

**INFORMATION ABOUT
FREE MASONRY BROTHERHOOD**



FREE MASONRY

Free masonry is one of the world's oldest secular fraternal societies. Free masonry is an association of people with high moral and spiritual values. Members learn rules through rituals, preserving forms in which Masonic costumes and objects are used as allegorical guidelines. An important qualification for accessing and maintaining membership is the belief in the Supreme Being.

Membership is open to people of all races and religions, who fulfill this important qualification and who have a good reputation. The mission of the Union of the United Great Lodge of Serbia is to connect and strengthen the Brotherhood relations with the Lodges in the country and the world, which regularly work according to the Masonic principles and the principles of Anderson's constitution. We want to contribute to the full harmonization of the Masonic issue in Serbia, and help as patriots to the country we live in, for the benefit of all citizens.

THREE GREAT PRINCIPLES

Brotherly love - Every real free mason will show tolerance and respect for the opinions of others and will behave kindly and with understanding towards his colleagues.

Help - Free masons learn to be merciful and to care not only of themselves, but also of the community as a whole, with merciful giving, as well as voluntary efforts and deeds as individuals.

Truth - Free masons are fighting for the truth, setting high moral standards and striving to reach them in their own lives.

Free masons believe that these principles represent the way to reach higher standards in life.

FREE MASONRY AND SOCIETY

Every member should be quite clear that his membership does not in any way exempt him from fulfilling his obligations to the society in which he lives. The duty of a new member requires him to properly fulfill civil obligations; These obligations concern his private, public, business and professional life.

RESPECT OF THE LAW

Free masonry requires its members to respect the laws of every country in which they live and work.

THE PRINCIPLES OF FREE MASONRY

The principles of free masonry do not in any way interfere with the civil obligations of members, both at work, as well as in private or public life, but, on the contrary, they

should encourage them to fulfill public and private obligations. Therefore, there is no conflict of interest between the obligations of a member of the Free Masonry and his public duties. If there is any knowledge or indication of a real or potential conflict of obligations or interests, it is necessary to publish it.

From time to time it can be wise to carefully disclose membership to avoid what others wrongly think is a potential conflict or prejudice. This, however, must be the subject of an individual assessment.

USE OF MEMBERSHIP

A free mason must not use his membership to promote his or other's work, professional or personal interests. This is directly or indirectly made known several times at the beginning of a career so that no free mason can be pretended not to know it. The masonry activities of a free mason who violates this rule will be suspended or he will even be excluded.

THE FAMILY

Free masonry should not be allowed to ruin family and other relationships, taking away a member of too much time or money or eliciting the behavior that would in any way be in conflict with their interests.

CIVIL DUTIES

The civil duties of the free masons must always be above any obligation to other free masons, and any attempt to protect a free mason who acted improperly or unlawfully or allowed unfair gains for another mason, is contrary to this primary duty.

PERSONAL OR BUSINESS DAMAGES

If it is possible to prove that any personal failure or business difficulties can be attributed to the 'Masonic influence', the Masonic Authority would seriously take this fact into account, since it would be contrary to the principles of Free Masonry.

SECRECY

Like many other associations, it considers its internal activities to be a private matter of its members.

There is no secret in terms of its goals and principles, which can be read on this website.

Secrets of Freemasonry are associated with its traditional ways of identifying. Its rituals are private.

In everyday speech there is little that can not be discussed about free masonry. In the investigative process, free masons are free and proud to acknowledge their membership.

Why are the Masons secret here, when they are public people in the world?

This is a question of the development of the Masonerie itself - it developed in the world for hundreds of years in continuity, and in Serbia it had a serious break in the course of the twentieth century, and now, in some way, it entered its "adult life" since re-launching. Masonry is not a secret organization, but it had to go through the period of grafting in our environment, to the time it can stand on it's own, and to live and evolve through its membership. It is only in the last few years that Masons had become more open in the public, which means that it is not aggressive proselytism, but a tendency for the public to get a clear and correct picture of Masonry.

The Masonry has its "Secrets", but they are not conspiratorial but symbolic ones, in accordance to The Knowledge of the Master.

