

I present to you, Madam, Kumari Radha and Kumari Jayalakshmi.

Kumari Jayalakshmi, born in 1938, and Kumari Radha, born in 1939, are cousins and they received their early training from Smt. Pattammal, mother of Kumari Jayalakshmi and an accomplished Veena player. Later, they had their training from Sri G.N. Balasubramaniam and his chief disciple Sri T.B. Balasubramaniam. Performing in the G.B.N. style, perfect rendition of compositions is their main forte.

They have received many titles and honours, among them 'Kalaimamanigal' from the Tamilnadu Eyal Esai Nataka Manram in 1977, Sangeetha Jnaniyar' from Sri Ganapathy Trust of London in 1980, 'Isai Selvam' from Muththamizh Peravai, Madras in 1980. They have given many recitals before distinguished gathering at several places in India and abroad. They have been frequently featured in the National Programme of the All India Radio and have also appeared on Television. They have many disc recordings to their credit.

For their eminence in the field of music and their contribution to its enrichment Kumari Jayalakshmi and Kumari Radha receive the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for Karnatak Vocal Music for 1981.