

THE CONSTITUTION



ILORIN EMIRATE DESCENDANTS PROGRESSIVE UNION (IEDPU) UNITED STATES BRANCH (NORTH-AMERICA)

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WE, THE MEMBERS of;

Ilorin Emirate Descendants Progressive Union (IEDPU) of the United of America Branch as the highest decision-making organ of the Union, DO SOLEMNLY agreed to give to ourselves and adopt this draft as a legal working document of the Union.

THEREFORE, a motion for the adoption of this constitution for Ilorin Emirate Descendants Progressive Union (IEDPU) United States of America Branch Incorporated otherwise known and addressed as IEDPU - USA Branch Inc. (North-America) was moved by a member from Oklahoma Mr. Ajao Abdulazeez Muhammed and seconded by Mr. Lanre Gidado from California.

While the legal adviser of the Union, Mr. Ibrahim Hamed Hameed read out the adoption language of the IEDPU – USA Branch, (North America) to all members present at the General Assembly Meeting as a living and working documents of laws, rules and regulations which is legally binding on all members.

This constitution of Ilorin Emirate Descendants Progressive Union, (IEDPU-USA) Branch Inc. was thereafter ADOPTED by members present at the General Assembly Meeting held on this day of JUNE 13, 2020.

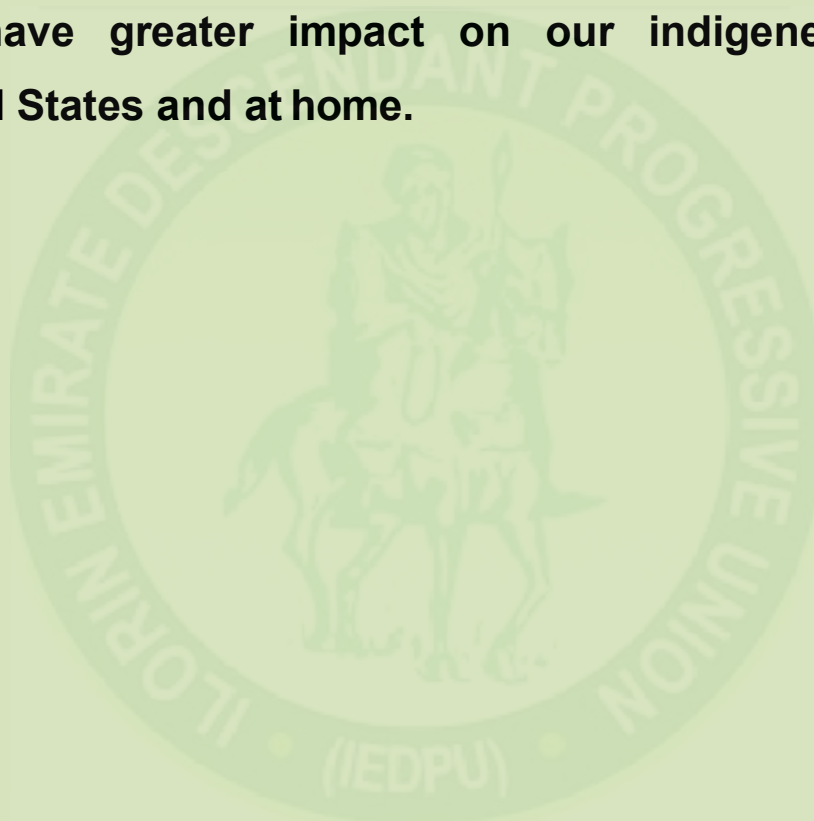
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PREAMBLE:

We, the indigenes of ILORIN EMIRATE from Kwara State of Nigeria residing in United States (North-America) have come together to find ways and means of improving ourselves in DIASPORA, and contributing to the development of our dearly beloved Emirate, thus providing economic activities that will have greater impact on our indigenes both in the United States and at home.



MISSION STATEMENT

ILORIN EMIRATE DESCENDANTS PROGRESSIVE UNION, United States (North-America) is a non-profit organization organized for educational, Social and charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States of America.

The union was founded to promote and foster unity amongst Ilorin Emirate indigenes in United States (North-America). IEDPU-USA is to promote the cultural heritage of Ilorin Emirate, foster economic growth, initiate and encourage programs/projects that will have impact on the lives of our kinsmen living in the United States and at home.

