

Code of Ethics for Ananda Raja Yoga Teachers

The Code of Ethics for Ananda Raja Yoga teachers is based on the following guidelines:

- Living daily the practices you teach
- Respecting God in each student, and maintaining a professional relationship with them
- Presenting the teachings with a dignity worthy of their high standards
- Teaching as Paramhansa Yogananda has instructed and as you have learned from the Ananda Yoga Academy.
- When you have questions concerning the teachings, referring them to the Director or teachers of the Raja Yoga School, or to the Spiritual Director of Ananda Sangha Institute of Self-realization.

As an Ananda Raja Yoga teacher or instructor, I recognize that it is **my responsibility and privilege** to support the physical, mental, and spiritual welfare of my students, and to uphold the dignity and integrity of the yoga teachings. Therefore I agree to abide by the following ethical code:

Relationships with Students

In recognition of the trust placed in me by my students, I agree to:

- Show only the highest regard for my students' personal beliefs and values
- Offer my services of teaching yoga to all persons, regardless of sex, race, color, ancestry, religious creed, national origin, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, age, marital status, sexual orientation, or political affiliation—to the extent I am competent to offer such services, based on my training and experience
- Avoid any action that I know will conflict with the highest interests of my students.
- Avoid taking unfair advantage of students financially, sexually, romantically, or otherwise
- Refrain from initiating a romantic or sexual relationship with a current student, even if invited by the student.

Professional Conduct

In conducting my teaching practice, I will:

- Offer only those services that I am competent to provide
- Not attempt to diagnose a student's physical or psychological condition, prescribe a treatment, or suggest or approve of going against a physician's advice
- Take continuing education in yoga teaching on a regular basis
- Be honest, straightforward, fair, and conscientious in all business dealings
- Manage my business finances according to accepted business and accounting practice.

Advertising

In brochures, advertising, and other descriptions of my services (including verbal), I will:

- Make no exaggerated claims as to the benefits of yoga practice or my classes
- Represent my training, qualifications, abilities, and affiliations accurately and unambiguously
- Not falsely imply sponsorship by, representation of, or endorsement by any organization (including Ananda).

I understand that any reports of my breaching this code will be fairly investigated by the Ananda Yoga Ethics Team, and that it could lead to revocation of my Ananda Yoga Teacher certification.

I have read and understood this code of ethics and hereby agree to honor its provisions:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print name: _____

For issues concerning yoga teacher ethics, contact anyone on the *Ananda Yoga Ethics Team* (Seva Devi Ena, Jayadev Jaerschky, Shivani Lucki, Kirtani Stickney)