



KRISHNA RAM CHOUDHARY

Akademi Award: Hindustani Instrumental Music (Shehnai)

Shri Krishna Ram Choudhary was born in 1936 in Benaras, and was groomed in the Benaras style of Shehnai at home by his father Buddh Lal Choudhary, a disciple of Pandit Bade Ram Das. He further learnt the nuances of raga-exposition and the advanced technique of Shehnai from Pandit Mahadev Prasad Mishra of the Benaras gharana. His uncle Ram Lal Sehara, a film music director, was also among his teachers in Shehnai.

An accomplished musician, Shri Krishna Ram Choudhary has received wide acclaim for his performances, in which he renders Hindustani classical forms as well as Thumri, Dadra, Chaiti, Kajri, and Hori on the Shehnai. Besides solo performances, he has accompanied leading musicians on his instrument, including V.G. Jog, Kishan Maharaj, Samta Prasad Mishra, Manilal Nag, Shujat Khan and Nishat Khan. He has performed widely, in festivals including the Ustad Allaiddin Khan Music Conference at Maihar, the Swami Haridas Music Conference in Mumbai, the Tansen Sangeet Sammelan in Gwalior, the ITC Sangeet Sammelan in Calcutta, the Shankar Lal Music Festival in Delhi, and the Saptak Music Conference at Ahmedabad. He performs regularly on All India Radio and Doordarshan.

Among other honours, Shri Choudhary has received the President's Award in the All India Radio music competition in 1961, the Critics' Circle of India Award in 1982, and the Uttar Pradesh Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1991.

Shri Krishna Ram Choudhary receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to Hindustani instrumental music.