**NOW, THEREFORE, we, the members of the IEDPU-USA
will hereby be binding here-under make and ordain for
ourselves this Constitution.**

ARTICLE ONE (1)

SECTION 1 NAME, LOGO AND TRADEMARK:

1.1. Name:

The name of the Union shall be:

Ilorin Emirate Descendants Progressive Union (IEDPU)
United States Branch Inc. (North America) and otherwise
known or addressed as “IEDPU - USA Branch Inc.”

1.2. Description:

1.2.1. IEDPU–USA Branch Inc. as refers, shall be a Union of Ilorin Emirate Communities **“ILU ILORIN ATI AGBEGBE RE”** which comprises of Asa, Moro, Ilorin East, Ilorin South, & Ilorin West Local Government Areas of Kwara State – Nigeria.

1.2.2. This Union shall maintain non-partisan (i.e. Non-political) and will not be affiliated to any terrorist organization both home and abroad.

1.3 Union’s Website, Logo, & Trademark:

The union’s website, logo, and trademark shall be treated as the properties of the union; they shall be used only in the interest of the union and for its purposes, and in accordance with this Constitution.

SECTION 2 UNION’S SECRETARIAT:

Union’s secretariat shall be located in such a place within United States; however, the correspondence address is at 63 South Devoe Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10705 New York, USA. Telephone Numbers: +1 (914) 7721407, (713) 2692027 & (317) 5603493 or any other numbers as may be approved at a general meeting by simple majority vote. The email addresses are: iedpu.usa@yahoo.com; ilorinemirate19@gmail.com

ARTICLE (2) TWO

SECTION 1 UNION'S FUND:

In order to achieve her aims, the Union shall:

- 1.1. Raise funds by charging each member a one-time registration fee of **\$50.00** and annual membership fee of **\$200.00** as agreed upon by all members. The registration and membership fees are subject to change with time and agreement of the two-third (2/3) of the registered members.
- 1.2. Membership Registration fees shall be paid upon submission of application form for membership.
- 1.3. Annual fees shall be due on or before the end of every June of the Calendar year.
- 1.4. Seek for sponsorship, organize events, and do any other thing that is lawful to generate funds to help the Union fulfil her aims.
- 1.5. Work with other organizations with similar objective and exchange information to the benefit of the Union.

SECTION 2 BANK ACCOUNTS:

- 2.1. The Union shall open an account with a reputable Bank(s) within the Continental United States (CONUS).
- 2.2 The Union's Bank Account shall require: Three (3) signatories as agreed upon by the Executive Council /Caretaker Committee and this may include (Chairperson, Treasurer and Financialsecretary).

ARTICLE THREE (3)

SECTION 1 MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS:

- 1.1. The membership of the Union shall be open to any person of age eighteen (18yrs) and above. Such an individual **MUST** originate from Ilorin Emirate Communities of; (ASA, MORO, ILORIN EAST, ILORIN SOUTH and ILORIN WEST LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS) and must be a resident of the United States (or North America).
- 1.2. Membership shall be available to anyone irrespective of gender, race, disability and religion affiliation or belief.
- 1.3. Every individual member, who fully registered, shall be considered as an active member of the Union and shall have one voting right at General Meetings.
- 1.4. The membership of any member may be terminated for good reason(s) agreed upon by two-third (2/3) majority of the Disciplinary Committee and such member has the right to be heard by the disciplinary Committee. A recommendation will be made to the executive committee before a final decision can be made regarding the membership termination. Such offence shall be determined by the executive committee.

SECTION 2 ACTIVE MEMBER:

The membership of any member of the Union shall be considered **ACTIVE** based on the following criteria:

- 2.1. Fulfills all his or her financial obligations to the Union as at when due.
- 2.2. Has at least a total number of 75% record of the meetings attendance.
- 2.3. Participate and support the Union both financially and morally in all programs/activities that promotes the good image of the Union.

