



THE CONSTITUTION

&

BY-LAWS

First Edition.....May 12, 1996
Second EditionMarch 25, 2005

9502 Highland Avenue, Blue Ash, Cincinnati, OH 45242
Phone : (513) 791-5878 www.ankurcinci.org

ANKUR, CINCINNATI, OHIO

FOREWORD

March 25, 2005

Dear Ankur members,

What growth Ankur has achieved! We have established Astronaut Memorial fund. This was set up in honor of Columbia shuttle astronauts. On the eve of 25th anniversary celebration, Ankur Education fund was fully funded, to award two yearly scholarships to high school students going for higher education. We had very successful fund drives for Gujarat earthquake and tsunami tragedy victims.

And we have had some amendments to Ankur constitution. The articles involved are articles VII – AGB meetings, VIII – Elections, XVI – the BOARD.

I urge you to get involved, in whatever capacity you can, in any Ankur activity and march on with Ankur spirit.

Jai Sri Krishna. Jai Hind.

Rashmikant Patel, Chairman,
Board of Trustees

October 23, 1996

Dear members,

Earlier this year, Board of Trustees had initiated a comprehensive review of Ankur's Constitution. Draft of revised constitution was presented to the General Body meeting, held on May 12, 1996. And it was approved by the General Body with several changes.

These approved changes are incorporated in the draft. Text has been edited and the Articles considered "BY-LAWS" are identified. Final draft now is printed in this booklet, and booklet is available to all the members.

We thank all the individuals who participated in this extra-ordinary effort and hope that this booklet will help members in the service of Ankur.

Natubhai L. Patel Chairman, Board of Trustees

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* By-Laws

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Whereas a large number of Gujarati people either natives or descendants, or persons whose Heritage is rooted in Gujarat, settling in the Greater Cincinnati and the surrounding areas.

Be it resolved:

That a not for profit organization be formed in Greater Cincinnati, Ohio to maintain the identity of Gujarati among ethnic groups of India.

Throughout the Constitution the following herein after shall be referred to as:

- a. Ankur Gujarati Samaj, Inc., shall be referred to as "ANKUR".
- b. Ankur General Body shall be referred to as "AGB".
- c. Board of Trustees shall be referred to as "BOARD".
- d. Ankur Operating Committee shall be referred to as "COMMITTEE".

ARTICLE I - NAME AND PLACE:

- 1.1 The organization shall be known as the "Ankur Gujarati Samaj, Inc."
- 1.2 ANKUR will have its registered office in the State of Ohio and will be located at 9502 Highland Avenue, Blue Ash, Cincinnati, Ohio 45242.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES:

- II.1 To promote and practice religious activities.
- II.2 To promote the welfare and assimilation of Gujarati in the mainstream of American life.
- II.3 To foster friendship and understanding among its members, and to develop common loyalties and mutual interest through literary, cultural, and educational activities.
- II.4 To cooperate and participate with other organizations in programs and activities of common interest
- II.5 To provide forum, resources, funds and facilities for education, literary activities and library.
- II.6 To sustain and perpetuate the cultural heritage of Gujarat.
- II.7 To cultivate and encourage youth activities and create youth forum.
- II.8 To promote charitable activities.

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ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP:

III.1 MEMBERSHIP:

Membership will be open to all persons of Gujarati origin and/or any person of integrity and good character who is willing to uphold the aims and objectives of ANKUR as defined in Article II.

III.2 The membership of ANKUR shall be of the following four categories:

a. Annual Membership (Individual or Family)

b. Life Membership (Individual or Family)

Individual membership consists of a single person. Family membership consists of husband, wife, unmarried children under the age of 21, and retired dependent parents living jointly as a single household.

c. Student Membership (Individual)

Student member shall be a full time student from a recognized educational institution.

d. Honorary Membership

Honorary membership can be offered to an individual for his/her outstanding commitment and support to meet the objectives of ANKUR as outlined in Articles II, and/or any distinguished guest. This honor will be conferred by the BOARD.

III.3 DUES:

Membership dues for each category shall be determined at the AGB Meeting by an ordinary majority of the dues paying members upon recommendations of the BOARD.

ARTICLE IV - VOTING RIGHTS:

All dues-paying members above the age of 18 years shall have the right to vote. All individual memberships shall have one vote. Family memberships shall have one vote each for husband and wife (Total of 2).

ARTICLE V - OFFICIAL YEAR:

The official calendar year for ANKUR shall be from January 1st through December 31.

