



UR-Constitution of O.T.O.

An IVxiii ☉ in ♀

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Issued by Order: UR-Areopagus



Preamble

"We are the UR-ORDER, the UR-OTO, the Primal Current of Ultimate Power, Heart of Baphomet full with the Original Fire...

We are No-Order, we deny all Order, we take no orders, we order the orderers and re-order our Chaos in the Phantasmagoria of Will Perfected...

We deny your labels and label your denial, but above all, we Work the Work and we take no shite from petty dictators hiding behind flimsy scraps of paper. Weak-willed maniacs running in terror of their own delusions need not apply. Do not come to us with expectations, for you will NOT be satisfied...

This is our Holy Guarantee, our Bond, and a Great Curse upon all who enter here with Hope in their heart...

For their Heaven is our hell, and our Hell is beyond their understanding."

As far as it can be commonly understood, UR-OTO is concerned with friendship or, using a special word for this, Amicitia. From its activities one may discover much of its character and aims.

It means bringing together several Traditions or OTO Lineages, all of them united under the bonds of Amicitia. No more 'one-and-only-OTO' dictatorships, no ONE-School of Magick... just a group of Lodge-Masters or Mistresses having their own traditions, rituals, and temples. The idea is to bring all these Lodges and systems together, so that we all can learn from each other, at least tolerating the other's rituals.

UR-OTO does not ask WHY certain groups call themselves OTO; if they do so, it is their natural right — and time and growing contacts will show whether they use that name just as a fake or whether they are true and serious. Time will inevitably show it.

UR-OTO is from one perspective no order of its own; it is something like a meeting point for orders with the name OTO. As such, how could UR-OTO purport to teach? Yet more so to initiate! How could UR-OTO perform any rituals at all? It seemingly could not, since it is a Confederation of Independent Lodges — and it is the Lodges that perform the rituals; that after all is what they are made for!

Yet UR-OTO also Charters Independent Lodges, and thereby sponsors Initiation; and UR-OTO aims to prepare individuals by Initiating, Passing, and Raising — that they may pass on into the realms of the

Secret Doctrines of Hermetic Science...

And one of the subsidiary aims of UR-OTO includes the work of a School of Hermetic Science, and thus does it also teach! Is this not an enigma, wrapped up in a riddle, described as a parable for the sake of Amicitia? UR-OTO is intentionally ambiguous, and thrives on the creativity that stems from a life without stifling labels. It is unique unto itself; it is UR.

Maybe UR-OTO has a tendency towards becoming something like a worldwide 'Grand Lodge' for OTO-bodies within some years — may be; only the future will show. As Grand Lodge (if accepted by a certain number of OTO-groups), UR-OTO may have the right to give Charters according to certain OTO-systems. However this is futurist fiction just for now. It is mentioned only because some do have thoughts in that direction.

Even today, UR-OTO is tending to be accepted as a leading authority concerning OTO.

To many, UR-OTO is a Vision! Something they have been dreaming of since they noticed that there was not even just one group pretending to be the true OTO!

But UR-OTO is not only a vision, it is also a chance. The chance of meeting brothers and sisters from many different bodies in the spirit of true friendship.

Our common bond has always been a dream of Amicitia under whatever name...

This has held together the many traditions. Yet the living experience has historically fallen so far short of this ideal — and for many the dream turned sour.

So many claims, so much politics, such egos demanding recognition that theirs was the one, the only, the truest way. In recent years it reached the lowest ebb; and our Dream became the nightmare of those petty tyrants — for at such times there is always an opportunity for change... for someone to say "Enough!" and to make a difference.

This was the genesis of UR-OTO... a return to the simple, to the pure and heartfelt current, to the Origins.

Article 1

Section 1

Under the style and title UNITED RITES of the Ancient Order of Oriental Templars, several Lodges emanating from the former Ordo Templi Orientis reorganized and constituted a CONFEDERATION — where the adopted Rites are mutually recognized and worked in a true spirit of Respect. This confederation is an International Organization and is hereafter referred to as UR-OTO.

Article 2

Section 1

The UR-OTO declares the essential Holiness of all Things is a fact in Nature.

Section 2

The principal purpose of UR-OTO is to manifest A.M.I.C.I.T.I.A. and to make it a living power in the Life of all Beings.

This is reflected in the adoption of the Rite of Pax Templi as the prime requirement of Order-wide practice.

Section 3

The subsidiary aims of UR-OTO are:

- To preserve, through its confederated Lodges, the Secret Doctrines of Hermetic Science.
- To support Schools, Lodges, etc. where Hermetic Science is taught.
- To further Hermetic Science by supporting advanced research into its higher mysteries — and sponsoring the presentation of this research in a common College of Hermetic Science that

provides papers, periodicals, and symposia in select subjects.

