

MARGAM; path of development

Learning Indian Classical Dance is not something that confines you to the musically coordinating movements, it takes you through a Margam (a path) of different life skills. My journey of this Margam made me more equipped in dealing with the life. This journey started with the steps of Chowk and Tribhangi which tell us the importance of a strong foundation. A dancer who masters the Chowk and the Tribhangi learns the rest of the Margam more easily. The different Bhangi's connect us more comprehensively to our historical monuments, like Konark Temple, Rani ki bauv, Khajuraho temple etc. It teaches us the importance and value of past through which we can see how these dance styles despite being confined within the four walls of temples and courts evolved and reached to international stages. Gatibheda, Dristibheda, Shirobheda, Grivabheda instill sheer observatory skills in us. The mudras - Asamyuta and Samyuta give us the better understanding of how action speaks louder than words. Manglacharan an invocatory dance item which teaches you the importance of blessings. Bhumi Pranam, Sabha Pranam justifies the old belief that a Pranam is an exchange of good vibes which is essential to building good relations, a relation of a Guru and a Shishya, an Audience and a dancer or God and a Devotee. Further, in dance items like Batu and Pallavi, we learn combinations of soft and hard movements which teach us the importance of both soft skills and hard skills. Abhinaya makes us familiar with different roles, makes us sensitive towards these roles and makes us understand the physical and emotional language of a character. The intense love of a mother (as Yasoda), feeling of a beloved (as Radha), feeling of devotion (as Shabri), feeling of disgust (as Parshuraam towards Kshatriyas) and much more. Moksha, the last of the Margam, connects us to a spiritual power which is believed to be there in every human being. At every stage of this Margam, we are mentored by our Guru. A Guru has a big role to play in a person's life. A guru not only passes on her art form to you but also directs your entire life to the achievement of your goals and imparts a value system by setting an example to you, which will stand you in good stead in the ups and downs of your life. She has the power to mold you and lead you from ignorance to knowledge. Here at, Aum Arts Dance Academy I got such a Guru and a chance to build my personality through this Margam.

Shraddha is learning Odissi dance from Guru Suprava Mishra since last 5years and done her Manch Pravesh on 11th June 2017. She has also won first prize in

Kalamakumbh 2017 and now selected to represent Gujarat for Rashtriya Yuva Mahotsava at Jaipur.