

	Shree Krishnay Namah	
	Gopijan Vallabhaya Namah	
	Shree Acharya Charankamalebhyo Namah	
	Shree Gusaijee Param Dayalve Namah	
	Shree Yamunajee Kripamastu	



**Pushti Margiya Vaishnav Samaj
of
North America**

VRAJ

A not for profit
Religious, Cultural, Educational, Charitable & Humanitarian
Institution incorporated in the
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

BY-LAWS

**PUSHTI MARGIYA VAISHNAV SAMAJ OF NORTH AMERICA
VRAJ**

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

The Certificate of Incorporation contains four more Pages.
Only the 1st page is depicted here to highlight the Objectives of VRAJ'

51

DSCB-316

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
DOMESTIC NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

FEE \$75.00

CORPORATION BUREAU
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ROOM 308, NORTH OFFICE BLDG.
HARRISBURG, PA 17120

1 NAME OF CORPORATION
PUSHTI MARGIYA VAISHNAV SAMAJ OF NORTH AMERICA

2 ADDRESS OF REGISTERED OFFICE IN PENNSYLVANIA (P.O. BOX NUMBER NOT ACCEPTABLE)
1420 WICK LANE,

3 CITY COUNTY STATE ZIP CODE
NORRISTOWN MONTGOMERY PA. 19401

4 EXPLAIN THE PURPOSE OF THE CORPORATION
Establish and operate one or more centres and/or temples for educating devotees in Pushti Margiya Vaishnav faith as expounded by Acharya Vallabhacharya Mahaprabhujee (ONE OF THE FOUR PRINCIPAL SPIRITUAL LEADERS OF HINDU RELIGION) and perform worship and religious services. No member of the public shall be excluded on account of their cast, race, sex or national origin.

ATTACH ~~4~~ 4 SHEETS

5 THE CORPORATION DOES NOT CONTEMPLATE PECUNIARY BENEFIT OR GAIN INCIDENTAL OR OTHERWISE.
NO PART OF THE REVENUE OF THE CORPORATION SHALL INURE TO THE BENEFIT OF MEMBERS, TRUSTEES, OFFICERS

6 (CORPORATION IS TO HAVE MEMBERS)

7 CHECK APPROPRIATE SECTION:
 THE CORPORATION IS TO BE ORGANIZED ON A NON-STOCK BASIS
 THE CORPORATION IS TO BE ORGANIZED ON A STOCK BASIS AS FOLLOWS:

Number and Class of Shares (if applicable)	Par Value Per Share, if Any	Total Authorized Capital	Term of Existence
			<i>Perpetual</i>

8 Name and Address of Each Incorporator.

Name	Address (Street, City, State, Zip Code)
PRAMOD RAM AMIN	2103 MASON HILL DRIVE, ALEXANDRIA, VA, 22306-2415

(ATTACH 8 1/2 x 11 SHEET IF NECESSARY)

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, THE INCORPORATORS HAVE SIGNED AND SEALED THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
THIS *Sixth* DAY OF *August* 19*87* (*SHRAVAN SHUKLA EKADASHI*)
Pramod Ram Amin

-FOR OFFICE USE ONLY-

100 FILED AUG 6 1987	002 CODE <i>AIN</i>	003 REV BOX	SEQUENTIAL NO.	100 MICROFILM NUMBER 87501947
	REVIEWED BY <i>OH</i>	004 SIC	AMOUNT <i>\$75.00</i>	001 CORPORATION NUMBER 992573
	DATE APPROVED	CERTIFY TO <input type="checkbox"/> BY	INPUT BY <i>SK 8/11</i>	LOG IN
	DATE REJECTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BY	LOG IN (REFILE)	
	MAILED BY DATE		LOG OUT	LOG OUT (REFILE)

Filed on **Shravan Shukla Ekadashi, Vallabhabda 510** – August 6, 1987
With The Corporation Bureau, Department of State, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Corporation # 992573 * Microfilm # 87501947

PUSHTI MARGIYA VAISHNAV SAMAJ OF NORTH AMERICA

BYLAWS

ARTICLE ONE

NAME, LOCATION, REGISTERED AGENT & FISCAL YEAR

SECTION I - NAME:

The name of the Corporation shall be 'Pusti Margiya Vaishnav Samaj of North America', hereinafter known as **VRAJ**; the name that is registered as the 'trade name' with the statutory authorities in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

SECTION II - LOCATION:

The Registered Office of **VRAJ** shall be at 51 Manor Road, in the Wayne Township of the County of Schuylkill, Schuylkill Haven, Pennsylvania 17972-9067.

SECTION III - REGISTERED AGENT:

The **Governing Council** shall appoint any person residing at the registered office per SECTION II hereof as the Registered Agent. The **Governing Council** shall also designate another person residing at the Registered Office as an alternate who shall succeed the Registered Agent in the event of a vacancy due to move, absent, resignation, incapacitation or death.

SECTION IV - FISCAL YEAR:

The Calendar Year shall be the official year of the **VRAJ**.

ARTICLE TWO **OBJECTIVES**

The VRAJ is organized exclusively for Religious, Cultural, Educational, Charitable and Humanitarian purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of contributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501©(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future tax code.

Objectives of VRAJ are more particularly enunciated in the Article III, Clause #4, THIRD 'D' of the ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION filed with the Corporation Bureau of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. That Clause enumerating the OBJECTIVES of VRAJ is reproduced here:

Establish and Operate one or more centres and/or temples for educating Devotees in Pushti Margiya Vaishnav Faith as expounded by Shrimad Vallabhacharya Mahaprabhujee (One of the Four Principal Spiritual Leaders of the HINDU RELIGION) and perform worships or religious services. No member of the public shall be excluded on account of his/her Cast, Race, Sex, or National Origin.

SECTION I - RELIGIOUS

1. Establish and operate one or more temples for religious purposes.
2. Worship of the Deities of the Faith; daily and on auspicious days as customarily prescribed in the Religious books and Scriptures. Purity of the rituals shall be maintained as far as possible or as circumstances permit.
3. Provide facilities and guidance to followers of the Faith.
4. Promote and hold cultural activities to fulfil the religious needs of believers of the faith and provide a religious and cultural identity for their children and the future generations.
5. Perform such other worships or religious services authorized by the Faith.
6. Provide resources and facilitate Vegetarian Devotees with appropriate food in the majority Non- Vegetarian Society
7. Promote the protection of Cows and establish sanctuary or Sanctuaries for Cows.

SECTION II – CULTURAL

Sustaining, Preserving, Propagating, and Augmenting, 'Bhartiya Samskar' – INDIA'S CULTURAL HERITAGE AMONG FUTURE GENERATIONS OF INDIAN AMERICANS.

SECTION III - EDUCATIONAL

1. Propagation of the religious and philosophical teachings of Shrimad Vallabhacharya Mahaprabhujee.
2. Publish an e-journal dedicated to renewal and restoration of the Faith and education of the masses in the teachings of HINDU RELIGION in general with a particular emphasis on Shudhdhadwait School of Shrimad Vallabhacharya Mahaprabhujee
3. Organize seminars, symposia, lectures, youth camps and meetings to discuss, deliberate, interpret and propagate the Faith.
4. Organize various centres known as 'VRAJ VAISHNAV KENDRA's to impart theological education of Pushti Marg to the young and old alike.
5. Publish books, acquire manuscripts and books, and conduct correspondence courses.
6. Such other educational activities as may be appropriate to effectuate the purpose of the VRAJ.

SECTION IV - CHARITABLE

Such public Charitable purposes, as recognized and accepted by the laws of the United States of America, which the trustees consider to be consistent with Hindu prescriptions of public charitable deeds, endowed with religious merit,

SECTION V – HUMANITARIAN

Provide help for the Relief, Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Natural Calamities impacted people as well as people who have suffered as a result of Poverty, Pandemic, etc.

SECTION VI - ILLUSTRATIVE

The above Religious, Cultural, Educational, Charitable and Humanitarian purposes **are illustrative and not exhaustive**. The Trustees have the authority and discretion to achieve

these purposes, so long as they are not inconsistent with the Hindu Scriptures and Customs and are not in violation of Laws of United States of America and/or State/County/Township where VRAJ is operating any Centre or Temple.

One of the Principal Objectives of VRAJ is to sustain and propagate Pushti Margiya Vaishnav Faith in the North American Continent. VRAJ recognizes many other institutions and Temples of the Faith that are having more or less identical objectives. In so far as they, in their own way supplement the Objectives of VRAJ, it is prudent upon VRAJ to give a helping-hand in the event of a need. **ADDENDUM 'A'** specifies the direction, rights, responsibilities, terms and conditions of support to such organizations known by VRAJ as the **SISTER ENTITIES**.

THE OBJECTIVES SHOWN IN THIS ARTICLE CANNOT BE AMENDED, CHANGED OR ALTERED BY ANY ENTITY CREATED BY VRAJ or even by any provisions of Amendment instituted in these Bylaws per ARTICLE FOURTEEN hereof. However, when a particular Objective becomes illegal by an enactment of a new Law by the Government, that particular Objective would be deleted by the GOVERNING COUNCIL.

ARTICLE THREE **MEMBERSHIP**

SECTION I - ELIGIBILITY:

Any person irrespective of creed, colour, race, sex, or National Origin, who is having faith in the Sanatan Vedic Religion, commonly known as Hinduism, as expounded by the Sixteenth Century Spiritual Master, Shrimad Vallabhacharya Mahaprabhujee and committed to the objectives of the **VRAJ** enunciated in the **ARTICLE TWO** hereof.

SECTION II - CLASSIFICATION:

Class of Member	DONATION	
	At Least	Up to
(a) GREAT GRAND DIAMOND BENEFACTOR	\$1,000,001	and above
(b) GREAT GRAND PLATINUM BENEFACTOR	\$750,001	\$1,000,000
(c) GREAT GRAND GOLD BENEFACTOR	\$500,001	\$750,000
(d) GREAT GRAND SILVER BENEFACTOR	\$250,001	\$500,000
(e) GREAT GRAND BRONZE BENEFACOR	\$175,001	\$250,000
(f) GREAT GRAND BENEFACTOR	\$100,001	\$175,000
(g) BENEFACTOR	\$75,001	\$100,000
(h) PATRON TRUSTEE	\$51,001	\$75,000
(i) SPONSOR TRUSTEE	\$25,001	\$51,000
(j) SUSTAINER TRUSTEE	\$15,001	\$25,000
(k) SUPPORTER TRUSTEE	\$8,400	\$15,000
(m) DIPLOMAT	\$5,001	\$8,399
(n) FELLOW (LIFE MEMBER)	\$1,001	\$5,000
(p) SEVAK *	\$0	\$0

SEVAK* members are the ones who are the legal residents of North America and who have registered their names with the VRAJ office, as the **SAMARPIT SEVAK**; meaning the one doing 'Nitya Gruh Sewa' of the duly consecrated Chitraje (image) or Swaroop (Icon) of Pushti Purushottam Shri Thakorjee and makes offerings. All SEVAK members are privileged to refrain from paying any monetary dedication. The SEVAK members are to nominate **TWO** representatives as the **TRUSTEES** of VRAJ for a three-year period.

