



## Citation

Saswat Joshi is a famous Odissi Dancer and choreographer who was born in Titlagarh of Bolangir district, Odisha on 12<sup>th</sup> July 1984. Saswat started his journey as a dancer when he was five years old under the able guidance of Guru Prasanta Patnaik and Guru Shantanu Behera at his native village Titlagarh, Bolangir. Saswat started his professional Odissi training under **Guru Padma Shri Kumkum Mohanty** in 2000. Later his Dancing flourished into perfection when he was trained under **Guru Padma Shri Ileana Citaristi**.

He is the recipient of National Scholarship from **Ministry of Culture of Government of India**. He is a graduate from Sambalpur University in dance. Saswat Joshi is Gold medallist in VISHARAD, Graduate degree from Pracheen Kala Kendra, Chandigarh University. He did his Masters Degree from Rabindra Bharati University and was awarded **Sangeet Ratna**. He has received Gold Medal in both his Degree and Master degree.

He has performed in world's biggest museum of Asian painting Musee Guimet at Paris, France in 2012. He has given many lecture demonstrations of Odissi in various universities worldwide. He is the only male dancer who performed in front of world wonders **Eiffel Tower**, Paris, France and The Colosseum, Rome, Italy. He has also performed in many iconic towers of the world such as Petronos Towers, Malaysia, Merlion park, Singapore, Kuwait towers, Burj Khalifa, Dubai, Colossium in Italy, Red square in Russia, and many more. His performance in front of famous Eiffel tower had gone viral with over millions of viewers on YouTube.

To popularise Odissi as Indian classical dance, he has travelled and performed Odissi in many European and Asian countries such as Italy, France, Hungary, Finland, Japan, South Korea, Thailand etc.

He is the only Odissi dancer who promotes **Sambalpuri Ikkat** worldwide. He wears sambalpuri kurta with ethnic designs for many prestigious platforms and award ceremonies.

Saswat has modelled for many leading brands like Manyavar dresses, Boyanika as well as for many national and international brands. He is now the brand promoter of Odisha Tourism, and face of Soulful Odisha, Manyavar, Boyanika and Utkalika.



Saswat has founded **Lasyakala Institute** of Performing Arts, where many new Odissi practitioners and talents are trained and being shaped into their performing excellence. The institute has many branches in different districts of Odisha and across India. Through this institute he aims to empower underprivileged and orphan children. The challenged Children also trained under the institution and prepared in a way to perform with the normal children. He runs his Institution with the prime motto to **Say Yes to all**.

Under this banner **Aekalavya Dance** Festival is being organised every year to felicitate practitioners, experts and critics of Odissi. It is a tribute to guru shishya paramapara created lot of awareness in classical dance and created a wonderful platform for youth. It provides international platform for aspiring dancers and dancers of 4 different generations get opportunity to perform on a single stage. He has already organised the Aekalavya dance festival in Malaysia, U.A.E, Dubai and Singapore.

In association with Swabhiman organization a National Camp **Anjali** is being organized every year where **Specially Challenged** children are trained and get platform to showcase their talent. The special children are taught different energetic and rhythmic dance form using Russian Biomechanical techniques; it works as a therapy to reduce their stress and anxiety level.

Every Year during summer vacation he organize a workshop called **Kallol-The sound of excitement**, where the students across India who have chosen dance as career participate in it. They are taught



about personality management, money management, communication skill, literature, behavioural management and the importance of dance in education system. Now the passed out students from this workshop have been working in various leading industries.



During **Covid19 Lockdown** Saswat Joshi through his Lasyakala, had come up with a solution to retrieve the dying Folk Dances of Odisha like Ranapa of Ganjam District, Chau of Mayurbhanj, Dhemsas of Koraput etc. Through various sessions over video conferencing, Saswat Joshi encouraged and aware them about the platforms to revamp their dance forms. He supported them financially and provided stage near their door steps to practise the dying folk dances of Odisha.



## Achievements

Saswat Joshi is a Famous Dancer and Celebrity for his contribution in Odissi Dance. He is judging many reality shows in Odia Industry and also has choreographed in Bollywood Movies.

His performance in the film Koun Kitney Pani Mein on Rangabati song had got acclamation all over the world and was a blockbuster hit. And he became the Rangabati king of Bollywood.

He is the choreographer of many Bollywood film and trained many actors from the industry like Radhikaapte, Kunal Kapoor etc.

He was seen in the film the journey by Hollywood director Sandrine da Costa in the year 2012.

His performance in the ballet Nirvana as Gautam Buddha on the birth anniversary and 2600 year celebration of Gautama Buddha got wide acclaimed in all Asian countries.

He has already performed in 32 countries and whole over India. He has performed with his team in 49th OSA convention, Michigan.

He is the only male dancer who performed in front of world wonders **Eiffel Tower**, Paris, France with the French girls trained classical Odissi the Indian dance. The performance had attracted more than millions of viewers on Youtube.



## Award Recognition

### State

He has got Sangeet Ratna with gold medal in Odissi Dance from Rabindra Bharati University , Kolkata.

