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ABBREVIATION

DCO Faculty of PIO	Faculty of Oriental Canon Law at PIO
Decree	Decree of the Congregation for Catholic Education revising the order of studies in the Faculties and Department of Canon Law, 2 September 2002.
Institute	The Institute of Eastern Canon Law at PVP
<i>Normae...aggregatione</i>	<i>Normae de instituti theologici aggregatione</i> of 23 June 1993 by Congregation for Catholic Education
PIO	Pontifical Oriental Institute, Rome
PVP	Paurastya Vidyāpīṭham, Kottayam
SC	Apostolic Constitution <i>Sapientia Christiana</i>
SC Norms	Norms of Application of the Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education for the Correct Implementation of the Apostolic Constitution <i>Sapientia Christiana</i> of 29 April 1979

PREAMBLE

Considering the importance of specialized studies in Eastern Canon Law in the local ecclesial context and the increasing need to have trained personnel in Eparchial Tribunals and Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, as well as taking into account the nature of Paurastya Vidyāpīṭham as an Oriental Institute under the authority of the Syro-Malabar Major Archbishop and the Synod, the Institute of Eastern Canon Law was erected by the Congregation for Catholic Education on 12 December 2016. On the same date the Congregation also approved its Statutes and aggregated it to the Faculty of Oriental Canon Law of the Pontifical Oriental Institute, Rome. These Statutes seek to maintain the specific character of the Institute while remaining an integral part of the Paurastya Vidyāpīṭham, Kottayam. Therefore, the Statutes as well as the Bye-laws of the Paurastya Vidyāpīṭham are applicable also to this Institute of Eastern Canon Law except as specified below.

Chapter One

NAME, NATURE AND PURPOSE

Art. 1. Name

The name shall be “The Institute of Eastern Canon Law”, hereafter referred to as *the Institute*. Its seat is at the Pontifical Oriental Institute of Religious Studies, Paurastya Vidyāpīṭham, Kottayam 686 010, Kerala, India.

Art.2. Nature

2.1 The Institute operates as part of the PVP and is aggregated to the Faculty of Oriental Canon Law at PIO, Rome, which hereafter referred to as *DCO Faculty of PIO*.

2.2 By virtue of its aggregation, the Institute shall be under the general supervision of the DCO Faculty of PIO, Rome.

Art. 3. Purpose

This Institute is meant for the study of and research in Eastern Canon Law and has the following aims.

3.1 To promote specialization in Eastern Canon Law (SC 75).

3.2 To train personnel for the eparchial curiae and ecclesiastical tribunals.

3.3 To promote collaboration among the various ecclesiastical tribunals in India.

- 3.4 To train teachers in Eastern Canon Law and to prepare personnel of institutes of consecrated life and societies of apostolic life in order to help them in the formulation and revision of their *typica* and statutes, in their work of formation and administration.
- 3.5 To help the students to understand the meaning and implications of Canon Law in the context of the Civil Law of the country and to promote dialogue between the two legal systems.
- 3.6 To promote canonical studies in the particular laws of the Eastern Churches in India.
- 3.7 To promote research in the common canonical sources of the Eastern Churches in India as a means of promoting ecumenism.
- 3.8 To promote dialogue with experts in Civil Law and to initiate them in to the study of Canon Law.
- 3.9 To provide for the ongoing formation of the former students of the PVP as well as others in canonical issues.

Art. 4. The Collaboration between the Aggregating Faculty and the Institute

- 4.1 The Institute will try to promote close collaboration with the DCO Faculty of PIO. In order to keep the high academic quality of the Institute, it will seek the help of the said Faculty, which will assist and supervise the Institute so that the latter's academic excellence is constantly maintained (*Normae...aggregatione 4*).
- 4.2 The academic authorities, personally or through their representative, are free to visit the Institute whenever they wish, and, respecting the principle of subsidiarity, to give guidance to improve the quality of the academic life of the Institute.
- 4.3 All correspondences to the Congregation for Catholic Education, required by law, are to be sent through the DCO Faculty of PIO, with the request to forward them with its recommendations and observations.

Chapter Two GOVERNMENT

Art. 5. Authorities

5.1 The Institute functions under the authority of the Major Archbishop and the Synod of Bishops of the Syro-Malabar Church, and the Synodal Commission for the PVP (PVP Statutes art. VIII, 1 and 2) as well as the DCO Faculty of PIO.

