

CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
ASIAN-AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this membership corporation shall be known as the Asian-American Committee for Human Rights, Inc.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSES

The purposes of the Committee are:

- (1) To coordinate and promote efforts on behalf of all Asian-American organizations in support of their civil rights activities, and policies and goals directed toward elimination of the racial discrimination against Asian-Americans throughout the United States and its possessions.
- (2) To protect and advance human rights including the freedom of association, press, religion, rights to due process of law, and the equal employment opportunities for Asian-Americans.
- (3) To support, as a matter of general policy, only those aims, plans, policies and recommendations which are in the best interests of the entire Asian-American Community.

ARTICLE III. HEADQUARTERS

The Committee's national headquarters shall be located as determined by its National Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

- (1) A member of the Committee shall be a person or organization paying such membership dues as may be prescribed from time to time by the National Board of Directors.
- (2) A member may be suspended or removed from the Committee-after hearing, if he so desires-by a vote of a majority of the actual membership of the National Board of Directors.
- (3) Any group of Asian-Americans residing in the United States or its possessions may apply for recognition as an affiliate of the Committee, and the National Board of Directors shall so recognize the group when satisfied that the purposes of the Committee will be so served. An affiliate shall act in accordance with the policies of the Committee, with the understanding that the purposes of this requirement is to obtain general unity rather than absolute uniformity.



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- (4) An affiliate may be suspended or removed from the Committee-- after hearing, if the affiliate so desires--by vote of two-thirds of the actual membership of the National Board of Directors.

#### ARTICLE V. GOVERNING BODIES

- (1) The National Board of Directors shall have an authorized membership of fifty persons who are members of the Committee (apportioned roughly according to the population of the main geographical sections of the United States and its possessions, and selected to obtain the widest possible distribution of support of persons currently active publicly in their professional fields), and approximately one-third of that authorized membership shall be elected each year for three-year terms in the following manner:

(A) Nominations shall be made by the Nominating Committee hereinafter provided for, after seeking suggestions from all members of the Committee. Further nominations may be made by petition of any ten members of the National Board of Directors, or any fifty members of the Committee.

(B) Election shall be by a majority of the total membership of the Board of Directors, voting by mail ballot if necessary.

(C) Any vacancy in the National Board of Directors existing between annual election may be filled by the national Board of Directors for the remainder of its term.

- (2) The Governing Board shall be elected from among the voting members of the National Board of Directors. The number of members in the Governing Board and the method for election or recall of any member of the Board is provided for in the By-laws.
- (3) The National Board of Directors shall elect the Chairman and two-Associate-Chairmen of the Committee from among the elected members of the Governing Board. The Governing Board shall appoint the Secretary and Treasurer from among the members of the Committee. The method for the election or removal of any officer is provided for in the By-laws.
- (4) The Governing Board shall carry out the purposes of the Committee as provided for in the Constitution and in the By-laws. The Board shall have the power to collect monies required to conduct the business of the Committee. It shall be empowered to administer all funds and properties of the Committee. The Governing Board shall disseminate information regarding its activities. It shall be authorized to issue Committee publications. It shall provide adequate means for the expression of ideas originating in its membership.



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- (5) The Chairman shall call a meeting at the request of a majority of the members of the National Board of Directors. The annual meeting of the Committee shall be held at a time and place to be fixed by the National Board of Directors, and a special meeting may be called by the Chairman of the Committee.
- (6) A member of the National Board of Directors or the Governing Board may be suspended or removed from his position--after hearing, if he so desires--by vote of a majority of the actual membership of the National Board of Directors.

#### ARTICLE VI. ADVICE

- (1) Whenever the Governing Board deems any matter to be sufficiently important, it shall immediately seek advice thereon from National Committee Members and affiliates, especially by providing them as soon as possible with all working papers supplied to members of the National Board of Directors, or any subcommittee or agency thereof, in connection with meeting agenda items.
- (2) In addition, any member of the National Committee or of any affiliate board may on request obtain copies of such working papers, and may take the initiative in raising any question and offering advice thereon.

#### ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this constitution may be proposed as recommendations of an annual conference. Any amendment so proposed shall be adopted by the National Board of Directors unless the Board shall at a meeting thereof decide otherwise by a majority vote of those present, a quorum being a majority of its actual membership, such vote to be taken by name and so recorded in the minutes. Amendments may also be proposed by petition of any five members of the National Board of Directors, any fifty members of the Committee.

August 1, 1970

Drafted by Prof. Anthony Kahng



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ASIAN-AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

