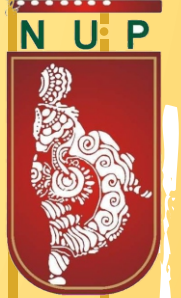


# nrutya upasana pitha

(AN INSTITUTE OF CLASSICAL DANCE & MUSIC)

Regd. No- 1081130574



NRUTYA UPASANA PITHA

Regd. No.-1081130574



Founder & Artistics Director  
Sri Nirmal Ku. Mohapatra  
Sonali Mohapatra

CONTACT-9861131854,7325954754 PLOT NO-188, KANAN VIHAR,PHASE-I,BBSR-751024

E-mail:nrutyaupasanapitha@gmail.com, website:sonalimohapatra.com

## Biographical Information

Sonali Mohapatra is an accomplished Odissi dancer and a global performer

having expertise in the Abhinaya (expression) and Nritta (pure dance) aspects.

She started learning Odissi when she was just 4 years old and fell in love with the form. At an early age of 5, Sonali lost a major portion of her hearing. On the left ear, she lost 100% and on the right ear 87% hearing due to unfortunate medical negligence, which remains irreparable. In such a difficult state, with

her strong will power she developed the knack for learning Odissi dance. Despite it being a tough challenge to learning any form of dance and music which demands a sufficient command over “Shruti” (Hearing) with “Swara” and “Taal”, Sonali mastered the art form with grace and enthusiasm. Unable to hear music and song properly, she can only make out the rhythm with the help of a hearing instrument. It is through the Taal that she feels the lyrics and the music. Her father has given her the vocal support and helped her understand different Taal and their “layakariyan” ever since childhood whereas her late mother used to guide, escort and help her in learning the theories of Odissi dance and brought her numerous dance books and magazines. Her elder and younger brothers helped her to develop communication skills and speech. Today she responds to her surroundings by observing lip movement and feeling the vibrations of sound.

Starting her early training under the supervision of Guru Smt. Truptimayee Mohanty, she went on to train under the guidance of Guru Shri Durga Charan Ranbir, one of the torch bearers of the Guru Debaprasad style of Odissi. In 1995, she received her higher training in Odissi Dance and completed Visharad and Alankar. In 2011 she was awarded the prestigious Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar.

With her tremendous efforts and dedication, Guru Sri Durgacharan Ranbir's blessings and goodwill, moral as well as physical support from her family member, she has made a name of being one among the best dancers of Guru Shri Deba Prasad Das gharana. In 2004, she got married to the eminent flute player Shri Ahiram Nanda, a disciple of Guru Shri Mohini Mohan Patnaik and Padmavibhushan Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia.



## Achievements & Awards

1992: World Disabled Day Award, State Councillor Child Welfare, Government of Odisha, National Junior Scholarship, Centre for Cultural Resources and Training Bhubaneswar.

2011: Achieved the 4<sup>th</sup>. 'ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar' By Sangeet Natak Akademy, New Delhi.

2012: Same samman award by samma institution of Urdu language, Bhubaneswar.

2013: "Utkala Bharata" samman by juva utkala bharata, Bhubaneswar 2013.

Sri Jayadev Rastriya Samman, Bhubaneswar Debakala Samman, Ganjam 2016.

2018: "NALCO KHARAVELA AWARD" NALCO, BBSR.

Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra Yuva Prativa Samman.

(CCRT), Government of India.

1993: Sriksheetra Shree Award, 1993.

1995: Senior Scholarship Award, 1993.

1995: Senior Scholarship Award from Ministry of Culture,

1997: Chinta O Chetana Award,

1999: Post-Graduation Scholarship, NCPEDP (A Joint Initiative of Rajiv Gandhi Foundation and Action Aid).

2004: Empanelled Artist, Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Since

2007: Sanjukta Prativa Samman Nrutyalaya Washington D.C. U.S.A.

Singrmani Award from Sur Singar Academy, Mumbai.

Declared as a 'A' graded artist by Doordarshan for Classical Odissi Dance "Nruya Prativa" Samman,

## Performances

1992: Biswa Odiya Sammeelani, Indoor Stadium, Cuttack

1669: Parampara, Utkal Sangeet Mahavidyalaya Bhubaneswar

1998: Baisakhi, Chinta o Cheta, Bhubaneswar

1999: Om, Kasturi Kalapitha, Puri

2000: Utkal Divas, Uakalika, Baroda & Bharuch Swamotav

Sangeet Natak Akademy, New Delhi and ckkavrators, Ahemedabad

Handicrafts Mela, Hyaderabad.

2001: India International Centre, New Delhi

Pracheena Kala Kendra, Chandigarh

Asutrian Embassy, New Delhi

Goa Dance Festival, Sangeet Natak Akademy,

Collaborato, Veda Vyas Festival, Rourkela

2002: Koyl Club, Rourkela,

International Conference, NCDS, Bhubaneswar

Konark Dance and music Festival

Odisha Dance Academy, Bhubaneswar

Anjali National Children's Festival Bhubanesar

Guru Shishya Dance Festival, Shantikunj, Chandigarh

2004: International Buddha Mahostav, Bodh-Gaya, Bihar

2006: Solo Odissi Dance Festival, Odissi Research Centre and Sangeet Natak Akademy

Delhi, International Odissi Dance Festival, Rabindra Mandap, BBSSR

2007: Sur Singar Academy, Mumbai.