ARTICLE FOUR (4)

SECTION 1 ORGANS OF THE UNION:

- 1.1.** The Union shall be administered by an Executive/Caretaker Committee for a TWO-YEAR term. The two (2) years term is susceptible to amendment depending on the current situation or state of the Union.
- 1.2.** The Office positions for Executive Council /Caretaker Committee shall be:
- Chairperson
 - Vice-Chairperson
 - Secretary-General
 - Assistant Secretary
 - Publicity Secretary
 - Asst. Publicity Sec.
 - Financial Secretary
 - Treasurer/Auditor
 - Social Welfare Officer
 - Assistant Social Welfare
 - Chief Whip/Time-Keeper
- 1.3.** In case there is any need for the caretaker committee to be constituted, members of Union at the general meeting shall determine OR vote on whether or not a Vice/Assistant positions is required for the committee.
- 1.4.** There shall be a Standing and Sub-committee comprises of at-least five (5) members to be appointed by the Executive Council as appropriate. Such committees may include BUT not limited to:
- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| * Social-Welfare | * Finance/Budget |
| * Special Trust Fund | * Disciplinary/Legal |
| * Project Feasibility/Monitoring | * Audit/Appropriations |
| * Publicity/Editorial/Social Media | * Convention Planning etc. |

SECTION 2 EXECUTIVE MEETING

- 21.** The Executive/Caretaker Committee shall meet at least twelve (12) times in a year or as appropriate.
- 22.** The Chairperson shall Chair all meetings of the Union, and in any unanticipated circumstance that the Chairperson may not be available to attend the meeting, the Vice chairperson or Secretary-General or whoever agreed upon by the Executive/Caretaker Committee shall chair the meeting.
- 23.** The quorum for Executive/Caretaker Committee meetings shall be five (6) members.
- 24.** Voting at Executive/Caretaker Committee meetings shall be by show of hands, OR numeric numbers (1, 2, 3, etc.) assigned to members to call in their votes AND in any event that there is a tied vote, then the Chairperson/Presiding officer shall have a second vote.
- 25.** The Disciplinary Committee may for a good and proper reason remove any Executive/Caretaker Committee member by a two-third majority vote, provided that the person has the right to be heard before a final decision is made.
- 26.** The Union shall hold her annual conference/convention, where the election of Executive/Caretaker committee shall be held.

ARTICLE FIVE (5)

SECTION 1 DUTIES OF THE OFFICIALS:

1.1. Chairperson shall:

- 1.1.1. Chair all meetings of the Executive/Caretaker Committee and that of the General Assembly of the Union.
- 1.1.2. Represent the Union at functions/meetings that the Union has been invited to both local & international and such could be assigned or delegated.
- 1.1.3. Act as spokesperson for and on behalf of the Union when necessary and also serve as the crisis manager as appropriate.

2.1. Secretary-General shall:

- 2.1.1. Take and keep record(s) of minutes of the meetings.
- 2.1.2. Prepare the agenda for meetings of the Executive Council & Caretaker Committee and that of the general assembly of the Union in consultation with the Chairperson.
- 2.1.3. Maintain the membership list (Union's Directories).
- 2.1.4. Receive and distribute all correspondences of the Union.
- 2.1.5. Serve as the chairperson and coordinator of the annual Convention planning Committee/delegate Conference.
- 2.1.6. Perform any other function(s) assigned to him/her by the chairperson or the general assembly.
- 2.1.7. Submit Annual Report or SUMMARY of the union's general meetings; as well as be responsible for coordinating all the units of administrative structure and communications with all members around the globe.

3.1. Treasurer shall:

- 3.1.1. Supervise the financial affairs of the Union.
- 3.1.2. Keep all financial transactions (monies) of the Union.
- 3.1.3. Audit and oversee the appropriation of funds with the Financial Secretary of the Union
- 3.1.4. Perform any other duties as assigned him/her by the assembly.

4.1. Publicity Secretary (PS) shall:

- 4.1.1. Gather and circulate any relevant information concerning the Union and relate such material with Executive/Caretaker Committee as appropriate.
- 4.1.2. Serve as chief advocate who oversees all public statement, press - release, and be the mouthpiece of the Union.
- 4.1.3. Serve as Chairperson editorial and social media committee, and manage the Union's social media platform.
- 4.1.4. Ensure that all communication release to the public are concise and clear the Union from any political coloration.
- 4.1.5. As appropriate, the P.S shall always be willing and ready to clear the Union from any negative publicity by shaping and enhancing the image of the Union.
- 4.1.6. Perform any other function(s) as may be assigned to him/her by the chairperson or the general assembly.

5.1. Financial Secretary shall:

- 5.1.1. Maintain and regulate all expenditure of the Union with highest standard of financial disciplines.
- 5.1.2. Keep appropriate financial records of the Union, including receivable and expenditure accounts.
- 5.1.3. Serve as the chairperson of the finance & budget committee.
- 5.1.4. Prepare and monitor the periodical budget plans of the Union in collaboration with chairperson and treasurer.
- 5.1.5. Perform any other function(s) as may be assigned to him /her by the chairperson or the general assembly.