The most developed countries of the world have highly developed Masonic organizations whose structure goes into all segments of society by connecting people of all status and interest, which gives them a broader trust and opens the way to cooperation in many fields and in all domains of social life. These most developed countries have had multiple benefits from powerful Masonic organizations precisely because of the quality of the people who are members of the Masonic Lodge. They have succeeded in implying and generating the quality of people, which has resulted in certain synergies and cumulative forces that have led each of these nations. However, it should be clear that the Great Lodge of some states has no concept of action and an impact plan on their own country, but through the lessons people develop themselves, being more conscious of their power, and have the power to act and help their environment.

It is normal that the highest quality people in one state are also the Brothers in the Masonic Lodge - this is a historical fact and how many of the most famous Serbs in the world are the members of the Masonic organization.

Masonry does not intend to impose an obligation of secrecy on its members, but it is to the discretion of each member to expose it according to her conscience and mood.

POLICY AND PUBLIC JOBS OF FREE MASONRY

In the "Objectives and Relationships of the Craft" we openly state the position of the United Great Lodge of Serbia on matters of public interest. The corresponding articles of the Grand

Lodge Program are as follows:

3. Anyone entering the Free Masonry is, from the outset, strictly forbidden to support any act that might have a tendency to break the peace and social order; He must obey the law of the State in which he resides and must not neglect the loyalty to the constituted authority.

4. Free Masonry thus nurtures in each member a duty of loyalty and citizenship, leaving every individual the right to his own opinion on public issues. But neither in a Lodge nor at any time while in the capacity of a Freemason is not allowed to discuss personal attitudes about theological or political issues.

5. The United Great Lodge of Serbia has always systematically refused to express any opinion on foreign or domestic state policy issues, either domestically or abroad, and will not allow its name to be associated with any action, even if it was a humanitarian character, which would come into conflict with its immutable policy of distancing from all issues concerning the relationship between this or that government, or political parties, or issues that concern rival theories of power.

6. If a Free Masonry would turn away from his own time by expressing an opinion on theological or political issues, not only would it sow the seeds of discord among it's members, but would also lose the separation from the facts that are happening in society, which always enabled Free Masons a serene life.

IS THE FREE MASONRY ONLY A NEW POLITICAL LOBBY?

No doubt it is not. While Freemasons as individuals have their own political beliefs and attitudes about state policy, Free Masonry as a body will never express an attitude on these issues. Political discussions have always been forbidden at Masonic meetings.

Are there no Masonic groups involved in politics?

In other countries there are groups called Free Masonry and who are involved in politics. They are not recognized or allowed by the United Great Lodge of Serbia and other regular Great Lodge, which respect the basic principles of Free Masonry and forbid discussions on politics and religion at their meetings.

IS THE UNITED LARGE LODGE OF SERBIA INCLUDED IN POLITICS?

The United Great Lodge of Serbia is definitely not a political organization, they do not have a political program, and policy discussions are not allowed at the lodge meetings. Free Masonry naturally strives to attract those who express concern for people and have a sense of social responsibility. Therefore, there are members involved in politics at the local, national and international levels. There are also members engaged in non-profit charity organizations and other social groups.

Why does the public see the masonry among the Serbs as an antinational religion and conspiracy?

For this, the most "meritorious" are the media, poorly informed, sometimes malevolent journalists, and partly a few published, mostly translated, literature. On the other hand, the Masonic organizations had almost no active participation in public appearances and did not work on creating a "positive image" of Masonry in our country. This will probably change as the Masonry strengthens its internal structures - from which, in time, will result in an external impression of an organization that has a good intent and positive action towards the well-being of the people and the faith of its members.

The question of "Conspiracy" is more of a topic that has reached us "from the west" as a commercial form of wrong vision and some personal dissatisfaction of individuals. There is no conspiracy, nor evil intentions that really originate from the Masonic Organization. The complex theme of globalization and consumerism in which "projected" attitudes with poorly understood Masonry principles have contributed to the creation of fame. It's like a "product" brought to our market.

HOW THE MEETING OF THE LODGE GOES?

The meeting consists of several parts. As in any association, there is a certain administrative procedure - comments from the last meeting, proposing and voting for new members, discussing and voting on financial issues, the choice of clerks, news and correspondence. Then there is the ceremony of receiving new Mason and the annual appointment of the Masters and officers. The three rites for the new Mason are composed of two parts: a small drama instruction on principles and lessons learned in the Craft, followed by a lecture discussing the different duties of the candidate.

IS THIS RITUAL OUT OF PLACE IN A MODERN SOCIETY?

No. A ritual is a shared experience that connects members. The use of drama, allegory and symbolism impresses principles and learning more firmly in the consciousness of each candidate than the transmission of prosaic modern language.

