

STATUTES of the ASSOCIATION
INTERNATIONAL SRI DEEP MADHAVANANDA ASHRAM FELLOWSHIP
(International Yoga-Vedanta-Fellowship)

§ 1

Name, Seat and Activity

- (1) The Association is called "International Sri Deep Madhavananda Ashram Fellowship" ("International Yoga-Vedanta-Fellowship") - hereinafter referred to as "Fellowship".
- (2) It has its seat in Vienna, Austria, and extends its activity mainly but not exclusively to Austria.
- (3) The establishment of branch associations is intended.
- (4) The Fellowship is not for profit. It exclusively and directly pursues charitable and benevolent purposes within the meaning of §§ 34ff of the Federal Tax Code.

§ 2

Aims and Objectives

The Fellowship, whose activity is directed towards charitable and social objectives and not profit, aims to promote the general public through promotion of

- physical, mental, social and spiritual health,
- tolerance, respect and understanding among all religions, cultures and nations,
- world peace, humanitarian aid and human rights,
- the protection of the environment and all living beings,
- the teaching and dissemination of science and philosophy and the methods of yoga.

§ 3

Means of Achieving the Aims and Objectives

- (1) The purpose of the Fellowship shall be achieved by the ideal and material means listed in sub-paragraph 2 and 3.
- (2) Ideal means are:
 - a) Study, practice and teaching of the "Yoga in Daily Life" System by Mahamandaleshwar Paramhans Swami Maheshwarananda and the teachings of Bhagwan Sri Deep Narayan Mahaprabhuji from Rajasthan, India, to promote physical, mental, social and spiritual health, world

- b) peace, humanitarian aid, human rights and protection of the environment.
- b) Qualification, education and training of teachers of the "Yoga in Daily Life" System, Yoga Vedanta Philosophy, Sanatana Dharma, and Vedic Culture.
- c) Worldwide preservation and protection of the teachings of the "Yoga in Daily Life" System according to the teachings of Bhagwan Sri Deep Narayan Mahaprabhuji.
- d) Humanitarian aid and support of all living beings - humans and animals - particularly in emergency areas.
- e) Unity, support, organization and guidance to all members.
- f) Fostering of international relationship in the areas of art, culture, dance, education, language, religion etc.
- g) Fostering of integral medicine and health-projects, especially in the field of Ayurveda, Yoga-therapy, rehabilitation and prophylaxis.
- h) Organisation of study and exchange programs within the country and abroad, especially in the fields of yoga, health, culture and arts.
- i) The fostering of cultural and social activities, amongst other also of minorities.
- j) Fostering of tolerance, respect and freedom towards all religions, cultures and nationalities.
- k) Fostering of human rights and rights of the animals, respect and protection of all creatures, humans as well as animals and conservation.
- l) Lectures, meetings, classes, courses, seminars and other events.
- m) Performing yoga teacher examinations and issuing of yoga teacher certificates and diplomas for Yoga and the "Yoga in Daily Life" System.
- n) Promotion and operation of charitable and social projects for in particular those projects that are in accordance with the purpose of the Fellowship pursuant to paragraph 2, lit. d, g and i.
- o) Promotion and operation of schools and undertaking projects for education especially in regard to paragraph 2, lit. h and i.
- p) Promotion and organisation of international, inter-religious and cultural festivals, conferences and dialogues in particular with regard to the purpose of the Fellowship pursuant to paragraph 2, lit f, g, and h.
- q) Cooperation with public and private organisations as well as releasing non-profit publications in the medias (TV, radio, printed and electronic medias, etc.), in particular with regard to the purpose of the Fellowship as a whole.
- r) Production of educational materials (e.g. scripts, books, CDs, DVDs, films, audio and video cassettes etc.), in particular with regard to the purpose of the association with paragraph 2, lit. a and b.

- s) Establishing a library.
 - t) Internal and external information resources (e.g. newsletters, magazines, course programs, photos, brochures, leaflets, posters, etc.).
- (3) The necessary material recourse shall be raised by:
- a) Admission fees, membership fees and other fees.
 - b) Income from events, associations-internal activities and teaching aids.
 - c) Public and other sponsorships and subsidies.
 - d) Donations, collections, legacies, gifts and other contributions.
 - e) Income from the administrations of the Fellowship's assets (e.g. interest credits).
- (4) The funds of the Fellowship may only be used for the purposes stated in the statute. The members of the Fellowship must not receive any profit shares and, in their position as members any other benefit from the resources of the Fellowship. Upon withdrawal from the Fellowship and its dissolution or annulment, the members of the Fellowship shall not receive back more than their paid-in capital and the mean value of their contributions in kind, to be calculated on the value of the deposits at the time of their performance. Nor may any person benefit from administrative expenses that are foreign to the purpose of the Fellowship or disproportionately high remuneration.

