



HELEN GIRI

Akademi Award: Folk and Traditional Music (Meghalaya)

Born on 7 February 1944, Shrimati Helen Giri is a distinguished folk and traditional artist from Meghalaya, renowned for her tireless efforts in the promotion and preservation of Khasi dance. As a top-grade folk singer of All India Radio, she has been instrumental in bringing Khasi traditional music to national platforms. Her performances as a singer at various State, National, and International levels have garnered widespread recognition. Not only has she actively participated in numerous programmes and festivals, but she has also organized festivals dedicated to traditional music and dance in Meghalaya, which have been warmly embraced by the community. Through her dedicated work, she has sparked a revival in the field of arts and culture, particularly in the context of Khasi traditions. Furthermore, Shrimati Helen Giri has taken initiatives to identify Master Craftsmen skilled in various categories of musical instruments. This endeavour has not only preserved the artistry but also served as an avenue for income generation in the villages she has supported. Her multifaceted contributions have significantly enriched the cultural landscape of Meghalaya.

Shrimati Helen Giri has been honoured with the Padma Shri for her contribution to the Arts and Culture of Meghalaya.

Shrimati Helen Giri receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for the year 2023 for her contribution to the folk and traditional music of Meghalaya.