6.1. Social Welfare Officer shall:

- 6.1.1.** Coordinate all social events/programs & activities of the Union and announce such at the general meetings.
- 6.1.2.** Attend to the welfare needs and request of all members in collaboration with the chairperson and committee.
- 6.1.3.** Serve as liaison/events manager between the Union and any members who is organizing any social event(s) and relate such with the general meeting.
- 6.1.4.** Work hand-in-hand with the office of Secretary-General to compile a comprehensive membership database for the Union and such should made available for official use.
- 6.1.5.** Serve as the chairperson of the social welfare committee and a member of special trust fund.

7.1. The Chief Whip shall:

- 7.1.1.** Act as a liaison between the Union and individual members of the Union.
- 7.1.2.** Be responsible for the enforcement of discipline.
- 7.1.3.** Be the time-keeping officer for the Union at all meetings.
- 7.1.4.** Keep the records of disciplinary actions against members.

SECTION 2 ALL OTHER OFFICES

- 2.1.** The office of vice-chairperson and all other officers holding the assistant positions shall perform function(s) as relate to their superior offices and any other duties as assigned or deem appropriate by the Executive/Caretaker Committee.

ARTICLE SIX (6)

SECTION 1 FINANCE:

- 6.1. Any money (cash/checks) obtained by the Union shall be used **ONLY** for the Union purposes and such account should be reported.
- 6.2. Any bank account for the Union shall be opened in the name of the Union and operated by either OR both the Financial Secretary and Treasurer as signatories in additional to a WRITTEN approval from the chairperson.

SECTION 2 SPECIAL TRUST FUND:

21. There shall be a **special trust fund** to be established by the Executive/Caretaker Committee of the Union.
22. The Trust Fund shall be managed by at least five (5) members to include the Financial Secretary, Social Welfare Officer and any other three (3) members from the general assembly.
23. Shall raise funds through solicitation and voluntary donations from individuals, groups/organizations and corporate bodies.
24. Any fund generated through this trust **MUST** be used purposely to cater for the welfare of any members in need of such assistance.

ARTICLE SEVEN (7)

SECTION 1 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY:**

1.1. There shall be a general assembly comprising all members of the Union living across the United States or (North America). Both registered and non-registered member's recommendations, ideas or suggestions shall be taken seriously and adopted as appropriate without any reservations.

1.2. Meeting:

1.2.1. The Union shall hold monthly meeting on the last Saturday of every month.

1.2.2. All members shall meet at a designated place, call-in through teleconference or on approved social media platform as agreed upon by the Union.

1.2.3. Every member shall be entitled to attend general meeting, HOWEVER, only the registered member's vote shall be counted as stated in article **THREE Section 1, (Subsection 1.3)** of this constitution.

1.2.4. The quorum for any other issue shall be decided by the highest members vote.

1.2.5. Members of Board of Trustees also have the right to attend any of the general/special meetings as deem fit or appropriate.

1.3. Special General Meeting:

A Special /Emergency General Meeting of the Union may be called by the Chairperson of the Union or by any Executive officials or Caretaker committee members to discuss an urgent matter.

ARTICLE EIGHT (8)

SECTION 1 MEMBERS WELFARE/BENEFIT:

- 1.1. The welfare committee has the discretionary power to adjudicate cases base on individual members in needs of welfare assistance and such shall be discussed with the Executive before final decision is taken.

SECTION 2 GIFT TO NON-MEMBERS/ASSOCIATIONS:

- 2.1. The IEDPU-USA shall make a donation of **\$100** to other associations or non-members of the chapters who extend an invitation to the IEDPU-USA to participate in the event.
- 2.2. Donations made to other as sociations shall be presented either as a gift or used towards an advertisement
- 2.3. Should there be a choice between advertisement and monetary donation, advertisement will take precedent.

ARTICLE NINE (9)

SECTION 1 BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

1.1 Composition of Board of Trustees

- 1.1.1 There shall be a constituted Board of Trustees comprises of **five-members**, who shall be appointed to serve a **three (3)-year term**.
- 1.1.2 The criteria of any individual to be appointed into the Board shall be subject to the of provision of (section 9.3 and subsection 9.3.1 – 9.3.3) of this constitution with the approval of the General Assembly.
- 1.1.3 The appointment of membership into the Board of Trustees is subject to renewal after a completed term.
- 1.1.4 The Board of Trustees shall be a group of individuals who are selected to oversee the general functions and decisions concerning issues of the Union.
- 1.1.5 The Board of Trustees shall serve as the highest Advisory organ of the Union and shall hold their meetings once every four (4) months or as decided by the board members with a resolution of two-third (2/3) majority of board.

