



MANGI BAI ARYA

Akademi Award: Mand (Rajasthan)

Shrimati Mangi Bai Arya was born in Pratapgarh, Rajasthan, into a family of traditional musicians. She was trained in rendering the Mand song of the region by her father Kamal Ram.

A graded artist of All India Radio and Doordarshan, Shrimati Mangi Bai is considered to be one of the most accomplished performers of Rajasthan's traditional music today. She has given numerous performances all over the country propagating Rajasthan's musical heritage, including those at Apna Utsav in Mumbai, Mahabharat Utsav at Kurukshetra, and the Mand Samaroh organized by the Rajasthan Sangeet Natak Akademi. She has a large number of published recordings, and has lent her voice for many television serials and documentaries on the traditional music of Rajasthan. She has taught Mand music for twenty years at the West Zone Cultural Centre in Udaipur, and has besides participated in workshops on traditional music organized by the Marudhara foundation in Kolkata and by the Jawahar Kala Kendra in Jaipur. She has published a book on the subject, titled *Rajasthan ke Mand Geet*.

For her service to Rajasthani music, Shrimati Mangi Bai has been conferred the title Mand Gayika by the Rajasthan Sangeet Natak Akademi in 2008. She also won the State Award of the Government of Rajasthan in 2007.

Shrimati Mangi Bai Arya receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for her contribution to the Mand music of Rajasthan.