

**THE CRAFT FREEMASONRY
NEWSLETTER No.16 APRIL 2007**



**His Royal Highness Philippe Paul Alexandre Henry
The Prince of Araucania, KES, OCS, KCA
Grand Master of Craft Freemasonry**

TO THE GLORY OF THE GRAND ARCHITECT OF HEAVEN AND EARTH



THE MASONIC HIGH COUNCIL
The Mother High Council of the World
ANSWERING IRREGULARITY

"...or the Illustration by given examples of how some organisations have deviated so much from the original aims and principles of the Craft and we now consider them to be irregular and how these organisations will not be admitted or recognised as Regular Freemasonry by the Regular Federation of Grand Lodges under the auspices of the Masonic High Council the Mother High Council..."

We have laid the foundations of the idealism of the Craft to support the potential of our Order which, due to our avowed adherence to the true antient landmarks of Freemasonry far outweighs that of any other organisation at the present time.

The Masonic High Council, the Mother High Council of the World has firmly established and aims to maintain the style of Ancient Craft Freemasonry by conserving as much of the philosophical qualities and intellectualism by which it has been acknowledged throughout the ages.

The Masonic High Council, the Mother High Council of the World, should play a vital role in creating a greater understanding of Freemasonry on a world wide level and be able to promote the influence of the original Masonic philosophy and be an important factor in the work towards universal peace.

The First International Grand Assembly was held on the 16th September 2006 in London. Here, the "London Treaty" was signed. It's aim was quite clear: to foster the enlightenment of Masons under this new Confederation of Regular Grand Lodges by the means of imparting education regarding Antient Freemasonry, the antiquities and Symbols of the Craft and to cultivate a desire for Masonic Research as well as a very high standard of ritual working in constituent lodges. To promote the true Landmarks of Craft Freemasonry was and is our primary aim. To get back to true historical basics.

The second International Grand Assembly was held on the 4th November 2006 in Paris for the benefit and furthering our bonds with other Grand Lodges within our world wide Confederation. The Paris Accord was signed. The purpose of this Accord was to provide a framework for the Masonic High Councils and Regular Grand Lodges of Craft Freemasonry throughout the world to work together and enhance the contribution to a well run Masonic Order faithful to its original aims, traditions and customs.

By working together in an International Masonic Federation the Masonic High Councils and Regular Grand Lodges of the world can serve the Craft much better and bring together in friendship and brotherhood all the brethren of the Permanent Grand Assembly of the Federation of Regular Grand Lodges. This Accord provides the international understanding for the future development and strengthens the union between the Masonic High Councils and Regular Grand Lodges affiliated to the Mother High Council.

The contribution that Freemasonry has made in the evolution of our civil society can never be overstated. There is no doubt that if Freemasonry had never existed in this world, it would have become a totally different place indeed. Such is the contribution of Freemasonry. Some of the most shining minds, men who were giants in so many diverse fields, were members of the Masonic Order and their contributions helped in no small manner to mould our present civilisation. Today Freemasonry continues being one of the driving forces in many societies of the world.

Freemasonry must lead society by example not the other way around. Freemasonry must help in the development of society and not the other way around.

The Masonic High Council is very conscious of the original philosophical intentions of the Order.

To restore to the Order its natural splendour both in its symbolism and philosophy is our ultimate aim and we can be very proud of it. It really is the only path for saving Masonry from becoming "just another club" and preserving it's existence for centuries to come.

Craft Freemasonry must deliver that tradition, philosophy and symbolism that is found in the books that describe the Order. Craft Freemasonry must allow each of its members if they so wish, the option to fulfil themselves both spiritually and socially. The development of both their spiritual needs and their sense of becoming better citizens has to be their right. There is nothing in the symbolism and the tradition of the Craft that one should be ashamed of, on the contrary, the Order of Craft Freemasonry is beautiful and meaningful and most importantly, a beacon of constant wisdom revealed to all of those who care to unveil and learn its secrets and mysteries.