5.2 The Major Archbishop is the Chancellor of the Institute. He can exercise his authority either personally or through his delegate (PVP Statutes art. IX, 1).

5.3 The Chairman of the Synodal Commission shall be the Vice-Chancellor of the Institute (PVP Statutes art. VIII, 2).

5.4 The academic authorities of the DCO Faculty of PIO, both personal and collegial, are *ipso iure* academic authorities of the Institute (*Normae...aggregatione* 11).

5.5 The Moderator, the Director and the Institute Council are the authorities proper to the Institute (*Normae...aggregatione* 11).

5.6 It is the competence of the Vice-Chancellor:

5.6.1 to make sure that there is sufficient number of teachers as prescribed by the law, and that they adhere to the norms and directives of the aggregating faculty pertaining to the teaching staff.

5.6.2 to make provision for replacing promptly those who have gone on leave of absence or ceased their service permanently as per the PVP Statutes (art. XXII, 1, i).

5.6.3 to sign in the first place the certificates of the students of Diploma and of Propaedeutic Courses.

Art. 6. Moderator of the Institute

6.1 The President of the PVP shall be the ex-officio Moderator of the Institute and he has the right to participate in the meetings of the Institute Council without the right to vote.

6.2 His duties are:

6.2.1 to propose to the Vice-Chancellor the names of the candidates for the office of the Director after consulting a joint session of the Syndicate of PVP and the Institute Council (PVP Statutes art. XIII, 3, i);

6.2.2 to send an annual report to the Dean of the DCO Faculty of PIO about the functioning of the Institute. This report shall deal with the current status of the Institute, programme of study for the past year, changes in the list of teachers, the number of the students in each category, the library, and the financial status. Besides, he should also send, at the beginning of the academic year, the list of students on the roll, so that they can be enrolled in the registers of the DCO Faculty of PIO;

6.2.3 to ensure that there is close collaboration between the PVP Faculty and the Institute;

6.2.4 to request the Director to convoke the Institute Council when he judges it necessary;

6.2.5 to mediate with the intention to settle the disputes among teachers, and between the teachers and students.

Art. 7. Director of the Institute

- 7.1 The Chancellor appoints the Director of the Institute. He chooses one of the names proposed by the Vice-Chancellor. The Moderator proposes names to the Vice-Chancellor.
- 7.2 The Director shall be appointed for a term of three years, which is renewable only once in succession. The appointment shall be published only after getting the confirmation from the Congregation for Catholic Education (PVP Statutes art. XIII, 3, i, v; *Normae...aggregatione* 11).
- 7.3 The Director shall have a doctorate in Eastern Canon law, and be qualified to be a permanent teacher at the Paurastya Vidyāpīṭham.
- 7.4 He shall see that the members of the teaching staff follow the approved norms and programme of studies in their courses.
- 7.5 He shall help the Moderator in the preparation of the annual report to be sent to the Dean of the DCO Faculty of PIO.
- 7.6 Together with the Moderator and the Registrar, he shall authenticate certificates of studies and diploma issued by the Institute.
- 7.7 He shall maintain relations with the Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor.
- 7.8 He shall keep the Moderator duly informed of significant events and developments of the Institute.
- 7.9 In case of emergency which, in his judgment, requires immediate action, he shall take necessary steps, if possible, with the consent of the Moderator; if not, he shall report to the latter of the action taken as soon as possible.
- 7.10 When the Director is temporarily absent or impeded, the available senior-most of the resident permanent teachers of the Institute shall act in his place.
- 7.11 He admits students to the Institute in the name of the Moderator, and he shall be available for the academic guidance of the students.
- 7.12. He shall keep the office at the stated hours.

7.13 He shall be an ex-officio member of the Councils of PVP except the Faculty Council (PVP Statutes art. XIV, 1, i, a).

7.14 He shall mediate with the intention to settle the disputes among the students.

7.15 He suspends and dismisses students, with the approval of the Moderator and in keeping with the Statutes of the PVP (art. XXVIII, 2, i).

7.16 In the ordinary administration of the Institute, after consulting the Moderator, the Director shall decide on those matters which are not reserved to others explicitly or by reason of office.

7.17 The Director does the correspondence on behalf of the Institute.

7.18 The Director represents the Institute in all legal matters.

Art. 8. The Institute Council

8.1 The norms applicable to the Faculty Council of the PVP (Statutes, art. XIV, 4, i, a-b) are binding on the Institute Council except in cases specified below.