Article 3

Section 1

UR-OTO is part of the great and universal Hermetic movement that has been active in all ages.

Section 2

Organizations throughout the world adopting this Constitution, and signing the pledge form titled "Statement of Amity" — and publishing this before the Areopagus — become constituent bodies of UR-OTO upon receiving official notification of their acceptance as such.

Acceptance is provisional upon their actions and bylaws not being contrary to the letter or spirit of this Constitution. Once accepted, all such Organizations exercise full autonomy.

Section 3

Each constituent Organization shall choose none, one, two, or all three Axes of the UR-Matrix as being representative of their natural Center of Gravity, and shall announce the same to the Areopagus.

Section 4

The Central Office of UR-OTO is located in the country where the Emissary of UR-OTO is currently residing.

Article 4

Section 1

In Baphomet is vested paramount Authority concerning all matters of UR-OTO.

Section 2

The Will of Baphomet is expressed in the majority voice of the Areopagus.

Section 3

There is a Board of General Officers responsible for the welfare, management, and administration of UR-OTO. This Board consists of an Emissary and a Triumvirate, after the ideal of the Fama Fraternitatis.

Section 4

The Emissary shall act as Chief Executive Officer of the Areopagus, fulfilling the standard business duties of that role. In the Outer, the Emissary shall go by the name "UR-OTO Emissary, Baphomet XII°", and shall act as Ambassador. In the Inner, the Emissary shall assume the God-form of Baphomet, and shall further the Baphometric Mysteries on behalf of the Areopagus — towards which this Current shall be directed. All discoveries in furtherance of this Current shall be passed on to the next person to assume the Office.

In the proceedings of the Areopagus, the Emissary shall announce all results of Ambassadorial missions; and at all times he shall seek to guarantee the growth of Amicitia. If the proceedings of the Areopagus should require it, the Emissary shall act to restore due process and harmony in the interest of efficiency and productivity.

Section 5

The Triumvirate aim to take the strain off the Emissary wherever

possible, using initiative to expedite the administrative affairs of UR-OTO, while keeping an eye always to the spiritual and social welfare of the ordinary members. They act as a container for the Baphometric Current flowing through the Emissary, and broadcast this out into the Areopagus, that it may give Voice to it. They are the Watchers, and should seek to catch and contain any development — bringing it to the attention of the Areopagus in a timely and opportune fashion. In a crisis, they are the bulwark of the Organization; to the Areopagus — its most faithful servants.

Section 6

Upon assuming Office the General Officers must sign and publish their Oath of Office before the Areopagus. Thereafter, the persons filling these Offices shall serve for a period of two years or until their resignation, unless there are no fitting candidates prepared to succeed them. In which case they shall remain, and strive to sponsor such as may relieve them of their burden.

Section 7

Should any vacancy occur in the Office of Emissary, the Triumvirate shall be thereby invested with the power to perform the duties of the Office until either the return of the Emissary or — if the vacancy be permanent — until the election of a new Emissary. The election shall take place within a 49-day period.

Alone of the General Officers, the Emissary may be found anywhere in UR-OTO — in any country, and above all — in any Grade of any Rite soever. Even the newest member of the newest Lodge may become the Emissary.

If there is found none suitable, then the Office remains with the Triumvirate, in the name Cerberus XII°, and its main responsibility shall be to seek out a fitting successor to the Office of Emissary.

Section 8

Should vacancies occur within the Triumvirate, then any remaining shall carry that burden. If the vacancy is not temporary — then any

Axes (including the no-one Axis) — that have a vacancy shall hold elections within one month.

Should all of the Triumvirate be absent from Office, then the Emissary shall carry that burden. If the absence be permanent, he shall work with the Areopagus to fill the vacant Offices, holding elections within one month.

Section 9

In elections for the General Officers of UR-OTO, successors shall be chosen by a simple majority of the participating voters of the Areopagus.

Article 5

Section 1

In the event it becomes necessary, any member of the UR-Areopagus may be censured or expelled from the Areopagus by a simple majority vote of the participating voters of the Areopagus.

Article 6

Section 1

Each Lodge Master or Mistress has a seat on the Areopagus. So does each member of the Hidden Sanctuary of the UR-Gnosis — irrespective of Lodge status — for each one has the power to found a Lodge at any time.

Each Lodge Master or Mistress has the responsibility to represent the voice of his Lodge members in the Areopagus.

Section 2

The Areopagus is the sole Legislative Body of UR-OTO.

