

CURRENT  
AFFAIRS  
YOUTH &  
GENDER  
ISSUES

# THE TRUTH UNVEILED

# FREEMASONRY

RELIGION  
ECONOMICS  
POLITICS

ANALYZING - RESEARCHING - INFORMING - UNITING

THE CITIZEN

Monday November 14 1977

## Lodge for Coloureds

TWO Coloured Freemason lodges are to be admitted to the hitherto all-White Grand Lodge of South Africa.

Johannesburg former Grand Master Mr Eddie Conradie said yesterday the Department of Community Development had given the green light to the Free Masons to make the two South African Coloured lodges — Phoenix of Kimberley and Perseverance of Cape Town — full members of the Grand Lodge of South Africa.

The Coloured lodges have about 50 members and were chartered by the Grand Lodge Prince Hall of Pennsylvania — a lodge generally unrecognized in South African Freemasonry.

**Freemasonry** is a fraternal organization that arose from obscure origins in the late 16th to early 17th century. The origins and early development of Freemasonry are a matter of some debate and conjecture. A poem known as the "Religious Manuscript" has been dated to approximately 1390 and is the oldest known Masonic text. There is evidence to suggest that there were Masonic lodges in existence in Scotland as early as the late 16th century (for example the Lodge at Kilwinning, Scotland, has records that date to the late 16th century, and is mentioned in the Second Schaw Statutes (1599). Freemasonry now exists in various forms all over the world, with a membership estimated at around six million, including approximately 150,000 under the jurisdictions of the Grand Lodge of Scotland and Grand Lodge of Ireland, over a quarter of a million under the jurisdiction of the United Grand Lodge of England and just under two million in the United States.

The fraternity is administratively organized into independent Grand Lodges or sometimes Orients, each of which governs its own jurisdiction, which consists of subordinate (or *constituent*) Lodges. There are also

appendant bodies, which are organizations related to the main branch of Freemasonry, but with their own independent administration.

**Most Lodges** consist of Freemasons living or working within a given town or neighborhood. Other Lodges are composed of Masons with a particular shared interest, profession or background. There are also specialists Lodges of Research, with membership drawn from Master Masons only, with interests in Masonic Research (of history, philosophy, etc.). Lodges of Research are fully warranted but, generally, do not initiate new candidates. Lodges of Instruction in UGLE may be warranted by any ordinary Lodge for the learning and rehearsal of Masonic Ritual. Freemasons correctly meet *as* a Lodge, not *in* a Lodge, the word "Lodge" referring more to the people assembled than the place of assembly. However, in common usage, Masonic premises are often referred to as "Lodges". Masonic buildings are also sometimes called "Temples" ("of Philosophy and the Arts"). In many countries, *Masonic Centre* or *Hall* has replaced *Temple* to avoid arousing prejudice and suspicion. Several different Lodges, as well as other Masonic or non-Masonic organizations, often use the same premises at different times. After the American Revolution, independent U.S. Grand Lodges formed themselves within each state. Some thought was briefly given to organizing an over-arching "Grand Lodge of the United States," with George Washington (who was a member of a Virginian lodge) as the first Grand Master. In 1775, an African-American named Prince Hall was initiated into an Irish Constitution military Lodge then in Boston, Massachusetts, along with fourteen other African-Americans, all of

whom were free-born. There are a growing number of both Prince Hall Lodges and non-Prince Hall Lodges that have ethnically diverse membership.

There is no degree in Freemasonry higher than that of **Master Mason, the Third Degree**. There are, however, a number of organizations that require being a Master Mason as a prerequisite for membership. These bodies have no authority over the Craft.

These orders or degrees may be described as additional or *appendant*, and often provide a further perspective on some of the allegorical, moral and philosophical content of Freemasonry. Appendant bodies are administered separately from Craft Grand Lodges but are styled *Masonic* since every member must be a Mason.

### **Ritual, symbolism, and morality**

Masons conduct their meetings using a ritualized format. There is no single Masonic ritual, and each jurisdiction is free to set (or not set) its own ritual. However, there are similarities that exist among jurisdictions. For example, all Masonic ritual makes use of the architectural symbolism of the tools of the medieval *operative* stonemason.



