

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1999, No. 51

**National Honours (Most Precious Order Princely Heritage)
Regulations made by the Governor-General under section 14
of the National Honours Act No. 23 of 1998.**

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS Her Majesty The Queen in Parliament did by The National Honours Act, 1998 create and constitute, a Society of an Honour to be called by the name of The Most Precious Order of the Princely Heritage which said Act did further ordain and declare that the said Order should be governed by Regulations to be from time to time made by the Governor-General as Grand Master of the said Order; and

Recites the
National Honours
Act 1998.

WHEREAS the Grand Master of the said Most Precious Order, considering it expedient, by virtue of the National Honours Act do make the following Regulations.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the National Honours (The Most Precious Order of Princely Heritage) Regulations, 1999.

Short title.

2. The Society of Honour established under the National Honours Act shall be Styled and Distinguished in all Acts, proceedings and pleadings as "The Most Precious Order of Princely Heritage; in these regulations referred to as "The Most Precious Order".

Style and
Designation.

3. The Most Precious Order shall, in accordance with the National Honours Act, consist of the Grand Master and five grades of members, namely,

Order to consist of
Grand Master and
five grades of
members.

- (a) Grand Cross
- (b) Grand Officer
- (c) Commander
- (d) Officer
- (e) Member

4. The Governor-General shall be Grand Master of this Most Precious Order, and shall exercise the power of annulling, interpreting, explaining and augmenting these Regulations.

Governor General
to be Grand
Master

Duty of the Grand Master.

5. It is the Duty of the Grand Master to enforce due observance of the Most Precious Order Regulations.

Designation of the five grades of members.

6. The five grades of members of the Most Precious Order shall be styled and designated as follows —

- (a) Grand Cross
- (b) Grand Officer
- (c) Commander
- (d) Officer
- (e) Member

Limit of number of establishment of members.

7. (1) The Establishment of members of the Most Precious Order shall be limited in any one year and shall be limited in number as follows —

Grand Cross	1
Grand Officer	2
Commander	3
Officer	6
Member	8

(2) Non Establishment members may be appointed at the discretion of the Grand Master and such shall not affect the appointment of the number of Establishment members.

Qualifications.

8. The Persons to be admitted to the Most Precious Order shall be persons who have rendered distinguished service to Antigua and Barbuda in the field of music, arts or culture in general.

Precedence of members.

9. The Order of precedence for members of the Most Precious Order shall, in all solemn ceremonies and in all other places and assemblies whatsoever be as follows —

- (a) Members who have received the Grand Cross of the Most Precious Order shall have place and precedence immediately after Members of the Most Precious Order who have received the Grand Cross of the Most Illustrious Order of Merit;
- (b) Members who are Grand Officers of the Most Precious Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately after Grand Officers of the Most Illustrious Order of Merit;

- (c) Members who are Commanders of the Most Precious Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately after Commanders of the Most Illustrious Order of Merit;
- (d) Members who have been appointed Officers of this Most Precious Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately after Officers of the Most Illustrious Order of Merit;
- (e) Members who have been appointed members of this Most Precious Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately after members of the Most Illustrious Order of Merit.

10. The Badge of the Grand Master of this Most Precious Order shall be a representation in metal of the Royal Crown which shall be suspended by the Riband of the said Order around the neck. Insignia of Grand Master.

11. (a) The Badge and Insignia of a member who is a Grand Cross of the Most Precious Order shall comprise: Badge and Insignia of members of the five grades and Post Nominal Abbreviations.

Grade 1: Grand Cross. In Silver Gilt and Vitreous Enamels

Breast Star; Sash Badge; Miniature for Evening Wear; Full Dress Sash (102mm wide, scarlet yellow moiré with border stripes of royal blue [inner] sky blue [outer]).