SECTION 2 FUNCTIONS OF TRUSTEES:

- 2.1. Advise on all policy implementations in order to guide, monitor and regulate the activities of the Executive Council/Interim/Caretaker Committees of the Union.
- 2.2. Coordinate a long-range of blue-print strategic plans for the Union.
- 2.3. Maintain a Policy Manual to guide the conduct of the Board.
- 2.4. The Board of Trustees, under this constitution reserves unto itself the following authority (unless specifically delegated in particular instances by definite resolution passed by the Board):

- 2.4.1. To organize, administer and conduct the affairs of the Trustees.
- 2.4.2. Serve as a mediator for the Union between the General Assembly and the Executive Council as well as the National Headquarters of IEDPU.
- 2.4.3. Establish the Union's legislative action program(s) and workout such with the Chairperson to seek developmental support from all levels of the community.
- 2.4.4. Evaluate the overall performance of the Executive Council /Caretaker Committee and any other organs of the Union.

SECTION 3 CRITERIAL FOR BOARD TRUSTEE

- 3.1. Any appointment(s) into the trustee board shall be based on the following criteria;
 - 3.1.1. **Must** be an indigene of the Emirate
 - 3.1.2. Shall be a Residence of United States
 - 3.1.3. May be a member of the Past Executive\Committee.

SECTION 4 ADVISORY COUNCIL:

- 4.1. The council shall serve as an adviser to the executive/committees.
- 4.2. Selection into the advisory council shall be the decision of general members by votes or predetermined factors.
- 4.3. The term limit shall not be more than two terms of 2-Yrs per term.
- 4.4. Membership appointment into the advisory shall be on merit and individual's expertise on various field of endeavors.
- 4.5. Such person(s) to be appointed as an adviser(s) may be a friend or an associate of the Union as agreed upon by the Executive.

ARTICLE TEN (10)

SECTION 1 DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS:

- 1.1. Executives charged with an offense shall have the right of a fair hearing in all matters affecting them with regards to discipline. Any Executive found guilty of an offense including but not limited to the following shall be subjected to disciplinary action:
- 1.2. Breaching fundamental provision of the constitution, anti-organization activities, or conduct unbecoming in a manner likely to embarrass the union or bring the union into disrepute, contempt, or ridicule in whatever manner.
- 1.3. Any act of disrespect for the rules or decisions of the union; engaging in dishonest practices, defrauding the union, and other activities that can disrupt the lawful, peaceful, and efficient running of the union.
- 1.4. Any official(s) may be removed during his/her tenure of office through a vote of no confidence passed by two-thirds majority of the membership of the IEDPU-USA or may be suspended for a period of time.

ARTICLE ELEVEN (11)

SECTION 1 ALTERATION/AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION:

1.1. Alteration

Any changes to this constitution are subjected to two-third (2/3) of the majority registered members, present and vote at a general meeting to select or nominate constitution review and amendment committee.

1.2. Amendment

Amendment shall be by the majority of members present at the General Meeting so that issues can be promptly discussed and resolved. Such amendments may be initiated by a member and shall be forwarded or published 30 days prior to the next meeting. The proposed amendments shall be voted upon and ratified by a simple majority of members present at a duly constituted IEDPU-USA meeting.