WHY DO YOU WEAR REGALIA?

Wearing the regalia has historical and symbolic significance and, like a uniform, it should point to the rank of members in the organization, but it also has a special symbolism that has its meaning.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO BE A FREE MASON?

When entering, the fee for initiation and apron is paid. The member pays the annual membership fee, which covers his membership and administrative expenses for the work of the lodge. The usual meal after the meeting; his expenses may be included in the annual membership fee or paid each time separately. The decision on Charity grants is exclusively on each member's will, but it should not be detrimental to his other obligations. Similarly, he can become a member in as many lodges as his time and finances allow him as long as it has no detrimental effect on his family life and obligations.

QUESTION OF SECRECY OF THE BROTHERHOOD

Free Masonry is not a secret society, but logging meetings, such as meetings of many other social and professional associations, are private, open to members only.

Free masons are encouraged to openly talk about their membership, bearing in mind that they do not do it for their sake or others' benefits.

As members are sometimes subject to discrimination, which can negatively affect their employment or other aspects of their lives, some free masons understandably abstain in talks on their membership.

Like many other national organizations, United Great Lodge of Serbia does not publish a list of its members and will not reveal the names or details related to its members without their permission, but the list of members is made available at the request of public authorities.

The Constitution, Regulations and Free Masonic Objectives are available to the public.

The dates of meetings, places and rooms used by Free Masonry can easily be identified, are listed in telephone directories and in many areas they are used by the local community for activities that do not relate to Free Masonry.

The rituals and ceremonies conducted by Free Mason for the transfer of the principle of Free Masonry to new members were first presented to the public in 1723. They include traditional forms of recognition, which Free Masons basically use to prove their identity and qualifications when entering the Masonic meeting.

This includes a handshake that many write about, which today can hardly be considered a real secret; for medieval Free Masons, it was the same as the 'personal identification number', which limits access to qualified members only.

Thousands of books have been written on the subject of Free Masonry and are easily accessible to the public. Free Masonry offers speakers and press releases and allows interviews with the interest groups when needed.

ABOUT FAVORIZATION

Is a Free Mason expected to prefer Mason colleagues at the expense of others when recruiting, improving, concluding contracts, and so on?

Absolutely not. It would be an abuse of membership and subject to the disciplinary responsibility of a Mason.

When entering Free Masonry, each candidate unambiguously states that he does not expect any material gain from his membership.

At different stages during the three reception ceremonies and when he receives the certificate of the Grand Lodge on the received reception, he is strongly reminded that the attempts to obtain protection or material gain for himself or others will not be tolerated and that this is an abuse of membership.

The Constitution book, which each candidate gets, contains strict rules regarding the abuse of membership, which may result in penalties, varying between temporary suspension up to an expulsion.

IS IT CORRECT THAT THE FREE MASONS CARE ONLY FOR THEMSELVES?

It is not. From its earliest days, Free Masonry was involved in charity activities. From the very beginning, Free Masonry provided support not only to widows and orphans of the Free Masonry, but also to many other members of the community. The basic principle is solidarity, support rather than giving charity.

WHO CAN BECOME A MEMBER?

Membership is open to people of all faiths who abide by the laws, who are of good character and who recognize faith in God.

Free Masonry is a multiracial and multicultural organization. Attracts people of good will from all areas of society to their membership.

Why do people join and remain members?

People become Free Masons for various reasons, some for family tradition, others on a friend's recommendation or out of curiosity, to find out what's going on.

Those who become active members who advance in Free Masonry do it solely because they enjoy it. They enjoy the challenges and collegiality offered by Free Masonry. However, this is more than a mere enjoyment.

Participation in dramatized moral lessons and the work of the Lodge gives the member a unique opportunity to learn more about himself and encourages him to live by always striving to become a better person, not better than someone else but better than himself and so an exemplary member of society.

Every Free Mason is required to learn humility and to show it through the initiation. Then,

progressing through a series of degrees, he gets an insight into increasingly complex moral and philosophical concepts and accepts a multitude of challenges and responsibilities that are both incentive and a kind of reward.

The structure and work of the Lodge and the trail of ceremonial events, usually accompanied by social gatherings, offer members the conditions for communion, teamwork, personality development and enjoyment of the exchange of experiences.

WHAT PROMISES DO THE FREE MASONS MAKE?