Although, the geographical distances may preclude the Members from often visiting VRAJ, nonetheless, **VRAJ** would like the Members to personally visit its TEMPLE for as many times as possible. The frequency of their visit enhances their Devotion. As they visit from all over the Continent **VRAJ** has provided certain lodging units for them. The **ADDENDUM 'B'** to these Bylaws depicts the privileges and obligation of members for staying at VRAJ.

Certain Devotees would not like to be a permanent Member per the listing narrated above in this SECTION, but would like to be associated with **VRAJ** as a one-time **PILGRIM** member. Understanding and appreciating their wish, from time to time, the **GOVERNING COUNCIL** would institute the terms, conditions and obligations for such Devotees

SECTION III - SPOUSE:

VRAJ recognizes the Sacrament of Marriage of the HINDU RELIGION. As such, the Donor would be considered as a Primary Member. The spouse of the Primary Member would be treated as an Alternate member. Only in the absence of the Primary Member, the spouse will have full rights of the Primary Member. This privilege may be waived at the discretion of the spouse. No Spouse is eligible to become a Chairperson or a President, if his or her spouse previously held the same position under the same trusteeship.

SECTION IV - TENURE:

Except as provided in Section XI of this Article, the tenure of the membership per Sections (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (m) and (n) shall be valid through the life of VRAJ or until death of the member. If a member is survived by a spouse, who is desirous of being a member, then the tenure of the surviving spouse would last till his or her the death. The tenure of the SEVAK membership per Clause (p) of the Section II of this Article shall terminate when the member ceases to do 'NITYA GRUH SEWA'.

SECTION V - GRADUATION:

Member from one classification level will graduate to the next incremental classification level by donating the additional donation amount required for that level. Such addition may be spread over more than one instalment. In case of any discrepancy between the record of VRAJ and that of a member, it will be the responsibility of the member to furnish the evidence to reconcile such a discrepancy.

All contributions shall be accumulated for the graduation to Membership Account, except for the payment is for:

- a. The defraying of the cost of services rendered by VRAJ.
- b. The Dedication of any objects used for the Saaj (APPAREL) & Shringar (ORNAMENTS) of the DEITY or any item used in the service (Hindola – Palna – Bungalow and the like) for and around the Deity.
- c. For the contribution earmarked for a specific Charity with recognition of the contributor by such a Charity. However, when the contribution is for a solicited defined project of VRAJ with recognition to the contributor, it shall only accumulate 50% to the membership. When the contribution is without any recognition to the contributor, it shall accumulate 100% to the membership,

- d. For the Contribution for Sponsorship of the Seva of the **DEITY**, including but not limited to Milk Abhishek, Yamunaji Arti, Mangalbhog, Rajbhog, Palna, Dhajaji Manorath, Shayan Bhog, Full Day, Annual Manorath, Hindola, Annakut, Chundadi Manorath, Quarter Century Seva, Parikrama Marg Plaque, and the like sponsorship only the 50% of the contribution amount shall inure to the Membership. The rationale is that the offerings is only partial and the rest of the sponsorship amount is for the incidentals.
- e. In case the contribution is for being a sponsor of an event or the dedication of any facilities of VRAJ or part thereof, the membership graduation accumulation shall be to the tune of 100%, however, if a sponsor is given recognition in any manner, then the Membership graduation would be to the tune of only fifty percent (50%) of such a contribution.

ARTICLE FOUR **RECOGNITION**

SECTION I - FOUNDERS:

In felicitation of the services rendered in the founding of **VRAJ**, two Vaishnavas are considered **FOUNDERS** of the VRAJ; LATE SHRI GOVINDBHAI BHIKHABHAI SHAH, a retired Principal and the First Chairman of the Vallabha Priti Seva Samaj of New Jersey, who conceived and initiated the idea of SHRINATHJI's Temple and SHRI PRAMOD RAMBHAI AMIN, a Social Activist from the National Capital area who incorporated, articulated, and nurtured Vraj.

SECTION II - PARAMARSHAK:

Both the FOUNDERS were also recognized as **PARAMARSHAKs**, meaning **Advisors Emeritus**, whose advice should not be unreasonably discarded. After the passing away of SHRI GOVINDBHAI BHIKHABHAI SHAH the other **PARAMARSHAK**, SHRI PRAMOD RAMBHAI AMIN continues to be recognized as **PARAMARSHAK**. He shall enjoy all the privileges accorded to any other member and also vested with the powers at parity with any other officer. The Notices of the Meetings and the Minutes thereof ought to be sent to **PARAMARSHAK**, who may attend the Meetings and may take part in the deliberation but would not vote. For public at large who may not comprehend the meaning of the Sanskrit word '**PARAMARSHAK**', he shall also be designated as the **FOUNDER** or the **FOUNDER TRUSTEE**.

In line with the tradition established over the years, the **PARAMARSHAK** is invited to the Meetings of the **GOVERNING COUNCIL** and the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**. True to the meaning of his title – ADVISOR EMERITUS, he will be called upon for a 'word of wisdom'.

The position of **PARAMARSHAK** will only and forever rest with Late SHRI GOVINDBHAI BHIKHABHAI SHAH (KAKA) and SHRI PRAMOD RAMBHAI AMIN. The title must not be given to anyone else in the future.

Except for administering the swearing-in of the new Chairperson and the new President, **these Bylaws do not assign any responsibility to PARAMARSHAK, so that there would not be any void in the administration on the departure of the incumbent PARAMARSHAK. Even in the case of the swearing-in, these Bylaws specifically provides for the alternates.**

SECTION III - PIONEERS:

All members who dedicated more than EIGHT THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$8,400) by the 29th of January 1989, being the 84th day after the consecration of SHRINATHJI – the presiding deity of our FAITH, PUSHTI MARG - The Path of Grace on the 6th day of November, 1988 shall be PIONEER Trustees. These Trustees pioneered VRAJ. Their vision, zeal, active help and financial contribution materialized the VRAJ against all odds. These Trustees will be collectively known as PIONEERS. All original PIONEERS are listed in **ADDENDUM 'C'** to these By-laws. They along with their spouses should be permanently and conspicuously recognized at the Principal Centre at VRAJ, Pennsylvania.

All **PIONEERS** should meet at least once a year at **VRAJ** or by teleconference. They should appoint a convener from among themselves. They would select one of the **PIONEERS** to Chair the meeting.

The active **PIONEERS** must have due representation in the **GOVERNING COUNCIL**. They should appoint **FOUR** representatives to the **GOVERNING COUNCIL**. Two would retire in the even-numbered year to be replaced by **TWO** new **PIONEERS** for a Four-Year Term.

Retiring **PIONEER** may be re-appointed, however, as far as practicable new **PIONEER** should be inducted.

Before Thakurji was installed in 1988, all the 33 **PIONEERS** pledged to Nitya Leelasth Goswami Anant Shree Vibhushit Shree 108 Shri Govindlalji Maharajshri and assured him that the commandments issued by His Holiness were acceptable to them and they would abide by the same. They further announced by their FAITH that the daily SEWA – Service (to Pushti Purushottam Govardhan Nathji) would be rendered in full consonance with the liturgy and mode of not only PUSHTI MARG but also the Guidance and Directives of His Divine Holiness Tilakayatji. The **PIONEERS** stood tall and weathered all storms to make **VRAJ**. Their significance cannot be negated when **VRAJ** is at its pinnacle. Hence, commensurate with that assurance to His Divine Holiness Tilakayatji, the **PIONEERS** will always have the final say. SEWA and all related rights will be with Shriman Tilakayat Maharajshri.

The verbatim English translation of the original Assurance in 'GUJARATI' forms part of these Bylaws and is reproduced as **ADDENDUM 'H'** to these Bylaws.

A **PIONEER** could also offer his/her services as a **DEDICATED DIRECTOR** provided s/he possesses requisite qualifications for the particular staff function associated with the directorship of his choice and provided the **GOVERNING COUNCIL** or Executive Committee has approved his/her appointment.

As and when the Body of **PIONEERS** is not in a position to send their representatives to the **GOVERNING COUNCIL**; their quota of representatives will be allotted alternatively, first to the **GREAT GRAND BENEFACTORS** and then to the **ALDERMEN**.

SECTION IV - GOODWILL AMBASSODORS:

Certain renowned and reputable persons in USA, who care for **VRAJ** and appreciates & propagate VRAJ as a Premier Place for Pilgrimage and an Indian Cultural Institution will be designated as **GOODWILL AMBASSODORS** of **VRAJ** by the 2/3rd vote of the **GOVERNING COUNCIL**. As and when the circumstances warrants, the **GOVERNING COUNCIL** may seek their advice or help. The names of the **GOODWILL AMBASSODORS** would be conspicuously **recognized** at **VRAJ**, Pennsylvania.

If any **GOODWILL AMBASSADOR** wishes to be invited at the meetings of the **GOVERNING COUNCIL** or the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**, s/he should inform the respective Secretary. Such a **GOODWILL AMBASSADOR** will receive the notices to the meetings and even the minutes of the meetings.

SECTION V - ALDERMEN:

All the retired Chairpersons and Presidents are designated as **ALDERMEN**. They should be collectively known as The **Board of Aldermen**. They shall be permanently and conspicuously recognized at the Principal Centre at **VRAJ**, Pennsylvania. In case the retired Chairperson or the President assumes an active role; either in the **COUNCIL** or in the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**, his/her title as an **ALDERMAN** would be in ABEYANCE till s/he step down from such an office.

The **ALDERMEN** should at least meet once a year at **VRAJ**, preferably between the Memorial Day and AGM. The Junior-most Alderman would be the convener of the Board of **ALDERMEN**. S/he would chair the meetings of the Board of **ALDERMEN**.

The **ALDERMEN** should appoint FOUR Representatives to the **GOVERNING COUNCIL**. Two would retire in the even-numbered year to be replaced by TWO new **ALDERMEN** for a FOUR-Year Term.

Retiring **ALDERMAN** may be re-appointed. However, as far as practicable, new **ALDERMAN** should be inducted.

An **ALDERMAN** could also offer his/her services as a **DEDICATED DIRECTOR** provided s/he possesses requisite qualifications for the particular staff function associated with the directorship of his choice and provided the **GOVERNING COUNCIL** or the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** has approved his/her appointment.

SECTION VI - GREAT GRAND BENEFACTORS.

Members in the classes 'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e' and 'f' are also known as the **GREAT GRAND BENEFACTORS**. They shall be permanently and conspicuously recognized at the Principal Centre at **VRAJ**, Pennsylvania.

Their trust and support to the **VRAJ** is evidenced by their substantial contributions. Those Contributions have paved way and have become instrumental in the progress of **VRAJ**.

GREAT GRAND BENEFACTORS should meet at least once a year before AGM at **VRAJ**. They should appoint a convener from among themselves. The Convener would Chair the meetings

The **GREAT GRAND BENEFACTORS** should appoint FOUR Representatives to the **GOVERNING COUNCIL**. Two would retire in the even-numbered year to be replaced by TWO new **GREAT GRAND BENEFACTORS** for a **Four-Year** Term.

Retiring **GREAT GRAND BENEFACTOR** may be re-appointed. However, as far as practicable, new **GREAT GRAND BENEFACTOR** should be inducted.