It is well known that Freemasonry in Western Europe has conserved much of the original aim and symbolism of the philosophical and intellectual style of our Masonic Order. It was from this style that Freemasonry gave its principles to the rest of the world and by which it is still best known nowadays.

Unfortunately the Masonic High Council places the so-called "mainstream-freemasonry" of North American in a category which we call "charitable style". These organisations have concentrated recently much of their effort in directing their art towards the support of public charitable activities. Although this is commendable, this manner of charity was basically directed towards the assistance of the brothers and their families. The great tragedy of this "style" of "Freemasonry" is that it has made them sacrifice much of the philosophical and intellectual meaning of true and antient Freemasonry. It is not just about being a "good egg". The participation in acts of charity outside the "Lodges" can be observed as "desirable assets" but it is the fundamental basis of the Order which must not be overlooked..

We should never forget that Masonic philosophy must stimulate us to promote good in our society until it reaches its fullest splendour!

WHAT IS MASONIC REGULARITY?

I have been asked many times to explain what Masonic regularity irregularity actually is.

First and foremost a Grand Lodge or a Grand Jurisdiction can be only considered regular in two main points.

Ritualistic Regularity

1 – Ritualistic regularity, the regularity of the actual work carried out. It must be compliant with the much heralded Ancient Landmarks and observant of the ancient usages, customs and traditions of the Order.

Administrative Regularity

2 – Administrative Regularity encompasses all administration beginning with the issue of a regular warrant to a lodge by a Regular Craft Freemasonry Grand Lodge (not by a Supreme Council 33 or any other non Craft Masonry body), and that Master Masons are issued with a Grand Lodge Certificate from their Grand Lodge.

Based on the above we are pleased to give this fuller explanation:

From 1991 to 2006 I was a member of several Grand Lodges, such as the Grand Lodge of Florida and the United Grand Lodge of England. These Grand Lodges belonged to the Federation of Grand Lodges "recognised" by the so called UGLE.

My experience and my vast travels around the world took me successfully from one continent to another where I visited countless lodges and Grand Lodges as a keen and passionate Mason. I always tried to visit the Lodge Library or Grand Lodge Library, viewed their historical records, visited their museums and held discussions with their members. Last but not least I also took great notice of their ritual work. My seemingly continual and detailed study of the Order presently showed me that there was a urgent need for the Masonic Order to have some kind of central international administration or some sort of government. It was clear to me that once these Grand Lodges where somehow deemed to be "recognised" or had obtained recognition from the so named UGLE, they were then classed as being regular and from then on could do pretty much everything they wished.

Some of these "Grand Lodges" were mistakenly called "mainstream Grand Lodges". In Ancient Craft Freemasonry there is no such thing as "mainstream Grand Lodges". Why did these so called U.S. "mainstream Grand Lodges" and the UGLE depart from tradition and no longer practice Ancient Craft Freemasonry and thereby cause us to have to class them as irregular. There are some answers here:

1 – The UGLE expelled the ceremony of Mark Mason from Craft Freemasonry.

2 – The UGLE created and then forced the adoption by all English Craft Lodges of a foreign ritual and workings and by systematically eliminating and forcing all English Craft Lodges to adopt a non English working which, by doing so, they forced the adoption of customs alien to the original English Craft Freemasonry. Such changes as the adoption of Deacons, the positional changes of the Wardens, the changing of the first and second degree passwords and by no longer using the sword in ceremonies.

3 – The UGLE and the US "mainstream Grand Lodges" maintain and entertain a certain spurious group that claims to be the pinnacle of Masonic wisdom and authority. This spurious group is located in the city of Washington DC and the reason for it's existence is further put down by the Declaration of the German National Mother Grand Lodge of the Three World Globes, who declared to all of its constituent lodges that the organisation was spurious.