The new members make a solemn promise regarding their behavior in the lodge and in society. These promises are similar to those given in court or when entering into many other organizations.

Each member also promises to keep secret the traditional method of proving that he is a Free Mason, which he will use when visiting a lodge in which he is not known.

Members also do commit that they will not use their membership for personal gain or promotion; failure to comply with this principle or lowering below the standards expected of Free Mason can lead to exclusion.

WHO CAN BE A FREE MASON?

Our fraternity has a great history, dating back more than three centuries. It is one of the oldest world secular fraternities, an association of people dealing with moral and spiritual values. Based on the three great principles of the Brotherly Love, Help and Truth, it aims to bring together people of goodwill regardless of social status and other differences.

People can think it's very difficult to become a Freemason. It's actually simple.

The basic qualification for admission is to believe in the Supreme Being. It is common for candidates to be "mature people aged 21 and over", but in certain circumstances, candidates between 18 and 21 years of age can be admitted.

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE UNITED GREAT LODGES OF SERBIA?

Please read a lot of information on this site and if you are still interested in becoming a Free Mason. We advise you to first talk with a family member, a friend or a colleague whom you already know to be a member.

But please pay attention, because in Serbia there are several parties that have declared themselves "real ancient free masonry". This is not true!

Unfortunately, "free masonry" is not legally protected as a trade mark. Everyone can buy rituals in a bookstore and establish their own Great Lodge or the Great Orient.

The United Great Lodges of Serbia is a regular Masonic body in Serbia addressed to the United

Great Lodge of England, which is the "Motherly Great Lodge" of all the regular Great Lodges in the world and the United Great Lodge of Germany that has brought us back light.

If you do not know anyone who is a member of the United Great Lodges of Serbia, please fill out and send a Receive Request. We will send your request to the Lodge of your city.

We will make an appointment with you to find out more about you and give you the opportunity to find out more about us.

A set of Lodge members will contact you to arrange a meeting. If the meeting goes with mutual satisfaction, we will ask you to fill out the admission form.

The Lodge will vote on your application for membership.

If everything goes well, the date of your reception will be determined.

BASIC PRINCIPLES

from the Constitution of the United Great Lodges of Serbia

1. Masonic Association is an organisation of Free People, whose origins originate from the medieval civil engineering fraternity. The basis for this is the purely ethical law, which finds its expression in the Freemason laws, and above all in the so-called: "Old duties of free masons".
2. All people, of any vocation and profession, regardless of their material status or position, as born under the same laws of nature, have equal rights in society. Therefore, Free Masons meet as Brothers, and consider their Alliance as the Brotherhood Alliance. In the same sense, they cultivate wider fraternal love towards their fellowmen in profane circles.
3. All work and life in the Alliance is based on love, truth, justice and humanity. Starting from this foundation, the Alliance conveys the mentioned virtues into a profane society:
about the means of symbolic ceremonies and customs in the Royal Art; about upbringing the sense of humanity towards the fellow man; about orderly life, family and personal;
about proper work on everything that is good, nice and useful both for the whole and for individuals.
4. The Masons respect the Great Maker of All the Worlds and tolerate everyone's faith. However, the League does not belong to any sect or dogma; therefore, it has no religious nor a church ceremonies. Every Brother is dear, whichever religion he adheres to.
5. As an open opponent to the deterrence of freedom of conscience, religion and opinion, the Masonic Alliance defends all legal means of this individual inviolability. And as a supporter of personal rights and convictions, it is also an opponent of any pressure and the prevention of religious or political convictions.

6. The Masons of Serbia love their Motherland; They are loyal and faithful to her. They consider it their duty to defend her freedom, independence and inviolability of her whole, working on supporting inner order and peace - by word, letter and work. Therefore, they can participate in every public business; but they should always be guided by Masonic principles. Because, doing so in their Fatherland, they contribute to the well-being of all humanity.

7. Lodges are quiet and closed Workshops. They do not exclude mutual information on religious, political and social issues, but always within the boundaries of the Masonic principles. However, personal self-determination outside the Lodge is free.

8. The Masonic Alliance receives the free people of good reputation and driven by the desire to nurture virtues and morals in society. It does not distinguish either their nationality, their political beliefs, or their civic status. But it does not allow propagation into membership, but gives the required information at the discretion only if it finds that one of the interested parties would be a worthy member of the great Masonic Family.