Mu Hero Samman by Government of Odisha

Odisha youth award 2019 by Odia media private limited

Shree award for field of art and culture

Jaya Mallanrutya Shree Samman 2019, Jaya mallasa mazik and Sanskrit organisation

Odisha youth award 2016 by Ever green forum

Chalachitra Jagat 44 Annual Event and Talent Award 2019

Juhar Gourav Nuakhai Bhet ghat 2018

Felicitated at Papanga Pahad Mahotsav 2017

Nalco Kharvela Award 2016

Mathakhai Mohotsav 2011

He had received The Sunday Indian Yuva Utkarsh Samman 2010 by Ruchi



## **National**

Felicitated by Oriya Cultural Association, Faridabad

Recognition by Odisha Cultural Association, Bengaluru

Felicitated in Shishirachhanda 2017 by AdyashaFoudation, Bangalore

Felication at NuakhaiParav, 2017 by JuharParivar, Delhi at Ras Rang Dance Festival-2017

Felicitated at 38<sup>th</sup> National Baisakhi Festival 2017 with Chinta o Chetana Baisakhi Samman

Appreciated for performing at Indian Dance Festival 2015 at Tamilnadu by Incredible India



## **International**

He awarded as Youth Icon by Odia society of United Kingdom and The Artist by Musee Guimet, France

Felicitated by Odisha society of America OSA, on their 49th and 50th Golden jubilee convention, New Jersey USA

He has announced as brand ambassador of OSUAE, Odisha SAMAJ UAE in the year 2019, in the presence of High Commission of India, at Dubai

Feliciation from Abdul Aziz, Naseer theatre, and Indian Embassy Doha , Qatar 2019

Honoured by Consulate General of India, Dubai,UAE, for his outstanding contribution in the art field in the year 2018

Satsang Golf, Dubai felicitated him in the year 2018

Felicitated by Hindustani Samaj, Russia in 2018 at Moscow

Awarded by Temple of fine arts and Indian High commission of Malaysia in 2017

Felicitated by Kuwait Odisha Association for his relentless dedication to promote Odissi Dance as well as Odia Culture and Attire

Singapore Bengali and Odia association felicitated him in the year 2016

Odia society of UK OSUK awarded him as youth icon in the year 2013, at London

The artist award by Museegumet, Paris France, 2012

Felicitations by centre Mandapa, Milena selvini, Paris, France in the year 2011

Felicitations from founduzione Chini, Italy, 2009

Felicitations by Akemi Sakurai in the Japan Tour in the year 2008

Felicitations by Seoul institute of the arts, in the year 2007 at South Korea

Felicitations by Indian High commission Budapest, Hungary

Cultural ambassador award from University of Udine, Venice, Italy





## Impact on the field

Saswat Joshi is not only a self made dancer, he also promotes the Odissi dance across the world through his performances. He is not only a king but also a king maker. He has empowered many students and has explored the dancer in them.

Saswat Joshi has founded Lasyakala Institution to provide quality training to dance enthusiastic children thereby enhancing their talent. He has founded Lasyakala with a vision to develop classical dance of Indian in the rural and tribal district of Odisha. So many young and promising students could be able to take classical dance as career and valued their talent through the awareness of Lasyakala.

Lasyakala had opened its branches in the major cities of Odisha and India. Now it has gone abroad and it has opened its own branches in Budapest, Montpellier, and New Port London. The trained dancers of Lasyakala have found their own identity and performing in each corner of the world.

Lasyakala annual workshop Kallol, the sound of excitement gives chance to the underprivileged and below poverty line children to grow in their life. The students are trained about personality management, money management, communication skill, literature, behavioural management and the importance of dance in education system. The passed out students from this workshop have been working in various leading industries.

Every year Saswat Joshi organizes camps in different universities like Central University, Rajasthan and Central University, Hyderabad to encourage the students having ambition and aspiration to become dancer and tries to reduce their stress through dance.





## **Impact on the Society**

Saswat Joshi has dedicated his life to Odissi Dance. He believes a person can develop along with the development of his surroundings. So he always tries to strengthen the backward people of the society. Through his Dance training he has given means of living and earning to many students.

He encourages the underprivileged children, provides them platform to showcase their talent and thereby train them to find their goals of life. He also trains the Challenged children to reduce the stress in them through dance and to make them believe in their capabilities.

Saswat Joshi is always seen wearing Sambalpuri Hand woven clothes. He promotes the traditional handloom clothes through his shows, performances and by modeling for it. Such promotion helps to increase the demand for the handloom products thereby benefiting the local weavers.

With the efforts and direction of Saswat Joshi his team organizes Odisha week, in the countries like France, Italy, Europe, and America every year. Through this programme the foreign people get to know about the culture, tradition, folk dances and cuisines of Odisha and India. Because of this initiative many foreigners have learnt the classical dance form of Odisha and the dance has been performed at various iconic towers thereby promoting the traditional dance of Odisha across the world.

## **CONTACT –**

**Mobile – 9178297771**

**Email - [lasyakala.india@gmail.com](mailto:lasyakala.india@gmail.com)**

**Website – [www.saswatjoshi.in](http://www.saswatjoshi.in)**

