



## KUMKUM MOHANTY

*Akademi Award: Odissi Dance*

*Born on 9 September 1946 in Cuttack, Orissa, Shrimati Kumkum Mohanty received her training in Odissi dance at Kala Vikash Kendra under the tutelage of Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra. She also trained in Odissi music.*

*Early in life she was acclaimed as an outstanding dancer and won appreciation among the connoisseurs. She has excelled in her sensitive renderings of Ashtapadis from the Geeta Govinda and has taken lead roles in several choreographic works by her guru. She has also participated in major festivals in the country and abroad. In the mid-1980s, when the Odissi Research Centre was established by the Government of Orissa, Shrimati Mohanty was appointed its Chief Executive. In that capacity she has worked with several masters of Odissi dance and music, carrying out significant work in the documentation and dissemination of the tradition.*

*She is also Special Secretary (Culture) to the Government of Orissa.*

*Her contribution to Odissi was acknowledged with the Orissa Sangeet Natak Akademi Award, bestowed on her in 1993.*

*Shrimati Kumkum Mohanty receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for her contribution to Odissi dance.*



Akademi Awards 1994