

## PASUMARTHY RATTAIAH SARMA Akademi Award: Kuchipudi

Shri Pasumarthy Rattiah Sarma was born in 1940 in Kuchipudi, Andhra Pradesh, and received training in Kuchipudi dance under eminent masters including Vedantam Prahlada Sarma, Vedantam Parvatheesan, Chinta Krishnamurthy, and Vedantam Satyanarayana Sarma.

He has enjoyed a distinguished career as a Kuchipudi artist, and is noted especially for his excellence in Stree Vesham in roles such as Leelavathi in Bhakta Prahlada.

Shri Rattiah Sarma has served as Visiting Professor at the Potti Shriramulu Telugu University and has taught at the Siddhendrayogi Kuchipudi Kalapeetham in Kuchipudi. Some of the practising dancers trained by him are Vyjyanthi Kashi and Vedantam Venkatanaga Chalapathi Rao. His dance has been filmed by the Films Division, Mumbai.

Shri Pasumarthy Rattiah Sarma receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to Kuchipudi.