9. The history of Masonry, Masonic principles and Masonic goals are no secret. But the existing internal rituals and the established signs of recognition are forbidden to disclose.

10. The Masons are obliged to be faithful and loyal to the laws of their Lodge. They guard its inviolability from anyone who does not belong to the Alliance; defending Masonic interests and avoiding discussing Masonic issues in profane circles.

11. Masons are willing to, in accordance with existing regulations, withdraw from the Alliance whenever they find it appropriate.

Family life among the Masonians, as well as the attitude towards the Masonic families, even toward the profane circles, is nurtured on the highest moral basis, and is considered a holy place.

GOALS AND RELATIONSHIPS OF THE CRAFT

1. The first requirement for admission and membership in the Order is belief in the Supreme Being. This issue is essential and does not recognize compromise.
2. The Bible, which Free Masons call the Book of the Holy Law, is always open in the lodges. Each candidate is required to make a Commitment to that book, or to a book that in his religion gives holiness to the oath or promise made to it.
3. Anyone entering the Free Masonry is, from the outset, strictly forbidden to support any act that might have a tendency to break the peace and social order; he must obey the law of the State in which he resides and must not neglect the loyalty of the constituted authority.
4. Free Masonry thus nurtures in each member a duty of loyalty and citizenship, leaving every individual the right to his own opinion on public issues. But neither in a Lodge nor at any time while in the capacity of a Freemason is not allowed to discuss personal attitudes about theological or political issues.
5. The United Great Lodge of Serbia has always systematically refused to express any opinion on foreign or domestic state policy issues, either domestically or abroad, and will not allow its name to be associated with any action, even if it was a humanitarian character, which would come into conflict with its immutable policy of distancing from all issues concerning the relationship between this or that government, or political parties, or issues that concern rival theories of power.
6. The United Great Lodge of Serbia completely refuses to have any relations with the bodies created as Freemason, which do not abide by the aforementioned principles.
7. The United Great Lodge of Serbia is a sovereign and independent body that exercises Free Masonry only within three levels and only within the boundaries defined in its statute as "pure Ancient Masonry". She does not recognize and does not allow the existence of any other higher Masonic authority, whatever it is shaped.
8. In the region, Europe does not have any organization in the world that unites or coordinates the work of the National Great Lodges. The United Great Lodge of Serbia will refuse to

participate in conferences with so-called International Associations claiming to be Free Masonry, whose membership and organizations do not adhere strictly to the principles on which the United Great Lodge of Serbia was founded.

9. There is no secret when it comes to the basic principles of Free Masonry. The United Grand Lodge of Serbia will always take into account the recognition of the Grand Lodges that recognize and enforce these principles.

10. If Free Masonry would turn away from its path by expressing an opinion on theological or political issues, not only would it sow seed of discord among the members, but would also lose the separation from the facts that are happening in society, which always enabled Free Masonry a serene life.

The United Great Lodges of Serbia is convinced that by strict adherence to these Objectives and Relationships Free Masonry have sustained constant changes in the doctrines of the outside world, and is further forced to point out their complete disagreement with any procedures that could permit the least deviation from the basic principles of Free Masonry . It is a strong position that if the Great Lodge does so, it can not retain the right to claim that it is a follower of the Ancient Order.

The United Great Lodges of Serbia are open for work, cooperation, communication and participation in all businesses, with all Masonic organizations that adhere to the traditional postulates of the Brotherhood, and which can contribute to the development of humanity and humanity among people and the general well-being through unselfish charity.

BASIC PRINCIPLES FOR RECOGNITION OF THE GRAND LODGE

1. Correctness of the origin: i.e. each Great Lodge is legally established by the legally recognized Grand Lodge or by three or more regularly constituted lodges.
2. That faith in the Great Creator of All the World and His revealed will be an essential qualification for membership.
3. That all beginners will be bound by an open book of the Holy Law, which implies a revelation, which is related to the conscience of a particular individual who is brought into the order.

4. That the membership in the Great Lodge and the individual Lodges will be exclusively composed of men; and that no Great Lodge will have any Master Relationships of any kind with mixed Lodges or bodies that receive women into their membership.

5. That the Great Lodge will have supreme jurisdiction over the Lodges under its control, i.e. that it will be a responsible, independent, self-governing organization with exclusive and undisputed authority over the Craft or Symbolic Degrees (Student, Assistant and Master Mason) within its jurisdiction; and in any way it will not be subject, or share its power with the Supreme Council or other Force which requires control or oversight of these degrees.