2008: National festival of Odissi Dance & Music Rabindra Mandap, Bhubaneswar.

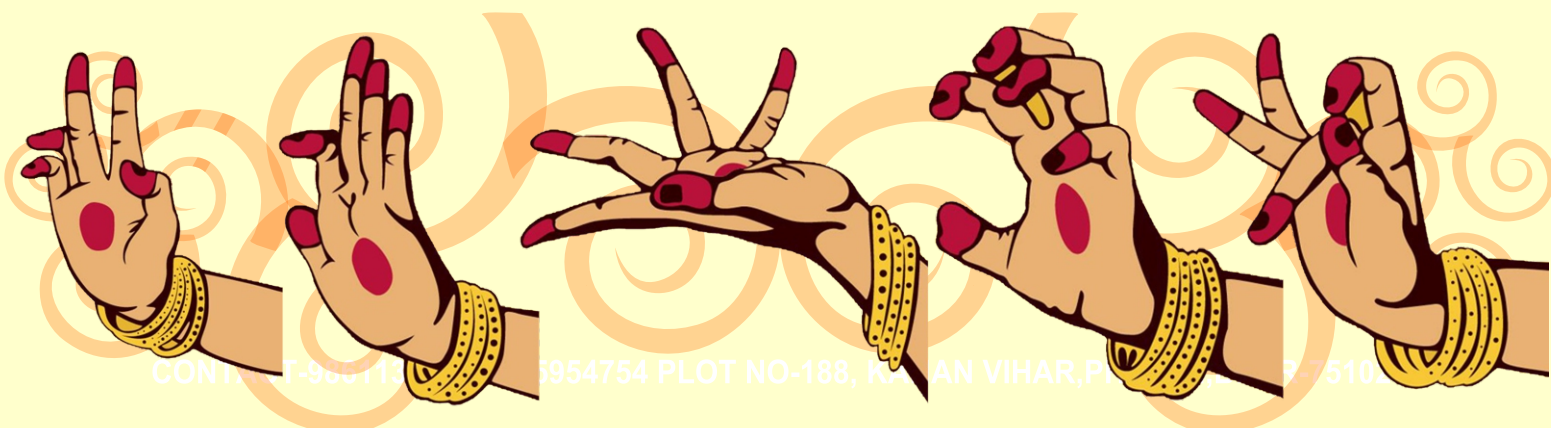
2009: World Disable Day, Vizag, Swami Haridas Sangeet Sammelani, Mumbai, ICCR, Bhubaneswar, Ravidra Mandap.

2010: Mukteshwar Festival, Bhubaneswar, Devdasi Festival, BBSSR.

International Odissi Dance Festival. Utkal Mandap, BBSSR

2011: 8<sup>th</sup> National Conference, BEFI. Bhubaneswar.

Raghurajpur Nrutya Utshav. Raghurajpur Guru Dhakhina Festival, Bhubaneswar



International Forest Week, Bhubaneswar  
 2012: Nrityantar- Naman Bangalore  
 Performance at various places in Japan  
 Odisha Festival, Kolkata  
 Odissi International Festival, Bhubaneswar  
 International Water Week,  
 Bhubaneswar  
 2013: Hingula Mohatsav, Talcher  
 Solo performance at Steel  
 Authority of India Limited,  
 Durgapur  
 24 Annual conference of Indian  
 society of organ transplantation in  
 KIIT University. Bhubaneswar  
 2014: Odissi International Festival  
 (government)  
 Odissi International Festival  
 Toshali Festival, Bhubaneswar  
 2017: Debakala Mahotshav, Ganjam  
 Chhanda Ninaad, Bhubaneswar  
 Odissi International Dance Festival, Bhubaneswar  
 2018: ICCR Program, Japan  
 Odissi Festival, Kolkata  
 Tumari Surutire, BBSSR  
 KIIT Felicitation Program  
 2015: Korean Kiit Seminar, Bhubaneswar  
 Workshop Kualaampur, Malaysia  
 Udayaraag Festival, Bhubaneswar  
 (privet), Bhubaneswar  
 5 Annual Function of Brundavan Gurkul, ICCR, Bhubaneswar  
 Khajuraho Dance Festival, Madhya Pradesh  
 Sorrya Festival, Kerala  
 2016: Soorya Festival, Dubai, Quat, Qutar, Baharian,  
 Muscat, UAE, Doha  
 Guru Debaprasad Das Jayanti Festival (GKCMR), BBSR



## **NRUTYA UPASANA PITHA**

\* Nrutya upasana pitha is an Institute of Indian Classical Dance & Music, started under the guidance of Bismillah Khan Awardee smt. Sonali Mohapatra in the year 1998. The Institute follows the pedagogy of guru Shri. Debaprasad Das.

