

# भरतनाट्यम्

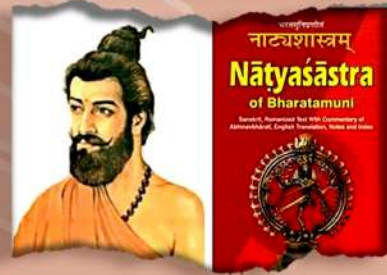
## ORIGIN



- ✦ Classical dance form
- ✦ Originated more than 2000 years ago in the southern state of Tamil Nadu in India.
- ✦ Considered one of the oldest dance forms in India.

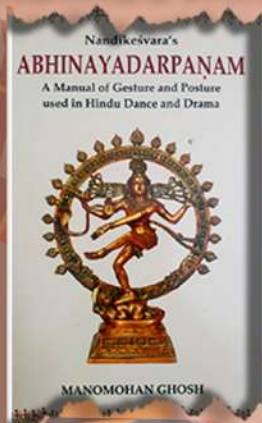
- ✦ Bharatanatyam has roots in the Natyashastra, a Sanskrit text on performing arts whose author was Bharata Muni.

## NATYASHASTRA



## SOURCES

## NANDIKESVARA



- ✦ Abhinaya Darpana by Nandikesvara documents Bharatanatyam dance technique and grammar, serving as a crucial source for study of this classical form.

- ✦ Devadasis, temple-gifted young girls, trained in Bharatanatyam and other dance forms, played crucial role in preserving style through generation



## STYLE AND TECHNIQUE



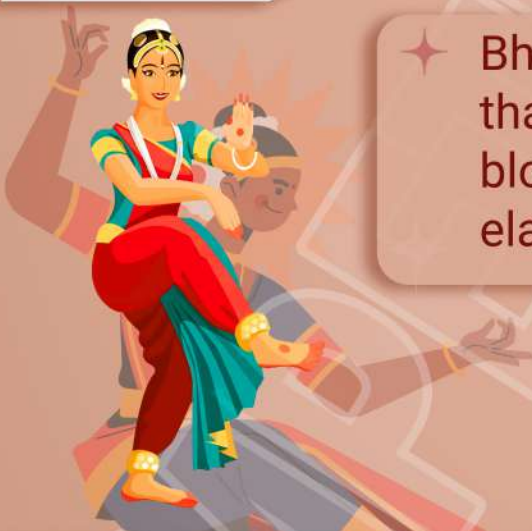
- ✦ Bharatanatyam is known for its intricate hand gestures (mudras), elaborate footwork, and fluid body movements.
- ✦ The dance form is performed to Carnatic music and is usually accompanied by a singer and a percussionist playing the mridangam.

## EKCHARYA LASYAM

- ✦ Bharatanatyam is an ekaharya dance style, where one dancer takes on many roles in a single performance, showcasing versatile skills & ability to bring life to different characters & stories.



## COSTUMES



- ✦ Bharatanatyam dancers wear traditional attire that includes a long skirt (pattu pavada), a blouse (choli), a waistband (ottanam), and elaborate jewelry.

## ABHINAYA

- ✦ Bharatanatyam combines hand gestures, facial expressions, and body movements to express emotions and narrate stories.



## NATTUVANGAM



- ✦ The nattuvangam is a rhythmic instrument played by dance conductors to provide the rhythmic beat for the dancers and to coordinate music and dance movements.

## THEMATIC INSPIRATION



- ✦ Bharatanatyam is often inspired by Hindu mythology and classical Indian literature, with themes ranging from devotional pieces to love stories.

## UNESCO INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE



- ✦ In 2008, Bharatanatyam was recognized as a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO.