

b. 28-4-1896 d.

Award 1958

MUSIC: Carnatic Instrumental - Gottuvadyam

Sir,

I have the honour to present to you Shri Budalur Krishnamurthy Sastri, a foremost exponent of instrumental music of the Karnatic School.

Born at Andanallūr near Kumbhakonam, in Tanjore District, in 1896, in an illustrious family of musicians, he learnt vocal music under his father Shri Sethurama Sastrigal, a Harikatha performer. Later he took training in vocal music from Konevirajapuram Shri Vaidyanatha Iyer and Shri Muthia Bhagwatar. Shri Muthia Bhagwatar sometimes used the *Tanpura* itself as a *Gottuvadyam*. This captivated the young Krishnamurthy and he began playing the *Tanpura*, using a cocoon shell to glide over the strings. By constant practice and perseverance he attained great mastery and was privileged to learn from the eminent Gottuvadyam player Sakharam Rao.

Shri Krishnamurthy Sastri has been giving concerts continuously for the last 38 years. He has a passion for research and has developed an inimitable style of his own. His concerts have earned for him the admiration of *Sangita Vidwans* and *Rasikas*. He is at present lecturer at Kalakshetra, Adyar and the Central College of Karnatic Music, Madras.

For his pre-eminence in music and for his life long devotion and service to its cause, I pray, Sir, that you may be pleased to grant him recognition as a musician of the year in the field of Instrumental Music of the Karnatic School, and to award to him a *Shawl*, a gold *Shrinkhal*, and a *Sanad* in token of that recognition.

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