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# ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

BETE ST. MARYAM AND ST. KIRISTOS SEMRA DENAGL TEBABAT,

ETHIOPIAN ORTHODOX TEWAHEDO CHURCH MONASTERY, FL. INC.

In compliance with Chapter 617, F.S., (a Corporation Not for Profit)

I, the undersigned natural person over the age of eighteen (18), acting as an incorporator, of Bete St. Maryam and St. Kiristos Semra Denagl Tebabat, Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church Monastery, Fl. Inc. (the "Corporation"), hereby adopts and files the following Articles of Incorporation in compliance with Chapter 617 Florida Statutes (F.S.)

# ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the Corporation shall be:

BETE ST. MARYAM AND ST. KIRISTOS SEMRA DENAGL TEBABAT, ETHIOPIAN ORTHODOX TEWAHEDO CHURCH MONASTERY, FL. INC.

#### ARTICLE II - PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The principal Street address for this corporation is 3700 NE 9th Court Homestead, Fl. 33033 and the Mailing address: 3020 NE 41ST Terrace, # 333 Homestead, Fl. 33033

#### ARTICLE III - ENABLING LAW

The Corporation is organized Pursuant to Chapter 617.0202, F.S., as a Non-Profit Corporation. Upon dissolution, all of the Corporation's assets shall be distributed as set forth in Article X below.

# ARTICLE IV

The period of duration is perpetual.

# **ARTICLE V - PURPOSES**

The purposes for which this Corporation is organized are exclusively for religious worship and prayer in accordance with the teachings of Iyesus Kiristos (Jesus Christ) our Lord and Savior and according to the principles of faith, mission and order as set forth in the Canonical Rules and Regulation of The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church Monasteries and Monastic Life, as reflected in the Uniform By-Laws of Bete

St. Maryam and St. Kiristos Semra Denagl Tebabat Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church Monastery, Fl. Inc., as each shall be amended from time to time.

#### **ARTICLE VI**

The Corporation is organized exclusively for charitable religious, educational, cultural and social purposes as specified in Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended or corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law (the "Code"). Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles of Incorporation, the Corporation shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal Income Tax under Code 501 (c) (3), contributions to which are deductible for federal and state income, gift and estate tax purposes.

The corporation may engage in any charitable activity permitted in Section 501 (c) (3) of the Code. These purposes may be effectuated either directly, or by contributions to, or activities undertaken in cooperation with, organizations that have been determined to be exempt under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Code.

# **ARTICLE VII**

In furtherance of the Corporation's forgoing charitable purposes, the Corporation shall be further authorized:

- (1) To receive and maintain personal and real property, or both; and, subject to the restrictions and limitations herein set forth, to use and apply the whole or any part of the income there from, and principal thereof, exclusively for the forgoing charitable purposes.
- (2) To receive assistance, money (as grants or otherwise), real or personal property and any other form of contributions, gift, bequest or devise from any person, firm or corporation, to be utilized in the furtherance of the objects and purposes of this Corporation; to enter into agreements or contracts for contributions to the Corporation for its objects and purposes, provided however, that gifts shall be subject to acceptance by the board of trustees as required by the By Laws.
- (3) To distribute, in the manner, form and method, and by the means determined by the board of directors of this Corporation, any and all forms of contributions received by it in carrying out the programs of the Corporation in the furtherance of it's stated purposes. Money and real or personal property contributed to the Corporation in the furtherance of these objects and purposes are and shall continue to be impressed with a trust for such purposes.

