

## Profiles of Speakers



**Yogacharya Dr. Ananda Balayogi Bhavanani**  
*MBBS, ADY, DPC, DSM, PGDFH, PGDY, FIAY, MD (Alt.Med),  
C-IAYT, DSc (Yoga)*

Dr. Ananda Balayogi Bhavanani is Director of the Institute of Salutogenesis and Complementary Medicine (ISCM) and **Professor of Yoga Therapy** at the Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth University, Pondicherry.

He has served as member of numerous expert committees of the Ministry of AYUSH including its Steering Committee of the Yoga Certification Board, National Board for Promotion of Yoga and Naturopathy, Scientific Advisory Committee & Standing Finance Committees of CCRYN, Expert Committee for Celebration of International Yoga Day. He is Consultant Resource Person for the WHO Collaborative Centre in Traditional Medicine (Yoga) at MDNIY, New Delhi. He is also Joint Secretary of the Indian Yoga Association and Vice President of the National Yogasana Sport Association.

A recipient of the coveted DSc in Yoga from SVYASA Yoga University, he is Chairman of the International Centre for Yoga Education and Research at Ananda Ashram, Pondicherry, India and Yoganjali Natyalayam, the premier institute of Yoga and Carnatic Music and Bharatanatyam in Pondicherry. He is son and successor of the internationally acclaimed Yoga team of Yogamaharishi Dr. Swami Gitananda Giri Guru Maharaj and Yogacharini Kalaimamani Ammaji, Smt Meenakshi Devi Bhavanani.

He is a Gold Medallist in Medical Studies (MBBS) with postgraduate diplomas in both Family Health (PGDFH) as well as Yoga (PGDY). A Fellow of the Indian Academy of Yoga, he has authored 19 DVDs and 28 books and 34 compilations on Yoga as well as published more than 300 papers, compilations and abstracts on Yoga and Yoga research in National and International Journals. His literary works have more than 3100 Citations. He is also a Classical Indian Vocalist, Percussionist, Music Composer and Choreographer of Indian Classical Dance.

He is a recognized PhD guide for Yoga Therapy and is the first Indian to be recognized as an IAYT Certified Yoga Therapist (C-IAYT) by the International Association of Yoga Therapists, USA. He travels across the world to lead Yoga conferences, talks and retreats in the UK, USA, Italy, South Africa, Malaysia, Germany, Switzerland, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.



## **Yogacharini Dr. Sangeeta Laura Biagi**

Dr. Sangeeta Laura Biagi, Ph.D., is a Yoga Teacher in the tradition of Yogamaharishi Dr Swami Gitananda Giri (Tamil Nadu, India) and the Director of International Studies and Research of Gitananda Nada Yoga at the ICYER (International Center for Yoga Education & Research).

Originally from Siena, Italy, she earned her MA and Ph.D. from the Department of Performance Studies at New York University with a thesis on the therapeutic power of the human voice. She has been a professor at NYU, Vassar College and The Theatre School at DePaul University, collaborating with community centers and jails in the US to increase the importance of voice awareness in the process of rehabilitation.

Her work has been featured on the TEDx stage (Reimagine Failure: Breathe Belong Believe, 2018) and in the Emmy Award nominated documentary *The Girl Inside*. She is currently a Guest Faculty at the Institute of Salutogenesis & Complementary Medicine at Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth University in Pondicherry, South India and offers online talks, master classes and courses focusing on Nada Yoga, the “Yoga of Vibration and Sound”. She is the co-author, together with her teacher, Yogacharya Dr Ananda Balayogi Bhavanani, of two books on Nada Yoga: *Saraswathi’s Pearls: Dialogues on the Yoga of Sound* (2012, Dhivyananda Creations) and *Nada Yoga: The Vibratory Essence of the Yoga of Sound* (Singing Dragon, 2023).