4 – The UGLE has recognised and maintains recognition of these spuriously constituted organisations. These Grand Lodges to which we refer were constituted with issued with warrants by the "Supreme Councils 33, Ancient and Accepted Rite", and are therefore totally spurious in constitution and origin. Other Grand Lodges "recognised" by the UGLE were in some cases constituted by some other irregular organisations. An ideal example would be Brazil, where suddenly all the adherence to the Basic Principles for Regularity issued by the UGLE, go to the wall!

This jurisdiction is not the only jurisdiction where such irregularities have taken place and exist, but they serve as an example of those Grand organisations formed irregularly in the US and yet still recognised by the UGLE. It is pure hypocrisy.

5 – Recent irregular administration while consecrating and constituting other Craft Grand Lodges such as the case of the so called "Grand Lodge of Slovenia" formed and constituted on the 16th October 1999, this "Grand Lodge" "recognised" by the US "mainstream Grand Lodges" and the UGLE since its set up in 1999 to 2005 did not issue Warrants of Constitutions to its constitutive Lodges and failed equally to issue Grand Lodge Certificates to its Master Masons. This represents an act of irregularity.

6 – The UGLE recognises the US so called “mainstream Grand Lodges”. These so called “Grand Lodges” take pride and joy on initiating large numbers of candidates in sports halls etc. and assumes that by just sitting and observing some sort of ceremony being preformed they can all become Master Masons. Become a Freemason by the power of observation alone? I think not! This is clearly irregular.

7 – The notion that some of the so-called US “mainstream Grand Lodges” can and must have only one Rite and that there is such a Rite and that can on its own faithfully represent and transmit the rich symbolical and philosophical traditions and customs of the Craft its absurd. By having this closed vision (in contradiction to the Masonic precepts of further light) they have embarked in a path so bare and think that one type of ritual alone can somehow miraculously encompass all Masonic knowledge including the fullness of its symbolism and philosophical teachings.

8 – Another great aspect that these so called “Grand Lodges” is that they tend to be so inward ,looking that like small feudal states, they have turned into a Dictatorship style of rule. Such a Grand Lodge would be the Grand Lodge of British Freemasons in Germany for example, which cannot possibly be considered democratic and for the members and must be therefore considered irregular. No form of Masonic dictatorship has a place in our institutions and is totally contrary to the precepts of the Craft.

9 – Innovations of the Craft: these are unfortunate events that both the UGLE and the so-called US “mainstream Grand Lodges”, have brought into existence in their modern constitutions. These are many and include the use of Hats as a symbol of a “Grand Master” of the Craft; the use of the Deacons in the Original English Craft which is totally foreign to English Craft Freemasonry and constitutes an innovation adopted from the Irish and Scottish Lodges.

10 – Confusion reigns in their midst, as what has happened in Italy. The UGLE has created “Regular Grand Lodge of Italy” and then the so-called US “mainstream Grand Lodges” recognise the Grand Orient of Italy and this Grand Orient of Italy recognises illegitimate and spurious organisations creating a total parody. The Masonic High Council runs a very tight ship and therefore we don’t allow such confusion to originate in our midst. We relinquish our ties to these worn out Masonic organisations who are slumping towards decadence.

RW Bro Rui Gabirro
Grand Secretary RGLE





International Lodge of Research

We have pleasure in informing all brethren that before the end of this year we will be forming an International Lodge of Research and Instruction, under the auspices of our International Federation of Craft Masonry.

This Research and Instruction lodge will work to gather further information on Craft traditions, usages and customs for the benefit of every Grand Lodge under the auspices of the Masonic High Council, the Mother High Council of the World. This International Lodge of Research and Instruction will be open to all Master Masons in good standing in a Regular Craft Lodge under a Grand Lodge or Masonic High Council in our International Federation. We especially welcome those who are conversant in more than one language as this will greatly facilitate communication between Brethren of different jurisdictions.

Those brethren interested in becoming members of this new and foremost Craft Freemasonry International Lodge of Research and Instruction must enter in contact with our MW Brother Siegfried TONJE, Grand Master of the Craft in France.



