



RAJKUMAR PRIYAGOPAL SANA



I present to you, Madam, Rajkumar Shri Priyagopal Sana.

Born in 1919, Shri Priyagopal Sana belongs to the royal family of Manipur. His father Shri R.K. Suryaborosana was a noted exponent of Nata-Sankirana and Ras. Shri Priyagopal Sana learnt dance and music along with his formal education. His main teachers were his father, his grand-uncle Shri Chingsubam Ojha-Ibortombi and Shri Sagolsiem Ojha-Ibochaoba.

After completing his academic studies Shri Priyagopal Sana took to full-time teaching and performing of dance. He worked at various places, including the Nritya Kalaya, Calcutta; Hatising School, Ahmedabad; Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bombay; Fine Arts College, Lucknow; and the Kerala Kala Mandalam.

Shri Priyagopal Sana has been honoured for his work in dance by eminent cultural bodies. He has received the title of 'Nritya Guru' from the Manipur Sahitya Parishad and is a fellow of the Manipur State Kala Academy.

Shri Priyagopal Sana has travelled extensively, and was one of the first to take Manipuri dance abroad. He is also an acknowledged choreographer of merit and has produced many dance-dramas. For over ten years he has been the Principal of the Jawaharlal Nehru Manipuri Dance Academy, Imphal.

For his eminence in the field of dance and his contribution to its enrichment, Shri Rajkumar Priyagopal Sana receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for choreography for 1980.

