



Prof. M Samba Siva Raju,
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Department of Dance
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Prof. M Samba Siva Raju is specialized in Sound (Dhwani). He has a rare combination of having a thorough knowledge of music (Carnatic) and dance (Kuchipudi and Bharatanatyam). He always believes in the sound that motivates the movement. He feels that the sound dictates the movement of grammar/vocabulary. The whole grammar of movement patterns of any dance form relies upon the permutation and combinations of sound vibration, sound sustenance, and sound evaporation. He speaks to his students that nothing is simple and nothing is complex. A simple sound can be made very complex and similarly, a complex sound can be made very simple. It all depends on the way each individual looks at it. The human body of a dancer draws beautiful drawing lines on the space given just as a painter draws on canvas. Though his background initially was traditional, he changed his approach totally after entering the

modern educational system. He believes the dance and the music are abstract. He always says that the human body should not confine to a particular grammar but it should always get exposed to as many languages as possible. Then the movement vocabulary will become more poetic.

Besides, Prof. Samba Siva Raju is an established dancer, music composer, and choreographer. He has designed and choreographed more than a dozen dance ballets, six large group compositions using about 500 participants for national events, and many solo numbers, which received appreciation from the art lovers. He also designed and produced dance compositions for electronic media too

Presently, Prof. Samba Siva Raju is working as a professor in the Department of Dance, S.N. School of Arts and Communication, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, and has completed 22 years of his teaching (regular) at the University of Hyderabad. He completed his headship between 2015 - and 2018. He is presently heading the department of music.

His Academic Qualifications:

Ph.D. 'Pahlada Yakshaganam'(a comparative study of Kūchipūdi and Melattur dance traditions), University of Hyderabad - 1997.

M.P.A (Master of Performing Arts (dance) with First Division, University of Hyderabad - 1989-91.

B. Com, Andhra University - 1986

Certificates in Kuchipudi and Bharata Natyam - 1984 - 85 from Govt. Music and Dance Colleges.

His areas of Interest:

- Comparative Dance Studies,
- Musical Aspects of Dance,
- Dance-Music,
- Rhythm, and Movement,
- and Choreography.

Courses taught:

- Musical Aspects of Dance - 1
- Musical Aspects of Dance - II
- Research Methodology
- Project Work (Dissertation)
- Technical Aspects of Dance Performance (coordinator)
- Arts Management and Digital Arts (Coordinator)
- Advanced Research Methodology (PhD course work)

His Traditional Training:

Kuchipudi

Learned initial techniques in Kuchipudi dance for 7 years under the able guidance of Sri Pasumarthy Seetaramayya, a traditional Kuchipudi Guru of Visakhapatnam from 1978 - to 85.

Learned advanced techniques in Kuchipudi dance for 4 years under the able guidance of Sri Hemadri Chidambara Deekshitulu, a traditional Kuchipudi guru of Rajahmundry from 1986 to- 89.

Learned more advanced techniques in Kuchipudi for 1 year from Sri Vedantam Prahlada Sarma of Kuchipudi village as part of the course from 1989 -

Bharatanatyam:

He learned Bharata Natyam for 5 years under the able guidance of Sri C.Ramamurthy, Vizianagaram from 1980 - to 85.

Abhinaya

Learned the techniques of Abhinaya and the nuances and dynamics of the Tala System from **Padmasri Dr. Nataraja Rama Krishna**

Carnatic Music:

Learned art Carnatic Music vocal for 8 years under the able guidance of Sri Chintalapati Varahala Raju of Chodavaram during 1980 - 88

He learned Carnatic Music vocal years under the able guidance of Sri Late SriTampalla Suryanarayana during 1992 - 96

Tala Sastra and its dynamics:

He learned advanced techniques and tala calculations for nearly 9 years from Sri Chintalapati Varahala Raju of Chodavaram from 1980 - to 1989.

Teaching Experience:

Before he joined the University (2001) as a permanent faculty he has been working as a guest faculty and teaching the master's students, the courses on Tala System and Music for Dance from 1993 onwards till 2000. Having nearly 30 of teaching Experience.

