

PENTECOSTAL ASSOCIATION FOR THEOLOGICAL ACCREDITATION (PATA) CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

Article I – Name, Legal Status, and Purpose

Section 1: Name

The name of this organization shall be the **Pentecostal Association for Theological Accreditation (PATA)**.

Section 2: Legal Status

PATA is a faith-based, non-governmental accreditation body serving theological institutions in **India and South Asia**.

It operates independently to establish, maintain, and promote standards of academic quality, doctrinal integrity, and institutional accountability in Pentecostal theological education.

Section 3: Purpose

PATA exists to strengthen and support Pentecostal theological education by providing accreditation services, promoting academic excellence, doctrinal integrity, and fostering Spirit-empowered leadership within member institutions across **India and South Asia**.

Article II – Vision and Mission

Section 1: Vision

To glorify God by nurturing a Spirit-led, doctrinally sound, and academically excellent community of Pentecostal theological institutions serving **India and South Asia**.

Section 2: Mission

To strengthen Pentecostal theological education in India and South Asia by providing accreditation guidance, institutional mentoring, faculty development, and fostering collaboration among Pentecostal institutions, equipping leaders to serve the Church and society under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Article III – Membership

Section 1: Categories

PATA shall have the following categories of membership:

- Institutional Membership
 - Individual Membership
 - Associate Membership
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Section 2: Eligibility and Requirements

Each category shall have specific eligibility criteria, responsibilities, and privileges as defined in PATA policies.

Section 3: Rights and Responsibilities

Rights

Members shall have the right to:

- Participate in PATA meetings and activities
 - Access training, resources, and collaborative opportunities
 - Apply for accreditation where applicable
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Responsibilities

Members shall:

- Comply with PATA standards, policies, and ethical guidelines
 - Maintain integrity in academic and ministry practices
 - Cooperate with evaluation and review processes
 - Submit required reports and updates
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Section 4: Suspension and Termination

Membership may be suspended or terminated under the following conditions:

- Non-compliance with PATA standards or policies
- Ethical violations or misconduct
- Misrepresentation of accreditation or membership status
- Failure to fulfill obligations, including membership dues

The member shall be notified and given an opportunity to respond before final action is taken.

Article IV – Governance

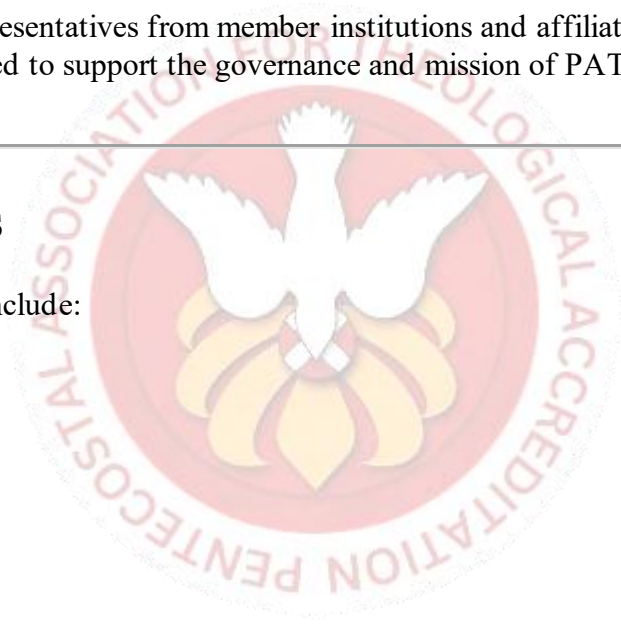
Section 1: Executive Board

The Executive Board shall provide leadership, governance, and strategic direction for PATA.

It shall consist of elected representatives from member institutions and affiliated bodies, together with qualified individuals appointed to support the governance and mission of PATA.

Section 2: Officers

The officers of PATA shall include:

- Chairman
 - Vice-Chairman
 - President
 - Vice-President
 - Director & Secretary
 - Treasurer
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Section 3: Roles and Responsibilities

Chairman:

Provides overall leadership and oversight of PATA and presides over major meetings.

Vice-Chairman:

Assists the Chairman and acts in his absence.

President:

Leads organizational activities and represents PATA in official matters.

Vice-President:

Supports the President and acts in his absence.

Director & Secretary:

Manages administration, maintains official records, and handles correspondence.

Treasurer:

Oversees financial management, budgeting, and reporting.

Section 4: Terms and Elections

Officers and board members shall serve defined terms as prescribed in the bylaws.

Elections shall be conducted during the Annual General Meeting.

Section 5: Quorum and Decision-Making

A quorum shall consist of at least **50% of board members**.

Decisions shall be made by a majority vote unless otherwise specified.

Article V – Commissions

Section 1: Accreditation Commission

The Accreditation Commission shall oversee all accreditation processes, evaluate institutions, and ensure compliance with established standards.

The Commission shall function independently in its evaluation and decision-making processes.

Section 2: Theological Commission

The Theological Commission shall promote Pentecostal scholarship, organize academic programs, and support theological research and publication.

