Preamble

We, the Graduate and Professional Students at the University of Pennsylvania, having solemnly resolved to constitute Rangoli - the South Asian Association at Penn into an organization and to secure to all its constituents:

**Representation**, at the University of Pennsylvania and the student governments and student groups associated to it;

**Advocacy**, for matters pertaining to South Asia and South Asian students;

**Programming**, social, professional and academic;

and to promote among them all

**Community**, assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity of Rangoli - the South Asian Association at Penn;

In our General Body Meeting on sixth September, 2020, do hereby adopt, enact, and give to ourselves this constitution.
Article I: NAME

I.1. The name of the organization shall be “Rangoli - the South Asian Association at Penn,” henceforth referred to as “Rangoli” or ‘pennrangoli.’

Article II: PURPOSE

II.1. The purpose of Rangoli shall be to enhance the quality of life for graduate and professional students at the University of Pennsylvania who:

a. Are citizens of South Asian countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka)

b. Self-identify as South Asian

c. Self-identify as belonging to the South Asian diaspora

d. Self-identify as allies of “South Asia” or the culture of “South Asian Subcontinent”

II.2. Rangoli shall carry out its purpose through programming, service, advocacy and providing representation.

II.3. Rangoli shall be a not-for-profit organization.

II.4. Rangoli shall not identify with any religion, institutionalized or otherwise.

II.5. Rangoli shall not identify with any political ideology or political party.

II.6. Rangoli shall not associate itself with any individual, group, or organization with a religious or political affiliation.

Article III: MEMBERSHIP AND NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

III.1. All graduate and professional students are members of Rangoli during their period of enrollment as a student at the University of Pennsylvania.
III.2. All members of Rangoli shall be treated equally in all of its activities and operations irrespective of their nationality, ethnicity, religion, language, caste, gender, sex, sexual orientation, age, physical disability, or political affiliation.

III.3. In formal capacity, Rangoli Executive Board and Standing Committees shall communicate only in English. Rangoli may host programs focussed on and provide services specific to any section of its membership.

Article IV: EXECUTIVE STRUCTURE

IV.1. A Standing Committee may be formed upon the initiative of a simple majority of the Executive Board.

IV.2. Rangoli shall have the following six Standing Committees. With the exception of the Finance Committee, any committee may be dissolved at the discretion of a simple majority of the Executive Board.

   a. The Committee on Advocacy shall be chaired by the Chair for the Committee on Advocacy and is responsible to provide policy direction and advocacy for Rangoli and its constituents.

   b. The Committee on Communications shall be chaired by the Chair for the Committee on Communications and is responsible for communication for Rangoli.

   c. The Committee on External Affairs shall be chaired by the Chair for the Committee on External Affairs and is responsible for coordinating the external affairs of Rangoli.

   d. The Committee on Facilities shall be chaired by the Chair for the Committee on Facilities and is responsible for managing the logistics for Rangoli and all of its Standing Committees.

   e. The Committee on Finance shall be chaired by the Chair for the Committee on Finance and is responsible for managing the financial affairs of Rangoli.

   f. The Committee on Social Activities shall be chaired by the Chair for the Committee on Social Activities and is responsible for coordination of social programs, cultural activities, athletic events, and community service.

IV.3. The Executive Board shall consist of the following positions:
a. President  
b. Vice-President  
c. Chair for the Committee on Advocacy  
d. Chair for the Committee on Communications  
e. Chair for the Committee on External Affairs  
f. Chair for the Committee on Facilities  
g. Chair for the Committee on Finance  
h. Chair for the Committee on Social Activities  

IV.4. The President shall provide leadership and direction to Rangoli Executive Board and the Standing Committees, and in conjunction with the Executive Board shall devise and implement annual goals and strategies for fulfilling the purpose of Rangoli.  

IV.5. The President shall delegate such responsibilities as appropriate to other members of the Executive Board.  

IV.6. If the President is unable to execute the duties of their office, the Vice President shall act as Interim President until a special election can be held at a subsequent General Body Meeting. If the Vice President is unable or unwilling to serve as Interim President, the Chair for the Committee on Finance shall serve as Interim President until the special election.  

IV.7. The Vice President shall serve as chief of staff of the Executive Board and work closely with the President on all Rangoli matters. In coordination with the President, the Vice President shall organize the agendas for the meetings of the Executive Board and the General Body Meetings. The Vice President shall coordinate the planning of special events and projects, and perform other duties as delegated by the President.  

