



**R**IAN CÉILI  
É





IN AINM AN TI AS ÀIRDE - GUN TOISEACH  
GUN ERIOCH - AN TI SIORAIDH



## IMMANAIRE

- THE FIRST OBEDIENCE IS TO THE CHRIST WITHIN.
- THE SECOND OBEDIENCE IS TO THE ANAM CHARA, WHOSE DUTY IS TO TEACH AND GUIDE THE AONARAN AND TO MEDIATE THE CHRIST WITHIN WHEN THE AONARAN FEELS FAR FROM ITS PRESENCE.

THIS RULE TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER ALL OTHER RULES. UNTIL ONE IS ABLE TO LIVE BY THIS RULE ALONE, HERE IS THE RULE OF THE CO-BHANN -

# RIAN CO-BHANN -

⊕ UPON BETROTHAL, A CÉILE DÉ SHALL RENOUNCE THE THINGS OF DEATH, HE SHALL TAKE HIMSELF INTO THE TERMIONN FOR ALL OF HIS DAYS, SO THAT HE MAY SEEK THE GRACE AND SKILL TO WALK THE WAY OF CLAN BETHAD AND TO DISCERN AND DISSOLVE THE WAYS OF SEALE.

⊕ TO EACH CÉILE DÉ AN ANAM CHARA OF HIS OWN SOUL'S CAREFUL CHOOSING.

⊕ TRÀTH ARE TO TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER ALL THINGS, EXCEPT IN CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE THE HEART PROMPTS THE CÉILE DÉ TO SERVE THE GREATER NEED OF THE MOMENT.. HOURS OF THE TRÀTH ARE SET BY THE AIRCHINNECH.

THE TRÀTH ARE -

- ⊕ ADHRADH-MAIDNE
- ⊕ ÀIRD AN LÀTHA
- ⊕ CILL-CHRÍDHE
- ⊕ ERÍOCH

⊕ THE VOWS ARE TO BE SPOKEN ANEW TO THE THREE WORLDS UPON EVERY NEW MOON

⊕ FOUR PROFITABLE THINGS IN THE DAY - DEVOTION, LABOUR, STUDY AND WATCHING.

⊕ A CÉILE DÉ SHALL PRAY WITHOUT CEASING. EITHER THE HEART-PRAYER OR FÓNN SHALL FILL THE HEART AT ALL TIMES. IF PRAYER IS NOT CHANTED OUTWARDLY, WORDLESS PRAYER SHALL LIVE SILENTLY WITHIN THE CELL OF THE HEART.

⊕ ABSTAIN FROM ALL SPEECH UNLESS IT BE MADE IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE PRESENCE. IN THIS WAY ANY HARSH, CRUEL SPEECH, UNTRUTH, GOSSIP OR HYPERBOLE CANNOT BE UTTERED WITHOUT PAIN BEING FELT IN THE HEART. IF A CÉILE DÉ BECOMES AWARE THAT SHE HAS SPOKEN OR ACTED CARELESSLY, SHE SHOULD SAY, "ARCO FUIN" AND IMMEDIATELY AND OPENLY MAKE AMENDS.

⊕ "IMMANAIRE" IS TO BE SPOKEN BEFORE THE OPENING AND CLOSING OF ANY CONVERSATION BETWEEN CÉILÍ DÉ.

 Sleep only when TIRED.

⊕ EAT ONLY WHEN HUNGRY.

⊕ TAKE CARE THAT YOUR HEARTS ARE NOT WEIGHED DOWN WITH EXCESS. OVERINDULGENCE IN ALL THINGS IS TO BE AVOIDED. PARTICULARLY EAT AND DRINK ALCOHOL WITH AWARENESS AND PAY HEED TO THE WAY BODILY EXCESS FLOWS OVER INTO THE SOUL AND POLLUTES IT.

⊕ ALL FOOD IS TO BE BLESSED DURING AND AFTER PREPARATION. PRAYER IS TO PRECEDE ALL MEALS.


⊕ UNLESS CONDITIONS ARE UNFAVOURABLE TO DO SO, A CÉILE DÉ SHOULD FAST ON EVERY FRIDAY, UNLESS THAT DAY BE A FEAST DAY, WHEN FASTING WILL BE EXCUSED.

⊕ WHEN A CÉILE DÉ IS A GUEST IN THE HOME OF ANOTHER, HE WILL EAT WHATEVER MANNER OF FOOD IS PUT BEFORE HIM.

