



## SABIR KHAN

Akademi Award: Hindustani Instrumental Music (Tabla)

Born on 4 December 1959 in Rampur in Uttar Pradesh, Shri Sabir Khan received his initial training in the Tabla from his grandfather Masit Khan. He was later groomed in the art by his father Karamatulla Khan, a noted representative of the Farukhabad gharana.

Shri Sabir Khan is today counted among our leading Tabla artists. Starting out young in the profession, he has accompanied some of the greats of Hindustani music such as Nisar Hussain Khan, Mallikarjun Mansur, Ravi Shankar, and Bismillah Khan. He continues to play with front-ranking musicians today — instrumentalists and vocalists — such as Rais Khan, Amjad Ali Khan, Hariprasad Chaurasia, and Girija Devi. Outside the field of classical music, Shri Sabir Khan has created a niche for himself as a composer and singer in the cinema. He has composed music for a diverse mix of films, such as the Hindi films *Kaala Jal* and *Dhwani*; the Bengali film *Duratwa*; the Tamil films *Adavi Ramandu*, *Shankar Lal*, and *Shruti*; and the English-language film *Every Seventh Man is a Muslim*. He has also sung on films such as *Maqbool* and *Yatra*. Despite these successes, Shri Sabir Khan remains committed to Tabla music, his primary vocation. He is founder-President of the Ustad Karamatulla Khan Music Society in Kolkata, an organization for the promotion of Tabla music. He has trained many students at this institution. Recordings of his music have been issued by major labels in India and other countries.

Sri Sabir Khan has been honoured with the title Talmani bestowed by the Swami Haridas Sangeet Sammelan Samiti (1976). He has received the title Aftab-e Tabla at the Rampur Music Conference (1990). He is the recipient also of an award from the Sur Singar Samsad, Mumbai (1991), and of the Bharat Nirman Award (2011) conferred in Kolkata. A documentary film on his work has been produced by the Government of West Bengal.

Shri Sabir Khan receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to Tabla music.