BREAST STAR: An eight-pointed, brilliant cut, gilded plaque star (82mm diameter). The Insignia surmounted on the star (65mm diameter) comprises a cross of sky blue vitreous enamel, edged in chased gold at the centre of which is an encircled enamel and gold map, featuring Africa and the Caribbean set on an azure sea. At the centre of the map, in gold, is a hand holding a flaming torch symbolizing the links between Africa and the New World. A Black enamel circlet bears the inscription in gold letters "Order of Heritage" and "Antigua and Barbuda". The circlet is surmounted by the St. Edward's crown in gold and enamels symbolizing Antigua and Barbuda's status as a Constitutional monarchy. Between the arms of the cross are emerald enamelled widdy widdy bush leaves.

SASH BADGE: A cross of sky blue vitreous enamel (65mm diameter), edged in chased gold at the centre of which is an encircled enamel and gold map, featuring Africa and the Caribbean set out on an azure sea. At the centre of the map, in gold, is a hand holding a flaming torch symbolizing the links between Africa and the New World. A black enamel circlet bears the inscription in gold letters "Order of Heritage" and "Antigua and Barbuda". The circlet is surmounted by the St. Edward's crown in gold and enamels symbolizing Antigua and Barbuda's status as Constitutional monarchy. Between the arms of the cross are emerald enamelled widdy widdy bush leaves. The badge suspension comprises a frigate bird executed in gold with a white and red enamelled chest.

- (b) The post nominal abbreviation of the first grade of this Most Precious Order shall be GCH;
- (c) The Badge and Insignia of a Grand Officer of this Most Precious Order shall comprise:

Grade 2: Grand Officer. In Silver-Gilt and Vitreous Enamels:

Breast Star; Neck Badge; Miniature for Evening Wear (Neck Badge riband 44mm wide, scarlet moiré with border stripes of royal blue [inner] sky blue [outer]).

BREAST STAR: An eight-pointed, brilliant cut, gilded plaque star (82mm diameter). The insignia surmounted on the star (65mm diameter) comprises a cross of sky blue vitreous enamel, edged in chased gold at the centre of which is an encircled enamel and gold map, featuring Africa and the Caribbean set on an azure sea. At the centre of the map, in gold, is a hand holding a flaming torch symbolizing the links between Africa and the New World. A black enamel circlet bears the inscription in gold letters "Order of Heritage" and "Antigua & Barbuda". The circlet is surmounted by the St. Edward's crown in gold and enamels symbolizing Antigua and Barbuda's status as a Constitutional monarchy. Between the arms of the cross are emerald enamelled widdy widdy bush leaves.

NECK BADGE: A cross of sky blue vitreous enamel (55mm diameter), edged in chased gold at the centre of which is an encircled enamel and gold map, featuring Africa and the Caribbean set out on an azure sea. At the centre of the map, in gold, is a hand holding a flaming torch symbolizing the links between Africa and the New World. A black enamel circlet bears the inscription in gold letters "Order of Heritage" and "Antigua and Barbuda". The circlet is surmounted by the St. Edward's crown in gold and enamels symbolizing Antigua and Barbuda's status as a Constitutional monarchy. Between the arms of the cross are emerald enamelled widdy widdy bush leaves. Attached to a silver-gilt collar loop, the badge suspension comprises a frigate bird executed in gold with a white and red enamelled chest.

- (d) The post nominal abbreviation of the second grade of this Most Precious Order shall be GOH.
- (e) The Badge and Insignia of a Commander of the Most Precious Order shall comprise:

Grade 3: Commander. In Silver-Gilt and Vitreous Enamels

Neck Badge; Miniature for Evening Wear (Neck Badge riband 44mm wide, scarlet moiré with border stripes of royal blue [inner] sky blue [outer]).

