

L. IBEMHAL DEVI

Sangeet Natak Akademi deeply regrets that Smt. L. Ibemhal Devi, who receives the year's award for Manipuri Dance, passed away in December 1974.

Smt. Ibemhal Devi was born in 1879. She came of a long line of dancers belonging to the sacred Nata Kirtan tradition of Manipur. Her Gurus were Kanhai Sharma, Khomdan Sharma and Meiei Singh. She had the unique privilege of continuously serving from 1892 to 1940 Shri Govindji, the principal temple of Manipur, as Rasa dancer and Sutradhari:

Smt. Ibemhal Devi received decorations for her art from the Manipuri Sahitya Parishad and the Manipur State Kala Akademi.

For her eminence in the field of Dance and her contribution to its enrichment Smt. Ibemhal Devi has been given the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for Manipuri Dance.