§ 4

Rights of the Founder and Author

The Fellowship and its members acknowledge the exclusive rights of the Author and Founder of the "Yoga in Daily Life" System, Mahamandaleshwar Paramhans Swami Maheshwarananda, both by name and trademark of "Yoga in Daily Life" in all languages.

§ 5

Types of Membership

- (1) The members of the Fellowship are classified into Ordinary, Extraordinary, Supporting and Honorary members.
- (2) Companies, associations and other organisations fulfilling the conditions of sub-paragraph 3 as well as natural persons who fulfil the conditions of sub-paragraph 4 may become Ordinary members.
- (3) Ordinary members may become registered societies and associations in all countries of the world as well as their branches and sub-branches that teach, practice, and spread the "Yoga in Daily Life" System, Yoga Vedanta Philosophy,

Sanatana Dharma and Vedic Culture, as such have a valid licence to use the trademark and the "Yoga in Daily Life" System for social and charitable purposes only.

- (4) In countries where no registered national organisations and no local association according to sub-paragraph 3 exist, but only organisations of persons who are not organised as an association, but otherwise meet the conditions of sub-paragraph 3, may nominate a Delegate who will become an Ordinary member of the Fellowship for this organisation.
- (5) Extraordinary members may become natural persons, who do not belong to any organisation pursuant to sub-paragraph 3 or 4, and who teach, practice and spread the "Yoga in Daily Life" System, Yoga Vedanta Philosophy, Sanatana Dharma and Vedic Culture, and as those possess a valid license agreement for the use of the trademark and System "Yoga in Daily Life".
- (6) Supporting members may become societies, associations and other organisations that have no licence agreement for the use of the "Yoga in Daily Life" System but have similar purposes as the Fellowship.
- (7) Honorary members are admitted at the discretion of the Board at the request of a member.

§ 6

Acquisition of Membership

- (1) The admission to the membership is dependent on the conditions as provided in § 5, sub-paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.
- (2) An application for membership shall be submitted in writing to the Board that finally decides on the admission within three months. It may reject the admission without giving reasoning.
- (3) If the applicant is an association with a written statute, a copy of it with an English translation shall be attached to the application.

§ 7

Termination of Membership

- (1) The membership ends by death (for associations by their dissolution), by voluntary resignation, by deletion or by exclusion.
- (2) Voluntary resignation may be declared at the end of each calendar month. The Board must be notified in writing at least three months in advance. If the notice is delayed; it will not take effect until the next withdrawal date.
- (3) The cancellation of a member may be made by the Board if despite a written reminder twice, it is in arrears for more than six months with the payment of membership fees or the renewal of the license agreement. The obligation to pay the due membership fees remains unaffected.
- (4) The exclusion of a member may be ordered by the Board for gross violation of the member's obligations or dishonourable behaviour. (The appeal to the General Assembly is permissible against an exclusion, until the decision of which the member rights are suspended.)
- (5) Withdrawal of the Honorary membership may be decided by the Board for the reasons mentioned in sub-paragraph 4.

§ 8

Rights and Obligations of the Members

- (1) The members are entitled to participate in all events of the Fellowship and to use the Fellowship's facilities.
- (2) All Ordinary members (§ 5 sub-paragraphs 3 and 4) have the right to be elected to any organ of the Fellowship. The right to vote in the General Assembly of the Fellowship is reserved only to the Delegates (see § 8, sub-paragraphs 3).
- (3) Each member organisation pursuant to § 5, subparagraphs 3 and 4, elects one Delegate as the representative of the association (branch or sub-Branch) at the General Assembly of the Fellowship, and only these Delegates have the right to vote in the General Assembly of the Fellowship.
- (4) Extraordinary members, supporting members and Honorary members have no voting rights.
- (5) All members shall use their best endeavours to promote the Fellowship's interests and refrain from doing anything that could damage the reputation or purpose of the Fellowship. The members must observe and obey the Fellowship's statutes as well as the resolutions, provisions and dispositions of

the governing bodies (see § 14, sub-paragraph 3).

- (6) Ordinary and Extraordinary members are required to pay the membership fees on time and to renew their license to use the trademark and the System »Yoga in Daily Life«.

§ 9

Official Languages

- (1) The members may use their own language in the General Assemblies provided that they ensure that their comments are translated into English or German.
- (2) The statutes, minutes, annual reports and other notifications shall be drawn up in German and/or of necessary, in English in compliance with the relevant Austrian legal provisions.
- (3) In case there is a dispute of interpretation, the English version shall govern. If only a German version exists, the German version shall be used.

§ 10

Organs of the Fellowship

Organs of the Fellowship are the General Assembly (§§ 11 und 12), the Board (§§ 13, 14 und 15), the Auditors (§ 16) and the Arbitration Tribunal (§ 18).

