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## **Constitution of India Art 26 - Freedom to manage religious affairs**

Subject to public order, morality and health, every religious denomination or any section thereof shall have the right—

(a) to establish and maintain institutions for religious and charitable purposes;

(b) to manage its own affairs in matters of religion;

(c) to own and acquire movable and immovable property; and

(d) to administer such property in accordance with law.

### NOTES

**Right to Practice Religion**—Religious practice is an integral part of religion. *Tilkayat Shri Govindlalji Maharaj v. State of Rajasthan*, AIR 1963 SC 1638.

**Nature & Scope**—Article 26 does not bar the State from acquiring lands belonging to religious denominations. *Khajamian Wakf Estates v. State of Madras*, (1970) 3 SCC 894.

**Assessment of Land**—Mere imposition of assessment of land held by a religious denomination institution cannot attract the right guaranteed under Article 26. *Govt. of T.N. v. Ahobila Matam*, (1987) 1 SCC 38.