Section 3

In all proceedings, each Areopagite has one vote.

Section 4

Membership in UR-OTO demands active engagement in the affairs of UR-OTO; therefore voting is mandatory. If failure to vote should occur on three consecutive occasions without prior notification being received and accepted by the Areopagus — then suspension of voting privileges will ensue. The member will then become formally inactive until a request for reactivation is received by the Areopagus.

Section 5

Any constituent Organization within UR-OTO, or any individual Areopagite that is unrepresented or inactive in the Areopagus for more than three moons without due notification, will be suspended from the Areopagus pending investigation. Furthermore, should activity not have resumed after six Moons, and no notice having been received — then the Organization or member concerned shall no longer be considered active within the UR-Current. Should there be an application for reinstatement at any time, this will however be given full consideration.

Section 6

The Areopagus has the sole power of filling all General Offices — those defined in this Constitution, or those created for specific tasks — by appointing persons to occupy the same; and may also remove any General Officer at Will.

Article 7

Section 1

The procedure for accepting and Chartering Lodges:

- A. The local group must submit a motivated request and a signed Statement of Amity to the Areopagus. This request shall expire thirty days after it has been submitted unless it has been acted upon as specified in Article 7, Section 1, B.
- B. If he deems the local group worthy, the G.M.G. of one of the Axes listed on the group's Statement of Amity shall notify the Areopagus that he will issue the local group a Provisional Charter within seven days. If no Axis is listed on the Statement of Amity, then any of the Triumvirate may issue the Provisional Charter.
- C. The Provisional Charter is issued for the Fifth Degree of UR-OTO, expires after nine months, and is issued to the local group by simple notification in a letter or electronic message. The Provisional Charter can be revoked at any time by the G.M.G. that issued it, or by a simple majority vote of the participating Areopagites.
- D. After eight months the G.M.G. that issued the Provisional Charter will present his report on the local group to the Areopagus, along with a proposal that a vote be taken on the local group.
- E. The local group is accepted and Chartered by a simple majority vote of the participating Areopagites.
- F. Exceptional cases can be exempted from the requirements of Article 7, Section 1, A-D, by a simple majority vote of the participating Areopagites.

Section 2

- A. Any member of the Sovereign Sanctuaries of the Gnosis that are

- without the UR-Gnosis may make a personal application to the Areopagus seeking a proposer. The proposer must submit the applicant's motivated request and signed Statement of Amity to the Areopagus. This request shall expire thirty days after it has been submitted unless it has been acted upon as specified in Article 7, Section 2, B.
- B. If he deems the applicant worthy, the G.M.G. of one of the Axes listed on the applicant's Statement of Amity shall notify the Areopagus that he will issue the applicant a Provisional Charter within seven days. If no Axis is listed on the Statement of Amity, then any of the Triumvirate may issue the Provisional Charter.
 - C. The Provisional Charter is issued for the Fifth Degree of UR-OTO, expires after nine months, and is issued to the applicant by simple notification in a letter or electronic message. The Provisional Charter can be revoked at any time by the G.M.G. that issued it, or by a simple majority vote of the participating Areopagites.
 - D. After eight months the G.M.G. that issued the Provisional Charter will present his report on the applicant to the Areopagus, along with a proposal that a vote be taken on the applicant.
 - E. The applicant is accepted and Chartered by a simple majority of the participating voters of the Areopagus, enjoying thereafter-equal recognition within the UR-Sanctuary, and the title UR-Lord or UR-Lady of the Hidden Sanctuary.
 - F. Exceptional cases can be exempted from the requirements of Article 7, Section 2, A-D, by a simple majority vote of the participating Areopagites.

Section 3

Individuals seeking Initiation in UR-OTO who have no local Lodge to support them in their aspirations may apply to become members of Baphomet Lodge of UR-OTO — a Virtual Lodge of the Experimental Axis acting as a nexus for esoteric creativity, and sponsoring one-off Initiations in whichever Rite the Candidate requests. Baphomet Lodge is solely a UR-OTO construct and draws on the expertise of those

Lineages represented within UR-OTO to enable it to serve its members' needs.

It expects to spin off constituent Lodges of UR-OTO working after the fashion of the various Lineages as a natural product of its function.

Section 4

Each Lodge will make available general knowledge of its Rite, and provide a copy of its bylaws, so that all may grow in co-operation and in that harmony among differences that is the mark of maturity.

Each Lodge is encouraged to yearly provide the Areopagus with a written report of its activities for evaluation.

Each Lodge will offer hospitality and full access to its Rite to all members of the Areopagus — who will assume the mantle of Special Ambassador when visiting any Lodge — and be ready to carry glad tidings of their experiences to the Areopagus at large. All visiting members are thus emissaries representing the Areopagus as a whole.