- (4) To purchase, acquire, own, hold, guarantee, sell, assign, transfer, mortgage, pledge, loan or otherwise dispose of and deal in any bonds, evidence of indebtedness or other personal property, as well as to purchase, acquire, own, hold, sell, transfer, mortgage, lease, and otherwise acquire the ownership or use of, or otherwise acquire and dispose of, and deal in interests in real estate; and as the owner of any such real or personal property, to exercise all rights, powers and privileges of ownership.
- (5) To adopt and use a corporation seal containing the words "corporation not for profit" if desired and deemed necessary: but, this shall not be compulsory unless required by law.
- (6) To do all acts and things requisite, necessary, proper and desirable to carry out and further the objects for which this Corporation is formed; and, in general, to have all the rights, privileges and immunities, and enjoy all the benefits of the laws of the State of Florida applicable to corporation of this character, including but not limited to the powers described in Section 617.0302 of the Florida Statues.
- (7) All of the above and forgoing are to be construed both as objects and powers, and it is expressly provided that the specific objects and powers enumerated herein shall not be held to limit or restrict in any manner the general powers of the Corporation.
- (8) Each and all of the objects, purposes and powers of the Corporation shall be exercised, construed and limited in their application to accomplish the religious charitable purposes for which this Corporation is formed.
- (9) Do all such acts as are necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes set forth in these Articles of Incorporation and as are permitted by law and Code or its corresponding Treasury Regulations for an entity that qualifies for exemption under 501 (c) (3) of the Code.

#### ARTICLE VIII

Except as otherwise provided in these Articles, the Corporation shall have all the powers provided the Code. Moreover, the Corporation shall have all implied powers necessary and proper to carry out its express powers. The Corporation may pay reasonable compensation to trustees, officers, or other persons for services rendered to or for the Corporation and may reimburse its directors and officers for all expenses reasonably incurred in performing services rendered to the Corporation in furtherance of one or more of the purposes set forth above.

#### ARTICLE IX

No Part of the income of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its Trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that, as set forth in Article VIII above, the Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth herein. No trustee, officers, or any other private individual, shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the Corporations assets upon dissolution of the Corporation. - The Corporation shall have no power to take any action prohibited by the Act. The Corporation shall have no power to take any action that would be inconsistent with the requirements for a tax exemption under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c) (3) and related regulations, rulings and procedures.

The Corporation shall have no power to take any action that would be inconsistent with the requirements for receiving tax-deductible charitable contributions under Internal Revenue Code Section 170 (c) (2) and related regulations, rulings and procedures. Regardless of any other provision in these Articles of Incorporation or state law, the Corporation shall have no power to:

- (1) Engage in activities or use it's assets in manners that are not in furtherance of one or more exempt purposes, as set forth above and defined by the Internal Revenue Code, and related regulations, rulings and procedures, except to an insubstantial degree.
- (2) Serve a private interest other than one is clearly incidental to an overriding public interest.
- (3) Devote more than an insubstantial part of it's activities to attempting to influence legislation by propaganda or of otherwise, attempting to influence legislation other than as permitted in Section 11 (h) of the Code.
- (4) This Corporation shall not participate in or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of, or incorposition to, any candidate for public office (including without limitation the publishing or distributing of statements for or against any candidate).
- (5) Have objectives that characterize it as an "action organization" as defined by the Internal Revenue Code and related regulations, rulings and procedures.
- (6) Distribute it's assets on dissolution other than for one or more exempt purposes; on dissolution, the Corporation's asset shall be distributed to one or more of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church Monasteries or Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Churches as set forth in Article X herein.

- (7) Permit any part of the net earnings of the Corporation to insure to the benefit of any private shareholder or member of the Corporation or any private individual.
- (8) Carry on any unrelated trade or business except as a secondary purpose related to the Corporation's primary, exempt, purposes.

# ARTICLE X

All the property of this Corporation is and shall be irrevocably dedicated to religious charitable, educational, or cultural purposes. Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Trustees shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all the assets of the Corporation exclusively for or to one or more of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church Monasteries or Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Churches which is governed under the Holy Synod of Ethiopia located in Addis Ababa Ethiopia.

This entity should be organized and operated exclusively for charitable and religious purposes as at the time qualify as an exempt organization under Section 501 (c) (3) and 170 (c) (2), of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or any corresponding section of any prior or future United States Internal Revenue Law).