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ARTICLE VI - MANAGEMENT:

VI.1 ANKUR shall be managed by the Board of Trustees "BOARD" (refer to Article XVI) and the Ankur Operating Committee "COMMITTEE" (refer to Article XV).

VI.2 OPERATING COMMITTEE (COMMITTEE):

The COMMITTEE will be responsible to carry out all day-to-day activities for the programs, in accordance with established procedures and practices. Day-to-day activities may include, but not limited to social, religious, youth, and other activities supporting ANKUR'S objectives. The COMMITTEE shall have primary responsibility to the BOARD and general responsibility to AGB.

VI.3 BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOARD):

The BOARD shall insure that the Constitution of ANKUR is adhered to. The BOARD shall be responsible for all legal, financial, tax and insurance matters. In addition, the BOARD shall have oversight authority over the COMMITTEE. The BOARD shall be accountable to AGB.

VI.4 AD-HOC COMMITTEE:

The AGB, BOARD, or COMMITTEE may appoint Ad-hoc committee to manage a specific task or program. Roles of this appointed committee will be limited to that specified task assigned to it and only for the designated time frame. The Ad-hoc committee will report back to the body making its appointment.

VI.5 SPECIAL SITUATION:

The purpose of the BOARD is to preserve the ANKUR'S Constitution and to protect its interests. The BOARD and its Chairperson shall have necessary authority to act appropriately to carry out such responsibilities.

- a. When the BOARD determines that there is a real or a possibility of a threat does exist, undermining ANKUR'S interests, it will act quickly and decisively to eliminate such a situation.
- b. The BOARD will direct its members and/or the COMMITTEE to take immediate corrective actions.
- c. If this attempt fails to protect ANKUR'S interests, then the Chairperson, with majority vote (4 out of 7) may take one or more actions listed below.
 - To suspend one, or more members of the BOARD or the COMMITTEE.
 - To Suspend entire COMMITTEE, notify membership as soon as possible and call the AGB meeting within 60 days.
 - To appoint a special Task Force to manage the on going activities, in a manner as determined by the BOARD during the suspension period.

AGB shall have the ultimate authority either to accept the BOARD's recommendations or initiate appropriate actions of its own to resolve the crisis.

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ARTICLE VII - GENERAL BODY MEETINGS AND PROCEDURES:

All meetings shall be called by the secretary of the BOARD in consultation with the COMMITTEE.

- VII.1 All dues-paying members shall constitute the General Body (as defined in Article IV: Voting Rights).
- VII.2 At a minimum, one General Body Meeting, conducted by the Chairperson of the BOARD shall be held each year where a complete report of various activities, including but not limited to financial matters, elections, etc., shall be presented jointly by the BOARD and the COMMITTEE.
- VII.3 The elections of the members of the BOARD and the COMMITTEE, in accordance with the Article VIII, Elections, shall be conducted during the annual AGB Meeting.
- VII.4 The BOARD in consultation with the COMMITTEE or 67% (2/3) of the dues-paying members (as defined in Article IV: Voting Rights). Or Chairperson under the article VI. 5 (d) can summon extraordinary meetings of the ANKUR General Body.
- VII.5 A general announcement of the AGB Meeting date shall be made six weeks prior to the AGB Meeting by mail or through ANKUR news letter. Two weeks prior to the AGB Meeting, a notice stating time, place, proposed agenda and any proposed amendments to the constitution and the Bylaws, etc. shall be mailed or published in the ANKUR news letter.
- VII.6 For additional items that are not related to any Amendments to the Constitution, Bylaws and Elections to be discussed at the AGB Meeting, a written request to the Secretary of the BOARD at least 15 days prior to the AGB Meeting shall be required. Any such additional items, if time permits, may be introduced at the AGB Meeting without any prior notice to the AGB.
- VII.7 The quorum for the AGB Meetings shall always be constituted by the presence of at least 25% (Twenty Five Percent) of its dues- paying members.
- VII.8 After a one hour postponement of the AGB Meeting, whatever number of dues paying members present shall automatically constitute quorum of the AGB and the AGB Meeting shall be conducted as planned.
- VII.9 The AGB has the sole right to amend the Constitution and the Bylaws. Minimum of 67% (Sixty Seven Percent) vote of the AGB will be required to make a major change or wholesale rewriting of the constitution.

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ARTICLE VII. 10 - REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS: *

The following provisions shall apply to any and all real estate transactions entered into by Ankur.

