## Arsha Kala Bhushanam Award Ceremony

Arsha Vidya Gurukulam, Anaikatti under the banner of its cultural wing Arsha Kalarangam organized a colourful function on February 28, 2016 at Mani Higher Secondary School, Coimbatore and conferred Arsha Kala Bhushanam awards to highly acclaimed five carnatic musicians and two bharata natyam dancers. The awards were presented by Swami Omkarananda of Sri Chidbhavananda Ashram, Theni.

Pavithra Srinivasan eloquently conducted the events as the master of ceremony.

**MUSIC:** Dayananda Sisters rendered kritis of Pujya Swamiji expressing deep devotion, affection and love for their Guru.

**INAUGURAL ADDRESS:** Swami Sadatmananda welcomed the gathering.

**AWARDS PRESENTATION:** Swami Omkarananda presented the awardees with a citation, a purse of Rs. one lac and a silk shawl. They were conferred the title Arsha Kala Bhushanam.

**ACCEPTANCE SPEECH:** The awardees thanked Pujya Swamiji for selecting them for this award and honouring them. They said they missed receiving the award from the hands of Pujya Swamiji himself.

Neyveli Santhanagopalan and Karaikudi Mani could not attend the function due to other commitments and their representatives received the awards.

**SWAMI OMKARANANDA'S ANUGRAHA BHASHANAM:** Swami Omkarananda said that Pujya Swamiji is worship-worthy and hence to be remembered in the early morning. He quoted Bharatiyar's song where it is mentioned that Goddess Saraswati resides in all places including music and dance. All the fine-arts are integral part of the temple worship as per tradition. For instance in Thiruvidaimarudur temple, there are many sculptures which depict various dance postures and in all traditional temples, music/dance are offered as one of the steps in the deity worship. Like yagna, music and dance rendered with devotion results in punya.

Thus one can easily relate to Ishvara through music and dance. Keeping this in mind Pujya Swamiji, although was a traditional teacher of Vedanta, due to his broad outlook, promoted fine arts. Pujya Swamiji may not be here physically but by occupying every one's mind his absence is not felt.

Swami Omkaranandaji blessed the awardees and all those present

#### FELICITATION TO SRI KRISHNAN

Sri Krishnan of Krishna Sweets was felicitated for the services he rendered towards the Arsha Kala Bhushanam annual functions. He was presented with shawl by Swami Omkaranandaji.

**VOCAL MUSIC BY SMT ARUNA SAIRAM:** It was not just the usual carnatic music concert. The artist with her emotive energy and devotional fervor transported the audience to a divine world. She kept the audience spell bound by her multi lingual kritis and majority of the crowd did not leave although it was very late in the evening. The concert ended with AIM for Seva motto song.

**VOTE OF THANKS: Swami Sankarananda** proposed a vote of thanks.



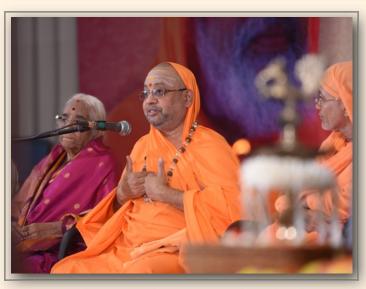
Shraddhanjali to Pujya Swamiji



Music by DayanandaSisters



Inagural address by Swami Sadatmanandaji



Swami Omkarananda's Anugraha Bhashanam



Swamijis along with awardees





Felicitation to Sri Krishnan.



Vote of thanks by Swami Shankaranandaji



Solemn Function



Vocal Music by Smt. Aruna Sairam and group



Section of audience



## Awardees, Citation and Award

#### Sri Chitravina N. Ravikiran

for his admirable contribution to Indian and World music through his scholarship, performances, compositions, creativity, classicism, teaching and commitment to promote & preserve tradition.

on this day, the11th July, 2015.

Swami Dayananda Saraswati

#### Sri Neyveli R. Santhanagopalan

for his admirable contribution to Carnatic music through critically acclaimed performances and nourishing the classical musical tradition as an accomplished performer, an erudite scholar, an innovative educator and an inspiring Guru,.

on this day, the 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2015.

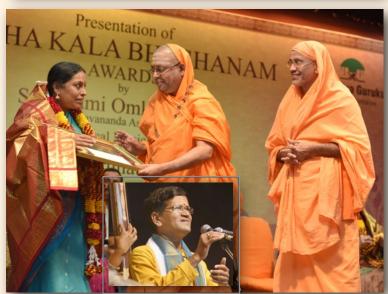
Swami Dayananda Saraswati

#### Sri Guru Kaaraikkudi Mani

for his admirable contribution to music through performances bringing out the sophistication & importance of rhythm in music, pioneering the sruti-laya percussion ensemble, conforming to tradition and for being an inspiring guru.

on this day, the 11th july, 2015. Swami Dayananda Saraswati

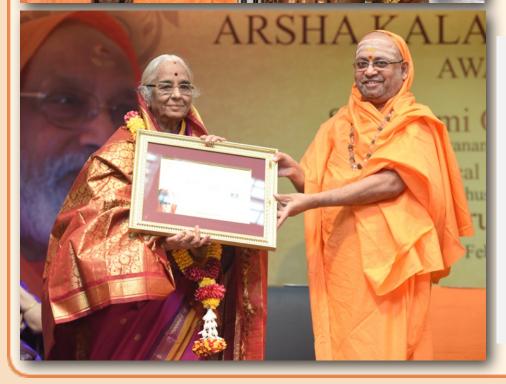












#### Smt T.Rukmini

for her admirable contribution to Carnatic music as a violin maestro creating a generation of performers and teachers and preserving tradition.

on this day, the 11<sup>th</sup> of July, 2015.

Swami Dayananda Saraswati

# Smt. Shanta Dhananjayan and Sri. V.P. Dhananjayan

for their unique contribution in the field of classical Bharatanatyam, for creating a generation of artists, both in India and the U.S.A., each carrying the proud seal of the Dhananjayans abhinaya on this day, the 11th July,

on this day, the 11th July, 2015.

Swami Dayananda Saraswati

### Sangita Kalanidhi

#### Dr. R. Vedavalli

for her admirable contribution to vocal Carnatic music through her performances, keenly researched lecture demonstrations and publications, staggering multi-lingual repertoire and mastery over musical improvisations conforming to tradition.

on this day, the11th July, 2015.

Swami Dayananda Saraswati

Report by N. Avinashilingam