Section 3: Teacher Development and Certification Commission

This commission shall oversee faculty development and certification initiatives as implemented by PATA.

Article VI – Accreditation Process

Section 1: Application

Institutions shall apply for accreditation in accordance with procedures established by PATA.

Section 2: Self-Study

Applicant institutions shall conduct a comprehensive self-study aligned with PATA standards.

Section 3: Site Visit

A designated visiting team shall conduct an on-site evaluation to verify compliance and assess institutional effectiveness.

Section 4: Decision

The Accreditation Commission shall review findings and make accreditation decisions, which shall be final, subject to established appeal procedures as defined in PATA policies.

Article VII – Meetings

Section 1: Annual General Meeting (AGM)

PATA shall conduct an Annual General Meeting to review reports, conduct elections, and discuss organizational matters.

Section 2: Special Meetings

Special meetings may be convened by the Executive Board as necessary.

Article VIII – Amendments

Section 1: Proposal

Amendments to this Constitution or Bylaws may be proposed by the Executive Board or by at least **10% of member institutions**.

Section 2: Approval

Amendments shall be approved by a **two-thirds majority vote** at a duly convened meeting.

Article IX – Dissolution

Section 1: Procedure

In the event of dissolution, PATA's assets shall be transferred to a nonprofit organization with similar objectives, as determined by the Executive Board.

Article X – Statement of Faith

PATA affirms the following core doctrines as essential to the Christian faith and Pentecostal identity:

1. ***The Scriptures Inspired***
We believe the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired by God and are the infallible and authoritative rule of faith and conduct (2 Timothy 3:16–17; 2 Peter 1:20–21).
2. ***The One True God***
There is one true and living God, eternally existent in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14).
3. ***The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ***
Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, substitutionary death, bodily resurrection, and exaltation to the right hand of the Father are all affirmed (John 1:1–3, 14; Philippians 2:5–11).
4. ***The Fall of Man***
Humanity was created good and upright but by voluntary transgression fell, incurring physical and spiritual death (Genesis 1:26–27; Romans 5:12).
5. ***The Salvation of Man***
Salvation is provided through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. It is received by faith, through repentance and regeneration by the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 2:8–9; Titus 3:5–7).
6. ***Ordinances of the Church***
Water Baptism by immersion is commanded of all who repent and believe. Holy Communion is a memorial of Christ's suffering and death and a celebration of His coming return (Matthew 28:19; 1 Corinthians 11:23–26).
7. ***The Baptism in the Holy Spirit***
All believers are entitled to and should seek the baptism in the Holy Spirit, with the initial physical evidence of speaking in tongues as the Spirit gives utterance (Acts 1:8; Acts 2:4).
8. ***Sanctification***
Sanctification is an act of separation from evil and dedication to God, realized through faith in Jesus Christ, the Word of God, and the Holy Spirit (Romans 12:1–2; 1 Thessalonians 5:23).
9. ***The Church and Its Mission***
The Church is the Body of Christ, and its mission is to evangelize the world, worship God, disciple believers, and serve in compassion (Ephesians 1:22–23; Matthew 28:19–20).

10. **The Ministry**

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry is provided by our Lord for the evangelization of the world and the edification of the Body of Christ (Ephesians 4:11–13).

11. **Divine Healing**

Divine healing is provided in the atonement and is the privilege of all believers (Isaiah 53:4–5; James 5:14–16).

12. **The Blessed Hope**

The imminent return of Christ is the blessed hope of the Church. The resurrection of those who have died in Christ and the rapture of believers still living will take place at His coming (1 Thessalonians 4:16–17; Titus 2:13).

13. **The Final Judgment**

There will be a final judgment in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. Those whose names are not written in the Book of Life will suffer eternal separation from God (Revelation 20:11–15).

14. **The New Heavens and the New Earth**

God will create a new heaven and a new earth, wherein righteousness dwells and God's redeemed will dwell with Him forever (2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:1–4).



BYLAWS

Section 1: Membership Admission and Dues

Membership applications shall be submitted in the prescribed format and reviewed by the designated authority.

Membership dues shall be determined by PATA and must be paid within the prescribed timeframe. Failure to comply may result in suspension or termination.

Section 2: Board Responsibilities

The Executive Board shall:

- Provide leadership and governance
 - Establish policies and strategic direction
 - Ensure accountability and transparency
 - Oversee financial and operational matters
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Section 3: Committees and Commissions

PATA may establish committees and commissions as necessary.

Each body shall have defined roles and shall report to the Executive Board.

Section 4: Financial Management

PATA shall maintain proper financial records and ensure responsible financial management.

Annual financial reports shall be prepared, and audits may be conducted as required.

Section 5: Conflict of Interest

All members, officers, and representatives shall comply with the PATA Conflict of Interest Policy and disclose any conflicts as required.

Section 6: Interpretation

In case of ambiguity, interpretation of this Constitution and Bylaws shall rest with the Executive Board.