§ 11

The General Assembly

- (1) The General Assembly is the General Meeting according to the Federal Act for civil associations.
- (2) The ordinary General Assembly shall meet every three years.
- (3) An extraordinary meeting shall be held upon resolution of the Board or of the ordinary General Assembly, upon written, reasoned request of at least 10% of the Delegates or upon request of the Auditors within 12 weeks.
- (4) Both to the ordinary and the extraordinary General Assemblies, all Delegates shall be invited in writing or by fax or e-mail, eight weeks before the deadline. The notification shall be made stating the agenda. The General Assembly is convened by the Board. The General Assembly may be held at any place determined by the Board, also outside Austria.
- (5) Applications for the General Assembly must be submitted in writing to the Board at least 14 days before the date of the General Assembly.
- (6) Valid resolutions – except those concerning an application for the convening of an Extraordinary General Meeting – can only be taken on the agenda.

- (7) At the General Assembly, the Delegates pursuant to § 8, sub-paragraph 3, Board members of the member associations pursuant to § 5, sub-paragraph 3, as well as Extra-Ordinary pursuant to § 5, sub-paragraph 5, member societies pursuant to § 5, sub-paragraph 6, and Honorary members may attend the General Assembly, but only the Delegates pursuant to § 8, sub-paragraph 3, are entitled to vote at the General Assembly. Each Delegate has one vote. The transfer of voting rights to another Delegate by written power of an attorney is admitted. .
- (8) The General Assembly shall have a quorum in the presence of one third of all delegates (or their representatives; sub-paragraph 7). If the General Assembly does not have a quorum at the appointed time, the General Assembly takes place 30 minutes later with the same agenda which shall be quorate regardless of the number of persons present.
- (9) Elections and decisions in the General Assembly are usually made by a simple majority vote. Resolutions changing the statute of the Fellowship – with the exception of the name change (sub-paragraph 10) – disbanding the association or relieving the board or any of its members, however, require a qualified majority of three-quarters of the valid vote cast. In a tie vote, the vote of the Chairman shall be decisive.
- (10) The name of the Fellowship must not be changed.
- (11) The General Assembly is chaired by the President, in his absence by the Vice-President. If the Vice-President is absent too, the oldest member of the Board present presides.

§ 12

Tasks of the General Assembly

The General Assembly is reserved for the following tasks:

- a) Receipt and approval of the statement of accounts, the income statement and the balance sheet (§21, sub-paragraph 1, Association Act 2002.
- b) Confirmation of the contributions proposed by the Board.
- c) Appointment and removal of members of the Board and the Auditors.
- d) Decision on appeal against exclusion from membership).
- e) Resolution on amendments of the statute and the voluntary dissolution of the Fellowship.

§ 13

The Board

- (1) The Board is the management organ according to the Federal Order for civil associations.
- (2) The Board consists of six persons: the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary and his deputy, the Treasurer and his deputy.
- (3) The Board is elected by the General Assembly. The Board has the right to co-opt any other eligible member upon the withdrawal of an elected member, for which a subsequent approval shall be obtained in the next General Assembly.
- (4) The term of office of the Board three years. In any case, it lasts until the election of a new Board. Re-election is possible.
- (5) The Board shall be convened by the President, in his absence by the Vice-President, in writing or oral.
- (6) The Board has a quorum if all its members have been invited and at least half of them are present.
- (7) The Board passes its resolutions by a simple majority of votes. In case of a tie, the vote of the Chairman decides.
- (8) Chaired by the President, in case of prevention, the Vice-President. If this is too prevented, the chairmanship is incumbent on the oldest member of the Board present.
- (9) Apart from death and expiry of the term (sub-paragraph 4), the function of a Board Member expires by discharge (sub-paragraph 10) and resignation (sub-paragraph 11).
- (10) The General Assembly may at any time revoke the entire Board or individual Board Members thereof (see § 11, sub-paragraph 9).
- (11) The Board Members may at any time declare their resignation. The declaration of resignation shall be directed to the Board in writing. In cas of resignation of the entire Board the notification shall be directed to the General Assembly. The resignation becomes effective only with choice or co-opting of a successor (sub-paragraph 3).