1.3. Quorum for Amendment:

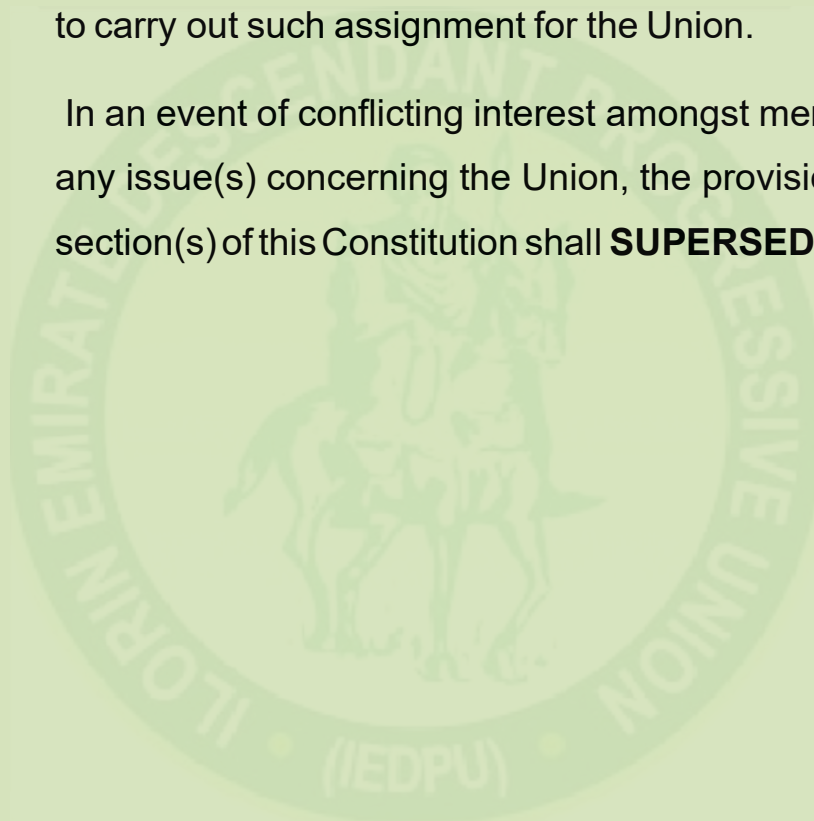
1.3.1. Quorum for all meetings shall in all cases be formed by simple majority of the registered members present at the meeting. However, it cannot form without the presence of either the Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson/ Secretary and any other serving cabinet members.

1.3.2. The notices of meetings shall be made available at least 1-week before the set date by the Secretary. The minutes of all meetings shall include date, time, and venue of the meeting, members present, agenda, decisions reached, and any relevant issues shall be stipulated in clear terms.

ARTICLE TWELVE (12)

SECTION 1 SUPREMACY AND INTERPRETATION:

11. In case of any ambiguity to part(s) or thereof any provision(s)/section of this Constitution, the interpretation to such Article(s) /Section(s) /Sub-section(s) shall be done through the legal adviser or any other person(s) appointed to carry out such assignment for the Union.
12. In an event of conflicting interest amongst members on any issue(s) concerning the Union, the provision(s) and section(s) of this Constitution shall **SUPERSEDE**.



ARTICLE THIRTEEN (13)

SECTION 1 DISSOLUTION:

- 1.1. The Union may be dissolved at any time if agreed upon by two-third of those registered members present and vote at a general meeting called for this purpose.
- 1.2. In the event of the dissolution of IEDPU-USA, INC. the cabinet shall after paying or making provision for the payment of the Union's liability, dispose of all its assets exclusively for the stated purpose and objectives of the Union, and in such manner, or to such organizations that will qualify as charitable, cultural, educational, and/or scientific under Section 501c3 of the IRS revenue code or corresponding section of any future federal tax code as the cabinet shall determine or such assets shall be distributed to the federal government or a state or local government for a public purpose.

SECTION 2 RESOLUTION:

- 2.1. We the entire members of ILORIN EMIRATE DESCENDANTS PROGRESSIVE UNION, UNITED STATES (NORTH AMERICA) consolidate ourselves into an action, progressive, non-partisan, peace loving democratic body for betterment of our entire Ilorin Emirate and ourselves. We hereby give unto ourselves, enact and make this Bye-Law as governing instrument.

This constitution was ADOPTED at the general assembly meeting on this day **13th** of **June, 2020** as a working document which has legal binding on all members of IEDPU-USA Branch (North America).

All the members who agreed to serve on the Constitution Drafting Committee (CDC), participated in all proceedings up to the final stage.

As submitted to the General Assembly, this constitution has been read, adopted and duly signed on this date **13th, June 2020** by the Chairman; Babatunde Onimago-Ishiaka, Secretary; Abaya Lanre and all CDC Members.

MEMBERS OF THE CONSTITUTION DRAFTING COMMITTEE:

BABATUNDE ONIMAGO-ISHIAKA
CHAIRMAN

TOYIN ABDUL
MEMBER

SIDIKAT IS'MAIL
MEMBER

FULANI, ABDULRAZZAQ WAZIRI
MEMBER

ADISA, ISHAQ OLAREWAJU
MEMBER

ABAYA, LANRE ISSA
SECRETARY