



## **BHAJAN SOPORI**

AKADEMI AWARD: HINDUSTANI INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC/SANTOOR

Born in 1948 in Srinagar, Kashmir, in a family of traditional musicians, Shri Bhajan Sopori received his initial training in Santoor from his grandfather Shri S.C. Sopori and later received rigorous training under his father Shri Shambhoonath Sopori. He has distinguished himself as one of those few to have raised the Santoor to the level of a solo concert instrument.

Shri Bhajan Sopori has performed extensively in India and in England, U.S.A., Egypt, Trinidad and Tobago, and has issued a large number of gramophone records and cassettes. His style is marked by virtuosity, combining the *gayaki* and *tantrakari* aspects of music. He has also made a mark as a composer and has to his credit a number of songs and orchestral works for telefilms, documentaries, choirs and instrumental ensembles. He is at present employed as Assistant Director (Programmes) in All India Radio.

Shri Bhajan Sopori receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to Hindustani instrumental music.

# **Akademi Awards 1993**

