

**Shri U S Krishna Rao &
Shrimati Chandrabhaga
Devi**



**AKADEMI AWARD :
BHARATANATYAM**

Shri U S Krishna Rao was born in 1912 in Mallapur and Shrimati Chandrabhaga Devi in 1921 at Puttur in Karnataka. Married in 1941, they have together come to be regarded among the notable Bharatanatyam teachers today.

Shri U S Krishna Rao learnt Bharatanatyam from Pandanallur Meenakshisundaram Pillai and Kolar Puttappa. He also learnt Kathakali from Gurus Kumaran and Kunju Kurup. Shrimati Chandrabhaga Devi was initiated in dance by Dr K Shivaram Karanth and later learnt Bharatanatyam together with her husband.

Over the past four decades the couple have rendered valuable service to Bharatanatyam. They have performed and lectured extensively, contributed new choreographic works to Bharatanatyam.

taught a large number of students who have achieved renown as dancers — Sudharani Raghupathy, Sonal Mansingh, Indrani Rehman, Akademi awardees all. Shri U S Krishna Rao has been honorary Professor of Dance at Bangalore University and President of the Karnataka Nritya Kala Parishad. Shrimati Chandrabhaga Devi has been Professor of Dance at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bangalore. The couple established their own dance studio in 1973. They have received several honours including the Karnataka Sangeet Nritya Akademi Award.

For their eminence in dance and their contribution to its enrichment Shri U S Krishna Rao and Shrimati Chandrabhaga Devi receive the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for Bharatanatyam.

**Akademi
Awards
1987**

