



KALAMANDALAM GOVINDA WARRIER
Akademi Award: Kathakali Make-up (Kerala)

Born in 1917 in Vazhengada, Kerala, Shri Govinda Warriar learned the art of Chutti-Kathakali make-up—from Vazhengada Rama Warriar in the Vazhengada Kalari. Apart from learning Chutti, he also gained the skill of making ornaments and costumes for Kathakali. The senior most master of Kathakali make-up today, Shri Warriar has been actively engaged in the practice of Chutti for the last seven decades. Joining Kerala Kalamandalam at its inception in 1930, he travelled with Mahakavi Vallathol and the Kalamandalam group to various places. He is among the few artists who have a knowledge of the old technique of make-up using traditional ingredients like rice. During his long years of service, he has groomed several Chutti artists of the younger generation. He initially taught at the Vazhengada Kalari and later at the Kerala Kalamandalam, retiring in 1978. Subsequently, he was Visiting Professor at the Kalamandalam from 1978 to 1980 and imparted training at the School of Drama, Trichur, up to 1990.

For his distinguished contribution to Kathakali make-up, Shri Govinda Warriar has been honoured by various institutions and Kathakali clubs. He received the Kerala Sangeetha Nataka Akademi Award in 1980, Kerala Kalamandalam Award in 1984 and the fellowship of the Kalamandalam in 1999.

Shri Kalamandalam Govinda Warriar receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to Kathakali make-up of Kerala.