

The Ethics of Professional Thai Massage Agreement

The purpose of this agreement is to harmonize Traditional Thai massage practitioners, to create a great benefit for their clients, to ensure professional Traditional Thai massage training, and to develop and to maintain the viability of Traditional Thai Massage. It has been developed by the Reviving Thai Massage Project, together with Traditional Thai massage practitioners who have made this agreement a standard practice for all.

Written by Saamlee Jaidee
President of Reviving Traditional Thai Massage Project
President of Public Health Foundation
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Translation and Editing: Mrs. Vimornrat Santhanaporn Wester, Thai Institute of Healing Arts (Arlington, VA)

Oath of the Traditional Thai Massage Practitioner

I (Mr./Mrs./Miss).....as a Thai massage practitioner, pledge that

1. I will dedicate myself to the profession of Traditional Thai massage and hold the good health and safety of the client as my main concern.
2. I will strictly follow the Ethics of Professional Thai Massage Agreement.
3. I will further study and enhance my massage skills in order to maintain a high standard of Traditional Thai Massage.
4. I will uphold my own reputation and the reputation of Traditional Thai Massage. I will maintain a good relationship with all Traditional Thai Massage practitioners.
5. I will voluntarily keep this oath as long as I am a professional Thai Massage practitioner.

Ethics for Traditional Thai Massage

1. Take good care of all clients according to the same standard.
2. Be honest, have loving kindness and compassion, do not be greedy, do not expect undue gains, obey the law, and do not act or participate in any activities that can ruin the reputation of Traditional Thai Massage.
3. Continually endeavor to learn new techniques from books and from experts. Participate in activities related to exchanging and expanding massage knowledge, in order to improve the standards of the profession and to maintain high standards in the treatment of clients.
4. Respect all clients' privacy. Do not share client information with any party except as permitted by the clients or required by law. Do not boast about your knowledge, lie, offend, assault, or sexually harass any client.
5. Do not engage in excesses such as sexual misconduct, gambling, drugs, alcohol, or intoxicants.

6. Do not practice in any inappropriate places (such as brothels, casinos, bars), except in case of emergency.
7. Support other Thai massage professionals and other medical professionals for the benefit of all your clients. Do not boast or look down on other practitioners.
8. Cooperate to create unity among all practitioners and between Traditional Thai massage and other health-related professions.
9. Support Thai organizations to improve professional Traditional Thai Massage and Traditional Thai Medicine. Dedicate your time, knowledge, and other skills to help these organizations.

Best Practices for Traditional Thai Massage

1. Dress properly, and be pleasant.
2. Wash hands and feet before and after giving massage. Also, clean all massage equipment.
3. Before giving massage, focus yourself, give respect to your teachers, give respect to the clients, interview clients about their symptoms and concerns, and understand their condition and limitations.
4. During the massage, respect their personal space. (For example, when massaging the left side of the body, sit on the left side. When massaging the right side of the body, sit on the right side.) Do not sit on the client if not necessary.
5. During the massage, do not drink, smoke, or eat, and do not breathe on the client.
6. During the massage, inform the client about what you are doing in order to comfort and encourage them. Always respect their feelings and concerns.
7. During the massage, listen to your clients and ask them how they feel. Stop massaging when the clients want a break, or if they experience any pain.
8. Never give massage when you are sick.
9. Do not give massage to clients who have finished a meal less than 30 minutes prior to the massage.
10. Treat all clients to the best of your ability, working to actively improve their health with each massage. Ensure that you do not spread out their treatments for the sake of monetary gains. If you cannot help them, recommend them to other practitioners who have more skill or to other medical professionals.

I agree to the above Ethics of Professional Thai Massage Agreement by signing below.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Full Name: _____



Shivagakomarpaj Lineage

Five Additional Guidelines for Shivagakomarpaj Lineage Practitioners

1. Endeavor to cultivate *metta* and maintain a spiritual approach to your healing practice. Continually work through your practice for the betterment of your clients and all of humanity.
2. Honor Jivaka and your teachers through a regular practice of *wai khru*.
3. Express your gratitude for the gift of Thai healing knowledge through charity, donations of time, and acts of kindness and respect to Thai people.
4. Refrain from taking students until you are qualified and are fully prepared to pass down the knowledge and traditions in the proper way.
5. Maintain integrity, honesty, and clarity in all promotional materials and in how you talk about your practice. Don't misrepresent your training, your scope of practice, or the origin of the techniques that you perform. (For example, if your massage involves a massage table, undressing, or lotions and oils, refrain from calling it "Thai Massage" or other terms associated with Thailand.) Bring a good reputation to your teacher, massage school, and lineage.

I agree to the above Guidelines for the Shivagakomarpaj Lineage by signing below.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Full Name: _____