IV.8. The Chair for the Committee on Advocacy shall provide policy direction to Rangoli Executive Board and will work towards the cause and concerns of Rangoli including but not limited to the social, cultural, and academic affairs.  

IV.9. The Chair for the Committee on Communications shall manage internal communications for Rangoli, its Executive Board and its constituents, promote the communication of information between Rangoli Executive Board and its constituents, work with school newspapers and other publications, manage the web presence and social media presence of Rangoli and monitor, screen, and disseminate all Rangoli email
Communications. They shall maintain updated information on the Rangoli website, including current contact information for all members of the Rangoli Executive Board and details of all upcoming Rangoli programming.

IV.10. The Chair for the Committee on External Affairs shall coordinate the external affairs and activities of Rangoli outside the organization including representing Rangoli Executive Board and Rangoli constituents at the University of Pennsylvania and organizations affiliated to it, especially at the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA) and its Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access, and Leadership (IDEAL) Council, alumni engagement, community outreach, service, building and maintaining relationships with other universities and organizations; and issuing statements of the positions of Rangoli on issues of significance to the welfare of its constituents.

IV.11. The Chair for the Committee on Facilities shall coordinate all logistics for Rangoli Executive Board Meetings, Rangoli General Body Meetings, and Rangoli programming. They shall record the minutes of all Executive Board Meetings and General Body Meetings, and maintain a summary of all Rangoli programming and activities. They shall manage the reservations of venues and work with vendors. They shall oversee the elections for the Executive Board and appointments to Standing Committees. They shall conduct an annual review of the Constitution. They shall work closely with the Chair for the Committee on Finance to manage the budget.

IV.12. The Chair for the Committee on Finance shall be responsible for all budget issues. They accurate and updated financial reports and records. They shall budget, allocate, and monitor funds for all Standing Committees and their activities. They shall apply for funding and financial grants on behalf of Rangoli.

IV.13. The Chair for the Committee on Social Activities shall be responsible for coordinating all Rangoli social and special events, including but not limited to cultural activities, parties, receptions, dance nights, film screenings, invited speakers, athletic events, events hosted outside the premises of the University of Pennsylvania, and any other such events that may arise. They shall work closely with the Chair for the Committee on Finance to manage the budget.
Article V: MEETINGS AND PROCEDURE

V.1. Rangoli Executive Board shall meet at least once in the months of September, October, November, February, March, and April. It shall also meet on the call of the President, by petition of a third of its Executive Board, or by petition of ten members.

V.2. The quorum for Executive Board Meetings shall exist when at least one third of its members are present. The Executive Board shall not pass any resolutions without quorum. If a seat on the Executive Board is unfilled, it shall be ignored while quorum is counted.

V.3. Executive Board Meetings shall be open to all members of the public. When a simple majority of the Executive Board votes in the affirmative, it shall meet in closed session.

V.4. General Body Meetings shall be held at least once in the fall semester and at least once in the month of April. These meetings shall be open to all graduate and professional students at the university.

Article VI: ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND TERMS

VI.1. The Executive Board for the following year shall be elected in the General Body Meeting in April by a simple majority vote. Every graduate and professional student at the university can vote.

VI.2. Any graduate or professional student may run for an Executive Board office.

VI.3. Individuals may hold only one Executive Board position concurrently, except if appointed as an interim Board member.

VI.4. In case of a vacancy, the President shall appoint a graduate or professional student at the university as an interim at their discretion and conduct elections for the vacancy in the following General Body Meeting.

VI.5. The Chair for the Committee on Facilities shall oversee the election process and conduct an annual review of election rules in conjunction with the Chair for the Committee on Advocacy.

VI.6. Appointments to the Standing Committees shall be made according to the discretion of the respective Chair.
VI.7. A member of the Executive Board or any of the Standing Committee may be removed upon a vote of five members of the Executive Board on grounds of violation of this constitution, malfeasance, misfeasance, nonfeasance, or any other grounds that the President may determine appropriate.

VI.8. No individual may serve on the Executive Board for more than three years in total, or on the same Executive Board position for more than two years consecutively, effectively starting the term following the adoption of this constitution.

Article VII: AMENDMENTS

VII.1. Any amendment to this Constitution can be made at an Executive Board Meeting and must receive two-thirds of the votes cast.