



## Mankulam Vishnu Namboodiri

I present to you, Sir, Sri Mankulam Vishnu Namboodiri.

Born in 1910 in Keerikadu, Sri Vishnu Namboodiri received training in Kathakali from a young age from great masters like Sri Karutha Sankara Pillai, Sri Keerikadu Kochu Velu Pillai and Sri Kurichi Kunjan Panikkar. Sri Vishnu Namboodiri has won numerous medals and awards in recognition of his outstanding work as a Kathakali dancer and teacher. For some years now he is working as Principal of the Samastha Kerala Kathakali Vidyalayam at his native village, Keeirkadu.

Sri Vishnu Namboodiri has performed in several parts of India and in Ceylon, Singapore and America. A number of leading Kathakali dancers today are his disciples. He has also contributed Kathakali to some documentary and feature films.

For his eminence in the field of dance and his contribution to its enrichment, Sri Mankulam Vishnu Namboodiri receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for Kathakali.