Article 8

Section 1

Any moneys should be administered by the local Lodges; they exercise complete financial autonomy. Budgets for activities on an Order-wide level are decided upon in advance, on a case-by-case basis.

Article 9

Section 1

In order to guarantee a proper exchange between autonomous Lodges, Rose-Croix Chapters have been established — independent of geographical location but based within a common Axis of the UR-

Matrix.

Lodges with a natural attraction towards each other can in this way join forces and co-operate.

Each Lodge has the duty to have at least one senior member involved in one of the Chapters.

Article 10

Section 1

There are four Seals in use by UR-OTO:

- The Secret Seal — used by the Emissary's Office (Abraxas).
 - The Matrix Seal — used by the Triumvirate (Eye in the Triangle).
 - The Baphomet Seal — used by the Areopagus.
 - The UR-Seal — used on all Charters, and at the Lodge level.
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Article 11

Section 1

This Constitution may be amended at any time by a simple majority vote of the participating voters of the Areopagus.

Section 2

The minimum membership necessary to consider the Constitution as subsisting is three: an Emissary and two G.M.G.'s.

The minimum Quorum however is seven: constituted of the Emissary, the Triumvirate, and free men or women — for who shall the Officers

otherwise serve?

One of these other should take up the burden of acting as Principal of the College of Hermetic Science — that UR-OTO be prepared to fulfill the sacred duty of manifesting Amicitia in the outer.

So ends the UR-Constitution. May the Lodges and Individuals signing it be ready and willing to defend it — and each other — with their lives. For this is a Noble Path, and True.



“Forged in the bitter fires of derision and the torment of shattered dreams; of ideals flayed by the harsh words of realism, and laid waste by the actions of those few who saw in Fellowship only an opportunity to sate power-lust, and crush innocence beneath a heavy heel...

The Dream lives on, but stronger now, more Real, with a substance more flexible than their unbending cynicism...

Fearful to our enemies, it garlands our hearts with flaming roses, leaving us sure of the Path we tread, glorying in each hallowed step, each movement of the Sacred Dance. We have incarnated Amicitia and the Dark Towers of the Abyss tremble at our approach...”

P.Q.D. - 6th March '02 e.v.

Appendix 1

Pax Templi

"If circumstance make ye enemies outside the Lodge, then honor your obligations outside the Lodge with dignity & loyalty — yet be at peace within the Lodge lest its Work fail. This precept holds for personal and lesser, as for general and greater enmity!"

Standard Rite

(First, the Lodge is declared secure.)

M: From without it is secure, yet disturbance may come also from within. Let all show themselves true seekers after wisdom.

(All give Sign.)

S: Let the Rule of Pax Templi be proclaimed!

M: Let all present hear and respect the Rule of the Peace of the Temple. Know first that the true temple is not of bricks and mortar, but Flesh, Soul, and Spirit. Separately we are each the Temple of our Holy Guardian Angel. Jointly — when formally gathered together — we are the Temple of the Lord of the Aeon, and of the Minister of Silence. As They in Their turn are the Temple of which the Pass Word is "There is no God"; for the highest shrines are empty. As above, so below; in this our Temple, are neither lovers nor spouses; no hierarchy except that of the Lodge. We are unique, separate, and self-responsible. Let nothing be brought into these precincts that may be between you outside these boundaries, and woe unto those who disturb the peace of the Temple.

What is the Penalty if the Oath of Bread and Salt be broken?

(All give Penal Sign.)

S: Thus are we bound in the common Bond of Amicitia. Let the Work of the Lodge proceed without disturbance. With open hearts and clear minds let us transform the world one brick at a time.

Appendix 2

Statement of Amity

Preamble

There is Friendship.
There is Alliance.
There is Amity.

We unite under the Banner of Amity... why is this?

Friendship is a special thing; it often lasts a lifetime and carries us through many woes...
But it is a personal matter based on personal feelings and experiences, and cannot be codified as a set of Principles under which to unite. It cannot be signed up to and expected, though we draw much of our inspiration from it.

The "Warrior-Friend/Sister/Brother" concept brings us the ideals of the Ally and of Amity, which are set beyond purely personal concerns...
In service to common Principles.

That we take a set of Principles as our Bond makes our common unity a movement that carries beyond the lifetime of any one of us...
It becomes a greater idea than any single lifetime can encompass...
Thus Amity is a potent symbol which we express in the word
A.M.I.C.I.T.I.A.