8.2 The following are the members of the Institute Council:

8.2.1 All the permanent teachers of the Institute.

8.2.2 Two non-permanent teachers of the Institute elected for a period of one year by the non-permanent teachers.

8.2.3 One representative of the students elected for a period of one year.

8.3 The right to vote is reserved to the members of the Institute Council.

8.4 The Director convokes and presides over the meetings of the Institute Council. In addition, in extraordinary situations, the Chancellor or the Vice-Chancellor can convoke and preside over the meeting.

8.5 The Moderator is an ex-officio invitee of the Institute Council, and he shall be informed of the session in good time by the Director.

8.6 The Registrar of the PVP shall write the minutes of the meetings and keep the records (PVP Statutes art. XV, 3, i).

8.7 It is the competence of the Institute Council to propose amendments to the Statutes and By-laws, and changes in the syllabus.

8.8 The consent of the Institute Council is needed:

8.8.1 to organize congresses or symposia;

8.8.2 to start Diploma Courses other than the one specified in these Statutes;

8.8.3 to start publication of journals, periodicals and series proper to the Institute;

8.9 The Institute Council is to be consulted:

8.9.1 to propose new members to the staff;

8.9.2 to recommend the acquisition of extraordinarily expensive books in the area of law for the library.

8.10 The Director may invite experts to the meetings of the Institute Council as and when needed.

8.11 The Institute Council shall be convoked at least once in each semester, and when one third of the Council members request in writing its convocation, or when the Moderator deems it necessary.

8.12 The Institute Council has the quorum if more than half of its members are present in the meeting.

Art. 9. Officials of the Institute

9.1 The officials, namely, registrar, controller of examinations, librarian, and finance officer of the PVP shall be the same for the Institute, and they shall function according to the norms of the Statutes of the PVP artt. XV, XVI, XVII.

- 9.2 The Registrar shall keep a folder for each student in the archives of the Institute in which are to be kept the copies of all the documents which the student submitted at the time of admission, of the mark lists of all the courses which he attended, and of all other documents and remarks about him. Similarly, the Registrar shall keep a folder for each teacher in the archives of the Institute in which are to be kept the copies of all the documents which the teacher submitted at the time of appointment, a list of his publications updated yearly, and of all other documents and remarks about him.
- 9.3 The Librarian shall endeavour to develop the special section of Eastern Canon Law especially with source materials, new books and periodicals.
- 9.4 There shall be a person responsible to coordinate the publications of the Institute, appointed by the Director after having consulted the Institute Council.

Chapter Three

TEACHERS

Art. 10. Qualification, Appointment, Promotion, and Cessation

- 10.1 The qualification, appointment, promotion, duties, categories of teachers and all other matters pertaining to the teachers of the Institute shall be as per the norms in chapter four of the Statutes of the PVP. Special directives, if any, from the DCO Faculty of PIO concerning this matter shall be strictly adhered to.
- 10.2 To be legitimately appointed as a permanent teacher in the Institute, a person shall have doctorate in Canon Law and have published his doctoral dissertation and at least a few articles on Canon Law, be capable of scientific research, and demonstrate teaching ability. He shall be distinguished by wealth of knowledge, witness of life, and sense of responsibility (SC 25 n. 1, SC Norms 17).
- 10.3 The Institute shall always have a minimum number of five permanent teachers with *nihil obstat ad docendum* from the Congregation for Catholic Education (*Normae...aggregatione* 21).
- 10.4 Request for the *nihil obstat* for permanent teachers is to be sent to the Congregation for Catholic Education through the DCO Faculty of PIO.
- 10.5 The DCO Faculty of PIO should be informed of the appointment of permanent teachers in the Institute who are co-opted from other faculties or institutes of Canon Law.