NECK BADGE: A cross of sky blue vitreous enamel (55mm diameter), edged in chased gold at the centre of which is an encircled enamel and gold map, featuring Africa and the Caribbean set on an azure sea. At the centre of the map, in gold, is a hand holding a flaming torch symbolizing the links between Africa and the New World. A black enamel circlet bears the inscription in gold letters "Order of Heritage" and "Antigua and Barbuda". The circlet is surmounted by the St. Edward's crown in gold and enamels symbolizing Antigua and Barbuda's status as a Constitutional monarchy. Between the arms of the cross are emerald enamelled widdy widdy bush leaves. Attached to a silver collar loop, the badge suspension comprises a frigate bird executed in silver with a white and red enamelled chest.

- (f) The post nominal abbreviation of this third grade of this Most Precious Order shall be CH(A&B);
- (g) The Badge and Insignia of an Officer of the Most Precious Order shall comprise:

Grade 4: Officer. In Silver-Gilt and Vitreous Enamels Medal and Miniature for Evening Wear (Medal riband 32mm wide, scarlet moiré with border stripes of royal blue [inner] sky blue [outer]).

MEDAL: A cross of sky blue vitreous enamel (40mm diameter), edged in chased gold at the centre of which is an encircled enamel and gold map, featuring Africa and the Caribbean set on an azure sea. At the centre of the map, in gold, is a hand holding a flaming torch symbolizing the link between Africa and the New World. A black enamel circlet bears the inscription in gold letters "Order of Heritage" and "Antigua and Barbuda". The circlet is surmounted by the St. Edward's crown in gold and enamels symbolizing Antigua and Barbuda status as a Constitutional monarchy. Between the arms of the cross are emerald enamelled widdy widdy bush leaves. Attached to a scalloped silver riband bale, the medal suspension comprises a frigate bird executed in silver with a white and red enamelled chest.

- (h) The post nominal abbreviation of this fourth grade of the Most Precious Order shall be OH;
- (i) The Badge and Insignia of a Member of The Most Precious Order shall comprise:

Grade 5: Member. In Sterling-Gilt and Vitreous Enamels Medals and Miniature for Evening Wear (Medal riband 32mm wide, scarlet moiré with border stripes of royal blue [inner] sky blue [outer]).

MEDAL: A cross of sky blue vitreous enamel (40mm diameter), edged in chased gold at the centre of which is an encircled enamel and gold map, featuring Africa and the Caribbean set on an azure sea. At the centre of the map, in gold, is a hand holding a flaming torch symbolizing the link between Africa and the New World. A black enamel circlet bears the inscription in

gold letters "Order of Heritage" and "Antigua and Barbuda". The circlet is surmounted by the St. Edward's crown in gold and enamels symbolizing Antigua and Barbuda's status as a Constitutional monarchy. Between the arms of the cross are emerald enamelled widdy widdy bush leaves. Attached to a scalloped silver riband bale, the medal suspension comprises a frigate bird executed in silver with a white and red enamelled chest.

- (j) The post nominal abbreviation of the fifth grade of the Most Precious Order shall be MH.

12. It shall be lawful on all occasions and for the greater honour and dignity of members who have received Grand Crosses of the Most Precious Order, to bear and use Supporters to their Arms lawfully borne.

Supporters to the Arms.

13. It shall be lawful for the members of all grades of the Most Precious Order to surround their Armorial Ensigns lawfully borne with a circle of Riband of the Most Precious Order and to suspend therefrom a representation of the Badge as described in these Regulations.

Armorial Ensigns.

14. The Sealed Patterns of the Badges and Riband of the members of all five grades of this Most Precious Order shall be deposited and kept in the Chancery of the Orders and Decorations of Antigua and Barbuda.

Sealed Pattern and Drawing of Insignia.

15. (1) The Grand Master of the Most Precious Order shall, upon the recommendation of the Prime Minister, cancel and annul the appointment of any person to this Order if convicted by a court of law of any serious misdemeanour.

Cancellation and Annulment of Appointment.