Innovation in Teaching

Did innovation in teaching by introducing a course titled 'Musical Aspects of Dance - I' & II' for the first time at the Post-Graduate level in order for the students of dance in managing /dealing musical components of dance performance in which they are involved as either a Performer/Choreographer or Nattuvanar. To help them get the music composed for their dance performance according to their design/vision by collaborating knowledgeably with the music composer. To help them perform/choreograph a dance properly appreciating, understanding, experiencing, and responding to the music used for it. The course consists of both theory and practical. The theory component includes the knowledge of concepts. The practical component includes listening, reporting/appreciating/criticizing/and reviewing music.

Developed Curriculum

Actively involved in the Curriculum Development of the MPA Dance Programme for the Department of Dance, S. N. School of Arts and Communication, University of Hyderabad. Most of the courses have been designed by me to broaden the current context of teaching dance. The curriculum for the dance department came into force from the academic year 2003 - 2004.

Designed Curriculum for One-year PG Diploma Course in Dance Choreography for the department of dance, S.N.School of Arts and Communication, University of Hyderabad.

His Choreographies:

Concept designed and choreographed dance ballet titled 'Parvathi Kalyanam' based on the mythology, written by Brahmasri Dr. Madugula Nagaphani Sarma in the year 1992.

Choreographed dance ballet titled 'Gurubhyannamaha' theme based on the relation between the teacher and the student which has been staged on the occasion of Teacher's Day at Ravindra Bharati.

Choreographed and concept conceived for the ballet titled 'Gnananidhi' theme based on the Guru Shishya relation staged at Ravindra Bharati in the year 1995

Choreographed and concept designed for the ballet titled 'Kanyaka' theme based on the poetic work by Sri Gurajada Appa Rao. It is actually a small poem written by the above author with the title 'Mutyalasaralu'. Staged at Ravindra Bharati on the occasion of SKNA's annual day celebration in the year 1996.

Choreographed and concept conceived for the ballet titled 'Ekalavya'. Though theme has taken from the mythology it has been contemporized for today's life. This has staged at Ravindra Bharati in the month of 1997.

Choreographed all group dance numbers with the students of St. Ann's Junior College and St. Ann's school on the occasion of their centenary celebrations in the last week of December 1997 at Phirangipuram village, Guntur District.

Choreographed ballet titled 'Navadurgalu' staged at Ravindra Bharati in the year 1998.

Choreographed all the group numbers for St. Joseph's school for their cultural celebrations in the month of March, 1998. In which I composed and choreographed dance ballet 'Gnana Nidhi' and two folk group dances and one patriotic dance.

Choreographed ballet titled 'Navagraha' staged at Ravindra Bharati in the year 1999.

Choreographed Dance ballet titled 'Prahlada Rahasyam' a re-interpretation of Prahlada Yakshaganam', staged on the 19th May, 1999 at Ravindra Bharati. This was a pre-show for the final production which has been staged on the 12th February, 2000 under the scheme for financial assistance to professional groups and individuals for specified performing arts projects, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Culture, New Delhi.

Choreographed the entire group dance numbers with the students of St. Ann's in connection with the Republic day celebrations on 26th January 1999.

Choreographed a group dance piece with 50 girls for the song 'Vandemataram', staged on 28th January 2000 on the occasion of St. Ann's annual day celebrations.

Choreographed and directed a dance ballet titled 'Papam Chittiguvvalu' subject based on the problems faced by present generation's pressure on the education (EMCET) on 28th and 29th January 2000, staged at St. Ann's Auditorium, Hyderabad.

Designed and composed solo and group dance items, under the title of 'Nritya Vinyasam' - A series of Classical Solo & Group Dances - for the students SKNA on the occasion of its anniversary celebrations on the 15th of May, 2000 at Ravindra Bharati Auditorium.

Choreographed a group dance with the students of St. Ann's titled 'Holi' on the occasion of their annual day celebrations, staged at their own auditorium on 28th January 2000.

