



VASUNDHARA KOMKALI

Akademi Award: Hindustani Music (Vocal)

Born in 1931 in Jamshedpur, Shrimati Vasundhara Komkali received her training in music from Shri Kalipada Banerjee and Professor B.R. Deodhar, a doyen of the Gwalior gharana. Later, she studied music under her husband Pandit Kumar Gandharva.

One of the leading female vocalists of the country, Shrimati Vasundhara Komkali is the true representative and heir to the *gayaki* of the late Kumar Gandharva. Over a career in music spanning five decades, she has performed in notable music conferences in India and abroad. She has conceptualized and executed several theme concerts such as Geet Varsha, Geet Hemant, Geet Darshan, Aayee Badariya, Nirgunbani, etc. A regular broadcaster on All India Radio and Doordarshan, she has produced a number of audio-cassettes. Further, her music has been recorded for archival purposes by various organizations. She has published a book of Pandit Kumar Gandharva's compositions.

For her services to music, Shrimati Vasundhara Komkali has received several honours including the Vasundhara Puraskar bestowed in 2002 by the Bharat Gayan Samaj, Pune, the P. L. Deshpande Sanman also that year, and the Padma Shri conferred in 2006.

Shrimati Vasundhara Komkali receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for her contribution to Hindustani vocal music.