SECTION VII - TRUSTEES:

Although, VRAJ is a 'not for profit' Corporation and not a Trust, all the members of classes 'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f', 'g', 'h', 'i', 'j', 'k', are designated as **TRUSTEES** of **VRAJ**. They are the back-bone who have collectively put **VRAJ** on the sound footings. The designation '**TRUSTEE**', implies, that they hold the spiritual, cultural, ethical and educational values imparted at **VRAJ**, 'IN TRUST' for the future generations.

Three representatives of the 'P' class of membership would be designated as SEVAK Trustees.

From time to time, the **COUNCIL**, by at least 75% affirmative vote, may honour certain individuals as **HONARARY TRUSTEES** for having rendered exceptional services to **VRAJ**. They would be the voting members of the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**.

The **COUNCIL** shall ensure that at least once a year, a Retreat of all the **TRUSTEES** is held at **VRAJ**. There will be a social gathering, an assembly and a Luncheon or Dinner. During the assembly session **TRUSTEES** would be briefed on the Progress of **VRAJ** and the plans the Administration has for the future.

These Bylaws vests the sole privilege of the amendment to these Bylaws to the **TRUSTEES**. This right is more particularly explained in the **ARTICLE FOURTEEN – AMENDMENTS**.

ARTICLE FIVE **CONTROL & ADMINISTRATION**

VRAJ will have THREE bodies:

- **THE GOVERNING COUNCIL** for Overall Control & Policy Matters.
- **THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** for the day-to-day administration.
- **THE DEDICATED DIRECTORS** for providing staff function and/or technical expertise.

The Articles SIX, SEVEN, & EIGHT respectively spell out their Composition, Rights, and Responsibilities.

In order to be a member or an officer of **THE GOVERNING COUNCIL**, **THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** or the **CHAIRPERSON** of **YOUTH AFFAIRS**, the aspirant ought to have taken **BRAHMSAMBADH Diksha** – initiation as Pushti Margiya Sevak by Vallabha Kul Acharya Balak – the Lineage of **Shrimad Vallabhacharya Mahaprabhujee**.

ARTICLE SIX **THE GOVERNING COUNCIL**

SECTION I - CONTROL:

The control of the VRAJ is vested in **the self-perpetuating GOVERNING COUNCIL** consisting of at least **THIRTY EIGHT** Trustees. The **GOVERNING COUNCIL** shall be hereinafter known as the **COUNCIL**. The **COUNCIL** is the Supreme Body with over-riding

powers over all entities created by VRAJ, except the adherence of the PRANALI for SEWA and any commandments of Tilakayat Maharajshri, where the powers of the COUNCIL are subrogated to the PIONEERS. Notwithstanding the language contained in this Article the **PIONEERS** can override any decision made by the **COUNCIL** by at least 75% affirmative vote of all living PIONEERS. Any decision made by the **COUNCIL** and/or the **PIONEERS** can only be circumvented by the AGYA and the DIRECTIVES of His Divine Holiness, the reigning Tilakayat Maharajshri and/or his lineage. The **COUNCIL** should meet at least FOUR times in a year at **VRAJ**. They could also hold the meetings by audio or video conferencing. They would deliberate and decide on all Policy matters, including but not limited to, Ensuring that VRAJ and all its entities strictly follows the Pranali – Liturgy of the PRATHAN PEETH in serving PUSTI PURUSHOTAM SHREE VRAJRAJJI.

The Capital & Revenue expenditure and all fiscal matters,

The Credence - Credibility – Stature - Image – Reputation of the VRAJ

The Selection of Officers as stipulated in the provisions of these Bylaws.

The Relationship with the Spiritual Benefactors. As this aspect requires proper protocol and the respect of the Spiritual Benefactors any communication with the Spiritual Benefactors ought to be censured by the Tilakayat Representative Sevak.

The Practising / Propagating the Theology and Liturgy of Hinduism, particularly and especially that of PUSHTI MARG.

The Relationships with other Pushti Margiya entities, Sanatan Vedic (Hindu) Institutions and Temples and Local, County, State and Federal Government and their agencies,

Anything and everything required in Upholding the stature of VRAJ as a Premier HINDU – PUSHTI MARGIYA TEMPLE and the '501-c-3' CHARITABLE INSTITUTION.

SECTION II - THE CHAIRPERSON:

In the even numbered year, at the time of the Annual General Meeting, the incumbent CHAIRPERSON would relinquish his title and pass on the baton to the CHAIRPERSON-SELECT who would be sworn in as CHAIRPERSON. However, s/he would take the charge on the following January 1st for a period of Two Years.

The CHAIRPERSON is considered as the CHIEF GOVERNING OFFICER of VRAJ. S/he would chair the meetings of the **COUNCIL** as well as the ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING and the SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING. The CHAIRPERSON would steer the **COUNCIL** to perform its duties.

The retiring CHAIRPERSON would automatically become an ALDERMAN. Once retired the CHAIRPERSON could never be reappointed as a CHAIRPERSON.

SECTION III - THE COUNCIL SECRETARY

On the 1st of January of the odd-numbered year, the COUNCIL SECRETARY-SELECT shall ascend to the Office of the **COUNCIL SECRETARY**. S/he shall cause notices of meetings of the **COUNCIL** and the General Body as prescribed in these by-laws and shall keep or cause to be kept minutes of all meetings of the **COUNCIL** and the General Body. The Secretary shall

perform such other duties and possess such other powers as are incidental to that office or as assigned by the **COUNCIL** and/or **CHAIRPERSON**.

In association with the Executive Secretary and the Systems Dedicated Director the Secretary shall maintain punctual and up-to-date records of the membership.

SECTION IV - THE TREASURER.

On the 1st of January of the odd-numbered year the TREASURER-SELECT shall ascend to the Office of the TREASURER. The TREASURER shall be in charge of and have control of the Bank Accounts, Long term Investments, Stocks, Bonds, Securities, Overseas Bank Accounts. S/he shall have the rights and power to manage them. The Treasurer shall perform such other duties and possess such other powers as are normally vested in the office of a Chief Financial Officer.

The number of signatories and the mandatory signers of the accounts with Financial Institutions is more particularly detailed in ARTICLE TWELVE – ‘BOOKS & RECORDS’ hereof.

It will be the duty of the TREASURER to ensure that the statutory returns are prepared and punctually filed. The TREASURER shall prepare the financial Statements, including but not limited to Receipt & Payment Account, Cash-flow Profile, and Balance Sheet.

SECTION V - SELECTION OF OTHER OFFICERS

In the even-numbered year, at least three weeks before the AGM, the COUNCIL would select, CHAIRPERSON - SELECT, COUNCIL SECRETARY - SELECT, TREASURER - SELECT, PRESIDENT - SELECT, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY - SELECT and CONTROLLER - SELECT for the Two years term starting on the 1st of January of the immediately following odd-numbered year.

The **COUNCIL** will also select an INTERNAL AUDITOR for a FOUR-year term. The incumbent would enjoy the term, until either the reduction of the term or reappointment at the end of the term by a near-unanimous (80%) vote of the **COUNCIL**. S/he would be invited to all Meetings of the COUNCIL so that s/he could make presentations on the areas requiring rectification as well as make recommendations. S/he would not have a VOTE. As far as practicable s/he ought to be a Certified Public Accountant.

Until all Officers are selected, the meeting will not adjourn. The appointments would require a 2/3rd majority.

If any office of the CHAIRPERSON, COUNCIL SECRETARY, TREASURER, PRESIDENT, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY or CONTROLLER becomes vacant due to Incapacitation, Resignation or Death; the CHAIRPERSON- SELECT, COUNCIL SECRETARY- SELECT, TREASURER- SELECT, PRESIDENT- SELECT, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY- SELECT and CONTROLLER- SELECT would ascend to that office respectively for the remainder of the term plus two years. In such an occurrence, the COUNCIL would fill the office from which the officer ascended.

If any incumbent CHAIRPERSON - SELECT, COUNCIL SECRETARY - SELECT, TREASURER - SELECT, PRESIDENT - SELECT, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY - SELECT and CONTROLLER - SELECT does not accept the position of the CHAIRPERSON, COUNCIL SECRETARY, TREASURER, PRESIDENT, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY or CONTROLLER respectively, then the **COUNCIL** would fill the void for the respective office for the term

intended for that office. The nominee selected by the **COUNCIL** ought to have given the written acceptance before being confirmed.

SECTION VI - REPRESENTATION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

The **PRESIDENT** and **PRESIDENT- SELECT** shall be the voting members of the **COUNCIL**.

SECTION VII - OFFICERS- SELECT:

The **CHAIRPERSON - SELECT**, the **COUNCIL SECRETARY - SELECT**, and the **TREASURER- SELECT** shall perform such duties and such authority assigned to him/her by the **CHAIRPERSON**, the **COUNCIL SECRETARY** and the **TREASURER** respectively

SECTION VIII – TILAKAYAT REPRESENTATIVE SEVAK:

In order to ensure that the PRABHU SEVA is performed with strict adherence to the Pranali – Liturgy of the PRADHAN PEETH of PUSHTI MARG and so as to prevent any deviation from that, the **COUNCIL**, with the approval of HDH Tilakayat Maharajshri, will appoint two Vaishnavas for a FOUR year term. This will ensure better communications and transparency between the VRAJ administration and the office of the Pradhan Peeth, consequently HDH Tilakayat Maharajshri. They will be known as TILAKAYAT REPRESENTATIVE SEVAK. They are the full-fledged VOTING Members of the **COUNCIL** and also act in an advisory Capacity. Their advice on the PRADHAN PEETH's PRANALI (Liturgy) & GURU RELATIONS should not be unreasonably not followed. They would also keep the **COUNCIL** follow the proper protocol in the relationship with the Spiritual Benefactor. They would have the Privilege of attending the meetings of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, so that they could be familiar with the day to day administration of **VRAJ**. This would enable them to ensure that the Administration strictly follow the Pranali – Liturgy of the PRADHAN PEETH AND PREVENT ANY DEVIATION THEREOF.

SECTION IX – MEETINGS.

The **COUNCIL** must have periodic meetings, either in person or by tele-conferencing or by video conferencing. The **CHAIRPERSON** can hold tele-conference or video conference meeting/s as necessary. The **CHAIRPERSON** would chair the Meetings. In his/her absence, the **CHAIRPERSON - SELECT** would chair the meeting. In case the both are absent; the **COUNCIL SECRETARY** would chair the Meeting. In the absence of all the three officers, the **TRASURER** shall chair the meeting. If all the four officers are absent, the Meeting would be cancelled. The 2/3rd majority is needed to pass any resolution.

The first **COUNCIL** Meeting shall be held in the first quarter of the year, when the budget of the year will be presented, deliberated and approved.

An audio or video record should be kept of all the meetings. After approval, all minutes and resolutions should be signed and dated by both the **COUNCIL SECRETARY** and **CHAIRPERSON** and presented for the approval at the next meeting of the **COUNCIL**. On approval, the minutes should be archived in the **VRAJ** office as official record in the custody of the **ADMINISTRATOR**.

At least 50% of the total numbers of Councillors are required to have the **Quorum**. If the quorum is not there, the meeting should be rescheduled and conducted only when the quorum is possible. **PROXY** would not be permitted.

If there is going to be any discussion at the meeting concerning the aspect or function of a DEDICATED DIRECTOR, s/he should be invited at the meeting. On the other hand, if the DEDICATED DIRECTOR would like to present his/her report and/or seek budget to accomplish work, s/he should seek permission of the CHAIRPERSON to be included on the Agenda of any scheduled or a special meeting.

