



P.K. GOVINDAN NAMBIAR
Akademi Award: Kutiyattam

Sbri P. K. Govindan Nambiar was born in 1928 in Lakkidi, Kerala. He was trained in Kutiyattam by his father Mani Madhava Chakiyar in the traditional gurukula system. He also received training in Chakiyar Koothu, Padhakam, and Mizhavu.

Sbri Govindan Nambiar studied Sanskrit at the Balakollasini Sanskrit Pathashala under Sankaran Namboodiripad and Kalakkat Raman Nambiar. He acquired proficiency in the Hindi language during the Quit India movement through the activities of the Hindi Prachar Sabha. Sbri Nambiar later served as a Hindi teacher in the Model N.S.S. High School in Kerala.

Sbri Govindan Nambiar is known particularly for introducing Hindi in the presentation of Kuttiyattam, especially for the role of the Vidushaka. He has also composed new prabandhams for Koothu. Sbri Nambiar has translated his father's work Natyakalpadrumam from Malayalam into Hindi for Sangeet Natak Akademi. His Hindi works Vidushaka and Mattavilasa are currently under publication. He has been teaching Sanskrit to young artists under the Akademi's project in support of Kutiyattam.

For his work as a performer and teacher, Sbri Govindan Nambiar has been honoured with the title Sarasya Ratnakara by the house of the erstwhile Zamorins of Calicut. He received the Kerala Sangeetha Nataka Akademi Award in 2001.

Sbri P.K. Govindan Nambiar receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to Kutiyattam.