The Square and Compasses carved into stone. Two of the principal symbolic tools always found in a Lodge are the *square* and *compasses*. Some Lodges and rituals explain these tools as lessons in conduct: for example, that Masons should "square their actions by the square of virtue" and to learn to "circumscribe their desires and keep their passions within due bounds toward all mankind." There is no one accepted meaning, and no one person "speaks" for the whole of Freemasonry.

### **Signs, grips and words**

Freemasons use *signs* (gestures), *grips* or *tokens* (handshakes) and *words* to gain admission to meetings and identify legitimate visitors.

### **Membership and religion**

Freemasonry explicitly and openly states that it is neither a religion nor a substitute for one. "There is no separate Masonic God", nor a separate proper name for a deity in any branch of Freemasonry. Regular Freemasonry requires that its candidates believe in a *Supreme Being*, or a non-dogmatic Supreme Being or The Ultimate Cosmic Oneness – along with Western atheistic idealism and agnosticism. Thus the interpretation of this term is subject to the conscience of the candidate. Consequently, Freemasonry accepts men from a range of faiths, including (but not limited to) Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, and Sikhism. As a result, Freemasonry uses *Volume of the Sacred Law* (VSL) as a generic term for a religious book. As UGLE-based Freemasonry also requires that a VSL be present on the Altar, many Lodges have multiple VSLs available, and a candidate can be obligated on his book of choice. The form of Freemasonry most common in Scandinavia, known as the Swedish Rite, accepts only Christians. Since the adoption of Anderson's constitution in 1723, it has been accepted as fact by regular Masons that only men can be made Masons. Most Grand Lodges do not admit women because they believe it would violate the ancient Landmarks.

## Christianity and Freemasonry

The denomination with the longest history of objection to Freemasonry is the Roman Catholic Church. The objections raised by the Roman Catholic Church are based on the allegation that Masonry teaches a naturalistic deistic religion which is in conflict with Church doctrine. A number of Papal pronouncements have been issued against Freemasonry. The first was Pope Clement XII's *In Eminenti*, 28 April 1738 to the 1917 Code of Canon Law explicitly declaring that joining Freemasonry entailed automatic excommunication. The 1917 Code of Canon Law also forbade books friendly to Freemasonry. In 1983, the Church issued a new Code of Canon Law. Unlike its predecessor, it did not explicitly name Masonic orders among the secret societies it condemns. In contrast to Catholic allegations of rationalism and naturalism, Protestant objections are more likely to be based on allegations of mysticism, occultism, and even Satanism. Since the founding of Freemasonry, many Bishops of the Church of England have been Freemasons, such as Archbishop Geoffrey Fisher.

## Islam and Freemasonry

Many Islamic anti-Masonic arguments are closely tied to both Anti-Semitism and Anti-Zionism, though other criticisms are made such as linking Freemasonry to Dajjal. Some Muslim anti-Masons argue that Freemasonry promotes the interests of the Jews around the world and that one of its aims is to rebuild the Temple of Solomon in Jerusalem after destroying the Al-Aqsa Mosque. Many countries with a significant Muslim population do not allow Masonic establishments within their jurisdictions. However, countries such as Turkey and Morocco have established Grand Lodges, while in countries such as Malaysia and Lebanon there are District Grand Lodges operating under a warrant from an established Grand Lodge. In Pakistan in 1972 Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, then Prime Minister of Pakistan, placed a ban on Freemasonry and confiscated all the literature.

Under Saddam Hussein, the death penalty was "prescribed" for those who "promote or acclaim Zionist principles, including freemasonry, or who associate [themselves] with Zionist organizations." With the fall of the Saddam government in 2003, a number of Lodges have begun to meet on military bases within Iraq. These lodges primarily cater to British and American military units, but a few have initiated Iraqis. Several Grand Lodges have expressed a desire to charter Lodges with completely Iraqi membership in the near future.