- a. Quorum: 75% of all dues-paying members shall constitute quorum of the AGB. Members can declare their presence for the AGB meeting by proxy or by voice vote.
- b. Approval: All real estate transactions to be approved by the AGB by 67% majority vote; by proxy and voice vote or by secret ballot.
- c. Debt-free: Property located at 9502 Highland Ave., in the city of Blue Ash, Hamilton county, state of Ohio, which is presently under Ankur's ownership and which is without any debt, will not be subjected to any mortgage, loan or note agreements of any kind whatsoever. This said property at 9502 Highland Ave. shall remain free of any and all encumbrances or debt.
- d. Amendment: To amend or omit any provisions of this article VII.10, quorum requirements and approval voting requirements will be same as described in article VII.10.a and .b of real estate transactions.
- e. Jurisdiction: This article VII.10, in its entirety, shall supersede article XI (Amendments) , article XII (Dissolution), and articles VII.4, VII.7, VII.8. Where mutually conflicting provisions occur elsewhere in this Ankur constitution, provisions of this article VII.10 shall prevail.

* This article VII.10 was presented to ANKUR general body of December 17, 2004 and was passed by the AGB with provisions attached to VII.10 a and VII.10.b, in that the term "BY PROXY OR BY VOICE VOTE" will have to be defined further and clarified. For this end in mind, a committee of four ANKUR members was appointed by AGB. Their names are: Pradip Patel, Chitu Shukla, Jayant Patel, and Prakash Dalal. This committee will come up with procedures, guidelines and an overseer committee to conduct voting on the real estate proposals brought to ANKUR.

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ARTICLE VIII - ELECTIONS:**

All elections shall be held during the annual AGB Meeting. Each year an election shall be held to fill any vacant positions, and to elect new members to the BOARD and the COMMITTEE.

VIII.1 Nomination Committee (NC) to be composed of three members:

1. A qualified Ankur member
2. President or incoming President and
3. Outgoing member of the BOARD.

NC shall prepare the list of candidates to hold the positions for the coming year. The Secretary of the BOARD shall provide detailed information on the requirements of all positions up for election. The Secretary shall not take active part in recruiting candidates or evaluation of their credentials.

VIII.2 Names of the NC shall be published in the Newsletter or a bulletin at least 6 (six) weeks prior to the AGB Meeting date.

VIII.3 The NC shall search for qualified nominees for the BOARD and the COMMITTEE for specific posts where applicable. The NC shall receive nominations in writing from the ANKUR membership at large.

VIII.4 The NC shall submit a final list of nominees to the BOARD at least 2 (two) weeks prior to the date of the AGB Meeting. The final list shall consist of the names of nominees, the specific posts for the BOARD or the COMMITTEE where applicable. Copies of the nominees consents, proof of qualification of the nominees etc. shall be made available to the BOARD.

VIII.5 Elections may be conducted by secret ballot voting during the AGB Meeting or via Mail Ballot. The results of the election shall be announced at the AGB Meeting. Voting method shall be determined by the BOARD as deemed appropriate.

** AGB passed this amendment on December 12, 2003.

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ARTICLE IX - ACCOUNTS:

- IX.1 ANKUR shall meet its expenses through contributions from its membership and various donations.
- IX.2 There shall be 2 primary accounts:
a. BOARD Custodial Fund Account
b. COMMITTEE Account
From time to time additional accounts may be set up as necessary.
- IX.3 All the donations shall be deposited in accordance with the policy established by the BOARD.
- IX.4 ANKUR shall operate on a cash basis. The accounting year shall be on a calendar year basis. Disbursements of ANKUR funds shall be made by checks only. The Chairperson, President, Facilities Director and respective Treasurers and Secretaries of each Committee can operate their account with any two signatures. All financial transactions shall need prior approval from each committee concerned with. In case of an emergency, the President or the Chairperson of the committee may incur expenditures up to \$500.00 in consultation with the Treasurer or the Secretary of each committee.
- IX.5 All day-to-day general expenses pertaining to the building such as repairs, utilities, insurance, phone, etc., shall be paid by the Committee Treasurer. The BOARD shall have the authority to issue instructions to the person or persons responsible for keeping the accounts. The BOARD shall make sure that ANKUR is following the IRS guidelines pertaining to the financial affairs. The current COMMITTEE shall submit a proposed budget to the BOARD for approval for the operation of ANKUR for the coming year. Any major changes during the year, shall need prior approval of the BOARD.
- IX.6 The books of accounts shall be available for inspection by the membership during reasonable hours by prior appointment. All financial records of ANKUR shall be kept in the ANKUR building under lock and key. The BOARD may appoint an Independent Auditor or Audit Firm and fix their fees annually to handle necessary government returns. All correspondences from the IRS or any other government body shall be handled by the BOARD.
- IX.7 The Treasurer of the Board with the consent of the BOARD, shall present the financial affairs of ANKUR to the AGB.

