



GANGUBAI HANGAL

Fellowship of the Akademi

Born in 1913 in Dharwad, Karnataka, in a family of musicians, Shrimati Gangubai Hangal was initiated in music by her mother, Ambabai Hangal. She was later a disciple of Rambabu Kundgolkar, better known as Sawai Gandharva.

One of the foremost exponents of the Kirana gharana and among our front-ranking Hindustani vocalists, Gangubai Hangal has enriched Indian music by her own unique talents. Gifted with a resonant and flexible voice, she has a repertoire which is rich and diverse.

For her service to music Gangubai Hangal has received many honours. She received the Mysore State Akademi Award in 1962, the Padma Bhushan in 1971, and the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1973. An honorary doctorate was conferred on her by Karnataka University in 1976. The Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Assam have honoured her with the Tansen Award (1984) and the Shrimant Shankar Dev Award (1994) respectively. She has served as a member of the Legislative Assembly of Karnataka. A film on her life and work has been made by Vijaya Muley.

For her contribution to Indian music Shrimati Gangubai Hangal is elected Fellow of Sangeet Natak Akademi.



Akademi Awards 1996