

From: "Bhakti Manning"

Date: Monday, 31 March 2014 5:30:57 PM Australian Eastern Daylight Time

To: yogasandhan@satyananda.net

Cc:

Subject: Your threatening letter alleging defamation

Dear Yogasandhan,

I received a letter from a solicitor (David Mendelssohn) with a cover letter from a man by the name of Bert Franzen of Elect Associates, which informed me that they were acting on behalf of the "Satyananda Organisation" - an entity that includes Satyananda Ashram and Satyananda Yoga Academy.

The letter sent to me alleged defamation, was threatening in nature, and as I subsequently found out, was not in accordance with Australian Defamation Law. The allegations related to the e-mail I sent to Satyananda Yoga Teachers Association members.

In subsequent e-mail exchanges with Bert Franzen, the person nominated as the contact person by the solicitor, David Mendelssohn, I requested that I be informed of what aspects of my letter were considered defamatory, or that in the event that there was no defamatory material, that I be given an apology.

I have neither been informed of how I am supposed to have defamed the organisation, nor have I been given an apology. Under Australian law, I am entitled to be told which statements are considered defamatory. Under Australian law, you are entitled to ask me to make amends (an apology or the like) ONCE you identify defamatory material, but you are not entitled to send the kind of threatening letter you sent, or to direct me to stop communication. The use of this kind of letter by someone versed in Australian Law reeks of mal-practice.

In sending this e-mail, I am giving you the chance to make amends and either apologise or to identify the defamatory statements, if in fact there were any.

Yours sincerely,

Bhakti Manning