



Classical Dances of India

Types of Classical Dances

- Bharatanatyam
- Kathak
- Kathakali
- Odissi
- Kuchipudi
- Manipuri
- Mohiniattam
- Sattriya



Bharatanatyam



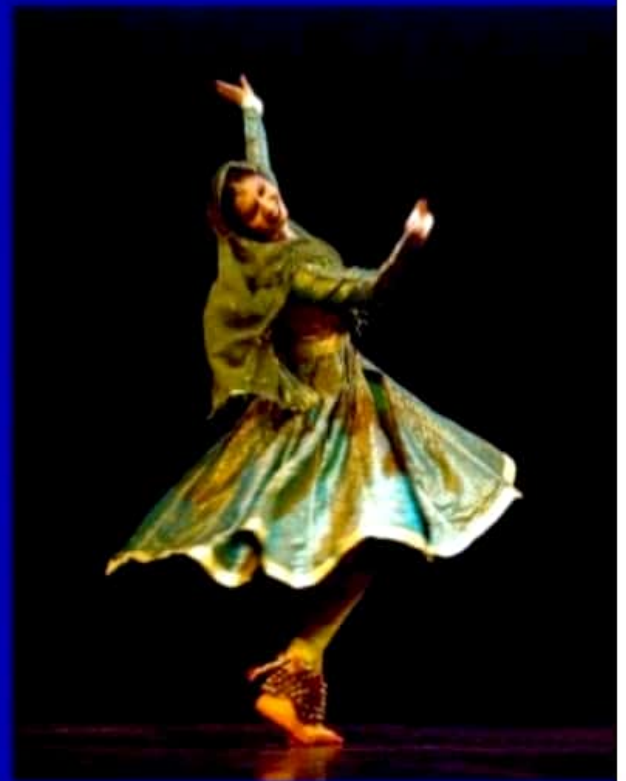
- Comes from the words Bhava (expression), Raga (music), Tala (rhythm) and Natya (classical theater)
- Originates in South India
- Performance
 - Consists of multiple items
 - Nritta– pure dance movements
 - Abhinaya– dramatic art of storytelling
 - Nritya– combination of nritta & abhinaya



Kathak



- Derived from Katha (story) and Kathaka (who tells stories)
- Originates from North India.
- 3 main gharanas or schools:
Lucknow, Jaipur & Benares
- Performance
Progresses from slow to fast pieces
Footwork & spins



Kathakali



- Originates from Kerala state
- Attractive make-up of characters and elaborate costumes
- Performance
Combination of 5 elements-
Natyam (expression),
Nritham (dance), Nrithyam
(enactment), Geetham
(vocal) and Vadyam
(instruments)



Odissi



- Originates from Orissa
- Schools of Odissi
Mahari, Nartaki & Gotipua
- Main Emphasis-
Tribhangi- independent movement
of head, chest
Chauka- basic square stance
- Music – Odissi music



Kuchipudi



- Originates from Andhra Pradesh state in South India
- Shares many common elements with Bharatanatyam
- Unique Kuchipudi dance-
Tarangam- dancer dances on plate with diyas in the hands and vessel of water on the head



Manipuri



- Originates from Manipur state
- Performance
 - Movements are subtle and aim at devotion and grace
 - Rounded movements without jerks and sharp lines
 - Dancers feet never strike the ground hard



Mohiniattam



- Comes from the words-
Mohini- temptress and
Attam- dance
- Graceful dance performed only
by women
- Influences from Bharatanatyam
and Kathakali



Sattriya

- Originates in Assam state
- Performance
 - Based on mythological stories
 - Performed by men and women
- Recognized as one of the classical dance forms of India in 2000





Thank You