ARTICLE X - COMPENSATIONS:

- X.1 All pre-authorized out-of-pocket expenses will be reimbursed upon submission of proper receipts or documentation.
- X.2 There will be no compensation for services rendered by any member of ANKUR and all shall work on an honorary basis. Any work that is done by outside agencies including, but not limited to secretarial help, accounting help, mailing lists, etc., shall be paid by ANKUR.

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ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS:

This constitution can be amended by the AGB as per Article VII. Amendments may be proposed by any dues-paying member of ANKUR in writing to the Secretary of the BOARD at least eight weeks prior to the AGB Meeting. The text of any proposed amendment(s) shall be sent to the members, along with a notice of the AGB Meeting in which the amendment(s) will be discussed and voted upon. A super majority (2/3) vote of the voting members present at the meeting shall be required to amend the constitution.

ARTICLE XII - DISSOLUTION:

XII.1 To dissolve ANKUR, a resolution in writing asking for such dissolution shall be adopted by the BOARD. The BOARD shall then call a special meeting of AGB for the purpose of considering and acting upon such a resolution. If there are members at such a meeting representing a two-third majority vote for dissolution, the BOARD shall take the necessary steps to wind up the affairs of ANKUR in accordance with statutory requirements existing at the date such action is taken.

XII.2 Upon the dissolution of ANKUR, the BOARD shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of ANKUR, dispose of all of the assets of ANKUR exclusively for the purpose of ANKUR in a such manner, or to such an organization or organizations (including, without limitation, organizations of federal, state or local governments), formed and operated exclusively for charitable, educational purposes under Section 501.C. (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, and engaged in activities substantially similar to those of ANKUR, as the BOARD shall determine and subject to the AGB approval.

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ARTICLE XIII - NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION:

- XIII.1 In furtherance of the foregoing purposes, ANKUR shall have all general power conferred by law and necessary or incidental to the furtherance of its purposes, subject to the limitation and condition that, notwithstanding any other provisions contained herein, ANKUR shall not have the power to carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501.C. (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding or related provision of any future federal tax code.
- XIII.2 ANKUR shall not carry on propaganda, or otherwise attempt to influence legislation, except to the extent permitted under Section 501.C. (3) or any succeeding or Related Section of the United States Internal Revenue Code. Ankur shall not participate or intervene (including the publishing or distributing of statements) in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for the public office.
- XIII.3 No part of the net earning of ANKUR shall be used for the benefit of any private member or individual and no officer, director, member or employee of ANKUR shall receive or shall be lawfully entitled to received any pecuniary profit of any kind from the operations of ANKUR or upon the dissolution of ANKUR except reasonable compensation for their expenses or for services rendered to ANKUR in effectuating one or more of its purposes.
- XIII.4 The forgoing provisions are intended to comply with Section 501.C. (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 as amended, and they shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with the meaning of said Section as the same may be amended from time to time or any comparable or related provision of any succeeding Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE XIV - SPENDING LIMITATION:

Any expenditure over \$10,000.00 (Ten Thousand Dollars), the BOARD must have prior approval of the AGB.

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ARTICLE XV - OPERATING COMMITTEE:

ANKUR OPERATING COMMITTEE, hereafter referred to as the "COMMITTEE" shall be the Program Execution Body of ANKUR. Authority and responsibility to carry out day-to-day activities be vested in the COMMITTEE.

XV.1 COMPOSITION:

The COMMITTEE shall be composed of eleven (11) members described as follows;

- a. Nine (9) members (excluding the President and the Facilities Director posts) to be elected by the AGB.
- b. Vice-president of outgoing COMMITTEE to be posted as the President of New COMMITTEE.
- c. Facilities Manager of outgoing COMMITTEE to be posted as the Facilities Director in new COMMITTEE.

