



## NONGTHOMBAM AMUSANA DEVI

Akademi Award: Manipuri

Born on 1 January 1956 in Nityananda Leirak, Imphal, Shrimati Nongthombam Amusana Devi received her training in Manipuri dance at the Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy, Imphal from where she obtained her Diploma in dance. She has also trained and specialized in Manipuri Ras under gurus M. Amubi Singh, Th. Tarunkumar Singh, Th. Babu Singh and Th. Suryamukhi Devi.

During her career in dance spanning more than four decades, Shrimati Amusana Devi has won critical acclaim as a dancer. She has performed extensively within the country and abroad with the groups of Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy. She has also performed solo at various dance festivals.

Shrimati Amusana Devi has choreographed many dance-dramas including *Bidai Abhishap* for the Production Unit of Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy which have been presented in several dance festivals within the country and abroad. She has played major roles in about forty dance-dramas of JNMDA like *Keibul Lamjao*, *Wainu Paren*, and *Meghdoot*, and has travelled widely to perform in UK, China, Japan, France, Myanmar, North and South Korea, South Africa, New Zealand and Germany. At present she is serving as Senior Production Assistant in the Production Unit of Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy, Imphal and also trains young dancers.

For her work in the field of Manipuri dance, Shrimati Amusana Devi has been honoured with the Manipur State Kala Akademi Award in 2008.

Shrimati Nongthombam Amusana Devi receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for 2014 for her contribution to Manipuri dance.