Choreographed dance ballet based on biblical story titled 'Sahasrabdhi Premaduta' in connection with the annual day celebrations, staged on 29th January, 2000 at St. Ann's auditorium.

Choreographed a group dance for the students St. Ann's Degree College on the occasion of Science Congress conducted by Osmania University during February / March, 2000 at University campus.

Carried out actors training, music composition and dance choreography for the play 'Donga Sattaih' produced by Janapadam nataka Repertory and

directed by Sri Denchanala Srinivas, Hyderabad from 6th June to 6th July, 2001, staged at Ravindra Bharati on 7th July, 2001.

Presented a dance ballet 'Ekalavya' on the occasion of annual day festival of St. Ann's congregation held at Jedcharla village, Mahaboobnagar Dist. In the month of November 2001, for which I have done music composition and dance choreography. Apart from ballet a classical group dance, two folk group dances and one patriotic dance have also been presented on the occasion.

Choreographed dance ballet titled 'Rakshadudu' for St. Ann's congregation in the month of January 2002.

Choreographed a group piece titled "**Nadanu Nadam**" with the discipline students on the occasion of felicitation to Magsaysay Awardee, Smt. Santha Sinha was organized by the University of Hyderabad in September/October 2003.

Composed and choreographed three new dance numbers for SKNA organization for their Annual day celebrations held on 07.07.04.

Composed and Choreographed 5 new group compositions for SKNA organization for their Annual day celebrations held on 15th June 2005.

A group choreography entitled "Sand Spree" with IIIT students for their Fest - February 2007.

Choreographed, composed music, and directed the major production *Premaduta*, (a ballet based on the story of Jesus Christ) with the students of Dance Department and other Departments (nearly 40 members) as part of the discipline production presented at Ravindra Bharati, Hyderabad on March 22, 2007.

Concept designed, Choreographed, and directed an experimental stage show at Hi-tech City using popular film songs (selected) from Telugu and Hindi from 1950 to 2009 on a live orchestra on 25th January 2009.

Designed and choreographed a ballet theme based on the present education system entitled 'Healthy Body Healthy Mind and Education in Humanism' on

9th October 2010 at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Ranga Reddy, Andhra Pradesh and organized by Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, New Delhi.

Conducted a Kuchipudi dance recital on 21st March 2014 on the eve of Celebration of Regional Cultures of Andhra Pradesh, organized by Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya (National Museum of Mankind) an autonomous organization of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.

Choreography on a large scale

- **RANGOLI**

Choreographed a magnificent dance show with 350 girls, titled 'RANGOLI' based on L.Subrahmanyam's Neofusion. The emphasis was on sound, vision, and movement. This was presented on the occasion of Children's Day celebrations held at Lal Bahadur Stadium in the year 1993.

- **QUOVADIS**

The concept is based on pollution, choreographed in the year 1994 - 95 at L.B.Stadium.

- **MUD-RHYTHMS**

The concept is based on village atmosphere, choreographed for St. Ann's on the occasion of its sports day celebrations 1996-97.

- **SANDSPREE**

The concept is based on Arabian Sound and Movements and choreographed for St. Ann's presented at L.B Stadium in the year 1997.

Choreography for Electronic Media:

He has done many compositions for the electronic media too.

Composed ballets for Door Darshan

1. Parvathi Kalyanam
2. Gnananidhi
3. Navadurgalu
4. Navagraha

Music Composition

Apart from many solo songs and group dance pieces, the following ballets were composed.

1. ParvathiKalyanam
2. Gurubhyonnamaha
3. Ekalavya
4. Kanyaka
5. Gnananidhi
6. Navadurgalu
7. Navagraha
8. Alvarlu Kathalu (serial for Doordarshan)

Composed music for a title song for the serial titled 'Madhuras' telecast on MAA channel.

He Composed music apart from traditional dance numbers, for many solo dance compositions, and many theme music pieces.