SECTION X - CASTING VOTE:

As and when, the total number of COUNCILLORS attending any meeting reaches an even number, and there is a tie between 'Yes' & "Nay" at the meeting; the CHAIRPERSON or whoever is chairing the meeting shall have an additional casting vote.

SECTION XI - TENURE OF COUNCILLORS:

The tenure of the Officers of the Council is TWO Years and already defined in the respective sections of this ARTICLE SIX. For the other 16 COUNCILORS, the tenure will be for FOUR-years; with 25% retiring every year. The Tenure of the representatives of the PIONEERS, ALDERMEN and GREAT GRAND BENEFACTORS, is for FOUR years with two from each group, retiring IN every EVEN NUMBERED year. Other than the term stipulated here and in the other SECTIONS of this ARTICLE SIX, the term may also end due to the vacancies arising out of resignation, incapacitation, death or removal.

SECTION XII - NEW APPOINTMENTS:

COUNCIL itself is a self-perpetuating body, meaning any vacancy would be filled by the **COUNCIL**, other than that of the representatives of the PIONEERS, ALADERMEN and GREAT GRAND BENEFACTORS which will be filled by the respective bodies. However, the following stipulations would govern the qualifications of the initial as well as the new appointees.

- a. The new appointee ought to be a Trustee first, before being considered for an inclusion in the **COUNCIL**. The appointee should be well conversant with the workings of VRAJ by being a regular devotee preferably by being an EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE member or a Trustee for over two years. The **COUNCIL** with a near unanimous vote of those present may waive the pre-requisite condition of 2 years. The near unanimous would mean at least 80% of those present.
- b. The **COUNCIL** may fill vacancy, other than that of the representative PIONEER, ALDERMAN and GREAT GRAND BENEFACTOR, by appointing any Trustee by a 2/3rd vote.
- c. No immediate blood relation (Parents, Children & Siblings) or a spouse of any COUNCILOR would be eligible as a new appointee. They could however, be a Member of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE as well as a DEDICATED DIRECTOR.
- d. The new appointee should be a Vaishnav appreciating the teachings of **Shrimad Vallabhacharya Mahaprabhujee**.
- e. The new appointee should not be a third member of any decision-making body of any Temple whose two members are already in the **COUNCIL**.
- f. The new appointee should be ethical and of good moral character with no adverse standing in the society and no criminal record.
- g. If a new appointee also happens to serve in another religious institute or temple that comes under the shelter of the Spiritual Benefactor of VRAJ then there will be no conflict of interest on Religious Grounds, because such member cannot harm or act

against the interest of VRAJ

SECTION XIII - REMOVAL:

The following rules would govern the removal of a COUNCILOR:

- a. Becomes an Executive of a Religious Institution whose two executives are already the Councillors of VRAJ.
- b. Who has not attended the total of two meetings at VRAJ and half of the tele-conference meetings, in any one calendar year.
- c. Who is found to be unethical, characterless, criminal, taking illegal drugs, or abusive.
- d. Who has not attended and provided sewa, including P.R. work, for at least two out of 4 Major Annual Public Celebrations at VRAJ:
 - i. Mahaprabhuji Prakatyotsava,
 - ii. Patotsava,
 - iii. Janmastami, and
 - iv. Annakut.
- e. Who uses foul language, derogatory and negative statements about Vraj on any media or email or anywhere in the VRAJ Campus or outside Vraj.
- f. Who makes derogatory remarks for our Spiritual Benefactors or any member of Vallabha Kul – the Lineage holder of Shrimad Vallabhacharya Mahaprabhujee.
- g. Instead of having recourse to the Mediation Procedure stipulated in these Bylaws, s/he initiates any external legal proceedings or legal notice against VRAJ, any of its committee or person associated with VRAJ.
- h. If s/he is convicted of any criminal activity, s/he must immediately resigned, if the resignation is not tendered, than s/he will be removed.
- i. If s/he becomes a Spouse of another incumbent COUNCLLOR, then they would mutually advise the CHAIRPERSON about who between the two of them, would be continuing as the COUNCILLOR.
- j. The COUNCIL with a near unanimous that is 80% majority, may remove any COUNCILLOR from the COUNCIL, if in their opinion his/her continuance would be detrimental to VRAJ.

ARTICLE SEVEN **THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The day to day administration of the **VRAJ** shall be vested in the Executive Committee headed by the PRESIDENT.

SECTION I - PRINCIPAL OFFICERS:

At the beginning of every odd-numbered year the incumbent PRESIDENT-SELECT, the EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-SELECT and CONTROLLER-SELECT shall take over as the

PRESIDENT, the EXECUTIVE SECRETARY and the CONTROLLER respectively for a two-year term.

The President, President-select, Executive Secretary, Executive Secretary – Select, Controller and Controller-select ought to be the Trustees of VRAJ.

SECTION II - OTHER MEMBERS:

The PRESIDENT in consultation with the CHAIRPERSON, CHAIRPERSON-SELECT, COUNCIL SECRETARY, TREASURER, PRESIDENT-SELECT, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, and CONTROLLER shall appoint the other members of the Executive Committee for a two-year term running concurrently with that of the PRESIDENT. The total number of the members of the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** should be at least ELEVEN, but not more than TWENTY FIVE.

The 'SEVAK' class of Members shall designate two 'SEVAK' members to the Executive Committee. In case, there are no representatives deputed by the Sevak Members, then the Executive Committee would co-opt them. Sevak Members as well as the two Liaison Executives, shall advise the committee on the technicalities, theology, liturgy, commandments and the norms of the Pushtimargiya Vaishnav Faith.

SECTION III - QUALIFICATIONS:

The following stipulations would govern the qualifications of the Officers and Members of the Executive Committee.

For All Members of the Executive Committee including the Officers:

- i. The Aspirant should be a member of **VRAJ**.
- ii. The Aspirant should be ethical and of good moral character with no adverse standing in the society.
- iii. The Aspirant should not be an immediate blood relation (Parents, Children & Siblings) or a spouse of any incumbent Executive Committee member.
- iv. The Aspirant should be a Vaishnav appreciating the teachings of Shrimad Vallabhacharya Mahaprabhujee.
- v. The Aspirant should not be a third member of any decision-making body of any Temple whose two members are already in the **COUNCIL** or the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**. If they intend to render service to **VRAJ**, s/he could be a **DEDICATED DIRECTOR**.
- vi. The Aspirant should not have any criminal record, meaning found guilty of a criminal offence.

SECTION IV - THE PRESIDENT:

The PRESIDENT is the **CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER** of VRAJ. S/he shall chair the meetings of the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**. S/he shall be in charge of the day-to-day administration of VRAJ within the confines of its Objectives and the Directives of the **COUNCIL**. The PRESIDENT would be an ex-officio voting member of the **COUNCIL**.

SECTION V - THE PRESIDENT- SELECT:

The PRESIDENT- SELECT shall perform such duties and have such authority as from time to time delegated to him/her by the PRESIDENT. He will be the under-study for the office of the

PRESIDENT so that on the ascension as the PRESIDENT, s/he is well-conversant with the administrative duties. The PRESIDENT- SELECT would be an ex-officio voting member of the COUNCIL.

SECTION VI - The EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

The EXECUTIVE SECRETARY shall cause notices of the meetings of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. In association with the Administrator, Systems Coordinator, and COUNCIL SECRETARY, s/he should maintain the records of the Membership. S/he should keep or cause to be kept the minutes of all the meetings of the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**. The Executive Secretary shall perform such other duties and possess such other powers as are incidental to his/her office or as assigned by the PRESIDENT.

SECTION VII - THE CONTROLLER:

The CONTROLLER shall be in charge of the disbursements of the expenses incurred and services received. In consultation with the **COUNCIL**, the Treasurer, the Executive Committee, and the Administrator, the CONTROLLER shall forecast the budget for the ensuing quarter and accordingly make representation to the **COUNCIL** for the transfer of funds for disbursements. S/he shall maintain complete accounting records and work hand-in-gloves with the TREASURER for the preparation of the financial documents.

SECTION VIII – OFFICERS - SELECT:

The President- SELECT shall perform such duties and commend such authority as assigned to him/her by the PRESIDENT. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY- SELECT shall perform such duties and commend such authority as assigned to him/her by the EXECUTIVE SECRETARY. The CONTROLLER- SELECT shall perform such duties and commend such authority as assigned to him/her by the CONTROLLER.

SECTION IX - ADMINISTRATOR.

The PRESIDENT in consultation with the CHAIRPERSON, CHAIRPERSON- SELECT, PRESIDENT- SELECT and EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, shall appoint an ADMINISTRATOR. S/he could be a paid or an Honorary. S/he would be the one to manage the affairs of VRAJ and its Principal Campus at 51 Manor Road, Schuylkill Haven, Pennsylvania 17972-9067. S/he would also be the Resident Manager of the VRAJ CAMPUS. His / Her duties would be similar to the Manager of any organization. S/he would report to the President.

In case the office of the ADMINISTRATOR becomes vacant, in consultation with the Chairperson, Chairperson-elect, President-elect and the Executive Secretary, the President would appoint a NEW ADMINISTRATOR. Pending such an appointment, the President would depute another person to be an ACTING ADMINISTRATOR.

The ADMINISTRATOR shall enjoy certain degree of autonomy to impart his/her duties to manage the office of VRAJ as well as the Properties of VRAJ including but not limited to Buildings, Plants, Campus, Furniture Fixtures, Equipment and even the items needed for the various MANORATHS of the DEITY.

SECTION X - MEETINGS:

Meetings of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE shall be regularly convened at the instant of the PRESIDENT or the minutes of the previous Meeting or at the instant of the majority of the members of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The notice of the meetings should also be sent to the COUNCILORS of the **COUNCIL** and only those PIONEERS, ALDERMEN, and the GREAT GRAND BENFACTORS, who have requested in writing to the Executive Secretary to receive the Notices of the Meetings as well as the Minutes. All of them including the COUNCILORS may attend the meetings as Observers. They may take part in the deliberations but would not have a Vote.

All the meetings of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE should be held at **VRAJ**. However, if the circumstances warrant, the PRESIDENT may opt for holding it by teleconferencing, either audio or video.

If there is going to be any discussion at the meeting concerning the aspect or function of a DEDICATED DIRECTOR, s/he should be invited at the meeting. On the other hand, if the DEDICATED DIRECTOR would like to present his/her report and/or seek budget to accomplish work, s/he should seek permission of the PRESIDENT to be included on the Agenda of any scheduled or a special meeting.

Fifty percent of the total EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Members present are required to have the Quorum. If the quorum is not there, the meeting should be rescheduled and conducted only when the quorum is possible. PROXY would not be permitted.

As and when the total number of executives attending any meeting, reaches an even number, and there is a tie between 'Yes' & "Nay" at the meeting; the PRESIDENT shall have an additional casting vote.

The minutes with the ratified resolutions, should be signed by both the PRESIDENT and EXECUTIVE SECRETARY. They should be presented for the approval at the next meeting of the Executive Committee. Once approved, they should be archived at Vraj with the Administrator. The minutes of the meeting should also be sent to the COUNCILORS of the **COUNCIL**.