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ARTICLE XI - MEMBERS

The Corporation shall have no members.

### ARTICLE XII- MANNER IN WHICH BOARD OF DIRECTORS ARE APPOINTED

The Corporation shall be governed by a Board of Directors hereinafter referred to as the Board of Trustees, which shall consist of three (3) Trustee's initially; The number may be increased or diminished from time to time in accordance with the By-Laws, but shall never be less than three (3) in number. EmeMinet Emahoy Hannah Maryam O Wenwhyte, hereinafter referred to as EmeMinet of Bete St. Maryam and St. Kiristos Semra Denagl Tebabat Ethiopian Orthodox Church Monastery, Fl. Inc., who shall be a permanent life long President of the Board of Trustees, by virtue of her status as EmeMinet and founder of this Corporation. - The additional Trustees consisting of two or more persons is to be selected by the EmeMinet from among the qualified English speaking Emahoys / Nun Mother's, Monks, Priests or Ethiopian Orthodox Kiristian Women. - The EmeMinet shall also be Trustee of this Corporation and the EmeMinet and such other persons shall together constitute the Board of Trustees thereof.

The Trustees are to serve as the initial Board of Trustees of this corporation for the first year or until their successors are selected according to the rules and regulation of the Synodical Committee for the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church Monasteries, in the manner provided from time to time by the By-Laws, rules and regulations of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church. The Trustees of Bete St. Maryam and St. Kiristos Semra Denagl Tebabat Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church Monastery Inc.,

shall exercise their powers in accordance with the rules, statues, and regulations as set forth in the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia By-Laws for monasteries and churches. Provided, however, that no act or proceeding of the Trustees of this Corporation shall be valid without the approval of the Eme Minet, of the Monastery, or in case of her absence or inability to act, without the approval of His Holiness The Patriarch of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

ARTICLE XIII - INITIAL TRUSTEE'S . . . . . . . . . . . . ADDRESS

1. Whyte, Princess / Emahoy Hannah Maryam

President of the Board of Trustees of

Bete St. Maryam and St. Kiristos Semra Denagl Tebabat

Ethiopian Orthodox Church Monastery, Fl. Inc.

3020 NE 41\$T Terrace, # 333

Homestead, Florida 33033

2. Gday, Aba Yemane Brhan

Director/Priest

3020 NE 41st Terrace, # 333

Homestead, Florida 33033

3. Ordonez, Genesis Seble Wengl

Megabit ~ Treasurer

3020 NE 41st Terrace, # 333 Homestead, Florida 33033

**ARTICLE XIV - REGISTERED AGENT** 

The name and address of the initial registered agent is:

PW- Emahoy Hannah Maryam, of Bete St. Maryam and St. Kiristos Semra

Denagl Tebabat, Ethiopian Orthodox Church Monastery, Fl. Inc.

3020 NE 41ST Terrace, # 333, Homestead, Florida, 33033

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Registered Agent PW- Emahoy Hannah Maryam	Date	:	<del></del>
Having been named as registered agent to accept ser corporation at the place designated in this certificate appointment as registered agent and agree to act in t	, I am familiar w		
ARTICLE XV - INITIAL INCORPORATOR The name and address of the Incorporator is: Princess I.A.	4 E What I I		
The name and address of the Incorporator is: Princess J N Maryam Owenwhyte of Bete St. Maryam and St. Kiristos S Tewahedo Church Monastery, Fl. Inc. 3020 NE 41 <sup>ST</sup> Territoria.	Semra Denagl Tak	abot Ethionia- O-1	1
Required Signature of Incorporator PWhyte - Emahoy Hannah Maryam Owenwhyte		Date	in the second
I submit this document and affirm that the facts stated here information submitted in a document to the Department of provided for in s.817.155, F.S.		•	
EFFECTIVE DATE:			
These Articles of Incorporation were executed on this	day of	20	
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