Performances by Desciples of NUP

2002-06: At Doordarshan Colony, Bhubaneswar

2003: Cultural Program, Hyderabad

2004: For Doordarshan National Channel, Bhubaneswar

2006: Kumar Utsav, Cuttack

2007: Kala Sambaram, Vishakapatnam

2009: Cultural Function organized by Stusti, Bhubaneswar

2010: Boita Bandana Utsav, Angul

Jagannath Temple, near KIIT

International Forest Week, Bhubaneswar

Cultural Function organized by Shusti, Bhubaneswar

Kalaghoda festival, Mumbai

2011: 8<sup>th</sup> National Conference, BEFI

Ekamra Book Fair, Bhubaneswar

International Forest Week, Bhuaneswar

\*ICCR programme Bhubaneswar

Entertainment Ke Liye Kuch Bhi Karega, Mumbai, (Sony TV)

Cultural programme, Kerala

Pune festival, Pune

Cultural festival, Chandigarh

\*2012: Odisha Festival, Kolkata

International Odissi Dance Congress, Bhubaneswar

Vaishakhi festival, Bhubaneswar

Parab festival, Koraput

International Forest Week, Bhubaneswar

International Odissi Dance Festival, Bhubaneswar

Namchi festival, Sikkim Budha mahostshav, Patna

Sanskrutik samaroham, Chennai

\*2013: Hingula Mahotsav, Talcher

Odissi International Festival, Bhubaneswar

Chandha Nlanad, by Nrutya Upasana Pitha

2014: Odissi International Festival, Bhubaneswar

Cultural Programme Orgnized by KIIT, Hotel Trident,  
Bhubaneswar

2015: ICCR, Bhubaneswar

Annual function by NUP.

International Women's Day Institute for Social  
Development BBSR



*Guru Pankaj Charan Award Festival, Bhubaneswar*  
*Trade Fair, Bhubaneswar*  
*India International Dance Festival(IIDF), Bhubaneswar*  
*Debakala Utsav, Berhampur*  
*2016: Annual function*  
*Odissi International festival*  
*Devadasi Festival*  
*Toshali Festival, Bhubaneswar*  
*2017:Ranga Tarang Festival, Jharkhand*  
*Jagatshingpur Mahostsav, Jagatsinghpur*  
*Guru Deba Prasad Das Award Festival Bhubaneswar*  
*Parirambhanam- Annual Festival of NUP*  
*Indion Oil Function*  
*Chhanda Ninaad Festival of NUP*  
*Odissi International Dance festival*  
*2018: Golden Jubilee Odisha Economic Conference*  
*ICCR Program- Japan*  
*Parirambhanam 8th- Annual Festival of NUP*  
*Tumari Smrutire organized by GKCMORC*  
*IIDF, Bhubaneswar*



## Event organized by NUP

Every year, NUP organizes dance and music festivals, workshops and seminars to help boost the learning process for its students. With an aim to promote and celebrate the spirit of Dance and Music and our culture, NUP seeks new and creative ways to create a holistic space for both the art, artists and art lovers.

**Parirambhanam:-** This is the annual function organized to provide a platform for the young disciples of the institute to encourage and engage them. Students are given prizes and certificates according to their performances to encourage them.

**Manchapradasan:-** This is an opportunity for budding dancers to perform solo and have a space of their own to promote themselves and their dance. The student selected for this gets to perform live with a band of renowned musicals.

**Chhanda Ninaad:-** This is an international festival of Indian classical dance & music. It is a 3 day long festival to showcase the talents of world renowned artists. Pandits, Ustads, Padmashree, Padma vibhushan, and experts in different fields of art grace the festival.

**Sadhana:-** This is an International festival, where young and talented artists around the world come together to celebrate the richness of art and culture.

**Atithi Devo Bhava:-** Artist from outside the state and country are invited to the Institute to demonstrate their art and interact with the students.

Apart from the events;

NUP is the registered examination center.

Theory classes are regularly taken by the Guru to ensure a holistic learning for the students.

Students get the opportunity to practice with live Mardala wearing Ghungroo.

NUP organizes makeup, hairdo and costume tutorial classes at regular intervals.

NUP undertakes summer and winter workshops for students to learn new items.

Special classes on Taal is taken by the Guru.

Yoga classes are regularly given to the students to ensure better physical and mental health.

NUP undertakes different health camps.

NUP organizes plantation drive to promote greenery and a healthier environment.

We at NUP believe that no one is different and that it is through art, dance and music that we all come together. NUP has initiated a programme called "Wings of the Disable People" to make art inclusive and to make a positive impact on the society. People with hearing and speaking difficulties enroll at NUP to learn dance, music, painting, yoga and more recently, mask making. Inclusivity of the disabled people and removing the stigma around mental health and physical disability is a cause very dear to the institution.





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Regd. No.-1081130574



## Nrupya Upasana Pith

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