**A** NEW ANRUTH WILL TAKE A SOLEMN VOW TO FOLLOW THIS RULE FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS. THIS AND ALL OTHER MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE ANRUTH ARE OPEN TO RECONSIDERATION AT THE DISCRETION OF THE ANAM CHARA OR THE AIRCHINNECH. UPON COMPLETION OF THE ANNURUTHSHIP, THOSE CALLED TO THE RULE FOR LIFE WILL TAKE A SOLEMN VOW TO FOLLOW THIS RULE AND RECEIVE THE DEATH, REBIRTH AND BETROTHAL CEREMONY THAT IS FULL PROFESSION INTO THE ORDER OF CÉILÍ DÉ.

**T**HOSE WHO ARE UNMARRIED IN THE WORLD UPON THE ONSET OF THEIR ANNURUTHSHIP WILL REMAIN CELIBATE. THOSE THAT ARE MARRIED MAY CHOSE CELIBACY IF PROMPTED FROM WITHIN. IF THEY SEPARATE, THEY WILL NOT REMARRY.

⊕ EACH CÉILE DÉ IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HER OWN MATERIAL WELFARE, BUT SHOULD WORK IN THE WORLD ONLY AS MUCH AS IS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE FOR HER NEEDS. CHOSEN WORK MUST NOT BE IN CONFLICT WITH THE SPIRITUAL ETHOS OF CÉILE DÉ AND MUST NOT CONFLICT WITH THE NEEDS OF THE CONTEMPLATIVE LIFE AND OF THE ORDER. AN AONARAN SHOULD NOT WORK FOR GROSS MATERIAL GAIN. ANY PROFIT MUST BE GIVEN FOR THE COMMUNAL USE OF THE ORDER OR TO OTHERS IN NEED.

 CLOTHING IS TO BE MODEST AT ALL TIMES. CLOTHING WITH INTENT IS ALSO PRAYER, BUT HOW ONE DRESSES IS NOT AS IMPORTANT AS WHAT ONE THINKS, SAYS OR DOES. WHEN IT IS IMPRACTICAL, THE BAN TLACHT NEED NOT BE WORN. BUT THE BAN TLACHT WILL BE WORN AT ALL OTHER TIMES THE BAN TLACHT IS :-

1. A ROBE OF WHITE WOOL IN WINTER AND LINEN IN SUMMER.
2. A SGABALL OF GREEN WOOL, WHEN NEEDED.
3. A COAT OF BROWN WOOL AND LINEN IN SUMMER.
4. STRONG BROWN SHOES AND SANDALS.

⊕ A PAIDIREAN IS TO BE WORN AT ALL TIMES.

**S**hould an Aonaran feel called to seek out a life of solitude, he must first satisfy both his Anam Chara and the Airchinnech that it would benefit the growth of his soul to do so -and that his desire is not rooted in having difficulties with others.

⊕ A Céile Dé may seek out another Anam Chara from within the Co-Bhann. But only upon obtaining leave from her Anam Chara.

⊕ Upon obtaining leave from the Airchinnech, a Céile Dé may seek entry into another Muinntir.

**S**trife and bearing of ill will must not persistently affect the harmony of the Muinntir. If a disharmony persists between certain people, one person should take the other aside so that they may speak quietly together about what hurts in their hearts. If they seem unable to reconcile their problem, they must seek the help of a mediator of their choosing.

⊕ Should mediation fail, it must be taken to the level of arbitration by the Airchinnech.

⊕ IF AN AONARAN HAS BEEN REPROVED FREQUENTLY BY HIS ANAM CHARA FOR ANY FAULT AND YET DOES NOT AMEND, HE MUST, AT THE SOLE DISCRETION OF HIS ANAM CHARA, BE GIVEN A CLEAR WARNING. IF THE FAULT PERSISTS, ANOTHER WARNING WILL BE GIVEN. IF, AFTER A THIRD WARNING IS GIVEN, THERE IS NO CHANGE IN THE AONARAN, THEN HE WILL, AT THE DISCRETION OF HIS ANAM CHARA AND THE AIRCHINNECH, BE FINALLY SENT OUT OF THE ORDER.

⊕ IF AN AONARAN LEAVES THE ORDER, BUT THEN WISHES TO RETURN, SHE MUST FIRST PROMISE TO MAKE FULL AMENDS FOR LEAVING. IF SHE LEAVES AGAIN, OR EVEN A THIRD TIME, SHE SHOULD BE READMITTED. AFTER THIS, HOWEVER, SHE MUST UNDERSTAND THAT SHE WILL BE DENIED ALL PROSPECT OF RETURN.

**W**E MUST BE READY TO FORGIVE EACH OTHER'S STUMBLING. WE MUST BE SENSITIVE TO EACH OTHER'S WEAKNESSES AND, WITHOUT ENCOURAGING THEM, GIVE AID WHEN WE CAN.

