



ALOK PRAVA KANUNGO
Akademi Award: Odissi

Born on 26 November 1955 at Cuttack in Odisha, Shrimati Alok Prava Kanungo received her initial training in Odissi dance under Guru Raghunath Dutta, and later received intensive training in the art form under Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra.

An outstanding exponent of Odissi dance, Shrimati Alok Prava Kanungo, popularly known as Alok Kanungo, has won renown as a performer and has performed extensively, participating in prestigious festivals within the country and abroad including the Khajuraho festival, Konark festival, Nishagandhi festival, Soorya festival, Mudra festival, Kalidasa Samaroh, Uday Shankar Dance festival, Mukteshwar festival and festivals organized by the Sangeet Natak Akademi at Bhubaneswar, Jamshedpur, Bangalore, Kolkata, and Delhi. She has also travelled to the foreign shores for her performances such as Japan, U.K., Australia, UAE, Germany, Azerbaijan, Qatar, Egypt, Turkey, Myanmar, Nepal and Bangladesh. Shrimati Alok Prava Kanungo has undertaken several research projects on Bandha Nritya, Sabda Nritya and other aspects of Odissi dance and presented papers on these subjects in prestigious seminars across the country. She is also a recipient of the Junior and Senior fellowship for her research work on dance from the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. Shrimati Kanungo established her institution, Shinjan Nrityalaya in Kolkata where she continues to impart training in Odissi dance to young dancers.

Shrimati Alok Prava Kanungo has received several awards and honours for her service to Odissi, which include the Uday Shankar Award (1985); the Mahari Award (2001); and the Odisha Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2005).

Shrimati Alok Prava Kanungo receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for her contribution to Odissi dance.