Yet there are those who may not accept the same Principles, but do fight on a common front against a common enemy...
Here is Alliance.
Sometimes one serves best the Principles by being allied to those who, under different conditions, might even be inimical to those very Principles.

One must not then confuse Alliance with Amity.

To be in a state of Amity is to be on the same heading, steering the same course, in the same fleet. That course setting is the common Principles...

And if anyone chooses to go a different way, or to switch boats, or simply to leave the fleet...

Then that is to be respected...

But if the common Principles are not adhered to, then there is no state of Amity.

Our common Principles are set out in the UR-Constitution, and our uniting in Amicitia is expressed through signing the following statement or Charter of Amity:



Statement of Amity

In the Word A.M.I.C.I.T.I.A., and before the Universe as Witness, I, NN, sign this Charter of Amity. I declare myself in harmony with the goal of UR-OTO — which is to manifest AMICITIA and to make it a living power in the life of all Beings.

Utilizing the freedom of expression that UR-OTO guarantees between all individuals and Lodges, I will strive to assist my UR-Companions in their Work; and will defend them and our common principles at need.

Bringing my voice to unite with other Areopagites so sworn in AMICITIA — I hereby swear with neither equivocation nor mental reservation of any kind — That I will remain faithful to the True Will that is manifest in Baphomet.

In Truth, in Beauty, in Joy, in Honesty, in the Great Work,

I sign:

Name:

Lodge Representation:

Rite:

UR-Axis:

Date:



The Oath of the Emissary

I, NN, hereby accept the joyous burden of Emissary of UR-OTO.

I consecrate myself unto Baphomet.

May I be a fit vehicle of Truth and Beauty, Force and Fire; that the Will of Baphomet may make manifest the UR-Current into the World.

As the Ambassador of the Areopagus and of the Hidden Sanctuary — may my words and deeds stand the test of time — by bringing understanding and harmony to the wider community.

I swear my Oath in service to A.M.I.C.I.T.I.A. — on my Word and my Bond!

Signed:



Baphomet XII°

Date:



The Oath of the Triumvirate

I, NN, hereby accept the Office of G.M.G. of UR-OTO.

I will strive to serve the general and social welfare of my Companions, and to manage the administration of the Order to the best of my abilities.

I will work with the UR-Matrix to establish stable communications with the Areopagus, and especially so in the work of the Chapters of Rose-Croix, where diplomatic exchange is most productive.

I will invoke Baphomet — and carry that Force into my Work on behalf of the Areopagus — that they may be empowered in their turn.

May Amicitia crown my Work with gladness!

Signed:

UR-Axis:

Date:

FOOTNOTES

1) A.M.I.C.I.T.I.A,

- **A**mity
- **M**agia
- **I**nspiration
- **C**ompanionship
- **I**nclusion
- **T**ruth
- **I**ndividuality
- **A**gape

2) Pax Templi

As a guide in this matter of Pax Templi, the Standard Rite has been included as **Appendix 1**.

3) Concerning the College of Hermetic Science

At this time, the principal teaching endeavor is manifest through the umbrella organization named the College of Hermetic Science, a faculty within the Unseen University at which ALL member Lodges should seek to present at least one topic of study to an advanced level. (This is Virtual Organization broadcasting in Cyberspace.)

4) Amity Charter - Statement of Amity

This document is to be found in **Appendix 2**.

5) The UR-Axes

These three Axes of our Matrix Organization are:

- The Traditional Axis consisting primarily of the Masonic Mysteries before and after Thelema.
- The Therionic Mysteries stemming from the reception of the Book of the Law and its derivations.

- The Experimental Axis representing new and unique admixtures and novel forms of Mysteriae.

There is also an Axis beyond these standards and definitions, and it is called the No-One Axis.

6) Oaths of Office

Suggestions as to the form of these Oaths appear in **Appendix 2**.

7) Where to find this Oath of Office of the Emissary

See **Appendix 2**.

8) Concerning Voting Procedures

This is a form of proportional representation — aiming to give the Lodges representing larger numbers of members a more equable share of the vote — while allowing those Areopagites coexisting within single Lodges to maintain their voting privileges.

10) Concerning Formally Inactive Status

This is in no way to be considered an expulsion from the Areopagus.

11) Concerning the Sovereign Sanctuary

We do not seek to step on the toes of the Sovereign Sanctuaries of the Gnosis of OTO under whatever manifestation, yet we have gathered here members of no small number. Therefore, we have named this level of praxis the “Hidden Sanctuary of the UR-Gnosis” and recognized its members as Sovereign Ladies and Lords unto themselves — as is only appropriate. This august body of the IX^o may also be referred to as the Hidden Sanctuary, or simply as the UR-Sanctuary.