

DEBAPRASAD DAS

I present to you, Sir, Shri Debaprasad Das, an outstanding exponent and teacher of Odissi Dance.

Born on 28th October, 1932 in Kantapada Village in Cuttack District, Debaprasad Das had his training in Chanda, Choupadi and Ashtapadi from his grandfather, the late Shri Bauribandhu Das and in Odissi Dance from the renowned late Guru Mohan Chandra Mahapatra.

As a dancer and teacher Shri Debaprasad Das has been a pioneer in not only taking the Odissi dance outside Orissa but also in composing dance dramas in that dance style.

As a teacher, he has trained most of the outstanding dancers of Orissa and some eminent dancers from outside.

Besides a number of other titles, Shri Debaprasad Das is a recipient of the State Akademi Award, and has widely travelled in the world as a dancer and a Guru. An eminent exponent of dance, he is also a well known stage actor.

For his eminence in the field of Odissi dance as a performer and teacher and his contribution to its enrichment, Shri Debaprasad Das receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for 1977.