SECTION XI - REMOVAL:

The following rules would govern the removal of an Executive Committee member:

- a. S/he becomes an Executive of a Religious Institution whose two executives are already the Members of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.
- b. S/he has not attended the 50% of the meetings in a year.
- c. Who is found to be unethical, characterless, criminal, abusive, or using illegal drugs.
- d. Who has not attended and provided Sewa, and/or Public Relations duty for at least TWO out of FOUR Major annual Public Celebrations at **VRAJ**;
 - i. Mahaprabhuji Prakatyotsava,
 - II. Patotsava,
 - III. Janmastami, and
 - IV. Annakut.
- e. Who uses foul language or derogatory and negative statements about **VRAJ**, on

any media or email or anywhere in the VRAJ Campus or outside **VRAJ**.

- f. Who makes derogatory remarks for our Spiritual Benefactors or any member of Vallabha Kul – the Lineage holder of Shrimad Vallabhacharya Mahaprabhujee.
- g. Instead of having recourse to the arbitration procedure stipulated in these Bylaws, s/he initiates any external legal proceedings or legal notice against **VRAJ**, any of its committee or person associated with in his / her official capacity.
- h. If s/he is convicted of any criminal activity.
- i. If any Member becomes a Spouse of another incumbent Member, they should mutually advise the President about who of the two would be continuing as the Member.

ARTICLE EIGHT **DEDICATED DIRECTORS**

In order to achieve a degree of continuity and consistency in dealing with certain important aspects of the operations and management, the **COUNCIL** shall appoint a Trustee, a Member or even a Non-member to be an expert in charge of a particular function, operation or even an up-keep and improvement of any property of VRAJ. These appointees shall be known as **DEDICATED DIRECTORS**, hereinafter known as 'DD'. They will have thorough knowledge and expertise in the field of his/her appointment. They will hold office for four years, subject to recall or replacement at any time by the **COUNCIL**

VRAJ should try, and if need be, solicit the aspirants for these offices, so that there could be at least two **DIRECTORS** in the major function, supplementing the efforts of each other and gaining expertise by sharing the knowledge.

Every 'DD' may be provided with a budget for his/her function. On the other hand, as far as practicable, and possibly as early in the year as possible or thereafter as and when the situation and/or need warrants, the 'DD' should seek permission of the **CHAIRPERSON** or the **PRESIDENT** to be included on the Agenda. S/he shall present their plans, problems, and budget to the **COUNCIL** or the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** depending upon the pre-determined body who the particular 'DD' is reporting. The **COUNCIL** or the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** shall review that and may disapprove or approve the Budget in its entirety or with an upward or downward revision. In case, a 'DD' would like to present his/her report and/or to seek fund, s/he will seek permission of the **CHAIRPERSON** or the **PRESIDENT** to be included on the Agenda. On the other hand, if The **COUNCIL** or the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** requires the 'DD' to appear at the meeting, the Council Secretary or the Executive Secretary shall invite the particular 'DD' to the meeting.

The 'DD' could also present a budget explaining the need for it, to the **CHAIRPERSON** or the **PRESIDENT**, who could approve it unilaterally, within the confines of the powers and the spending limits at their disposal.

The **ADDENDUM 'D'** lists the initial aspects, staff functions, projects or properties for which a 'DD' is needed. From time to time, the **COUNCIL** may add or delete an Aspect, Function, Project or a Property that may require a 'DD'.

ARTICLE NINE

VAISHNAV EDUCATION

Pursuant to Section III of ARTICLE TWO – OBJECTIVES, the COUNCIL shall appoint a Director of Education and Co-Director of Education to carry out the various aspects of EDUCATION all the aspects of Education.

Although, VRAJ extends the latitude of autonomy to the DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, s/he comes under the **COUNCIL** and as such reports to the **COUNCIL**. The DIRECTOR as well as the CO-DIRECTOR would periodically or on an invitation, present the report on the Educational activities to the **COUNCIL**. At the last meeting of every year, COUNCIL would invite the DIRECTOR and CO-DIRECTOR to present the annual report as well as the plans and the Budget for the ensuing year. COUNCIL shall review the BUDGET and either approve it in its entirety or with an **upward or downward revision**. The Director of Education will be an ex-officio non-voting Councillor of the COUNCIL.

ARTICLE TEN

YOUTH AFFAIRS BOARD

Recognizing the importance of orienting and educating Youths with the Religious and Cultural Values; **VRAJ** has developed a cadre of volunteers who have steered the Youth, in meeting that goal. There is an ELEVEN MEMBERS, self-perpetuating Board known as YOUTH AFFAIRS BOARD. The Board looks after the YOUTH AFFAIRS including but not limited to organizing YOUTH CAMPS, RETREATS, SEMINARS and COMMUNITY SERVICE.

The Board selects a Chairperson and a Co-Chairperson to manage the Youth Affairs. Although, VRAJ extends the latitude of autonomy to the Youth Affairs Board, it comes under the **COUNCIL** and as such reports to the **COUNCIL**. The Chairperson and the Co-Chairperson of the Youth Affairs Board would periodically or on an invitation, present their report to the **COUNCIL**.

The Chairperson of the Youth Affairs Board must be a TRUSTEE of **VRAJ**. The religious values instil as part of the of YOUTH ACTIVITIES, should in no way be detrimental to the general tenets of Hinduism with a particular emphasis on the PUSHTI MARG.

The Chairperson of the YOUTH AFFAIRS BOARD is an ex-officio non-voting member of the **COUNCIL**.

ARTICLE ELEVEN **GENERAL BODY MEETINGS**

SECTION I - ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING:

Annual General Body Meeting of the **VRAJ**, shall be held no later than the 30th day of November. It should have the Notice of not less than FIFTEEN and not more than FORTY-FIVE days.

The following business and such other businesses, which the **COUNCIL** requires to be transacted, should be advised to the membership in the form of an Agenda in the Notice of the meeting:

- a. Mangalacharan.
- b. Reading out loud the Blessings – ASHIRWAD PATRA of Adhyatmik Ashray Data of **VRAJ**, His Divine Holiness Shriman Tilakayat Maharajshri.
- c. Welcoming speech by the Chairperson.
- d. Reading and Approval of the Minutes of the Previous AGM.
- e. “Pushti Marg – The Path of Grace - in North America and the role of **VRAJ**” address by the Chairperson or his duly accredited person.
- f. Presentation of the Presidential Report.
- g. Presentation and approval of the previous year’s Accounts of **VRAJ** and at least for the first Eight Months of the current years’ interim accounts.
- h. In the even-numbered year, the official introduction, confirmation and swearing in of the CHAIRPERSON and the PRESIDENT by Paramarshak, or in his absence, the Senior-most PIONEER present or if none of them are there, then the Senior-most Grand Benefactor present.
- i. Introduction of the newly appointed COUNCILLORS; inclusive of the officers of the **COUNCIL** by the ascending CHAIRPERSON.
- j. Introduction of the new Officers and new Members of the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** by the ascending PRESIDENT in odd-numbered years.
- k. Appointment of the External Auditor for the ensuing year.
- l. Any other business already scheduled on the Agenda.
- m. Any other business permitted by the Chairperson.
- n. Vote of Thanks by the **COUNCIL** Secretary.
- o. Ashray Pad.

SECTION II - SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING:

The General Body may be called for important purpose by the **COUNCIL**. Such meeting known as Special General Meeting shall be held upon not less than FIFTEEN Days and not more than THIRTY SIX days' notice advising the time, place and purpose of the meeting.

SECTION III – QUORUM:

Ten percent of the total Membership or Fifty One Members present whichever is less shall constitute the quorum at the ANNUAL & SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS. However, as and when the Absentee Voting is activated, for the purpose of the Quorum, the Secretary shall add the number of persons who have exercised their right to Vote in Absentia

SECTION IV – VOTING:

The procedures of Voting is detailed in ARTICLE FIFTEEN - CAUSE & EFFECT.

ARTICLE TWELVE **BOOKS & RECORDS**

VRAJ shall keep proper and complete books and records of accounts and shall also keep minutes of the proceedings of its meetings. **VRAJ** shall present financial report reviewed by an external auditor to its members at the time of the Annual General Body Meeting for the fiscal year ending on the 31st December of the previous year. It is customary to also present an interim account.

The deposit of all funds shall be subject to the direction of the TRASURER. All incoming funds shall be received by the TRESURER or his nominee and shall be deposited or invested as shall have been prescribed by the **COUNCIL**. All disbursements shall be managed by the Administrator of **VRAJ** under the supervision of the Controller or Treasurer. From time to time, the Controller and the Administrator will make the representation to the **COUNCIL** for the transfer of funds to the disbursement account from the funds held by the Treasurer. Checks drawn on the accounts of the organization shall bear the signature of at least two of several individuals whom the TREASURER in consultation with the CHAIRPERSON, have authorized to be the signatories for a specific account with a specific financial institution. Three of those individuals should be the Controller, Treasurer and the one who is the designated person in the custody of the check book.

Over and above cash, the **VRAJ** may accept other donations in kind including but not limited to Stocks, Bonds, Jewellery, Materials, Land, and Buildings etc.

In order to have the continuance of the Management of the Reserve Funds, Overseas Bank Accounts and Investments, the **COUNCIL** shall appoint two DEDICATED DIRECTORS for the period of FOUR years, with the Titles of the '**PRINCIPAL CUSTODIAN OF FUNDS**' and '**DEPUTY CUSTODIAN OF FUNDS**'. Either could be recalled by the COUNCIL at any time. On the other hand either could be re-appointed by the **COUNCIL** on the expiration of their term. S/he would keep the records of all the long-term Investments including any stocks, Bonds, Securities, and any Overseas Bank Accounts, spanning the multiple administrations. However, his/her authority is subjugated to the incumbent **TREASURER**.

The prevailing sponsorships of various SEWAs are enumerated in **ADDENDUM 'E'**. The **COUNCIL** could revise the same at their discretion by a near-unanimous – VOTE. The near-unanimous would mean at least 80% in affirmative.

Each two-year Administration should be required to contribute to the **CONTINGENCY RESEVE FUND** for an ideal Fiscal Health of VRAJ. The amount of such reserve would be determined by an independent financial professional who would compute the amount keeping in mind, the liquidity on hand needed for the following year, especially for both the expenses and any other imminent capital outlay. In the event of the **DIRE NEED**, the **CONTINGENCY RESERVE FUND** could be liquidated by 80% affirmative vote of the **COUNCIL**.

Devotees desirous of having a recurring annual SEWA to the DEITY on a particular anniversary day for Twenty Years shall make a tax-deductible contribution to a **TWO DECADES' SEWA FUND**. Commensurate with the schedule stipulated in the **ADDENDUM 'E'**. The Treasurer will maintain the **TWO DECADES' SEWA FUND** as a corpus and only the yield of the **FUND** would be used to service the annual recurring SEWA. As the **TWO DECADES' SEWA FUND**, is going to be progressively reduced and ultimately wiped out at the end of the twenty years from the Donation or lesser in the case of those donors who have donated before the 31st December, 2020, every year the **TREASURER** will liquidate 10% of the Reserve Fund and will transfer the proceeds to the **CONTINGENCY RESERVE FUND**. Although, the **TWO DECADES' SEWA FUND** supersedes the previous annual recurring SEWA known as 'PERMANENT SEWA', the earlier sponsors of such SEWAS **would enjoy the privilege of SEWA for more than TWO DECADES. The sliding scale of the additional years beyond TWO DECADES from the start of the subject SEWA is also given in ADDENDUM 'E'**.

