

Vedantam Paarvathisam (1920-2005):

Son of Smt. Punnavathamma and Venkata Subbayya; initially trained by Yeleswarapu Sitharaamaanjaneyulu; himself a performer, he gave performances in the Jaipur and Delhi Congress sessions and performed all over India.

One of the founder members of SIDDHENDRA KALAKSHETRA, along with Banda Kanakalingeswara Rao at Kuchipudi in 1957; since its inception, he worked there and retired as its Principal.

Trained students in Kuchipudi dance form for over fifty years; some of his well known disciples include Vedaantham Ratthayya Sarma, Yeleswarapu Nageswara Sarma, Chintha Ramamu, Pasumarthi Kesava Prasad, Bhaagavathula Mohan Rao; portrayed the roles of KRISHNA, ABHIMANYU and Chandramathi.

Paarvathisam is not merely a former-teacher but a prolific writer too; his PAARATHISU KIRTHANALU and dance dramas were regularly published in NATYAKALA, a monthly journal dedicated to arts, dance and drama, in particular published by Andhra Pradesh Sangeet Natak Akademi, Hyderabad; his published works are namely, the edited versions of BHAAMAKALAAPAM of Siddhendra Yogi (1964), PRAHLADA NATAKAM, KUCHIPUDI NAATYA DARPANAM, KUCHIPUDI MELA KARTHALU (1981), GOALAAPAM (1986) and NRITYA THARANGINI (1988); unpublished works are CHINTHAAMANI, USHA PARINAYAM, HARISCHANDRA, PAGATIVESHAALU, NAATYAMELA, RAASALEELA, ASRUTH, JAMUKULAGEAALU, SARADA VESHAM, DURJATTI KALAAPAM; received first prize in 1991 for one of his books from the Telugu University besides many other honours.

The singular contribution of Paarvathisam to the field of Kuchipudi lay in the preparation and compilation of the basics of Kuchipudi dance mainly meant for the learners and also the documentation of a few traditional dance dramas and PAGATI VESHAS.