⊕ IT SHOULD SEEM AS THOUGH EACH CÉILE DÉ IS ENGAGED IN SECRET COMPETITION, TO BEST ANTICIPATE THE NEEDS AND CARES OF THEIR BROTHERS AND SISTERS, EVEN BEFORE THEIR OWN. BUT ALL OTHER RIVALRY WITHIN THE CÉILÍ DÉ IS TO BE AVOIDED.

⊕ LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR AS YOUR SELF.

⊕ LOVE GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND ALL YOUR STRENGTH.

⊕ THE MEASURE OF PRAYER SHALL BE UNTIL YOUR TEARS COME.

⊕ THE MEASURE OF LOVE SHALL BE UNTIL YOUR HEART BREAKS.

⊕ YOU SHALL COMMEND YOUR BODY, SOUL AND SPIRIT TO THE VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE ALL-ONE.

## IMMANAIRE



MAR A BHA - MAR A THA -  
MAR A BHITHEAS - GU BRÀTH  
RI TRÀGHADH - 'S RI LIONADH  
MOLADH DO DHIA...



## Glossary of Gaelic terms, in alphabetical order

### AḌHRADḌH~MADḌNE

- Morning worship

### AIRCHINNECH

- *Old Irish* - Head of a monastic community A gender-free word.

### ÀIRDḌ AN LÀTHA

- Noon.  
*Lit. the height of the day*

### AN AINM AN TI AS ÀIRDḌE - GUN TOISEACH GUN ERIOCH - AN TI SIORAIDḌH.

- In the name of the highest Being/Intent – Without beginning, without end, the Eternal Being/Intent.

### ANAM~CHARA

- Spiritual Mentor.  
*Lit. Soul Friend*

### ANRUTH

- Old Irish. Novice.  
*Lit. Little Stream*

### AḌNARAN

- A Céile Dé Order member, living under vows. As such it is interchangeable with the term Céile Dé. It is also used specifically by the Céile Dé to indicate a Monk, which for us is a gender-free term.  
*Lit. a Solitary.*

### BAN TLACHT

- Old Irish - The rough white habit of a Céile Dé.  
*Lit. White Garment.*

## CÉILE DÉ, CÉILI DÉ (pl)

- Old Irish. Spouse, companion or servant of God. (Modern Scots Gaelic would actually say *Cèilechean Dhè* – But, for some reason the Irish term has always been retained in Scotland and didn't change with the times, as the two forms of Gaelic became increasingly distinct, There is also, of course, the common anglicised term – *Culdee...* which perhaps arose out of the Scots Gaelic word – *Culdich* (hermit).. These days it has also become common in Scotland to use the singular (Céile Dé) and plural (Céili Dé) versions interchangeably.)

## CELL-CHRÍOHE

- Evening worship.  
*Lit. The cell of the heart*

## CLAN BETHAD

- Old Irish. An epithet name the Céile Dé have used since ancient times. Indicative of the initiation into a New Life.  
*Lit. Children of Life*

## CO-BHANN

- The *Paruchia* of Céile Dé. The federation of monasteries who share the same founder, or *Érlam* and the same Rule. Co-bhann is interchangeable in this rule with the word "Order".  
*Lit. Sharing the same Keystone. Bound together*

## CRÍOCH

- Evening worship.  
*Lit. Close/Finish.*

## ERCO FUIN

- Old Irish – I beg Pardon.

## IMMANAIRE

- *Old Irish* – May it be for good.

MAR A BHA - MAR A THA - MAR A BHITHEAS  
~ GU BRÀTH ~ RI TRÀGHADH ~ S RI LIONADH  
...MOLADH DO DHIA...

- As it was - as it is - as it shall be – forevermore – with the ebb and with the Flow. Praise to You, Oh God.

## MUINNTEIR

- The Spiritual Community of Céili Dé, including Aonaran as well as lay brothers and sisters (*muinntireach* - who have their own adapted rule)  
*Lit. People of the Land.*

## PAIDIREAN

- Ancient Celtic form of prayer beads used by the Céili Dé.

## RIAN

- Code of conduct. Method.

## SEAILÉ

- Old Irish. Meaning illusion, reflection and shadow. A very modern concept, and yet recognised by the ancients... That which is illusory and leads us from the Path of Life is simultaneously hiding in the shadows and reflected by us onto everything we see.

## SGABALL

- Scapular. Ankle length, shoulder-wide length of wool, worn over the Ban Tlacht.

## TERMONN

- Old Gaelic. The monastic enclosure, both physically and metaphysically. Akin to the Buddhist notion of “taking Refuge”  
*Lit. Sanctuary*

## TRÀTH

- Times of prayer.