6. That the three Great Light of Free Masonry (namely, the Book of the Holy Law, the Angle and the Sixth) will always be exposed when the Great Lodge or its constellations work.

7. That the debate on religion and politics within the Lodge will be strictly forbidden.

8. That the principles of the Ancient Order, Customs, and the Use of Covenants will be strictly observed.

How many Masonic organizations today in Serbia, Montenegro and the Republic of Srpska, and how many abroad, mostly in the United States?

There are four major Masonic communities in Serbia and several smaller ones. There is one Great Lodge in Montenegro, and the Republic of Srpska has not yet established the Grand Lodge, but the Brothers are members of the Lodge in Serbia. Almost all countries in the region have one or more Masonic organizations on their territory, and many countries have dozens of Great Lodges. The United States, by its specificity, has one Great Lodge in each state, and in many there are organized and Prince Hall Grand Lodges.

Since there is no centralized Masonic World Organization there is no information about the exact number of Great Lodges in the world, but it can be assumed that there are about 150 to 200.

What are their names ?

In Serbia, there are more serious and numerous organizations "United Great Lodges of Serbia", "Regular Grand Lodge of Serbia", "Great National Lodge of Serbia", as well as the "Great Oriente of France".

How many members do the Serbian Masonic organizations have, and what is the membership profile?

The number is difficult to determine, but this Great Lodge in Serbia counts nearly seventy Workshops which range from ten to seventy members in number. It is understood that the Masons will not represent their quality by the quantity but by the kindness and honor of their members.

What is essentially patriotic, national and Orthodox function of masonry today?

The Masonry teaches its members to improve their qualities as good people and engage them for the benefit of all people in the environment - both the Brothers from the Great Lodge and the profane, to those who are not members. Among the Masonians, it is imperative to be a good parent, friend, patriot - these qualities are the basis on which personal development is based through the study of the Masonic Knowledge acquired in the Masonic Workshop environment.

This Masonic Knowledge is a symbolic understanding of the masonry tools and their conveyed meaning that every brother assimilates into their own perceptions, in the simple goal of personal development on a personal and social level.

Since the Masonry is not a religious organization, but it is a prerequisite for members to be believing people, it does not intend, nor does it have any intention of interfering with the individual beliefs of each member. None of the Masonic Constitution, nor the Constitution of any Great Lodge in the world, has religious elements in itself. The entire Masonic teaching is based on the symbols of three degrees - the disciples, the assistants and the master and their understanding of the lessons of symbolism with which they live on the acquired level.

The Masons undoubtedly love their state and their people, and since Serbia is mostly Orthodox, the logical majority of its members are Orthodox believers. Of course, "Brother is dear regardless of his faith" - good people of all religions are welcome to the Masonic organization. From this follows the general tendency of all Masonic organizations to give an example with their own work, behavior and attitudes, which will form a deep respect and function for the welfare of the people with whom it inseparably lives.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FREE MASONRY AND RELIGION

Free Masonry is not a religion, nor is it a substitute for religion. It demands from its members belief in the Supreme Being, but does not provide its own religious system.

Free Masonry is open to people of all religions. Talk about religion at its meetings is forbidden.

Supreme Being

Names used for the Supreme Being allow people of different faiths to associate in prayer (the God that each one sees) so that the terms of prayer do not cause disagreement among them. There is no special Masonic God; The God of the Free Mason remains the God of religion to which he belongs.

Free Masons commonly respect the Supreme Being, but He remains Supreme in their individual religions, and the role of Free Masonry is not to try to unite religions. Hence, there is no common Masonic God.

Book of the Holy Law

The Bible, which Free Masons calls the Book of the Holy Law, is always open at every Masonic gathering.

THE DUTY OF FREE MASONRY

For the duties taken by Free Masons, they swear or use the Book of the Holy Law, or a book they consider to be holy. These are the undertakings that help preserve the secrecy of the signs of the Recognition of Free Mason, and which follow the principles of Free Masonry.

Free Masonry compared to the religion

Free Masonry lacks the basic elements of religion:

1. It does not have a religious doctrine, and the ban on religious discussions at conferences will not allow the development of the Masonic religious doctrine.
2. It does not provide religious rituals.
3. It does not claim to lead to salvation through work, the world of knowledge, or in any other way. Secrets of Free Masonry deal with forms of comprehension, not salvation.

