



Ordo Supremus Militaris Templi Hierosolymitani

- Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem -

Swiss Registration CH-660.1972999-4
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Preamble

You are receiving this as you have expressed interest in joining the Order from a country where OSMTH does not maintain an established ground presence through an affiliated national entity. Such countries are coordinated by the *Templar Distance Programme*.

The following will provide you with a general overview of steps to membership into OSMTH - from a non-affiliated country, through the *Templar Distance Programme*.

Templar Distance Programme

Membership is location-based, normally through one of the appropriate national entities (known as Grand Priorities); however much of the Asia-Pacific, Africa, and the Middle East is under the coordination of the *Distance Programme*, operating through a network of Knight-Mentors.

Contrary to popular belief OSMTH is not an elitist organisation, and welcomes people from all backgrounds; in saying that there are of course obvious qualities we seek to further the *vision* and *mission* of the Order. Membership criteria are primarily based on background: profession, expression of Christian faith, humanitarian work/aspiration, and absence of a criminal record.

Of course it is also useful to have a sponsor from the Order or recognised member of the Clergy.

OSMTH members are often drawn from academia, clergy, diplomatic corps, government, legal, medical, engineering and scientific fields, military and police, security sector, as well as the business sector. Combining our personal resources - in terms of skills, contacts, and profession - we seek to affect and influence positive change.

The *Distance Programme* path to full membership takes 18-24 months, over five stages:

1. Candidate (period during the application process);
2. Novice (mutual getting to know you and evaluation stage);
3. Sergeant (holding an initial position of delegated authority and trust);
4. Squire (nominee for investiture) and;
5. Knight (actual membership is achieved through investiture into an OSMTH Grand Priory).

Throughout your postulancy (stages 2-4) you will be guided and evaluated by a Knight-Mentor. Based on a favourable recommendation from your Knight-Mentor, you will be referred to a Grand Priory for investiture and therefore full membership as a *Templar Knight*.

Only Knights (Grand Priory members) pay an annual oblation (fee) - as a postulant your only commitment will be the time you are prepared to give to the Order and community. *Think globally, act locally.*

Should you wish to pursue membership into the Order, contact the Programme Coordinator requesting a *Petition for Postulancy*. Once the petition has been completed, return it with any supporting documentation (credentials, references etc.), and a cover letter explaining:

- why you would like to join OSMTH;
- what qualities you believe you can offer as a person;
- what you believe the Order is and;
- the relevance of a Confraternal Order in the 21st century.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.