

A BILL

ENTITLED

AN ACT for the Incorporation of The Church of Haile Selassie I
and the Vesting of certain Property in the Body so Incorporated.

WHEREAS the persons hereinafter named and other persons inhabitants of this Island have been associated together under the name "The Church of Haile Selassie I" for the teaching and spread of belief in the Bible, the Moral Laws of God, the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man, and to safeguard and transmit to posterity and purity and righteousness of the precepts and teachings as taught by them.

AND WHEREAS it is expedient and desirable that a Corporate Body with perpetual succession should be created in which may be vested all the real and personal property already acquired or hereafter to be

acquired in Jamaica for and on behalf of the Church of Haile Selassie I and that the Corporate Body shall have the right to acquire, hold, deal with mortgage and dispose of all real and personal property in this Island for the purpose of The Church of Haile Selassie I and should also have such other powers as are conferred by this Act:

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BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Representatives of Jamaica, and by Authority of the same, as follows:—

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the The Church of Haile Selassie I (Incorporating and Vesting) Act, 2009.

Interpretation.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:—

“the church” means the persons for the time being associated in Jamaica under the name of The Church of Haile Selassie I;

“the Corporation” means the body incorporated by this Act.

Incorporation of the Church of Haile Selassie I.

3.—(1) The following persons, that is to say:—

Ascento Foxe—Abuna (*Overseer*)

Lael Foxe—*Priest*

Junior Anderson—*Priest*

Trevor Sharrahs—*Assistant Priest*

Winston Folkes—*Senior Levite*

George Cogheil—*Senior Levite*

Dilpi Champagnie—*Levite and Treasurer*

Patrick Morrison—*Levite and Secretary*

and their successors as may from time to time be elected for the purposes by the Church at its annual conference to hold the several offices of Abuna (*Overseer*), *Priest*, *Assistant Priest*, *Senior Levite*, *Treasurer* and *Secretary* shall be hereby declared, constituted and appointed a Corporation or Body Corporate to have continuance forever and perpetual succession by the name “The Church of Haile Selassie I” and possessed of a Corporate Seal and by that name may sue or be sued in all Courts of Jamaica.

(2) No act or proceeding of the Corporation shall be invalidated by reason of any vacancy in the body or in any of the offices mentioned in subsection (1) or by any defect in the appointment of any person to any such office.

(3) The Seal of the Corporation shall be of such design and pattern as the Corporation may from time to time determine.

(4) Upon the recording in the Island Records Office or the lodging at the Office of Titles of a Certificate under the seal of the Corporation of the appointment of any person to any of the offices mentioned in subsection (1) the person so named shall be deemed to be the holder of the office named therein until any subsequent recording or lodging of a similar certificate or the appointment of another person to such office.

(5) No deed or document purporting to be executed by the Corporation shall be of any force or validity unless it be sealed with the seal of the Corporation and signed by not less than three members of the Corporation one of whom shall be the Abuna (Overseer) for the time being of the Church.

4.—(1) All lands and hereditaments and all the goods, chattels and personal property in Jamaica which are now the legal or equitable property of the Church or are now held in trust for the purpose of the Church or are now held or possessed on behalf of the Church by officials, ministers or members of the Church or any of them are hereby transferred to and vested in the Corporation, its successors and assigns subject to all trusts, mortgages, charges, right, reservations or incumbrances (if any) affecting the same or any part thereof.

Vesting of
Property.

(2) All property real and personal in the Island of Jamaica devised or bequeathed by Will or otherwise given to the Church or to any person for the benefit of the Church shall be held by, and is hereby vested in, and shall be deemed to be, the property of the Corporation.

Power of the Corporation.

5. The Corporation shall have the following powers:—

- (a) To acquire, hold, purchase, lease, possess and enjoy any lands and hereditaments whatsoever in fee simple or leasehold or any other estate or interest therein and all property, real or personal or mixed.
- (b) To give, grant, let, charge, improve, manage, develop, exchange, lease, mortgage, sell, convey, assign, dispose of, turn to account, or otherwise deal with all or any of the property both present and future, so held or any part thereof.
- (c) To borrow, raise or secure the payment of money in such manner as may be thought fit and in particular by the issue of debenture or script charged upon all or any of the property (both present and future) held by or vested in the Corporation and to redeem and pay off such securities.
- (d) To build, operate and maintain places of worship, schools, social centres, and such other buildings and facilities as may be necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Church.
- (e) To make such regulations as it may think fit in order to carry out the purposes of this Act.

6. Nothing in this Act shall prejudice or affect the Rights of Her Majesty the Queen, Her Heirs and Successors, or of any body, politic or corporate or of any other person or persons, except such as are mentioned in this Act and those claiming by, from through or under them.

MEMORANDUM OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The object of this Bill is to constitute the holders of certain offices in the Church known as The Church of Haile Selassie I perpetual succession, with power to hold and deal with property, and to sue and be sued in its corporate name.

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