## Political opposition

Much of the political opposition to Freemasonry is based upon the idea that Masonry will foment (or sometimes prevent) rebellion. In 1799 English Freemasonry almost came to a halt due to Parliamentary proclamation. In the wake of the French Revolution, the *Unlawful Societies Act, 1799* banned any meetings of groups that required their members to take an oath or obligation. Freemasonry in the United States faced political pressure following the disappearance of William Morgan in 1826. Reports of the "Morgan Affair," together with opposition to Jacksonian democracy (Andrew Jackson was a prominent Mason) helped fuel an Anti-Masonic movement, culminating in the formation of a short lived Anti-Masonic Party which fielded candidates for the Presidential elections of 1828 and 1832. In Italy, Freemasonry has become linked to a scandal concerning the Propaganda Due Lodge (aka P2). This lodge was chartered by the Grande Oriente d'Italia in 1877, as a lodge for visiting Masons unable to attend their own lodges.

THE ARGUS, WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 16 1977

### Freemasons 'open' ranks

THE Freemasons, formerly a whites-only organisation in South Africa, will initiate 40 coloured members in a ritual ceremony in the Lodge de Goedde Hoop in Cape Town on Saturday.

The move had the backing of the Government, said Mr Reg Gessler, Cape Provincial secretary of the SA Constitution of Freemasons today. It had been endorsed by 4 000 white Freemasons.

#### LAYS

In 1975 a move had been made to admit coloured people, but because of certain laws, it would have been impossible for coloureds to become fully fledged members, said Mr Gessler.

Freemasons in South Africa total about 50 000, including Scottish, English and Irish members who fall under separate constitutions controlled by their respective grand lodges overseas.

These are sister constitutions to the Grand Lodge of South Africa.

Saturday's initiation ceremony will probably last the whole day, said Mr Gessler.

Conspiracy theorists have long associated Freemasonry with the New World Order and the Illuminati, and state that Freemasonry as an organization is either bent on world domination or already secretly in control of world politics. Even in modern democracies, Freemasonry is sometimes viewed with distrust. In the UK, Masons working in the justice system, such as judges and police officers, were from 1999 to 2009 required to disclose their membership. The policy of requiring a declaration of Masonic membership of applicants for judicial office (judges and magistrates) was ended in 2009 by Justice Secretary Jack Straw. Professor Andrew Prescott of the University of Sheffield writes: "Since at least the time of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, anti-Semitism has gone hand in hand with anti-masonry, so it is not surprising that allegations that 11 September was a Zionist plot have been accompanied by suggestions that the attacks were inspired by a Masonic world order."

**GET MORE ON FREE MASONS FROM THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE:**

<http://www.freemasonrywatch.org/>

***The MOST popular definition of Freemasonry states that it is 'a unique system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols'.***

---

Walter Rathenau, the JEWISH BANKER behind the Kaiser, writing in the German WIENER FREIE PRESSE, December 24, 1912, said: *"Three hundred men, each of who knows all the others, govern the fate of the European continent, and they elect their successor from their entourage."*

Confirmation of Rathenau's statement came twenty years later in 1931 when Jean Izoulet, a prominent member of the JEWISH ALLIANCE ISRAELITE UNIVERSELLE, wrote in his PARIS LA CAPITALAE DES RELIGIONS: *"The meaning of the history of the last century is that today 300 JEWISH FINANCIER, all Masters of Lodges, rule the world."*

**ASK FOR THE ARTICLE 'THE PRTOTOCOLS OF THE ELDERS OF ZION' WHICH SPELLS OUT THE PLAN ON HOW THE FREEMASONS WILL RULE THE WORLD.**

**Check this website out in light of the recent Norwegian massacre:**

<http://deadlinelive.info/2011/07/24/predictive-programming-captain-america-blockbuster-scripts-attack-on-norway-before-it-happens/>

---



**Islamic Interfaith Research Institute**

**Suite 1403 Nedbank House, 30 Albert (Ingcuze) Street Durban 4001**

**Phone Office: 031 3047862      E-mail: [info@iifri.com](mailto:info@iifri.com)**

**Cell: 082 876 7609      Fax: 086 504 7020**

**Our 24 Hour Call Centre No: 08611 786 11**

**Website: [www.iifri.com](http://www.iifri.com)**

---



DOC44