

**To be published on the website [www.dakshineswarkalitemple.org](http://www.dakshineswarkalitemple.org)**

**The Hon'ble Ex-Chief Justice Jyotirmay Bhattacharya, Chairman-cum-Special Officer**, appointed to hold election for constituting three-member Board of Trustees for management of Dakshineswar Kali Temple and Debottar Estate by order dated 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 passed by the Hon'ble Justice Sekhar B. Saraf in IA. No. GA 30 / 2021 with GA / 26 / 2019 in CS / 308 / 1872 (Balaram Das Vs. Guru Charan Biswas) after taking into consideration the suggestions received in order to meet the need of the day for holding free and fair election for constituting three-member Board of Trustees for management of Dakshineswar Kali Temple and Debottar Estate, has framed the following fresh set of Rules and Guidelines –

1. The Chairman-cum-Special Officer shall determine the voting rights and/or extent of shares of the heirs of the shebait in terms of the order of the Hon'ble High Court, after revising the last available list of shebait as updated up to 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2016.
2. For the purpose of such determination of the voting rights and/or extent of shares of the heirs of the shebait as above, the legal heirs and representatives of the deceased shebait will be invited within the date and time notified, to file his/her claim for shebaitship of Dakshineswar Kali Temple and Debottar Estate, in writing, along with evidence, viz., death certificate of the deceased shebait with proof of shebaitship of the deceased shebait (together with their own photo identity proof) in support of his/her claim to be shebait as heir of the deceased shebait.
3. The Chairman-cum-Special Officer will hold a meeting on a notified appointed date and time at the office of Dakshineswar Kali Temple and Debottar Estate, Alambazar, Kolkata-700 035 to consider such claims in terms of the Hon'ble Court's order.
4. The final voters list will be uploaded/notified thereafter.

*Jyotirmay Bhattacharya*

**Chairman cum Special Officer (Election)**  
Appointed by the Hon'ble High Court At Calcutta  
by an Order dated 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2022

5. Nominations for election of the three trustees will be sent to the Chairman-cum-Special Officer at the office of Dakshineswar Kali Temple and Debottar Estate, Alambazar, Kolkata-700 035 within the notified date and time by the Chairman-cum-Special Officer. No objection or claim for candidature will be entertained beyond the said date and time.

6. Last date for withdrawal of filed nominations will be as notified by the Chairman-cum-Special Officer.

7. (i) Any shebait willing to contest the election for being elected as a trustee has to be proposed by another shebait and seconded by any other shebait. No shebait can propose or second more than one shebait willing to contest the election as a trustee.

(ii) The shebait willing to contest the election, will have to deposit a sum of Rs.50,000/- (Rupees fifty thousand) only in cash as caution money along with his/her nomination. Deposit of such caution money will be a condition precedent for allowing him/her to contest the election.

(iii) Such caution money of the shebait not found to be eligible to contest the election will be returned on scrutiny.

(iv) Caution money of the unsuccessful candidates who will fail to secure at least 10% (ten percent) of the votes cast will be forfeited and the same will be used for the benefit of the Trust.

(v) Caution money of the successful candidates will be refunded on the day following the declaration of election result.

8. Immediately after scrutiny, the final list of candidates contesting the election will be published/notified. The Chairman-cum-Special Officer will also simultaneously approve the printing of requisite ballot papers.

9. The Chairman-cum-Special Officer will issue abridged notice in daily newspapers with full details to be uploaded/notified for holding the election

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on the date and time appointed at the office of Dakshineswar Kali Temple and Debottar Estate, Alambazar, Kolkata-700 035.

10. The procedure for election will be voting by ballot maintaining secrecy and privacy of the choice of the shebait. Each shebait/voter must carry with him/her one photo identity card which he/she may be called upon to produce to prove his/her identity, in case any doubt is raised with regard to his/her identity at the time of voting.

11. Voting through postal ballots will be also permitted for those shebait who may be unable to make themselves present physically at the voting venue to cast their vote. Any shebait wanting to cast vote through postal ballot will have to collect the ballot paper personally, on production of his/her photo identity proof or through his/her authorized representative on submission of due authorization letter with copy of photo identity proof attached, from the office of Dakshineswar Kali Temple and Debottar Estate, Alambazar, Kolkata-700 035 on the days and time to be notified by the Chairman-cum-Special Officer.

12. In case of minor shebait, right of voting can be exercised by his/her natural guardian and/or Court appointed guardian.

13. Nomination of election agents of the candidates to be intimated to the Chairman-cum-Special Officer at least 48 hours before commencement of election.

14. Duly filled in or cancelled postal ballots will be received back at the office of Dakshineswar Kali Temple and Debottar Estate, Alambazar, Kolkata-700 035, before the process of physical voting starts and within the time to be notified by the Chairman-cum-Special Officer.

15. Immediately after completion of the process of casting of ballots, the same will be counted under the direct supervision of the Chairman-cum-Special Officer in the presence of the candidates for election or their authorized representatives and the results will be recorded by the Chairman-

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cum-Special Officer under his signature. Counting of postal ballots will be made simultaneously by following the same procedure.

16. The votes cast by the shebait carry value as per stirpes in terms of the orders of the Hon'ble Calcutta High Court and the calculations of percentage of vote will be as per value recorded in the voters list.

17. Declaration of election result will be made by the Chairman-cum-Special Officer immediately after conclusion of counting of ballots. The three candidates securing the highest percentage of votes will be declared as the elected trustees.

18. Costs of the election and all ancillary costs like publication of notices in daily newspapers, travelling, stenographer, secretarial, dealing assistant, printing, etc. and as approved by the Chairman-cum-Special Officer will come out of the funds of the Dakshineswar Kali Temple and Debottar Estate.

19. The Chairman-cum-Special Officer will submit his report to the Hon'ble Court, as per the direction passed by the order dated 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2022.

20. All afore-mentioned notifications relating to the election will be published by the Chairman-cum-Special Officer on the website [www.dakshineswarkalitemple.org](http://www.dakshineswarkalitemple.org). And publication for determination of voting rights and/or extent of shares of the heirs of the shebait and election will be additionally published by the Chairman-cum-Special Officer in abridged form in the daily newspapers, 'The Telegraph' and 'Bartaman' within the time as decided by the Chairman-cum-Special Officer.

21. If any further communication is needed regarding the election, the same will be published only on the website [www.dakshineswarkalitemple.org](http://www.dakshineswarkalitemple.org) by the Chairman-cum-Special Officer.

Hon'ble Ex-Chief Justice Jyotirmay  
Bhattacharya, Chairman-cum-Special Officer  
Dakshineswar Kali Temple and Debottar  
Estate (Election – 2022)

*Jyotirmay Bhattacharya*

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08.04.2022