



People have asked where does i-SKY stand in respect of recent allegations about the personal conduct and teachings of the late Yogi Bhanjan? The answer is broadly where we have always stood. See [i-SKY.net](http://i-sky.net)

Darryl O'Keeffe put out a comprehensive personal statement on 14 Feb 2020 - not to take sides in the issues that have been consuming the "community" since but to affirm the basis upon which he proposed to continue teaching kundalini yoga and also to address some of the questions he thought would arise from the publication of Pamela Dyson's book Premka.

As i-SKY we have a responsibility to inform and support current students; we have and will continue to address these issues within the context of their training courses.

In respect of past students, the responsibility as to how you proceed must be yours. i-SKY would wish to apologise if we had misled you or misrepresented the truth but we have not done so. Allegations about Yogi Bhanjan were not part of the course syllabus but they have often been raised in our training programs and, if they were not addressed directly in a course, we considered the course support material [allegations.pdf](#) and the optional coursework therein sufficient as this was not a live issue. As far as we understood, such allegations had been addressed in the US courts in the 1980's prior to our becoming Kundalini Yoga teachers and long before the establishment of i-SKY and the KRI Aquarian Teacher programs in the mid 90's. The degree of shock registered across the "community" indicates that, if these allegations are substantiated, any conscious collusion is likely to have been by a small group of people. Obviously, we looked at the US court affidavits ourselves and asked about the "inside story" 30 years ago and, right up to this time, people who we believed should know (some of whom were there) have not acknowledged anything untoward.

We encourage and expect yoga teachers to maintain their membership of a yoga teachers association. IKYTA (also on behalf of national KYTA) has offered "support and listen" calls to members and continues to do so. We have been made aware of a number of people for whom past life events have been "triggered" by these allegations and the discussions around them. This is a sensitive issue of personal healthcare and is not our area of expertise but we have raised with IKYTA as to whether some specific peer group sharing might be helpful. We have also become aware of how prevalent the imposition (physical, emotional etc.) of teachers upon students appears to be across the broader yoga community and are now proposing a collective response (see below).

We do not have all the answers but, as experienced teacher trainers, we now undertake to receive all your questions and answer as best we can. We will answer "our" teachers questions within our past students Facebook group (if you did not previously join and now wish to do so please include the date and location of your i-SKY training when you ask to join the group) see [facebook/kundalini4u](https://facebook.com/kundalini4u). If you do not wish to use Facebook or if you did not train with us please email ask@i-sky.net and we will post those questions and answers anonymously at i-sky.net/concerns

We remind you that serious allegations have been made and need to be investigated. We welcome the creation of the "Collaborative Response Team" see ssscresponseteam.org and keenly await the detail of how the investigation is to be conducted. As i-SKY we are calling for a "truth and reconciliation style commission" which would offer restorative justice (including truth, apology, reparation and recommendations for changes in culture and practice). Our, uninformed, opinion is that the investigation should encompass all areas and individuals of concern up until the death of Yogi Bhanjan in 2004. We believe the processes set in place since that time are fit for purpose and have already been used to hold individuals to account for misconduct spanning the last 20 years. See: epsweb.org



Proposal: IKYTA (and separately KYTA UK) to reach out to other yoga teachers associations with a view to creating a “yogaline” to hear and support students who may be unsure about whether anything experienced in a yoga setting was appropriate or not. Effectively this probably means funding small national charities (e.g. supportline.org.uk or Samaritans.org) to provide a listening service and to then direct callers to the appropriate local resources. We would hope enough teachers, schools and associations will be prepared to guarantee the ongoing financial contributions to make this sustainable. We are surprised this has not happened already and would wish to associate ourselves with such initiatives as may already be ongoing.

Recommendation: Irrespective of the outcome of the CRC investigation, we believe IKYTA must be fully reconstituted as an entirely independent professional teachers association – preferably funded directly by its members.

Action: Add a separate inappropriate behaviour guideline and reporting protocol to the current i-SKY Learner Agreement and Complaints Procedure for trainees.

Action: Ensure that current i-SKY students recognise the KRI Aquarian Teacher manual as one source material and 3HO lifestyle as one model of “aquarian” lifestyle - there are others. We will introduce a broader range of “aquarian” sources and support students in making informed choices about their personal practice and lifestyle as part of i-SKY programs – with immediate effect.

Action: i-SKYwomen trainers are currently reviewing the content and presentation of KRI Level 1 teachings to and for “aquarian” women.

Action: i-SKYmen trainers will review the content and presentation of KRI Level 1 teachings to and for “aquarian” men.

Darryl O’Keeffe & Guru Dharam Singh Khalsa

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1st March 2020