



D. PASUPATHI

Akademi Award: Carnatic Music (Vocal)

Shri Doraiswamy Pasupathi was born in 1931 at Tiruvannamalai in Tamil Nadu. He received his training in Carnatic vocal music under such stalwarts as Tiger Varadachariar, Budalur Krishnamurthy Sastrigal, T.K. Ramaswamy Iyengar, Mudikondan Venkatarama Iyer, and Mysore Vasudevacharya. Taking a Master's degree in music at Kalakshetra, Madras, Shri Pasupathi started teaching at the institution in 1957. Later, he joined the music department of Sri Venkateshwara College of Music and Dance affiliated to the Thirumala Thirupathi Devasthanam as its Principal. At the request of Rukmini Devi Arundale, he resumed teaching at Kalakshetra in 1995, when he was appointed Vice-Principal of the institution.

An accomplished Carnatic vocalist, Shri Pasupathi is also well known as a music composer for dance, and is proficient too in nattuvangam. His lifelong involvement with dance at Kalakshetra, together with his training in Bharatanatyam, have made him a much-sought-after composer of music for dance-dramas. Notable among these are Panchali Shabadam produced by Kalakshetra, and Thirukural Bharatam presented by V.P. Dhananjayan. He is also credited with composing and popularizing the Kirthanams of Annamacharya. He has produced an audio-cassette titled Vande Vasudevam, consisting of his renderings of Mysore Vasudevacharya's compositions, and a set of recordings of Annamacharya's Kirthanams.

Shri Pasupathi has been bestowed several honours by institutions in southern India. He is the Asthana Vidwana of the Thirumala Thirupathi Devasthanam.

Shri D. Pasupathi receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to Carnatic vocal music.