are to be conducted a month prior to the end of each term. Results shall be announced a week prior to the end of the term.

Newly elected members shall assume office within the first ten days of commencing the new term.

ARTICLE X: DISSOLUTION

CECA may be dissolved in a meeting by a two-thirds vote of the executive board members (The Chairman and the CECA Officers). Non-present members' votes are also counted as (Yes).

Upon the dissolution of CECA, all the property and assets shall be distributed to the members or contributed to another Chaldean organization under the supervision of the founding committee.

All suggestions to ensure proper procedures are accepted afterwards.



Fr. Jacob O. Yasso
Chairman



Amer H. Shendaj
President

September 1st 1997