REGULAR GRAND LODGE OF VENEZUELA

MW & RW Grand Officers, Officers of the MHC the Mother High Council of the World and Brethren:
We should like to heartily congratulate our Venezuelan Brethren on the constituting of two new Masonic Triangles in Venezuela.

The Triangle "Sol de Ayacucho" in the city of Puerto Ayacucho, State of Amazonas in the southern part of Venezuela, and the Masonic Triangle "Libertadores de Oriente" in the State of Sucre in the Eastern area.

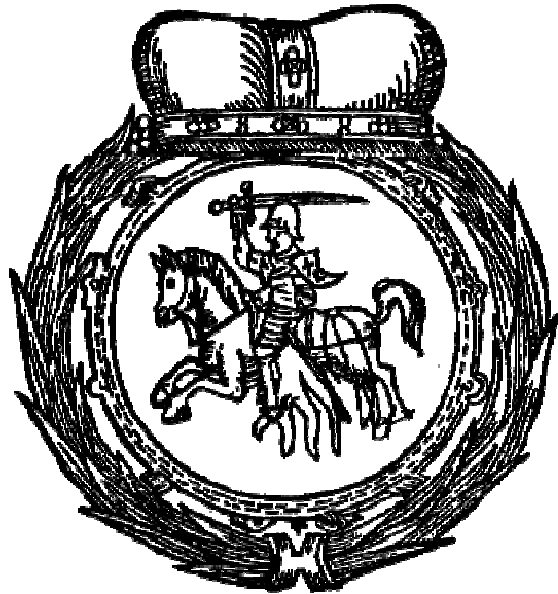
The Regular Grand Lodge of Venezuela presently comprised of four Craft Lodges: two in the city of Anzoátegui, one in the city of Guárico and the fourth in the city of Táchira. The four Masonic triangles are located thus: two on the State of Anzoátegui, one on the State of Sucre and one on the State of Amazonas, Venezuela.



MASONIC HIGH COUNCIL OF BRAZIL

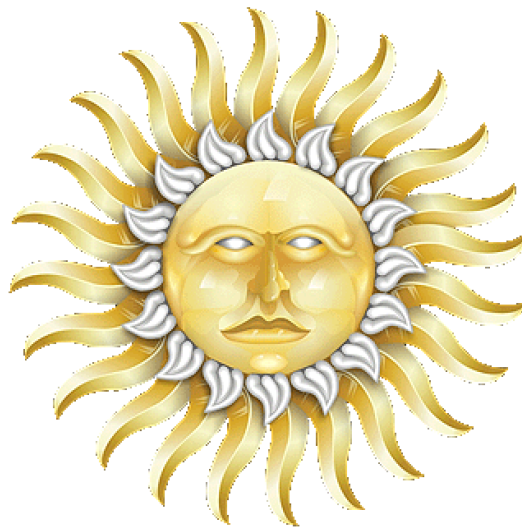
MW & RW Brethren,, Officers of the MHC the Mother High Council of the World and Brethren:
We should like to heartily congratulate our Brazilian Brethren on the constituting of the first Masonic Triangles in the State of Rio de Janeiro in Brazil.

The Masonic Triangle "Orvalho de Hermon" in the Orient of the City of Rio de Janeiro in the State of Rio de Janeiro. This Masonic Triangle has taken up the working methods of Regular Craft Freemasonry in Brazil. As we all know the "United Grand Lodge of England" recognises the so called Grand Orient of Brazil, which we do not.



Masonic High Council of Belarus

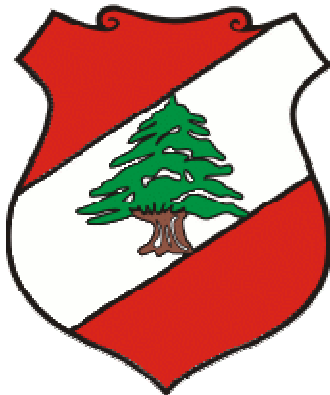
MW & RW Grand Officers, Officers of the MHC the Mother High Council of the World and Brethren:
We should like to heartily congratulate our Belarus Brethren on constituting the first Masonic Lodge in the Capital City of Minsk.