XV.2 POSTS:

The COMMITTEE will have following designated posts:

- a. President (Member of the BOARD)
- b. Director-Facilities (Member of the BOARD)
- c. Vice-president (promoted to the President after one year)
- d. Manager-Facilities (promoted to the Facilities Director after one year)
- e. Secretary
- f. Treasurer
- g. Director-Culture Activities
- h. Director-Youth activities
- i. Director-Membership
- j. Facilities Manager (Backup)
- k. Editor

XV.3 FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

a. PRESIDENT:

- To preside over COMMITTEE meetings.
- To manage and control all activities of COMMITTEE. To support BOARD in its needs.
- Represent ANKUR in all community organizations.
- To report to BOARD and AGB on Program performance, needs, members' feedback, trends, and overall assessment of current environment.

b. DIRECTOR-FACILITIES:

- Develop facility upgrade plan.
- Maintain facilities in compliance with all local Building Codes.
- Review and update Rental Forms.
- Review and approve all facilities related contracts/agreements.

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c. VICE-PRESIDENT:

- Conduct COMMITTEE meetings.
- Develop plans and manage fund raising campaigns.
- Represent ANKUR at FOGANA Midwest Council.

d. MANAGER-FACILITIES:

- Responsible for the rental of the facilities.
- Find, rent, prepare facility for all events.
- Oversee all facilities related work performed by Subs or Vendors.
- Assist and back up to Building Director.

e. SECRETARY:

- To take, maintain and publish the minutes of all COMMITTEE meetings.
To manage all official correspondence on behalf of COMMITTEE.
- To assume responsibilities of the vice-president in case he or she is absent.

f. TREASURER:

- To Prepare and submit budgets.
- To maintain detail and accurate records of all collections and the expenses in accordance with established policies and procedures.
- To prepare and publish financial statements for the BOARD.
- Manage all reimbursement to the members per established policies and procedures.

g. DIRECTOR-CULTURAL ACTIVITIES:

- Publish Social and Religious Programs for entire year.
- Prepare, discuss and finalize outline of each event.
- Coordinate with the members all activities for the various events.
- Maintain accurate records of the various events. Coordinate the Facilities Administrator dates for use of ANKUR Hall.

h. DIRECTOR-YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

- Organize Youth Committee.
- Working through Youth Committee, maximize Youth participation in all activities or ANKUR.
- Plan and manage Special Programs promoting our Heritage i.e.. Gujarati language, Social and Religious Custom among Youth group.

i. DIRECTOR-MEMBERSHIP:

- Solicit and enroll new members.
- Maintain accurate and up to date membership information
- Promote ANKUR and its activities among new and non members

j. MANAGER-FACILITIES (Backup):

- Prepare and Publish Facility-Use Schedule.
- Schedule and manage necessary cleaning, repairs and maintenance of the facilities. Stock, manage and control supplies.
- Assist and back up to Facilities Manager.

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k. EDITOR:

- Publish and distribute Newsletters and any bulletins.
- Solicit input or feedback form AGB for the Newsletter.
- Solicit advertisements support to pay for the Newsletter publishing and mailing costs.
- Responsible for publicity and promotions.

XV.4 TERM LIMIT:

The term limit for COMMITTEE member is one year.

XV.5 QUALIFICATIONS:

All candidates running for the post in the COMMITTEE must have the following minimum qualifications.

- a. He or she must be a current member of ANKUR.
- b. He or she must have been an ANKUR member for minimum of one full year
- c. In addition, for the post of the President and the Facilities Director, following additional requirement shall apply.
 - He or she must have served for one year on a committee performing community services for ANKUR or similar organization.

XV.6 MEETINGS:

The COMMITTEE will meet at least once a month. The President or the Secretary will announce the day, time, place and the agenda for the meeting. Meeting will be open for any member of ANKUR as an observer.

XV.7 QUORUM:

Six (6) members shall constitutes a quorum of the COMMITTEE for the holding of meetings and conducting any business.

XV.8 JURISDICTION:

COMMITTEE will not lose jurisdiction by any change of membership, of any matter before it.

XV.9 VACANCY:

Any vacancy in the COMMITTEE shall be filled by nominating an ANKUR member to serve until the next general election of ANKUR. In the event four (4) or more members resign from the COMMITTEE at one time, Bi-election will be held to elect new members.

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ARTICLE XVI - THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

The Board of Trustees, hereinafter referred to as the "BOARD" shall be the policy making body of ANKUR. The management of the assets and liabilities of ANKUR shall be vested in the Board of Trustees.

XVI.1 COMPOSITION:*

The BOARD shall be composed of seven (7) members described as follows:

- a. Five to be elected by the AGB.
- b. Two members from COMMITTEE:
Present President and
Facilities Director
- c. All members shall have voting rights.

XVI.2 TERM LIMIT:

- a. Five elected members will serve a term of five years.
- b. Every year during annual AGB meeting, one member will be elected.
- c. Term limit for a BOARD member shall be two terms (10 years maximum) by election.