(2) Any cancellation or annulment of an appointment to the Order shall be sealed with the Seal of the Order, and thereupon the name of such person shall be erased from the Register of the Order and he/she shall forthwith be requested to return the Badge and Riband of the Order to the Chancery of the Order in the Chancery of the Orders and Decorations of Antigua and Barbuda.

(3) The Grand Master may upon recommendation of the Prime Minister restore to the Order any person whose appointment may have been so cancelled and annulled.

Restoration.

Investiture.
No. 23 of 1998.

16. (1) Upon the nomination by the Honours' Committee in accordance with the National Honours Act of any person to be a member of any of the five grades of the said Most Precious Order such person shall be invested with the Insignia described in these Regulations as appropriate to his or her grade within the Order by

- (a) the Grand Master if the person is in Antigua and Barbuda;
- (b) the Ambassador or the High Commissioner of Antigua and Barbuda accredited to that country, if the person resides in any other country;
- (c) such person as the Grand Master may be pleased to appoint specially for this purpose in the name of and on behalf of the Grand Master if there is no Ambassador or High Commissioner in the country where the nominee resides.

(2) On the day of Investiture the person to be invested shall be introduced into the presence of the Grand Master, the Ambassador, the High Commissioner or the person specially appointed by the Grand Master as the case may be, attended by Antigua Herald of Arms or Barbuda Herald of Arms or other Officer deputed to be in attendance, bearing the proper insignia of the Order.

(3) The Grand Master or the Ambassador or the High Commissioner or the person specially appointed shall invest him or her with the Ensigns of the Order and shall deliver to him or her the Insignia appertaining to his or her grade within the Most Precious Order.

Warrants to
authorise
Distinguished
Persons to perform
the ceremony of
Investiture on
behalf of the Grand
Master and also to
Dispense with the
Ceremony.

17. (1) The Grand Master shall, by a Warrant under his Sign Manual counter-signed by the Chancellor of the Order or if the Office of Grand Master is vacant or the Grand Master is ill or absent or for any other reason unable to do so, by the Chancellor and sealed with the Seal of The Most Precious Order, authorise some distinguished person to perform in the name of and on behalf of the Grand Master the Ceremony of investing members of The Most Precious Order with the Insignia of the respective grades, or permit the ceremony of investiture to be dispensed with.

(2) The Grand Master or any person acting for him may, by Warrant authorise any persons invested by the Grand Master to wear the Insignia and enjoy the privileges appertaining to the degree into which the person has been admitted in as full and ample a manner as if he has been invested by the Grand Master:

Provided that, subject to such exceptions as the Grand Master may think fit, a person who has been nominated and appointed to one of the five grades of The Most Precious Order and the appointment has been approved and published officially by the Grand Master, the person shall thereupon use the customary letters after his name, denoting the appointment to this Order.

18. The Seal of this Most Precious Order shall comprise a representation of the Badge of the Order surrounded by the legend: "THE SEAL OF THE MOST PRECIOUS ORDER OF PRINCELY HERITAGE". Seal.

19. (1) The following Officers shall be appointed to this Most Precious Order — Officers.

Chancellor
Secretary General
Antigua Herald of Arms
Barbuda Herald of Arms

(2) The Officers specified in subsection (1) shall rank among each other in the above order.

20. (1) The Chancellor of the Most Precious Order shall be appointed by the Grand Master. The Chancellor.

(2) The Chancellor shall wear suspended about the neck from a Riband of the Order a Badge of a square form, representing a purse. Badge.

(3) The Chancellor may surround his Armorial Ensigns lawfully borne with a Circle of Riband of the Order and dependent therefrom a Representation of his Badge. Armorial Ensigns.

21. (1) The Chancellor shall perform the following duties — Duties of the Chancellor.