His Publications/books/articles:

Published a Book

- A book in English titled '**Dancing to Play or to Pray**' a comparative study of Prahlada Yakshaganam in Kuchipudi and Melattur Bhagavata Mela Traditions, published by Kanishka Publishers, Distributors, (ISBN 978-81-8457-221-6) Ansari Road, Darya Ganj, New Delhi, 2010.
- Published an article in a special issue as part of the 4th International Telugu conference held at Tirupati titled "Aatakaccheri Marugunapadda Mana Sangeeta Sampradam" published by Potti Sreeramulu Telugu University, December 2012 page- 559-61.
- An article titled 'Musical Knowledge Shapes Dance Vision' was published in a book (edited volume) entitled 'Aesthetics and Culture - Performing Arts' by Ruby Press & Co, 3834/XI, Shanti Niketan Building, IIInd Floor, Pataudi House Road, Daryaganj, New Delhi - 110002, 2015. ISBN: 978-93-82395-71-3.
- Edited a book along with one of my scholars entitled 'Aesthetics and Culture - Performing Arts' published by Ruby Press & Co, 3834/XI, Shanti

Niketan Building, IIInd Floor, Pataudi House Road, Daryaganj, New Delhi - 110002, 2015. ISBN: 978-93-82395-71-3.

- Edited a book along with one of my scholars entitled ' Portrayal of Indian Culture' published by Ruby Press & Co, 3834/XI, Shanti Niketan Building, IIInd Floor, Pataudi House Road, Daryaganj, New Delhi - 110002, ISBN No. 938239536-9, 2016.
- An article 'Nothing means everything, in a book entitled 'Portrayal of Indian Culture' published by Ruby Press & Co, 3834/XI, Shanti Niketan Building, IIInd Floor, Pataudi House Road, Daryaganj, New Delhi - 110002, ISBN No. 938239536-9, 2016.
- An article 'Dance Theatre as Worship', in a book entitled 'Portrayal of Indian Culture' published by Ruby Press & Co, 3834/XI, Shanti Niketan Building, IIInd Floor, Pataudi House Road, Daryaganj, New Delhi - 110002, ISBN No. 938239536-9, 2016.
- Jointly published an article with one of my research scholars Ms.Smitha Madhav entitled: Pandanallur Bani, A delectable blend of Tradition, Musicality, Aesthetics, and Antiquity in International Education and Research Journal, published with Peer-Reviewed (Referred) Journal in Volume 6, Issue, 12, E-ISSN No.2454-9916, December 2020.
- Smitha Madhav has jointly published an article with her supervisor Prof. M S Siva Raju entitled: Pandanallur Bani, A Delectable Blend of Tradition, Musicality, Aesthetics, and Antiquity in International Education and Research Journal, published in Peer-Reviewed (Referred) Journal in Volume 6, Issue, 12, E-ISSN No.2454-9916, December 2020.
- Jointly published an article with one of my research scholars Ms. Smitha Madhav entitled: 'Kalakshetra Rukmini Kalyanam - Parisheelana' by Telangana Sangeet Natak Akademi in July 2021 and the ISBN No.978-81-952263-0-6.
- Jointly published an article with one of my research scholars Ms. Smitha Madhav entitled: 'Bharatanatyam Dance Music - Then and Now' by

Telangana Sangeet Natak Akademi in July 2021 and the ISBN No.978-81-952263-1-3.

- Ms. Smitha Madhav jointly published an article with her supervisor Prof. M S Siva Raju entitled: 'Kalakshetra Rukmini Kalyanam - Parisheelana' by Telangana Sangeet Natak Akademi in the July 2021 and the ISBN No.978-81-952263-0-6.
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- And another article also jointly published with the same scholar on A Delectable Blend of Tradition, Musicality, Aesthetics, and Antiquity in International Education and Research Journal, published with Peer-Reviewed (Referred) Journal in Volume 6, Issue, 12, E-ISSN No.2454-9916, December 2020.
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- Have jointly published an article with one of my research scholars Ms. Smitha Madhav entitled: 'Innovations in Laya in the field of Bharatanatyam in the post-modern era Yatra of Music & dance through ages- Alagappa University April 2021.