- 10.6 The qualities required for the appointment of permanent teachers must be applied also, in a proportionate measure, for appointing non-permanent teachers (SC 25 n. 2).
- 10.7 In order to co-opt non-Catholic teachers, the Institute needs the permission of the Chancellor (SC Norms 18).
- 10.8 Procedure required for the promotion of a teacher to the status of associate lecturer and lecturer: The Director with the consent of the Institute Council shall appoint two teachers of Canon Law to study carefully the *curriculum vitae, studiorum et operum* of the one to be promoted. If he is found eligible, his promotion shall be discussed in the Institute Council and other competent forum as prescribed in the statutes of the PVP, article XXII, 2, vii. The result of the study and discussions, together with all the relevant documents and a copy of all his publications shall be sent to the Dean of the DCO Faculty of PIO, requesting to study the matter with a view to promote him. With the consent of the DCO Faculty of PIO, and having obtained the *nihil obstat* of the Congregation for Catholic Education, the Chancellor of the Institute shall promote him.
- 10.9 Procedure required for the promotion of a teacher to the status of associate professor and professor: The Director, with the consent of the Institute Council, shall appoint a commission of two teachers of Canon Law to study carefully the *curriculum vitae, studiorum et operum* of the one to be promoted. If he is found eligible, his promotion shall be discussed in the Institute Council and other forum as prescribed in the statutes of the PVP, article XXII, 2, vii. The result of the study and discussions, together with all the relevant documents and a copy of all his publications, since his previous promotion, shall be sent to the Dean of the DCO Faculty of PIO, requesting to study the matter with a view to promote him. With the consent of the DCO Faculty of PIO, and having

obtained the *nihil obstat* of the Congregation for Catholic Education, the Chancellor of the Institute shall promote him.

- 10.10 The teachers shall involve in serious scientific research in the field of Canon Law and publish the result of their studies.
- 10.11 The lecturers and professors, in order to carry out their tasks satisfactorily, must be free from other offices which are not compatible with their duty to do research and to teach (SC 29), and should stay relatively close to PVP.
- 10.12 Leave of absence to a lecturer or professor for a period up to one month can be granted by the Moderator. For any period longer than one month, it can be granted by the Vice-Chancellor of the PVP with the confirmation of the DCO Faculty of PIO.
- 10.13 For a permanent teacher to be withdrawn from the Institute by his Bishop or Major Superior, in addition to what is prescribed in the PVP Statutes XXII, 3, v, the permission of the DCO Faculty of PIO is needed.
- 10.14 It is in the competence of the Chancellor to take disciplinary measures against the Director in accordance with the PVP Statutes (art. IX, 5, x). He shall proceed on recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor who shall consult the Moderator, the Syndicate of the PVP and the Institute Council before recommending it. In the case of other members of the teaching staff, the norms of the Statutes of the PVP shall be followed (art. XXII, 3, viii).
- 10.15 Plagiarism in the publications of a teacher, once verified, leads to his removal from the Institute.

Chapter Four

STUDENTS

Art. 11 The norms regarding the students in chapter five of the Statutes of the PVP are applicable also to the students of the Institute except in cases specified below.

Art. 12. Categories of Students

12.1 Degree students: who aspire to the academic degree of licentiate in Eastern Canon Law conferred by the DCO Faculty of PIO.

12.2 Diploma students: who follow the courses required by the Institute in order to obtain a diploma conferred by the Institute.

12.3 Guest students: who attend any course of their choice among those offered by the Institute.

Art. 13. Requirements for Admission

13.1 Students who have a bachelor's degree in theology from an ecclesiastical faculty can be admitted to the second cycle for licentiate degree (SC 32, nn. 1-2; SC Norms 24 n.1, 2 and Decree Art.57 n. 1).

13.2 At the time of enrolment of non-Catholic students, the Director of the Institute may approve the courses which they attended in non-Catholic institutions. If he finds that some fundamental courses in their curriculum are lacking, he shall ask such students to attend those courses at the PVP during the period of their licentiate studies.

The attendance of such courses will be a requirement for their licentiate degree (SC 45).

- 13.3 Students who, besides, hold an academic degree in Civil Law, may be dispensed from some courses of the second cycle (such as Roman law and Civil Law), but shall not be exempt from the three-year study programme of the second cycle and the two-year propaedeutic course (Decree Art. 57 n. 2).
- 13.4 Those who hold a bachelor's degree, but not in theology, may be admitted to a propaedeutic course of two years comprising courses in philosophy and theology together with a preliminary course in Latin and introductory courses of Eastern Canon Law (Decree Art. 56, n.1).
- 13.5 Students who prove, if necessary through a test, that they have completed successfully the study of certain required subjects in an appropriate faculty or university, may be dispensed from those courses by the Director, respecting the prescriptions of the Congregation for Catholic Education (SC 45).
- 13.6 A student who seeks admission to diploma course should have a bachelor's degree from a recognized university (SC Norms 25, 1).
- 13.7 Guest students seeking admission should present a document showing their eligibility for university studies.
- 13.8 In individual cases, in order to supply for what is wanting in the required formation, the Director may require that the candidate take certain courses even prior to the admission as deemed necessary or opportune (SC 32 nn.1-2; SC Norms 24 n.2).
- 13.9 A degree student cannot be an ordinary student in another faculty (SC Norms 25 n.2).
- 13.10 Permission for being absent from the classes for less than one third of the courses' duration shall be sought from the Director.
- 13.11 As regards other requirements for admission article XXVI, 1 of the Statutes of the PVP will apply.

