



L. LAKPATI SINGH
Akademi Award: Natasankirtan

Born in 1953 in Imphal, Shri L. Lakpati Singh received training in Natasankirtan from many gurus, including Th. Chauga Singh, N. Ibohal Singh, S. Kaliadaman Singh, Y. Birabari and K. Abhiram Saba. Learning from these gurus, he equipped himself equally in both the Cholam and the Ishet aspects of the Natasankirtan tradition. He also received training in associated Rajmel traditions from different teachers. He holds a post-graduate diploma from the Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy, Imphal.

Shri Lakpati Singh has earned wide renown in Manipur as a Natasankirtan artist representing the parampara of the illustrious Guru Gulapi. His rendition of Natasankirtan is highly sought after by the devout and the learned alike on important religious and cultural occasions. He has also taken his art to other parts of the country and is presently the lead singer of Natasankirtan at Sri Sri Govindji Temple.

Shri Lakpati Singh is also an eminent teacher of the art and has been teaching students at the Jawaharlal Nehru Manipuri Dance Academy for many years. He has initiated projects of research and revival of rare traditions of Manipur, and has undertaken comparative studies of Natasankirtan and the major traditions of Hindustani and Carnatic music. He has a publication to his credit, apart from audio-cassettes, and has received a Senior Fellowship from the Department of Culture, Government of India. For his eminence in the field of Natasankirtan, Shri Lakpati Singh has been honoured by the Sri Sri Govindji Temple Board of Manipur, the Manipur State Kala Akademi, and the Manipuri Sabitya Parishad.

Shri L. Lakpati Singh receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to Natasankirtan of Manipur.