- (a) keep in his custody the Seal of the Most Precious Order which he shall affix or cause to be affixed to all regulations, and other instruments and writings of the Most Precious Order which requires to be passed under the Seal;
- (b) notify all nominations to the Most Precious Order;
- (c) prepare and countersign all instruments to which the seal of the said Most Precious Order is affixed;

- (d) transmit the commands of the Grand Master respecting the said Most Precious Order;
- (e) attend to the service of the Most Precious Order; and
- (f) perform such other duties as he may be directed by these Regulations or by the Grand Master.

(2) In the event of a vacancy in the Office of Chancellor or of the absence of the Chancellor from Antigua and Barbuda or his inability through illness or other grave cause to perform the duties and functions of his Office, the Secretary General of the Most Precious Order shall, for the period of the vacancy, absence or inability through illness or other grave cause, exercise and perform all and singular the duties and functions which appertain to the said Office of Chancellor until the pleasure of the Grand Master be known.

(3) The Chancellor shall be responsible for the Chancery of the Most Precious Order, wherein the Register of all members of the Order as well as a record of all proceedings of the Orders and Decorations of Antigua and Barbuda therewith shall be carefully deposited and preserved.

The Secretary General.

22. (1) The Secretary General of the Most Precious Order shall be appointed by the Grand Master and shall write all letters connected with the service of the Most Precious Order and shall keep a register of all members of the Order as well as a record of all proceedings connect therewith.

Badge

(2) The Secretary General shall wear a representation of crossed quill pens suspended from the Riband of the said Order round the neck if the Officer is a man or if a woman from a bow of the same.

Armorial Bearings.

(3) The Secretary General may surround his or her Armorial Ensigns lawfully borne by a Circle of the Riband of the Order with a representation of the Badge of the Secretary General dependent therefrom.

Antigua Herald of Arms.

23. (1) The Antigua Herald of Arms of the Most Precious Order shall be appointed by the Grand Master and shall assist in marshaling investitures of the Order, and in all other ways ordered by the Grand Master as conducive to the good of the Order.

Badge.

(2) The Antigua Herald of Arms shall wear his badge suspended round the neck from a Riband of the Order.

(3) The Antigua Herald of Arms may surround his Armorial Ensigns lawfully borne with a Circle of the Riband of the Order with a representation of the Badge dependent therefrom. Armorial Bearings.

24. (1) The Barbuda Herald of Arms of the Most Precious Order shall be appointed by the Grand Master and shall assist the Antigua Herald of Arms in his duties and in all other ways ordered by the Grand Master as conducive to the good of the Order. Barbuda Herald of Arms.

(2) The Barbuda Herald of Arms shall wear his badge suspended round the neck from a Riband of this Order. Badge.

(3) The Barbuda Herald of Arms may surround his Armorial Ensigns lawfully borne with a Circle of the Riband of the Order with a representation of the Badge dependent therefrom. Armorial Bearings

25. All the Officers of the Most Precious Order shall continually remain under the protection of the Grand Master and hold their respective Offices during good behaviour. Privileges of Officers.

26. (1) The drawings of the Insignia of the Grand Master of all five grades and of the Officers of the Most Precious Order, depicted and emblazoned in their proper sizes and colours shall be deposited in the Chancery of The Most Precious Order in the Chancery of Orders and Decorations of Antigua and Barbuda. Drawings and Insignia.

(2) These Regulations shall be observed and the Grand Master commands and directs that there shall be no alteration to the drawings without the approval of the Grand Master, signified by his Sign Manual and sealed with the Seal of The Most Precious Order.

27. The Grand Master hereby commands and directs that these Regulations shall be inviolably kept and observed within the Most Precious Order, reserving to himself and his successor Grand Masters of the Order the power of altering or abrogating the same, or adding thereto and explaining any particular therein, by a notification thereof sealed with the Seal of the Most Precious Order, and the alterations and explanations shall form part of these Regulations. Regulations etc. Inviolable.

28. These Regulations are deemed to have come into force on the 1st day of January, 1999. Commencement.

Made this 17th of December, 1999.

James B. Carlisle,
Governor General.

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