



L. RAJAPPA

Akademi Award: Puppetry, Pondicherry

*Born in 1952 in Chinnasalem, Tamil Nadu, Shri Lakshamanan Rajappa is an eighth-generation puppeteer of traditional family of Tolu Bommalattam performers. He started performing in his childhood under the guidance of his father Shri Lakshmanan.*

*Shri Lakshmanan Rajappa has been recognized as an important puppeteer of the Tamil country; where Tolu Bommalattam has been nurtured as a people's art. He is at once a puppet-maker and manipulator and has written his own scripts for plays experimenting with new themes. His plays such as Nalla Thangal, Kovalan-Kannagi, Lav-Kush and Iranyan Samharama have been performed all over India.*

*Shri Lakshmanan Rajappa has received several honours for his work including the Kalaimamani conferred by the Government of Pondicherry in 2004.*

*Shri Lakshamanan Rajappa receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to Indian puppetry.*