XVI.3 QUALIFICATIONS: **

All candidates for the Board to have all of the following qualifications:

- a. He or she must be a current member of ANKUR.
- b. He or she must have been ANKUR member for the past five full years without any interruption in the membership status.
- c. He or she must have held elected post in the COMMITTEE for a minimum of two years (Operating Committee, Executive Committee, or Building Committee).

XVI.4 MEETINGS:

The BOARD shall meet at least quarterly. Chairperson or the Secretary of the BOARD will announce the day, time, place and the agenda for the meeting.

XVI.5 POSTS:

The Board shall have the following designated posts. It may appoint additional posts as deemed necessary. In first meeting, of every calendar year, BOARD will hold elections for following positions.

- a. Chairperson
- b. Secretary
- c. Treasurer.

* This amendment was passed by AGB of December 12, 2003.

** This amendment was passed by AGB of December 13, 2002.

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XVI.6 FUNCTIONS:

The BOARD shall be responsible for:

- a. All the assets and liabilities of ANKUR.
- b. Long Range Plans for its facilities and/or members' needs or concerns, such as scholarship, cultural activities, senior citizens, buildings etc.
- c. Represent ANKUR for all legal, Tax, Financial or Insurance matters.
- d. Allocate operating funds, and provide necessary support to COMMITTEE.
- e. Provide Oversight authority over COMMITTEE via:
 - Develop and Issue specific policies and procedures.
 - Review and approve plans and budgets.
 - Review/Audit records and Issue Reports/Findings.
- f. Conduct AGB Meetings. Take appropriate actions approved by the AGB.
- g. Review, approve, recommend, publish, and act on any proposals or changes concerning the ANKUR Constitution.

XVI.7 QUORUM:

Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum of the BOARD for holding meeting and conduct of any business. The BOARD shall be responsible to AGB for the conduct of its business, but all final actions by the Board shall require the approval of (4) of the seven (7) voting members of BOARD.

XVI.8 JURISDICTION:

The BOARD shall be a continuing body, independent of COMMITTEE, which will not lose jurisdiction by any change of membership, of any matter before it.

XVI.9 VACANCY:*

- a. Any vacancy in the BOARD shall be filled by nominating a qualified ANKUR member to serve for the remaining term.
- b. In the following general election of ANKUR, AGB will approve the appointment.
- c. In case of disapproval, AGB will fill the vacancy from the floor by electing qualified member.
- d. In the event three (3) or more members should resign from the BOARD at one time, Bi-election will be held to elect new members.

* This amendment was passed by AGB of December 12, 2003.

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Brief Historical Sketch

- March , 1978: Initiation of Ankur. Five member executive council Phagan Sud Pumima, V.S.2034: March 22, was elected at large. Registered as an Ethnic group with the city of Cincinnati.
- Spring 1982: Constitution was penned and adopted. Five member executive committee with identified officers was elected.
- Mid 1983: Non-Profit Organization status was obtained from the IRS.
- May, 1986: "ANKUR HALL", the building was purchased which is located at 9502 Highland Ave. in town of Blue Ash. On May 21.
- Fall 1986: "The Building Committee" was elected to take care of building affairs.
- Sept. 1995: "The Board of Trustees" was installed to look after Ankur's welfare.
- July 1985: Ankur hosted our first FOGANA Raas Garaba Competition.
- July 1996: Ankur is hosting our second, 16th FOGANA Raas Garaba Folk Dance Competition.
- Oct. 1996: "Ankur Gujarati Samaj" became "Ankur Gujarati Samaj, Inc."
- Aug. 1997: Ankur led Cincinnati area Indian organizations to celebrate India's 50th Independence Day.
- Jan. 2001: Gujarat earthquake victims relief fund drive by Ankur with \$59,000 donation forwarded through BAPS Care International.
- Aug. 2001: First Anand Bazaar organized.
- May 2003: "OM" painting by Asha Parikh, dedicated to astronauts of Columbia Shuttle disaster, was accepted by Astronaut Memorial Foundation (AMF) and displayed in the main hallway of Center for Space Education at Kennedy Space Center, Florida, under the title "Eternal Light".
- Sep. 2003: Ankur celebrated 25th anniversary on September 13 with a gala party and treated all members to dinner and entertainment.
- Sep. 2003: Ankur established Education Fund for two scholarships each year to college bound students.
- May 2004: Ankur awarded first scholarship to one student of \$500.
- Feb. 2005: Ankur had fund drive for Tsunami Victims Relief.

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