The Treasurer will also maintain a **DEPRECIATION RESERVE FUND** that can be used to maintain, repair, restore and renovate the existing properties.

All Reserve Funds should have a corresponding 'Long term Fixed Investment'.

From time to time, the **COUNCIL** would spell out the powers of approval of expenses by various officers or committees. Initially, they are enumerated in **ADDENDUM 'F'**.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN **THE MEDIATION BOARD**

To address any grievance of An Employee, a Devotee, a Member, a Trustee or any officer of **VRAJ**, the **COUNCIL** shall activate the **MEDIATION BOARD** consisting of five individuals; two would be nominated by the aggrieved party, and two would be nominated by the **COUNCIL**. The Fifth Member would be the **IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIRPERSON**, who would be the Convener and Chairperson of the **MEDIATION BOARD**. The decision of the **MEDIATION BOARD** would be final without recourse to any other way of redressing the grievance.

ARTICLE FOURTEEN **AMENDMENTS**

These BY-LAWS can be amended only on the recommendation of the 2/3rd Councillors of the **COUNCIL** or **101 TRUSTEES**. They could only be enacted by a two-third (2/3rd) majority in person or absentee mail-in vote, voting at the meeting of all the **TRUSTEES** per **SECTION VII** of **ARTICLE FOUR** hereof. A written notice of not less than TWENTY NINE AND not more than FORTY THREE days, should be given to all the **TRUSTEES** of record, on the date of the

Notice. The notice must state the date, time and place of the meeting along with the suggested amendment/s.

The procedure of VOTING will be governed by the procedure stipulated in **ARTICLE XIV – CAUSE & EFFECT**.

Notwithstanding the language contained in this Article the role and the responsibility of the PIONEERS cannot be amended without the AGYA and the DIRECTIVES of His Divine Holiness, the reigning Tilkayat Maharajshri and/or his lineage. Any amendment must be subject to the provisions of Article Seventeen and as such, would require an approval meaning the blessing of His Divine Holiness, the reigning Tilkayat Maharajshri and/or his lineage.

Whenever any draft of the proposed amendment is tabled and deliberated, the final amendment need not be the verbatim copy of the proposal, which was communicated with the notice. There could be an occasion when as a corollary to the original proposal some other ARTICLE may have to be revised. Such a 'Redirect' ramification should be in line with the theme and the subject matter of the issue in the proposed amendment/s. However, under no circumstances, totally unrelated proposal could be entertained for the amendment as it would not have complied with the provision of 'Due Notice' of TWENTYNINE to FORTYTHREE days.

Notwithstanding anything contained here, under no circumstances the **OBJECTIVES** enunciated in the **CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION** as well as the **ARTICLE TWO** of these Bylaws could be amended.

As and when these By-laws are amended, the amendments should be incorporated in the main Body of the By-laws. This deviation from the customary practice of 'amendments' as an addendum is adopted so that it is easier for members to comprehend. However, the original version and the approved amendments by identifying a particular amendment by a chronological number should be archived at VRAJ Office.

ARTICLE FIFTEEN **CAUSE & EFFECT**

SECTION I - ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION: These by-laws should be read in conjunction with the **ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION** of the **VRAJ** that are filed with the Corporation Bureau of the Department of State, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on the Sixth day of August, 1987 - Shraavan Shukla Ekadashi in the FIVE HUNDRED AND TENTH year of Shrimad Vallabhacharya Mahaprabhujee, the Esteemed Founder of the PUSHTI MARGIYA VAISHNAV FAITH. Whenever in doubt, the provisions of the ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION shall prevail over the By-laws.

SECTION II – ANAMOLY: All members bear the responsibility of informing the VRAJ office of any change of Physical, an E-mail address, and phone number/s in a prompt & timely manner. **VRAJ** do not bear the responsibility of anomaly of mail or courier delivery, which is beyond its control.

SECTION III – GENDER: there is a mention of a singular in these By-laws, it may be read as plural and vice-a-versa. Wherever there is a mention of masculine, or feminine, it may be construed as masculine, feminine or both.

SECTION IV – ROUNDING: Whenever there is a mention of percentages in these Bylaws and the percentage computes to a fractional number, it should be rounded to the nearest whole number.

SECTION V – PROCEDURES: As far as practicable, these Bylaws have stipulated rules and regulations for the Meetings. However, wherever the Bylaws are silent, the Robert's Rule of order shall govern the procedures at the Meetings.

SECTION VI - WAIVER: Any notice required by these BY-LAWS may be waived in writing by any person entitled to that notice. The waiver may be executed before, or at the meeting with respect to which the notice is waived. Each member attending a meeting, for which a proper or improper notice was in a dispute, shall be deemed to have waived such notice.

SECTION VII - VOTING: The all voting for in-person meetings would be by 'SHOW OF HANDS'. However, at the discretion of the person chairing the Meeting or at the request of the 25% of those voting members' presents, the Chairperson of the Meeting shall activate the Secret Ballot.

If in the opinion of the Chairperson of VRAJ or 10% of the participants eligible to vote at a particular meeting, any subject matter on the AGENDA warrants an ABSENTEE VOTING, then the respective Secretary shall activate the ABSENTEE VOTING. There should be at least Fifteen days interval between such an activation and the day of the meeting so that there is a requisite time for ballot to send out, authorized recipient to receive, vote, and return in time for the meeting, In case the time is not sufficient then the meeting day shall be deferred. The VOTING could be by the use of a courier service including United States Postal Service as well as the electronic mail. In such an event, the respective Secretary shall include the proposed Resolution requesting to vote their 'Approval' 'Disapproval' or 'Abstain'. The Ballot Paper should either be signed in the presence of a Notary or accompanied by a Government issued Photo Identification that bears an identical signature as the one on the Ballot Paper. The Absentee Ballot should have been received by the respective Secretary on or before 24 Hours of the scheduled time of the subject Meeting.

VRAJ being a continental organization, it is imperative that **ABSENTEE VOTING** be allowed for the Meetings of all entities except the **GOVERNING COUNCIL** and the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**. Thus, under no circumstances, ABSENTEE VOTING would be allowed for the meetings of the **GOVERNING COUNCIL** and **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**, as the **COUNCILLORS** and the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS** are supposed to participate in person and take an active interest in the Administration and Policies of VRAJ.

SECTION VIII - DEVOTEES IN RESIDENCE: VRAJ has blossomed into a **PLACE FOR PILGRIMAGE** for followers of not just **PUSHTI MARG**, but for the **HINDUS** of all denominations. As such, it has developed transient residential facilities and other residential facilities for Pilgrims who want to be in the close proximity of **VRAJ**. VRAJ also extend the residential facilities for Employees and Volunteers. The '**ADDENDUM 'G' - 'DEVOTEES IN RESIDENCE'**' stipulates the rules and responsibilities governing the stay of both Transient Pilgrims, Employees and Honorary Volunteers.

At no time shall a member or his/her guest/s or invited guest/s or a Pilgrim, or a Visitor or any institution bring a legal action against the **VRAJ** or any of its members, officers or employees for any issues including but not limited to injury sustained or property loss or damage incurred by them while visiting **VRAJ** or participating in, attending or conducting any activity sponsored by the **VRAJ**. Any grievance should be referred to the Mediation Board.

SECTION IX – PERSONAL LIABILITY: All Members of the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**, the **COUNCILLORS** of the **COUNCIL**, **DEDICATED DIRECTORS**, and **YOUTH AFFAIRS BOARD** are not personally liable for their action or inaction in the performance of the Duty for VRAJ. On the other hand if any of them, utters foul language or any action that is offensive to anyone, they should be personally responsible for it. However, if in the opinion of the majority of the **COUNCILLORS**, any action or inaction is in order and made in the interest of **VRAJ**, the **COUNCIL** at its discretion, may indemnify such an Executive for any personal loss sustained in the performance of his/her duty to or for **VRAJ**.

SECTION X – LAW OF THE LAND: Any provisions of these Bylaws and for that matter, the Operation of VRAJ and its Religious Liturgy should in no way contradict any Article of the Constitution of the USA, and any rules, regulations, statutes or laws of Land, namely, the acts and the statutes and the Executive orders of Federal, State, County and/or Township Government.

SECTION XI – MANDATORY RESIGNATION OR REMOVAL: In case, any of the Officers on any Board or Committee of VRAJ is found guilty of a crime, such an incumbent would have to resign immediately. If not, s/he would be removed

Section XII: The board of trustees referred to in the Articles of Incorporation is renamed in **ARTICLE SIX** hereof as **THE GENERAL COUNCIL**. Whereas, the trustees referred to in **SECTION VII** of **ARTICLE FOUR** hereof, are for the recognition of members for their contribution and they are called trustee because they are keeping the religious and cultural values imparted at Vraj in trust for posterity.

ARTICLE SIXTEEN **AUTONOMOUS ENTITY**

VRAJ may promote an autonomous entity solely for the purpose of **EDUCATION, CULTURAL, RELIEF, RECONSTRUCTION, REHABILITATION, CHARITABLE and HUMANATARIAN** purposes. The operation of such an entity would be independent. **VRAJ** and its officers are not responsible for any action or inaction of the **AUTONOMOUS ENTITY**. The activities of such an **AUTONOMOUS ENTITY** should in no way be detrimental or offensive to the Religious Activities of **VRAJ**, and for that matter to the Theology and Commandments of Pushti Marg or Hinduism.

ARTICLE SEVENTEEN **SPIRITUAL BENEFACTOR**

VRAJ is the Western Hemisphere's Principal Pushti Margiya Institution having the Central **NANDALAYA** for **PUSHTI PURUSHOTTAM SHREE GOVARDHANNATHJI – VRAJRAJJI**, officially accredited by the presiding Guru of Pushti Marg, His Divine Holiness Goswami Shree 108 Anant Shree Vibhushit, Tilakayat Maharajshri of Nathdwara (India). Hence, the VRAJ is known as the 'NATHDWARA' of the Western World.

His Divine Holiness Goswami Shree 108 Anant Shree Vibhushit, Tilakayat Maharajshri of Nathdwara (India), and his lineage, shall always be the Spiritual Benefactors of VRAJ. Addendum 'I' lists Tilakayat Vanshavali.

His Holiness Tilakayat Maharajshri is the head occupant of gaddi (seat) of Pushtimaargiya Vallabha Sampradaya, which is governed by the rule of primogeniture and gadipati (head) of

Pradhaan guruh (Topmost house) of Shrinathji Temple, the Prime place of worship of Suddhadvait Vaishnav Sampraday.

As the SEWA and all related rights are with Shriman Tilakayat Maharajshri and his lineage. The SEWA tradition shall be followed as per Pradhan Gruh way. SEWA Pranali-Liturgy cannot be changed or amended by any future committee or Governing Council.

