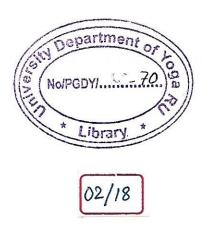
Prana and Pranayama

Swami Niranjanananda Saraswati



Yoga Publications Trust, Munger, Bihar, India

Prana and Pranayama



With kind regards, 🕉 and prem

Swami Nivanjan

Contents

Introduction	1
Part 1: Philosophy of Prana and Pranayama	•
L What is Prana?	6
2 Pancha Kosha: Vital Sheaths	9
3. Chakras: Energy Vortices	20
4 Nadis: Channels of Prana	27
	36
5. Pancha Prana: Pranic Force Fields 6. Five Keys	48
	60
7. Prana and Mantra	65
Part 2: Physiology of Respiration and Pranayama	a
Physiology of Breathing	81
9. Yogic Physiology of the Nose	95
10. What is Pranayama?	106
II. Importance of Kumbhaka	116
Benefits of Pranayama	
13. Research on Breath and Pranayama	127
	137
3: Pranayama Practice	
Pre-Pranayama Training	
4. Conscious Breathing	155
Basic Breathing Methods	163
6. Preliminary Breathing Practices	178
Awareness of the Subtle Breath	190

II. Classical Pranayamas	
18. Guidelines for Pranayama	209
19. Nadi Shodhana Pranayama	223
20. Tranquillizing Pranayamas	246
21. Vitalizing Pranayamas	263
Appendices	
A. Supplementary Practices	285
B. Asanas Relevant to Pranayama	294
C. Mudras Relevant to Pranayama	308
D. Bandhas Relevant to Pranayama	325
E. Hatha Yoga Pradipika Pranayama Sutras	333
Glossary	340
Index of Practices	353
General Index	357



Prana and Pranayama is a comprehensive text on the classical philosophy of prana, life force, and pranayama, the expansion and control of the life force. It provides a complete description of the science of pranayama as presented in the classical texts and as taught in the Satyananda Yoga tradition by Bihar School of Yoga.

The first part of the book explores the theory of prana and its related yogic concepts: koshas, chakras, nadis and mantras. Secondly, it expands upon respiratory physiology and current research undertaken by science on pranayama. In the practical section, specific guidelines for practising pranayama are given, using detailed instructions and illustrations. Throughout the text, scriptural sources further enhance the reader's understanding, bringing to light the original essence and intent of these classical teachings.



