

Baynath Prasad
(Lacchu Maharaj)

Award 1957
Dance : Kathak

b 1 Sept 1901 d. 19 July 1978

Sir,

I have the honour to present to you Shri Baijnath Prasad, a foremost exponent of the Kathak style of dancing.

Shri Baijnath Prasad, popularly known as Lacchu Maharaj, belongs to the traditional family of dancers known as "Lucknow Gharana" and is the son of the late Kalka Prasad and nephew and pupil of the late Bindadin of Lucknow. He is the brother of the late Acchan Maharaj, a great teacher.

Shri Lacchu Maharaj, a living repository of the art of Kathak, is a creative artist and a master of Bhavapradarshan. He has continued the family tradition of the great Kalka-Bindadin School of Dance. He has been a teacher of dance and has also composed dances in the Kathak technique for many films. He is also president of the Cine Dance Directors Association.

For his pre-eminence in Kathak dancing and singular devotion and service to its cause, I pray, Sir, that you may be pleased to grant him recognition as dancer of the year, in the field of Kathak dancing, and to award to him a brocade, Angavastram, a gold Mala, and a Sanad in token of that recognition.