

CITATION OF GURU SMT SUPRAVA MISHRA

Smt Suprava Mishra is a renowned Odissi dancer, Guru, Choreographer & Writer. She was born on 10th July, 1968 at Cuttack, Odisha in a family of musicians devoted to furthering all type of art forms. She started learning Odissi dance at the age of 6 and she has completed 'Visharad' in Odissi dance. After completing M.Sc(Physics), she has join Department of Telecom and at present she is working as Assistant General Manager in BSNL. She lives her life in present but always think about future. She continued her journey in education field and got two more master degrees i.e. MBA(Mktg) from IGNOU and Masters in Odissi dance ('Alankar') from Gandharva Mahavidyalaya, Miraj.

She was trained by eminent gurus of Odissi Dance like Padma Vibhusan Guru Shri Kelucharan Mahapatra & Guru Shri Shudhaker Sahu. As an Odissi dancer, Suprava has been able to imprint their combine legacy with her own dance persona. She is known for her refined sensibilities in presenting Abhinaya.

Shri is a Grade artist of Cuttack & Ahmedabad Doordarshan Kendra (DDK). She has performed many Solo dance/Group performances in DDK Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Ahmedabad and Rajkot. Some of the important group performances for DDK are 'Shri Krishna Rasalila', 'Shri Geet Govinda', 'Nrityanjali' based on earthquake, 'Dasavatara', "Vaishnaava Jana to tene re Kahiye..." & 'Shree Radha' etc. She has given live interview at DD national for "Good evening India" program.

At national level, she has performed at Konark Festival in 2015 (organised by Govt of Odisha), Uttardha Mohotstav 2011 and 2018 at Modhera Gujarat, Chakradhar Samaroh Raigarh 2018, Rajim Kumbh 2016 at Raipur, Orcha Mahotsav 2015 (Organised be Govt of M.P), Debadhara Festival (organised by Govt of Odisha), Kankariya Karnival 2009 to 2016 at Ahmedabad, 'Geet Govinda' festival at Dwarka (Govt of Gujarat), 4th Barabati Nrutyotsabaat Cuttack, Natya Mahotsava organised by Gujarat Sangeet Natak Academy, Acharya Brihaspati Sammelan organised by Sur Singar Samsad Mumbai etc.

At the international festival, she has performed at TD South Asian Festival, Ottawa, Canada at Ottawa City Hall organized by Vedic Sanskruti on August 19, 2018, International literary festival 2014 at Jabalpur organised by Sahitya Akademy Govt of M.P, 3rd International Odissi Festival at Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India Organised by IPAP U.S.A. in 2006. International Navaratri Festival 2009 at Ahmedabad, International Theatre Festival, 2010 at Cuttack, Odissi International, 2012 at Bhubaneswar & Sai International centre, Delhi to raise relief fund for Nepal earthquake victims.

As a Choreographer, she has also endeavored to create new space for the classical dancer of today. With renewed fervor she has attempted to push the frontiers of classical art & Indian literature to reach out new and especially young audiences. Suprava believes that dance must be linked to life and artist must use their unique

position in society to make a difference to life and living. She has also try to break the barrier between audience and the performer by presenting dance performances in regional language i.e. Gujarati, Hindi. She brings innovation in presenting classical dance with multimedia film & new sound technology.

She has choreographed 'Shri Krishna Raslila', 'GeetGovinda', 'Tatra ramyutsu Nayika' (70 Min– 7 shows) based on Nayika's of Kalidas, 'Yugadharm Ganga Amrut Sarita' a message for environment protection to the society, 'I am a Women' (2013, Duration - 30 Min, 4 shows) a theme based presentation on 'Nirbhaya' (New Delhi) in Odissi dance reflecting the most recent sensitive issue, dance ballet 'Shree Radha' (based on poem of Shri Ramakant Rath, Duration- 60 & 110 Min, with Multimedia film presentation, in Gujarati & Hindi, 7 shows), "Vaishnaava Jana to tene re Kahiere" (famous Bhajan of Great poet ShriNarshi Mehta & most liked By Mahatma Gandhi, Duration-30 Min, with Multimedia film presentation, 34 shows), 'Queens step well – A celebration of womanhood through water' base on 'Rani Vav' of Patan, Gujarat (a ten century old WORLD HERITAGE-Duration 108 Min with multimedia, Production-2015, Duration-108 Min, 3 shows). Her recent production is 'Mohan thi Mohan' (Production 2018, 90 Min, 2 shows, based on three virtues of Lord Krishna and Mahatma Gandhiji) based on most popular book of Shri Dinkar Joshi ji – 'Chakra thi Charkha sudhi'.

As a writer, she has written two books, (1) "Bharatiya Nritya" and (2) "Odissi Nrutya aur Bharatiya Sanskruti" on Odissi classical dance in Hindi language to provide authentic information on Odissi classical dance for non Oriya speaking students and Gurus of India and abroad. Both the books were well appreciated by the students and Odissi dances Gurus as no authentic literature were available on Odissi classical dance in simple language. Further, she has written two books in Oriya language, (1) "Dwarkara Suryasta" in 2014 (Translation of 'Dwarkani Suriyasta' Gujarati book by Shri Dinkar Joshi) and (2) A Book on great Gujarati Poet 'Shri Narshi Mehta'. She has written many articles about Odissi dance and role of classical dance in development of student's life.

As a Guru, she is founder director of AUM ARTS Dance Academy. In 1992, when Suprava move to Gujarat, Odissi dance was not so popular in the Gujarat state and not a single Odissi dance guru was in Gujarat state. She was the first Odissi dance Guru to establish an Odissi dance institute (i.e. AUM ARTS Dance Academy) in Gujarat. Since 1995, AUM ARTS is conducting regular summer & winter Workshops. Six students of the institutions has got first prize in state youth competition and represented Gujarat state in 'Rastriya Yuva Utsav' and five students were awarded 'Kal Ke Kalakar' by Gujarat Sangeet Natak Academy. Suprava has given more than 250 Lecture Demonstrations in Schools, colleges, educational institutions etc to explain Indian Culture-tradition, Indian mythology, Indian classical dances, Temple sculptures and create artistic sense in the students and society. She is extremely innovative, original, creative and thoughtful guru and has a special quality in shaping the subtle and psychological framework of student as well.

Suprava is also deeply involved in social and charity work. In 2001, at the time of earthquake in Gujarat she has organised a charity show and donated Rs. 25,000/- to Janmabhumi Trust. Recently, she actively associated with Himalaya International, New Delhi who has organised a charity show to help Nepal earthquake victims.

Suprava was honoured “Gujarat Gurav Award” by Gujarat Sangeet Natak Academy, Government of Gujarat for her lifetime achievement and contribution in the field of Odissi Classical Dance. In 2014, she was honoured ‘Indira Gandhi Rajbhasa Award’ by Honourable president of India Shri Pranab Mukharjee ji for her book “Odissi Nrutya aur Bharatiya Sanskruti” (in Hindi).

Looking to her work as Odissi dancer, Guru, Choreographer & Writer of last 30 years, we can see that she is a cultural ambassador of Odisha as she is working to popularized Oriya literature, Odissi dance, music and culture and cultural ambassador of Gujarat also as she working to popularized Gujarati literature, culture, music across the India. She has combines the tradition with innovation, classicism with creativity and the ethic with contemporary. She is a very popular artist acclaimed by audience and critics alike in India.