



12 June 2026

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE WITHIN ENGLAND AND WALES

The Supreme Council for England and Wales has recently become aware of a group of Brazilian freemasons calling themselves the 'Brazilian Rite' or 'Rito Brasileiro', first established in Brazil in 1914 and re-established in 1968. Our understanding is that this Rite is considered regular in Brazil, where it is recognised by (and/or in amity with) the Grand Orient of Brazil and the Supreme Council for Brazil of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

However, a group of freemasons claims to have established the Brazilian Rite **within England & Wales** in September 2025. The Supreme Council understands that this group purports to confer degrees within a 33-degree system, arranged into Chapters (4°–18°), Councils (19°–30°) and higher degrees (31°–33°). Of particular concern, the 18° is called 'Cavaleiro Rosa-Cruz ou da Perfeição' (Knight Rose Croix, or of Perfection) and the 30° 'Kadosh'. On the face of it, therefore, this appears to be clearly imitative of regular freemasonry already established in this jurisdiction, and to be an encroachment on the undisputed rights of this Supreme Council to administer the higher degrees within England & Wales.

Under the Rules of the Order, any member having aided, assisted or been present at the conferring of one of these degrees may therefore be guilty of masonic misconduct. Moreover, the very existence of this imitative system within our jurisdiction could easily lead members of the Order, or other UGLE freemasons, to confuse that group (established in 2025) with our regular Order (established in 1845), and thereby inadvertently find themselves subject to disciplinary proceedings and potential expulsion.

The Supreme Council notes also that the members of the Rito Brasileiro have never informed the regular masonic structures here that they were intending to set themselves up within this masonic jurisdiction, let alone sought consent to do so, all of which we consider to be unmasonic behaviour.

The Council therefore wishes all members of the Order to be aware that it deems the Rito Brasileiro to be irregular insofar as it operates within this jurisdiction (notwithstanding its regularity or otherwise in Brazil or elsewhere) and, further, that any member associating with it will be liable to disciplinary proceedings and possible expulsion from the Order.

By Order of the Supreme Council.

Dr G R E Shilson OBE 33°
Grand Secretary General H.:E.: