



## **GOPAL CHANDRA PANDA**

Akademi Award: Odissi Music

Born on 17 June 1940 in Bhadrak, Orissa, Shri Gopal Chandra Panda was initiated into music by his elder brother Nand Kishore. He was later groomed in the art by Shyam Sundar Kar, Kundaladi Narayan, and Gobind Chandra Paluskar.

An eminent figure in the field of Odissi music, Shri Gopal Chandra Panda has worked as Head of the Department of Odissi Music at the Utkal Sangeet Mahavidyalaya, Bhubaneswar. In this position, he has trained many students in the genre of Odissi music, and by his diligence in collecting lyrics won renown as a repository of the art. He has published several volumes of Odissi compositions with notations such as *Shree Geetgovinda*, and has also issued some audio recordings. For research in the field, he has received a Senior Research Fellowship from the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. He has performed at several music festivals in the country.

For his service to Odissi music, Shri Gopal Chandra Panda has been honoured with several prestigious awards. These include the Orissa Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2000), and the Kelucharan Mohapatra Award (2009) given by Srjan, Orissa.

Shri Gopal Chandra Panda receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to Odissi music.