



SADASHIVA PRADHAN
Akademi Award: Chhau

Born on 3 February 1956 at Ghodasalia village of Puri district in Odisha, Shri Sadashiva Pradhan received his training in the Chhau dance of Mayurbhanj under the guidance of Shrihari Nayak, Lalmohan Patra and Shrikant Sen. Later, he obtained his postgraduate degree in Chhau dance from Utkal Sangeet Mahavidyalaya. He is a recipient of the Junior and Senior Fellowships from the Ministry of Culture for his research on Chhau dance techniques.

Shri Sadashiva Pradhan has distinguished himself both as a dancer and teacher. He has performed extensively within the country and abroad in prestigious dance festivals such as Khajuraho Dance festival, Puri Beach festival, Konark festival, Nrityanjali festival, Nitya Nritya festival, Kalidas Samaroh, and the festivals organized by the Sangeet Natak Akademi such as Sangeet Natak Akademi Award ceremony in Jaipur and Lucknow, Apna Utsav, Chhau Parv, and Intangible Cultural Heritage festival. He has also participated in the Festival of India held at Paris in France. Shri Sadashiva Pradhan has conducted lecture-demonstrations and presented papers in national seminars at several prestigious institutions and universities, and has taught Chhau dance at several institutions including the Mayur Art Centre from 1988 to 1995; and at the Utkal University in Bhubaneswar first as a guest lecturer from 2006 to 2013, and then as a regular faculty of Mayurbhanj Chhau dance from 2013 to 2016. Shri Pradhan has choreographed many dance-dramas and items for the Mayurbhanj Chhau dance repertoire including *Saptarathi*.

For his contribution in the field of Chhau dance, Shri Sadashiva Pradhan has been honoured with the Prajatantra Samman conferred by the Prajatantra Prachar Samiti in 2010; and the Guru Lingaraj Acharya Memorial Award conferred by the Acharya Chhau Nrutya Bichitra in 2014.

Shri Sadashiva Pradhan receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to the Chhau dance of Mayurbhanj.