



CHERUTHAZHAM KUNHIRAMA MARAR
Akademi Award: Traditional Music - Chenda (Kerala)

Born on 20 May 1962 in Cheruthazham, Kerala, Shri Cheruthazham Kunhiraman Marar learnt the art form of Chenda from P. Sankara Marar and Pallavoor Maniyan Marar.

Shri Cheruthazham Kunhiraman Marar is a distinguished artist known for his mastery of the traditional percussion instrument, Chenda. Hailing from Kerala, Marar has dedicated his life to preserving and promoting this ancient art form. His skilful and mesmerizing performances on the Chenda have earned him acclaim and admiration from audiences across the region. As a custodian of the rich musical heritage of Kerala, Shri Cheruthazham Kunhiraman Marar has played a pivotal role in keeping the tradition of Chenda alive. His deep understanding of rhythm and intricate techniques make his performances a captivating experience for listeners.

Shri Cheruthazham Kunhiraman Marar has been honoured with prestigious awards including the Kerala Kshetra Kala Academy Award by the Government of Kerala, Thala Kalanidhi Award, and Lifetime Achievement Award for his remarkable contributions to the art of Chenda.

Shri Cheruthazham Kunhiraman Marar receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for the year 2023 for his contribution to the traditional music of Kerala.