

>**Title:** Need to declare Odissi vocal as a classical music-Laid.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK) : Odissi vocal song has found a place of appreciation as a classical form of art since 12th century. It was during that period the famous Oriya poet cum singer Bhaktakabi Jai Dev composed "Geeta Govinda" which is sung in Sri Jagannath Temple of Puri on various ragas and talas. This practice is still in force and "Geeta Govinda" is sung daily in the Temple based on its own style. The images depicted in the medieval temples of Orissa are proof of the dance form of song and dances in various mudras in which the rhythm instrument Mardal {Pakhauj} plays a vital role.

Odissi dance is categorized as classical but vocal form is not. When Sangeet comprised of three aspects i.e. Geet, Baddya and Nrutya it is quite logical to accept Odissi dance. Odissi vocal and Odissi rhythm into to as a classical form. Today students of Odissi vocal go through a vigorous course of 7 years of complete the course and obtain Master Degree.

I, therefore, request the Ministry of Culture to declare Odissi vocal as a classical music so that electronic media and broadcast it.