Section I of the ARTICLE SIX of these Bylaws makes it mandatory for the COUNCIL to ensure that **VRAJ** and all its entities strictly follow the Pranali – Liturgy of the Pushtimargiya Pradhan Peeth in serving Pushti Purushottam SHREE GOVARDHANATHJI – VRAJRAJJI and follow the Directives and Commandments of VRAJ's Spiritual Benefactors. The SECTION III OF ARTICLE FOUR, makes it the primary responsibility of PIONEERS, in accordance with the written assurance that they gave to the then reigning Tilakayatji, His Divine Holiness Goswami Shree 108 Nitya Leelasth Govindlalji Maharajshri. An 'ENGLISH' translation of the original Assurance in 'GUJARATI' is reproduced in **ADDENDUM 'H'** to these Bylaws. In order to fulfil that assurance, they have the final say for strict adherence to the liturgy of the Pradhan Peeth. They could, however be circumvented by the AGYA and the DIRECTIVES of His Divine Holiness, the reigning Tilkayat Maharajshri and/or his lineage.

VRAJ's all other entities, namely the **COUNCIL**, **ALDERMEN**, the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**, the **DEDICATED DIRECTORS**, **DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION** and the **YOUTH AFFAIRS BOARD** too on their own, shall always abide by the subject assurance per **ADDENDUM 'H'**.

Under no circumstances any outside entities influences SEWA or related matters as the final say will always rest with Tilkayat Maharajshri.

Although, the Tilakayat office would not like to get involved in the day to day management of the Temple, should the need arise the Tilkayat Representative Sevak can be informed of the problem. They would get in touch with the office of Tilakayat Maharajshri.

In accordance with the tradition of the Pradhan Gruh, on the PRAKTYOTSAVAS – Birthdays (by Lunar Calendar as specified in the Nathdwara Tippani – Almanac) of Tilakayat Maharajshri and his lineage, VRAJ will have the celebrations at Nandalaya in the following manner:

- i. Torans of Asopalav or the like leaves on Dwars – doors of Neej Mandir and Nandalaya,
- ii. Rangoli with turmeric on the Tibari,
- iii. Tilak & Arti in Rajbhog Darshan, and
- iv. Badhai Gaan – Felicitation Singing after Shayan Darshan in Baithkjee.

In line with the PUSHTI SIDDHANT, VRAJ Kirtankars would sing Shri Acharya Charan's Pad – Lyrics just before waking up in the morning. FOUR of the illustrative pads – devotional lyrics (out of 25) are sited here:

1. Charan Lagyo Chit Mero,
2. Gavu Shree Vallabha,
3. Pratah Smay ooth Kariye Shree Laksman Sut Gaan, and
4. Jay Shree Vallabha

ADDENDUM 'A' **SISTER ENTITIES**

(Forming part of THE ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES)

Terms and Policy of **VRAJ**'s support to other Pushti Margiya Vaishnav Organizations, referred to as 'SISTER ENTITIES':

- a) **VRAJ**'s support; either outright or as Loan to 'sister entities' shall not jeopardize and/or impact the day to day operation of **VRAJ** and/or Sewa of SHREENATHJI PRABHU and/or financial health of Vraj and/or /s planned and/or in-progress capital and/or non-capital **VRAJ** project(s).
- b) **VRAJ**'s support to 'sister entities' shall not incur any explicit or implicit financial and/or non-financial liability to **VRAJ** and/or **VRAJ** officers and/or volunteers and/or staff.
- c) One-time **VRAJ** financial Loan to a 'sister entity' cannot exceed \$8,400.
- d) Any **VRAJ** financial contribution in excess of \$8,400 to a 'sister entity' requires a professional's positive evaluation of a sister entity's financial viability and ability to sustain its operation for next 3 to 5 years. It will require 2/3rd vote of approval by the COUNCIL.
- e) **VRAJ**'s total contribution, either outright or as a loan whether in single or multiple instalments over any period of time to a single 'sister entity' can not exceed \$50,000

ADDENDUM 'B'

MEMBERS' PRIVILEGE TO STAY

VRAJ is not just a Continental Temple but the officially accredited SHRINATHJI PRABHU'S Temple of the entire Western Hemisphere. As such it draws Devotees from everywhere. It is the PLACE FOR PILGRIMAGE. It is not having a local congregation. As such, Devotee Members of **VRAJ** have collectively contributed funds to erect transient residential accommodations, so that they could stay in the close vicinity of the DEITY enabling them to attend **ALL TWELVE SERVICES** on the day of their pilgrimage. Over and above the residential units, there are other facilities for Lunch and Dinner as well as a place for Snacks and Beverages when the Lunch or Dinner timings are over. TWELVE SERVICES listed hereunder are for illustrative purpose and they and their timings could be changed at the discretion of the COUNCIL.

Moreover, it is in the interest of **VRAJ** to have Devotees staying over-night as their FAITH would be satiated by staying closer to the DIVINE and they would render Voluntary Service for the benefit of **VRAJ**.

Almost all the Devotees; both Day Pilgrims as well as the overnight Pilgrims are vegetarian. There are no nearby facilities where they could have vegetarian meals. As such, it is imperative for **VRAJ** to provide no-charge Lunch. Although, not mandatory but Devotees do make voluntary contributions to defray the cost of food. Likewise, although the members have a privilege to enjoy the stay on the sliding scale basis, including non-permanent Annual or Semi-Annual Membership. From time to time the COUNCIL shall establish the SLIDING SCALE for this privilege.

TWELVE SERVICES OF THE DAY

Six Services in the Temple known as NANDALAYA

07:30 a.m. to 08:00 a.m. MANGALA 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. SHRINGAR / PALNA
12:00 noon to 12:45 p.m. RAJBHOG 04:15 p.m. to 04:30 p.m. UTHAPAN
05:00 p.m. to 05:30 p.m. SANDHYA 06:30 p.m. to 07:00 p.m. SHAYAN

Two Services at the Bank of GODDESS - YAMUNAJI RIVER:

07:15 a.m. to 07:25 a.m. A.M. ARTI 07:15 p.m. to 7:25 p.m. P.M. ARTI

Two Services at the Cave in the - GIRIRAJ MOUNTAIN:

09:00 a.m. to 09:15 a.m. A.M. ADORNMENT of GIRIRAJJI with Milk.
02:15 p.m. to 02:30 p.m. P.M. ADORNMENT of GIRIRAJJI with Milk.

Two Services at the Satsang Hall of VALLABHA SUVIDHA SADAN:

11:10 a.m. to 11:50 a.m. Discourse and/or Readings from scriptures.
08:30 p.m. to 09:15 p.m. Devotional Singing and/or Reading from the Parables of Faith.

ADDENDUM 'C'

33 PIONEER TRUSTEES

NUMBER	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	SPOUSE
1	AMIN	DILIP	PRAGNA
2	AMIN	Late PREM	AMARJYOTI
3	AMIN	RANJAN	PRAMOD
4	CHANDARANA	RAM KRISHNA	NILANJANA
5	DESAI	Late DINKER	KALPANA
6	DESAI	Late MAHENDRA	Late SUSHILA
7	DESAI	SUMANT	RENUKA
8	DESAI	SURESH	GEETA
9	GUPTA	Late GIRISH	VIMLA
10	KOTHARI	Dr. HARISH	Dr. KAUMUDI
11	LAKHANI	NARENDRA	SHAKUNTALA
12	MAJMUNDAR	Dr. GOPAL	Dr. MINAXI
13	MEHTA	Late Dr. JASHUBHAI	PRAVINA
14	MEHTA	Late JASHVANT	USHA
15	PARIKH	Dr. MANOJ	Dr. PALLAVI
16	PARIKH	Dr. PRAKASH	ILAXI
17	PATEL	Late NAVIN	ILA
18	PATEL	KATIBHAI	Late SHARDABEN
19	PATEL	MAHENDRA	MALLIKA
20	PATEL	Dr. MAHESH	NALINI
21	PATEL	Late RAMANLAL	Late SHARMISTABEN
22	PATEL	SHAILESH	MAYUNA
23	PATEL	Go.Va. SITARAM	SHANTABEN
24	SANJANWALA	PANKAJ	INDIRA
25	SHAH	Late ASHWIN G.	JAGRUTI
26	SHAH	ASHWIN N.	Late VINODINI
27	SHAH	DHARMENDRA	SANGITA
28	SHAH	HASMUKH	ROSEMARY
29	SHAH	KAUSHIK	JYOTSNA
30	SHAH	Dr. MAHENDRA	USHA
31	SHAH	MAHESH	ARUNA
32	SHAH	SURESH	RENUKA
33	SHETH	KIRIT	MEERA

ADDENDUM 'D'

Forming Part of ARTICLE EIGHT

DEDICATED DIRECTORS

THESE ARE SOME ASPECTS, FUNCTIONS, SERVICES or PROPERTIES.

(By no means conclusive.)

PORTFOLIO / PROJECT / PROPERTY / SERVICES.

1.	CONSTRUCTION
2	WETLANDS MITIGATION & BOG TURTLE TAKE
3	MASTER PLAN - VISION
4	ARCHITECTURAL RECORDS
5.	MAINTENANCE, REPAIRS & UPKEEP
6.	MEMBERSHIP RELATIONS
7.	SYSTEM ACCOUNTING
8.	WEB SITE
9.	ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS
10	FUND RAISING
11.	MEDICAL CAMP
12	TELEPHONE - WIFI - VIDEO PRODUCTION
13	GIFT SHOP - PROCUREMENT
14	COMMUNITY / GOVT RELATIONS
15	VAISHNAV & UTSAV KITCHEN
16	SPORTS INDOOR & OUTDOOR - PLAY PLACE
17	ALPAHAR SUVIDHA
18	INTERNAL BEAUTIFICATION
19	HUMAN RESOURCES
20	YAMUNAJEE MANDIR
21	CAMPUS BEAUTIFICATION
22	CMPUS DIRECTOR
23	PUBLIC RELATION
24	GIRIRAJJI
25	LICENSES & PERMITS FOR PENDING PROJECTS

ADDENDUM 'E'

Schedule of SEWA – Sponsorship of Manoraths for an appointed day per Twenty Years

No	SPONSORSHIPS OF MANORATHS TO THE DEITY	TWO DECADES SEWA*	
1	SHREE GIRIRAJJI DUGDHABHISHEK	551	
2	SHREE YAMUNAJI ARTI	1,250	
3	MAGAL BHOG - MORNING SNACKS FOR THE DEITY	1,500	
4	SHAYAN BHOG EVENING MEAL FOR THE DEITY.	2,000	
5	PALNA - UTSAV DEITY IN CRADLE	2,500	
6	DHAJAJI AAROHAN - HOISTING OF FLAG	4,000	
7	RAJBHOG - MID DAY MEAL FOR THE DEITY	5,500	
8	RAJBHOG WITH DHAJAJI AAROHAN	6,500	
9	FULL DAY SEWA -	7,000	
10	FULL DAY SEWA WITH DHAJAJI	7,500	

*COUNCIL reserves the right to change the amount

Almost 32 years ago, when SHRINATHJI's SEWEA started, many devotees shown interest in sponsoring THY SEWA on recurring annual basis on the auspicious days for their families. **VRAJ** created Reserve Fund to service the subject SEWA. With the changing times and progressively diminishing yield on the Reserve Fund, it has become strenuous, to service the existing sponsors. **VRAJ** has set a limit of 20 years for the new Sponsors. However, for the existing Sponsors, over and above the years already enjoyed, they would enjoy additional years beyond 01-01-2021 as under:

NUMBER OF YEARS ENJOYED	ADDITIONAL YEARS	TOTAL NO. OF YEARS
25 TO 32 YEARS	2	27 to 34
20 TO 24 YEARS	2	22 to 26
15 TO 19 YEARS	7	22 to 26
10 TO 14 YEARS	12	22 to 26
05 TO 09 YEARS	17	22 to 26
03 TO 04 YEARS	20	23 to 24
01 TO 02 YEARS	21	22 to 23

ADDENDUM 'F'

Procedures for Requisitions and Procurement.
and
Approval Powers of Various Officers & Committees
(Forming part of THE ARTICLE NINE)

All orders of goods and services would be governed by the following schedule:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>To be Approved by</u>
Up to \$ 5,000	The President or Resolution of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.
Up to \$ 10,000	The Chairperson or the 2/3 rd Resolution of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.
Up to \$ 100,000	The 2/3 rd Resolution of the COUNCIL .
\$ 101,000 and above	80% of the Total Members of the COUNCIL .

