

*An International Association dedicated to the propagation of Iyengar Yoga*



Photo by Michael Noche

**T**he first Iyengar Yoga Teachers' Association ever created was the (now defunct) BKS Iyengar Yoga Teachers' Association of Great Britain, established in 1977. (Great Britain is now serviced by the Iyengar Yoga Association of the United Kingdom). Similar associations now exist all over the world. The larger and more formal ones are located in Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Israel, Japan, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland and the USA. There is a host of groupings large and small, formal and informal, all over the world.

Although all the above groupings and Associations are busy transmitting Sri BKS Iyengar's teachings to their respective communities, surprisingly, they have very little contact with each other. In order to help these groups foster contact and so better benefit from each others' wisdom and experience, a series of meetings has been arranged. These will take place during the Yogacharya Festival. Delegates and Representatives have been invited from all over the world to participate in discussions. One topic will be the desirability of forming an International Association for Iyengar Yoga to help look after affairs of mutual interest but that are not always easily dealt with by one Association acting independently in its own country. An International Association could make information on teacher training, workshops, professional development and, in particular, information about the Iyengars readily available and on a truly global basis. But a principal benefit would be the ability to present a properly professional face to the world on the many aspects of yoga and yoga teaching. With its global reach, an International Associations would be better placed to help its members, both as both individuals and associations, develop to their fullest potentials.

All certified Iyengar yoga teachers from all around the word who are in good standing with their National Associations are invited to attend the proposed meetings which will be held in the afternoons form July 9th to 12th. (The times of the meetings are tentatively scheduled for between 1 and 3:30 pm).

In addition to that general invitation, invitations have been issued to a specified number of Delegates and Representatives from all over the world. These Invited Guests will be representing all the countries in which certified Iyengar teachers are known to be practicing and teaching. Stipends to cover travel costs have been offered to these Invited Guests and arrangements have also been made for their accommodations.

**We honor our founder BKS Iyengar**  
His genius will always be our guiding light.

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The Yogacharya Festival Committee is proud and honored to have been able to invite: four representatives from the UK Association; three representatives each from the USA, Australia, Italy, Canada, Germany, South Africa, France, Spain, The Netherlands and New Zealand; two representatives each from a selection of medium-sized Associations; and one representative from each of the very smallest Associations. Where certified teachers exist but there is currently no Association, the longest-standing qualified teacher has been invited to represent that region. These Invited Guests will form the nucleus of those who will be mainly responsible for discussing the desirability and implications of an International Association for Iyengar Yoga. If the sense of the meeting desires it then they will take the matter further. Further information about the proposed International Association can be found at: <http://www.iyengarinternational.org>.