§ 14

Responsibilities of the Board

- (1) The Board is responsible for the management of the Fellowship. It is assigned all duties, which are not assigned to another body of the association by the statutes. Its competencies include in particular the following matters:

- a) Preparation of the annual budget, drafting the financial report, the revenue and expenditure statement including the balance sheet, according to §21, sub-paragraph 1, of the Federal Order for civil associations.
 - b) Preparations to the General Assembly.
 - c) Convening Ordinary and Extraordinary General Assembly meetings.
 - d) Administration of the Fellowship's assets.
 - e) Admission, expulsion and dismissal of members.
 - f) Power of veto against the nomination of a Delegate.
 - g) Admission and withdrawal of Honorary members.
 - h) Admission and termination of employees of the Fellowship.
 - i) Determination the amount of enrolment_fees, membership fees and other fees.
 - j) Decision in the reduction of contributions in individual cases.
- (2) The Board is obliged to conclude a contract with the Author and Licensor of the System »Yoga in Daily Life«, Mahamandaleshwar Paramhans Swami Maheshwarananda (respectively with his legal successors) about the conditions for the use of the Trademark and System "Yoga in Daily Life" by the Fellowship and its members. This contract has to be reconfirmed annually.
- (3) The Board is authorised to adopt binding rules and regulations for the dissemination of the teaching of the "Yoga in Daily Life" System as well as for the publication of teaching materials in self-publishing. These are to be approved by the Author. The dispositions and rules are to be followed by all members, otherwise the Board of the Fellowship may order their exclusion from the Fellowship and withdraw the entitlement to any use of the Trademark and Method of "Yoga in Daily Life" for teaching and self-publishing of educational materials.
- (4) In order to gain insight and sufficient information, the Board is entitled to attend all events of the members as well as to examine the all of these self-published publications produced and to report to the Author.

§ 15

Special Obligations of the Board Members

- (1) The President is the highest association official. He represents the Fellowship to the outside, according to sub-paragraph 4, particularly to third persons and to authorities. He chairs the General Assembly and the Board. In the event of imminent danger, he is entitled to make independent orders under his own responsibility, including in matters falling in the sphere of action of the General Assembly or the Board. However, these require the subsequent

approval by the competent association body.

- (2) The Secretary shall assist the President in conducting the association's affairs. He is responsible for keeping the minutes of the General Assembly and the Board meetings.
- (3) The Treasurer is responsible for the proper financial management of the Fellowship.
- (4) Written copies and notices of the Fellowship, in particular documents binding the Fellowship, shall be jointly signed by the President and the Secretary, resp. jointly signed by the President and the Treasurer, provided that they concern monetary matters.
- (5) In the case of prevention, the deputies will substitute the President, Secretary and Treasurer.

§ 16

The Auditors

- (1) The two Auditors shall be elected by the General Assembly for the term of three years. A re-election shall be possible.
- (2) The appointment of independent accountants according to §22 of the Federal Order of Taxes is possible.
- (3) The Auditors are responsible for the control of the monetary matters and annual review of the financial statement and the balance sheet. They shall report to the General Assembly on the result of the review.
- (4) § 13 sub-paragraphs 4, 9, 10 und 11 shall apply to the Auditors accordingly.

§ 17

Special Obligations of the Delegates

- (1) The Delegates are responsible for the correct performance and preservation of the "Yoga in Daily Life" System and fulfilment of the rules and regulations of the Fellowship by the members of their Organisation.
- (2) The Delegates have the duty to collect the annual fees and deliver them on time to the Board of the Fellowship.
- (3) The Delegates have the task of representing the members of their organisation in the Fellowship and of informing them of all the broadcasts and messages sent out of the Fellowship.
- (4) The delegates have the task to advise the members of their organisation to the best of their ability and to help in the best way to represent the System "Yoga

in Daily Life" in their country and in the sense of public health, for the benefit of humanity, of all living things and the environment.

§ 18

The Arbitration Tribunal

- (1) In all disputes arising from matters regarding the Fellowship, an Arbitration Tribunal shall decide.
- (2) The Arbitration Tribunal consists of five Delegates of the Fellowship. It is formed in such a way that within 14 days each party of a dispute shall name two members as arbitrators to the Board. These arbitrators elect the chairman of the Arbitration Tribunal by simple majority. In the case of equal votes, the chairman shall be determined from among the proposed persons by lot.
- (3) The Arbitration Tribunal shall make its decisions in the presence of all its members by simple majority of votes. It shall decide at its best abilities. Its decisions are final within the Fellowship.
- (4) In all questions or disputes regarding the teachings of the "Yoga in Daily Life" System the Board has to seek the Author's decision. His decisions are final within the Fellowship.

§ 19

Dissolution of the Fellowship

- (1) The voluntary dissolution of the Fellowship can only be decided upon an Extraordinary General Assembly convened for this purpose and only with a majority of three-quarters of the valid votes cast.
- (2) This General Assembly has also - as far as association assets are available - to decide on the liquidation. In particular, it must appoint a liquidator and decide on whom to transfer the assets of the association remaining after covering the liabilities.
- (3) In case of dissolution of the association or loss of the previously favoured association's purpose, the remaining association assets of a non-profit "Yoga in Daily Life" organization, society or foundation for use for charitable, benevolent or religious purposes in accordance with §§ 34 et seq Federal Tax Code of §§ 34 ff.