FREE MASONRY SUPPORTS THE RELIGION

Free Masonry is not indifferent to religion. Without interference in religious rituals, it expects each member to hold on to his own faith, and to place his duty above God, above all duties, no matter how his name is called. These moral teachings are acceptable to all religions.

What are the relations between Serbian Masonic organizations and lodges?

Since there are several Grand Lodges in Serbia that have their organizational characteristics, there is still no active cooperation among them. However, since the multiple majority of the principles and knowledge contained in each of these Masonic organizations are identical, some minimal differences are likely to fade in the near future. Although the Grand Lodges don't interfere with one another in the domain, Brothers from alliances generally know each other and in private life they are known and respected. The idea of a unified Serbian Masonry exists and the first serious step was made by the establishment of the "United Great Lodge of Serbia" formed by Lodges from all other Masonic organizations. Although there are several Masonic organizations in Serbia, a logical evolutionary trail, and even what the world expects of Mason in Serbia, is a certain form of unification that will overcome all the differences and limitations of old times. It would be said that "Only the Unity Saves the Serbs" and it seems there is a deep truth in this old folk wisdom.

Can ladies be the members of the Masonry and why can not they?

Traditionally the Masonic organization is made exclusively of men. This is not a question of discrimination and there is a logical "justification" that men are mainly engaged in masonry crafts, and the Brotherhood is made up of Brothers. Since the Masonry has made its transformation from operational to speculative, ie. since "masonry" and "construction" gave the dominant place to the intellectual learning of symbols, women slowly began to be both interested and received in special Orders that were either exclusively female or mixed in membership. This is not just a matter of Serbia, it is already a global process. If we assume that there are about 3,000,000 Masons in the world, it is very likely that there are about 200,000 female Masons.

Who leads the Women's Lodge and who is the Mixed Lodge in Serbia?

We believe that when the time comes and when the circumstances arise, if this form of Masonry, i.e. Co-Masonry has established its foundations with us, they will be able to re-establish their existence in Serbia. No Mason, nor the Great Lodge has the habit of disturbing someone else's discretion on this issue.

What is the influence of masonry on prominent intellectuals, and then on politics, state, church, and Serbian crown?

In Masonic Lodges, many publicly known and unknown people gather - Brothers. Among them there are intellectuals and politicians, business and working people - the position in society is not an essential criterion for admission to the Brotherhood of Free Masonry. Masonry does not

have a program or a plan to manage a nation or a segment of society, politics and religion are not discussed at Masonic conferences. Each Brother, in his personal responsibility, works and applies his perceptions that he has developed and formed through the Masonic Knowledge.

All the Masons are religious people and do respect their faith and the faith of other good people.

There is a "talk" among people that the Masonry aims to organize social order at its sole discretion and to create the world according to its principles, and thus it is often connected with the idea of a monarchy or "desirable" social order that would be suitable for the "conspiratorial" way.

When, in the meantime, the picture of the real nature of Masonry is looked closely, every intellectual, politician, statesman, honorable, honest and worthy man will have the understanding that he needs exactly their qualities, the nature of birth, and the freedom and blessings of Masonry, to make the world a better place, working together for the benefit of the general public.

How Serbian Masons contribute to the development of Serbia and its reputation in the world?

The Serbian Masons are in good relations with their Brothers around the world. It is impossible to show how much and what all Brothers from all the Great Lodge of Serbia did in order to bring Serbia closer to the world and for the world to have a better view of the real situation in Serbia. Very often the Grand Lodge delegations receive guests from abroad or travel to the Great Lodges abroad.

The Free Mason Brotherhood considers itself to be Universal Brotherhood and knowing all the positive attributes that result from belonging to the Masonic organization aim to achieve good relations with all the Masons around the world, it can not remain without reflection between state and social relations.

The Serbian Masons, first of all, had to demonstrate and prove that there is a positive shift in the development of Serbian consciousness and the maturation of democracy in society, which is a prerequisite for the world to observe and accept Serbia in a better and more realistic way. Masonry has a role in creating a good atmosphere of interpersonal and interstate relations, but the reputation in the world much depends on non-Masons.

What should never be forgotten, to remain unspoken, is the fact that humanitarian work, assistance to sick people, fellow citizens, children, all forms of humanitarian activity are the most important forms of contribution that the Brothers Masons want to be valued and consider that this, above all else, reflects to others our ability and quality that the world should recognize in us.