Article. 14. Academic Ethics

The dissertation of a student in which plagiarism is verified should not be accepted for defence. He may be given another chance to remedy his mistake and write a new dissertation. If he has again plagiarised, he should be dismissed and should not be re-admitted for licentiate. If his plagiarism is verified after the conferral of the licentiate degree, the DCO Faculty of PIO and his superiors shall be notified of it with a copy to be kept in the student's folder in the archives of the Institute.

Chapter Five

PROGRAMME OF STUDIES

Art. 15. The programme of studies of the licentiate shall be determined together with the DCO Faculty of PIO and approved by the Congregation for Catholic Education (*Normae...aggregatione* 10). Although the Institute offers specialisation in Eastern Canon Law, it will promote a comparative study of both Eastern and Latin laws.

Art. 16. The Courses and Exercises.

16.1 The courses are either obligatory or optional.

16.2 The principal and auxiliary courses are obligatory.

16.3 One seminar is obligatory in each year in both the propaedeutic and the second cycle.

16.4 In seminars, under the guidance of a teacher, students exercise themselves in scientific methodology and obtain a forum for group discussion to share the findings of their research.

16.5 Students who have not done basic Latin (Morphology and elementary syntax) shall do it in the first year of the second cycle (SC Norms 24 n. 3).

PROPAEDEUTIC PROGRAMME

16.6 The propaedeutic programme lasts for two years, with each year covering a number of credits suited to one year of full-time university studies. Those who complete the course successfully will be conferred an appropriate certificate by the Institute, signed by the Vice-Chancellor, the Moderator, the Director, and the Registrar. To

this programme belong the following courses (Decree Art. 56 n.1, Art. 76):

- 16.6.1 Philosophy Courses: philosophical anthropology, metaphysics, ethics.
- 16.6.2 Theology Courses: introduction to Sacred Scripture; Theology of the NT; fundamental theology; Trinitarian theology; Christology; divine grace; ecclesiology; sacramental theology; fundamental moral theology; ecumenism.
- 16.6.3 Canon Law: Introduction to the main Titles of the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches with special emphasis on Marriage and Trials.
- 16.6.4 Language: basic Latin: Morphology and elementary syntax.
- 16.6.5 Seminars: 1. Main sources of CCEO; 2. Interrelation between CIC and CCEO; 3. Different categories of *sui iuris* Churches; and 4. Ecumenical character of CCEO.

SECOND CYCLE (Decree art. 76, art. 56 n. 2)

16. 7 The second cycle, which lasts for three years, offers the following courses:

16.7.1 Principal Courses:

- 16.7.1.1 *The Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches* divided into various courses covering all the thirty titles;
- 16.7.1.2 other canonical norms in force which are common to all the Eastern Catholic Churches.

16.7.2 Auxiliary Courses:

- 16.7.2.1 Sacred canons of the first millennium
- 16.7.2.2 Juridical methodology
- 16.7.2.3 Theology of law
- 16.7.2.4 Philosophy of law

- 16.7.2.5 Introduction to Roman law
- 16.7.2.6 Introduction to Indian civil law
- 16.7.2.7 The Canonical sources of the Syro-Malabar Church
- 16.7.2.8 The sources of Eastern Canon Law
- 16.7.2.9 Indian procedural law
- 16.7.2.10 The role of tribunal officials
- 16.7.2.11 *Code of Particular Law of the Syro-Malabar Church*
- 16.7.2.12 Law in the life of the Church
- 16.7.2.13 History of codification of CCEO
- 16.7.2.14 Methodology of archival research
- 16.7.2.15 Introduction to CIC
- 16.7.2.16 Procedures in causes of saints
- 16.7.2.17 The hierarchical institutions in the Eastern Canon Law
- 16.7.2.18 Introduction to the Constitutions of India
- 16.7.2.19 Administrative decrees and recourse against them

16.7.3. Optional courses:

The programme of studies presents the following optional courses which may be replaced by others or new ones may be added at the discretion of the Institute Council. During the licentiate, each degree student shall choose as many optional courses as to obtain at least 10 credits.

