



## MARATHE VENKATESHKUMAR

Akademi Award: Hindustani Vocal Music

Born on 1 July 1953 in Bellary, Karnataka, Shri Marathe Venkateshkumar was initiated into music by his father Shri Huleppa. He further honed his art under Puttaraj Gawai of the Kirana gharana.

Gifted with a robust and vibrant voice, Shri M. Venkateshkumar has carved out a niche for himself in the field of Hindustani music. He has trained a number of students, and is currently serving as Lecturer in vocal music at the College of Music and Fine Arts, University of Dharwad. A regular performer on All India Radio and Doordarshan, Shri Venkateshkumar has presented his art before audiences both in India and abroad. He has many recordings to his credit.

For his service to music, Shri Venkateshkumar has been conferred the Karnataka Rajyotsava Award (1999) and the Karnataka Sangeet Nritya Academy Award (2007), both by the Government of Karnataka.

Shri Marathe Venkateshkumar receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to Hindustani vocal music.