Masonic High Council of Germany

Important Information regarding Irregularities within the United Grand Lodges of Germany

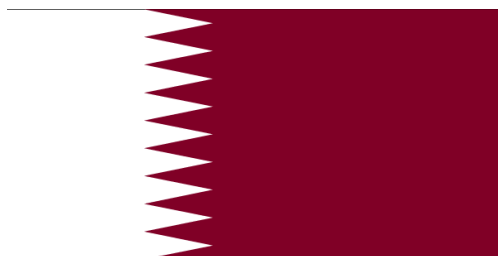
One of the 5 Grand Lodges making up the United Grand Lodges of Germany, namely the Grand Lodge of British Freemasons in Germany whose membership only totals 300 brethren has been engaged in attempting to find out why large sums of Grand Lodge finances appear to have been misappropriated and used on private travel and other unauthorised matters by high ranking Grand Officers. Although not yet finalised, it appears that in part the money was used without authorisation by a handful of high ranking Grand Officers enabling them to travel Europe in style. The Grand Master MW Bro Frederick Colbran, has himself been accused in writing by the President of the Board of General Purposes of misuse of Grand Lodge funds and allowing payments to be made without correct authorisation. Many of these payments have been hidden from the elected auditors and there have been inaccuracies in the accounts of this Grand Lodge for some years! We do not rub our hands in glee brethren as this is a disgrace for Freemasonry and how it is perceived in the public eye. This matter will soon occupy the German legal authorities. We wish to make it clear that any brother willing to renounce the corrupt deceptive style of such a Grand Lodge may willingly come and join our wonderful Regular Grand Lodge and practice antient, free and honourable Freemasonry.



Masonic High Council of Lebanon

MW & RW Grand Officers, Officers of the MHC the Mother High Council of the World and Brethren:
We should like to heartily congratulate our Lebanese Brethren on the, constituting their new Craft Lodge in the City of Tyre.

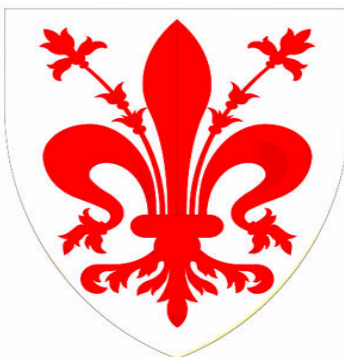
Wisdom Lodge No 3



Masonic High Council of Qatar

MW & RW Grand Officers, Officers of the MHC the Mother High Council of the World and Brethren:
We should like to heartily congratulate our Qatar Brethren on the, constituting the first Masonic Lodge in the Capital City of Doha.

Golden Hawk Lodge No. 1



The Masonic High Council
The Mother High Council of World

GRAND ASSEMBLY

Saturday 28th of April, 2007

Florence, Italy



Regular Grand Lodge of Slovenia

Proposed new banner to the Grand Lodge



Important News

Dear Brethren,

Our Grand Secretary's staffs are working hard to ensure that this newsletter is prepared and sent out to all of you on a regular basis. We urge you all to send in all items which you may feel are of interest to the thousands of brethren who receive this newsletter. Although we cannot always guarantee to include it we can certainly promise not to if you do not send it! Although we will not publish your name if you do not wish us to, please let us know who it is from.

We look forward to receiving many of your items.

From the staff of the Office of the Grand Secretary, Regular Grand Lodge of England

All enquiries, submissions and articles should be sent to the attention of the:

**Grand Secretary
Masonic High Council**

e-mail: masoniccouncil@gmail.com

www.rgle.org.uk

"We are unable to return material submitted by individual brethren. Any submissions which are not signed will not be considered for publication."

