

INDIAN CLASSICAL DANCES

PART- I

India has many dances, coming from every state in the country. The classical dance forms recognised by the Sangeet Natak Akademi and the Ministry of Culture, Government of India are:

1. **Bharatanatyam**, from Tamil Nadu
2. **Kathak**, from Uttar Pradesh
3. **Kathakali**, from Kerala
4. **Kuchipudi**, from Andhra Pradesh
5. **Odissi**, from Odisha
6. **Sattriya**, from Assam
7. **Manipuri**, from Manipur
8. **Mohiniyattam**, from Kerala

Bharatanatyam, Tamil Nadu (Southern India)

Bharatanatyam of Tamil Nadu in southern India has grown out of the art of dancers dedicated to temples, and was earlier known as Sadir or Dasi Attam.

Bharatanatyam



A Bharatanatyam dancer

Kathak (Northern India)

Kathak is the principal dance of northern India, and is widely practised in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Delhi, and Madhya Pradesh. It is believed to be connected with the narrative art of Kathakaras or story-tellers who have expounded the scriptures, the epics Ramayana and Mahabharata, and puranic literature to the lay masses since ancient times.

Kathak



The repertoire of Kathak performance