- 16.7.3.1 Syro-Chaldean law
- 16.7.3.2 Canonical sources of the Syro-Malankara Church
- 16.7.3.3 Personal law in India
- 16.7.3.4 Case study on grounds for nullity of marriage
- 16.7.3. 5 Civil law and its application in Canon Law

16.7.3.6 Introduction to the ancient legal systems in India

16.7. 3.7 Islamic Law

16.7.3.8 Canon Law of the Eastern Non-Catholic Churches in India

16.7.4 With the permission of the Director, students can attend courses in the MTh section of the PVP. They will be counted as optional courses and the corresponding credits will be awarded.

16.8. Seminars:

The programme of studies presents only a few themes for seminars which may be replaced by others or new ones may be added at the discretion of the Institute Council. Each degree student shall take at least one seminar in each year of the second cycle. Students need permission from the Director to take more than two seminars a year.

16.8.1. Inculturation of canon law

16.8.2. Congregation for the Eastern Churches, *Instruction for Applying the Liturgical Prescriptions of the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches*, 1996

16.8.3 Mixed marriage and disparity of worship marriage

16.8.4 CCEO canons on pastoral administration and their application in the Syro-Malabar Church

16. 8.5 Functioning of the eparchial curia

16.8.6 The concept of Particular Law in CCEO

16.8.7 Eucharist: Canonical sources and particular law

16.8.8. Synodal and statutory sources of the Syro-Malabar law

16.9. Languages:

In addition to Latin and Syriac, which are obligatory, degree students shall choose either Sanskrit or Italian, without limiting the freedom to choose both.

16.9.1 Basic Latin: Morphology and elementary syntax

16.9.2 Basic Latin: Advanced morphology and syntax

16.9.3 Canonical Latin I

16.9.4 Canonical Latin II

16.9.5 Syriac I

16.9.6 Syriac II

16.9.7 Sanskrit (optional)

16.9.8 Italian (optional)

16.10 As for semester and final examinations, and the mode of conducting and grading them, the Statutes of the PVP shall be followed *mutatis mutandis* (artt. XXXVIII, 5; XXXIX, 6; XL-XLIII; XLIV, 2).

16.11. In order to complete the licentiate programme, students have to appear for two comprehensive examinations: one written and the other oral. The written examination will be based on the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches, and will last for four hours. The oral examination, which lasts for one hour, will cover topics from the entire *Corpus Iuris Canonici* before a panel of four examiners.

16.12. Licentiate dissertation shall be submitted to the office of the PVP before the final examinations. For a grave reason, the Director may permit a student to submit it after the said examinations.

16.13. Licentiate degree is awarded after three years of specialization in Eastern Canon Law and after completion of the prescribed requirements and submission, acceptance and defense of a dissertation.

Art. 17. Diploma Course in Ecclesiastical Tribunal Praxis (SC Norms 33)

The diploma course in ecclesiastical tribunal praxis is intended to qualify students to serve in those posts in ecclesiastical tribunals for which a degree of licentiate in Canon Law is not required. Those who have completed the course successfully will be conferred an appropriate diploma by the Institute, signed by the Vice-Chancellor, the Moderator, the Director, and the Registrar. The content of the course will be:

- 17.1 Grounds of nullity of marriage: impediments; defects of consent; lack of canonical form;
- 17.2 Trials: trials in general; discipline to be observed in tribunals; parties in a case; contentious trial; introduction of a case; hearing; discussion; definitive judgment and administrative tribunal;
- 17.3. Matrimonial process: cases concerning the declaration of nullity of marriage; cases concerning the separation of spouses; dissolution of marriage *ratum et non-consummatum*;
- 17.4. Indian civil law on marriage: Indian Christian Marriage Act; Hindu Marriage Act; Muslim Marriage Law; Indian Civil Law on personal law.

Art. 18. Amendments

- 18.1 In the amendment of these Statutes, in addition to art. 8.7 of the present Statutes and art. LVII of the Statutes of the PVP, the following will apply.
- 18.2 Amendments to these Statutes may be proposed by the Institute Council to the Moderator, who shall discuss them in the Syndicate of the PVP and, with the observations of the Syndicate, send them to the DCO Faculty of PIO for its approval. With the Faculty's approval, they shall be sent first to the Synod of Bishops of the Syro-Malabar Church for its approval, and then to the Congregation for Catholic Education for the final approval (*Normae...aggregatione* 11).