The recurring bills should be paid by the Administrator, however if there is unprecedented more than 30% increase over the average of the previous three months bills should be referred to the Controller for investigation and justification and approval by The **PRESIDENT** or The **CHAIRPERSON**. Once the order is placed or services are called for with an approval per above schedule, the bills should be routinely paid after ensuring the receipt of goods and /or services.

INTERNAL AUDITOR is entrusted with the task of vouching and ensures that the above schedule is strictly followed and there is no deviation. Deviation must be immediately reported to the **GOVERNING COUNCIL** for appropriate action and redress

ADDENDUM 'G'
DEVOTEES & VOLUNTEERS IN RESIDENCE
(Forming part of Paragraph 8 of ARTICLE FIFTEEN)

Any member, Donor or Devotee or their Nominees staying at the VRAJ on the Permanent or Semi-Permanent basis, is considered to be there so that s/he is nearer to the Shrine, availing multiple opportunities to participate in the Religious Services. Irrespective of the number of Hours, Days, Weeks, Months and Years of Voluntary Service, s/he would not inure any tenancy or squatter's rights and privileges. If any of them are incapable of living independently, they will be required to vacate his/her quarters. His or Her would only stay at VRAJ at the pleasure of the **COUNCIL**.

Over the years, there is a cadre of Volunteers who are staying at VRAJ. Over and above the terms stipulated in the preceding paragraph the following rules and regulations would prevail for the volunteers staying at VRAJ:

- An undertaking by the next in keen or son or daughter of the Volunteer to take her/ him home, if s/he becomes incapacitated, meaning incapable of functioning on her / his own.

- Every year, the volunteer staying at VRAJ must file a Physical Fitness as well as a Medical Clearance Certificate.
- Due to the limited accommodation and other aspirant desirous of Volunteering, the **COUNCIL** would set the time limit on the tenure of there stay.

ADDENDUM 'H'

The Verbatim copy of the ASSURANCE given by The TRUSTEES of VRAJ to
His Divine Holiness, Anant Shree Vibhushit, Goswami Shree 108
NITYA LEELASTH TILAKAYAT
SHREE GOVINDLALJI MAHARAJSHRI

PUSHTI MARGIYA VAISHNAV SAMAJ OF NORTH AMERICA

15 Manor Road, Schuylkill Haven, Pennsylvania, 17972 U.S.A.

Dinank: Phalgun Krushna Ekadashi
Vallabhabda 510

In the Pious Service of:

Shree Pushti Margiya Sampradaya Pradhan Peethadhishvar
Pujya Paad Acharyavarya Goswami Shree 108
Shree Govindlalji Maharajshri.

Respectful Dandvat Pranam,
of the Trustees of Pushti Margiya Vaishnav Samaj of North America, the Central Body the
Pushti Margiya Vaishnavas of the Western Hemisphere.

Our Chairman, Shri Govindbhai Shah has come to Bharat to render SEWA to you. In response to his representation and VIGNYAPTI to you, Your Holiness issued a Commandment. We, the Trustees declare that the said Commandment is acceptable to us and we shall abide by the same. We further announce by our FAITH that the daily SEWA – Service (to Pushti Purushottam GovardhanNathji) would be rendered in full consonance with the liturgy and mode of not only PUSHTI MARG but also your Guidance and Directives.

We all belong and follow Pushti Marg and Shudhadwait Brahmavad enunciated by Acharya Charan Jagadguru Shree Vallabhachrya Mahaprabhuji. We have a candid feeling that the workings and liturgy of the Temple of Shree Pushti Purushottam Govardhannathji must be in accordance with the tradition of Pushti Marg. Any time, we have any question about the Tradition and Theology; our Institution would follow the Guidance and Directives of Your Divine Holiness.

Praying for Your Holiness's Blessings for the success of the Dharma Yagna & Sarswat Yagna that we have started,

Board of Trustees of Pushti Samaj

(Each and Every Trustee had signed this Letter)

ADDENDUM 'I'

|| Shri Hari ||

Tilakayat Vanshavali

Jagadguru Shri Vallabhacharyaji

Shri Gopinathji

Shri Purshottamji

Shri Vitthalnathji (Gusainji)

Shri Girdharji

Shri Damodarji

Shri Vitthaleshwaraiji Tiparewale

Shri Lalgirdharji

Shri Bade Dauji I

Shri Vitthaleshwaraiji

Shri Govardhaneshji

Shri Govindji I

Shri Giridharji Ghariyarwale

Shri Damodarji (Dauji II)

Shri Govindji II

Shri Giridharji

Shri Goverdhanlalji

Shri Damodarlalji

Shri Govindlalji III*

Shri Dauji Maharaj III

Shri Indradamanji (Rakeshji) Maharaj**

Chi. Shri Bhupeshkumarji (Vishal) Bawa

Chi. Shri Lal Govindji (Adhiraj) Bawa IV

Note:

***The Tilakayat Maharaj who brought Prabhu to Vraj USA**

****The current Shriman Tilakayat Maharaj**

THE TRANSITION ADDENDUM

In order to properly activate the new provisions introduced by the current **REVISION of the Bylaws**, the following actions are needed for **TRANSITION**:

For a smooth TRANSITION to the Provisions of these Bylaws, the appointments assigned to the GOVERNING COUNCIL in these Bylaws are being made by the Bylaws Amendment Committee as the COUNCIL need to be created and activated. As such, the subject appointments for the two years period of January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022 are simultaneously made coinciding with the approval of these Bylaws.

In order to activate the provision of FOUR members with one retiring every year, the initial appointments of SIXTEEN COUNCILLORS would be for FOUR for 1 year, FOUR for TWO Years, FOUR for THREE Years and FOUR for FOUR Years. AS FAR AS THE eight Officers of the COUNCIL are concerned, they are being appointed for a TWO year term.

A. ARTICLE ONE – SECTION III. - REGISTERED AGENT:

RIKINKUMAR PANKAJBHAI DESAI is the designated 'REGISTERED AGENT'.
As stipulated in this SECTION he is staying at the Registered Office.

B. ARTICLE THREE – SECTION V – d.: On the approval of the Bylaws the provision of 50% amount of certain SEWA enacted in this SECTION will be effective immediately,

C. ARTICLE FOUR – SECTION VII - HONORARY TRUSTEES:

JAYESH BHAGAT ***** PANKAJ PATEL ***** UPENDRA CHHAYA

D. ARTICLE FOUR – SECTIONS III, V & VI. - THE GOVERNING COUNCIL:

PIONEERS:	Two Years.....
	Two Years.....
	Four Years.....
	Four Years
ALDERMEN:	Two Years.....
	Two Years.....
	Four Years.....
	Four Years
GREAT GRAND BENEFACTORS:	Two Years.....
	Two Years.....
	Four Years.....
	Four Years.....

E. ARTICLE SIX - THE COUNCIL

N O.	TITLE	YRS
<input type="checkbox"/>	PARAMARSHAK	
1	CHAIRPERSON	2
2	CHAIRPERSON-SELECT	2
3	PRESIDENT	2
4	PRESIDENT-SELECT	2
5	TREASURER	2
6	COUNCIL SECRETARY	2
7	TREASURER-SELECT	2
8	COUNCIL SECRETARY-SELECT	2
9	PIONEER'S 2 YEARS' REPRESENTATIVE	2
10	PIONEER'S 2 YEARS' REPRESENTATIVE	2
11	PIONEER'S 4 YEARS' REPRESENTATIVE	4
12	PIONEER'S 4 YEARS' REPRESENTATIVE	4
13	ALDERMEN'S' 2 YEARS' REPRESENTATIVE	2
14	ALDERMEN'S 2 YEARS' REPRESENTATIVE	2
15	ALDERMEN'S 4 YEARS' REPRESENTATIVE	4
16	ALDERMEN'S 4 YEARS' REPRESENTATIVE	4
17	GT. GRAND BENEFACTORS' 2 YEARS. REP.	2
18	GT. GRAND BENEFACTORS' 2 YEARS REP.	2
19	GT. GRAND BENEFACTOR'S 4 YEARS REP.	4
20	GT. GRAND BENEFACTORS' 4 YEARS' REP.	4
21	ONE YEAR COUNCILLOR	1
22	ONE YEAR COUNCILLOR	1
23	ONE YEAR COUNCILLOR	1
24	ONE YEAR COUNCILOR	1
25	TWO YEAR COUNCILLOR	2
26	TWO YEAR COUNCILLOR	2
27	TWO YEAR COUNCILLOR	2
28	TWO YEAR COUNCILLOR	2
29	THREE YEAR COUNCILLOR	3
30	THREE YEAR COUNCILLOR	3
31	THREE YEAR COUNCILLOR	3
32	THREE YEAR COUNCILLOR	3
33	FOUR YEAR COUNCILLOR	4
34	FOUR YEAR COUNCILLOR	4
35	FOUR YEAR COUNCILLOR	4
36	FOUR YEAR COUNCILLOR	4
37	TILAKAYAT REPRESENTATIVE SEVAK 1	2
38	TILAKAYAT REPRESENTATIVE SEVAK 2	4
<input type="checkbox"/>	INTERNAL AUDITOR	4
<input type="checkbox"/>	CHAIRPERSON – YOUTH AFFAIRS	4
<input type="checkbox"/>	CHAIRPERSON – EDUCATION	

INDICATES NON-VOTING MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

E. SECTION VIII OF ARTICLE SIX – TILAKAYAT REPRESENTATIVE SEVAK

Will hold office for TWO YEARS.....Appointed by His Divine Holiness, the reigning Tilkayat Maharajshri and/or his lineage

Will hold office for FOUR YEARS..... Appointed by His Divine Holiness, the reigning Tilkayat Maharajshri and/or his lineage

MAY BE REAPPOINTED

G. ARTICLE TWELVE – BOOKS & RECORDS:

CUSTODIAN OF FUNDS.....

DEPUTY CUSTODIAN OF FUNDS.....

- These BYLAWS inclusive of SEVENTEEN ARTICLES and ADDENDUMS, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I and THTRANSITION ADDENDUM_came into effect at the Annual General Meeting of the Pushti Margiya Vaishnav Samaj of North America, Held on the Nineteenth Day of December 2020. They supersede the original BYLAWS, with whatever amendments that were enacted up to that day.

Dr. Mahendra Shah, Chairman

Hiren Patel, Secretary

JAI SHRI KRISHNA