

LITHUANIAN CHARTER

The LITHUANIAN NATION,

strengthened by the age-long struggle for the right to live freely and independently in the land of their ancestors, strives with a united will to preserve, develop and foster its existence, language, national and state traditions, thereby fulfilling the Will of the Almighty and the vocation of a free individual for the betterment of all peoples. In the name of eternal aspirations of the Lithuanian Nation, we declare this LITHUANIAN CHARTER:

1.

A nation is the natural community of individuals. No one can be forced to sever his or her bond to a national community. Lithuanians scattered throughout the world make up one unified Lithuanian World Community.

2.

An individual has the innate right to freely profess and cultivate his or her nationality. A Lithuanian remains a Lithuanian everywhere and always. A Lithuanian shall pass on the existence of the Lithuanian Nation, preserved by previous generations, to future generations, so that it will live forever.

3.

Language is the strongest bond of a national community. The Lithuanian language is to a Lithuanian the honour of the Nation.

4.

Family is the cornerstone of a nation's existence. A Lithuanian creates a Lithuanian family.

5.

National culture is the path to international recognition and communication. By revealing the genius of a nation, national culture makes its unique contribution to the universal accomplishments of all peoples. It is the duty of every Lithuanian to create conditions for the promulgation of national culture.

6.

Nation-state is the ultimate organisation of a national community. State independence is a necessary condition for the fostering and preservation of national culture. With work, knowledge, wealth and dedication, a Lithuanian struggles to defend and preserve the independent State of Lithuania.

7.

The school is the hearth of national spirit. It is the noblest duty for every Lithuanian to support the Lithuanian school.

8.

A society is an effective channel of national culture. A Lithuanian establishes and maintains religious, cultural, youth, benevolent, professional and other Lithuanian societies.

9.

Our parents' struggles and sacrifices for the printed Lithuanian word are a testimonial obligation to all generations of the Lithuanian Nation. A Lithuanian organises and supports the printed Lithuanian word.

10.

The history of a nation is the nation's greatest teacher. A Lithuanian holds dear his or her nation's past and national customs. A Lithuanian strives to be worthy of his or her ancestors so as to leave respectful pride to his or her descendants.

11.

National solidarity is the ultimate national virtue. A Lithuanian cultivates national solidarity. All Lithuanians are equal children of the same nation, being brothers and sisters among themselves. As a symbol of national consciousness and Lithuanians' unity, every Lithuanian makes a regular national solidarity contribution.

12.

National colours of Lithuania are yellow, green, and red. The national holiday of Lithuania is 16 February. Motto of a Lithuanian is 'Lithuanians we are born, Lithuanians we must remain.'

13.

A Lithuanian is loyal to his or her country of residence. Relations between a Lithuanian and a non-Lithuanian are based on brotherly love and respect for every individual's freedom, dignity, life, health and property.