

## **Online Dance Classes for Kathak, Bharatnatyam and Odissi Classes by ICCR**

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) in association with Routes2Roots, an organisation working in the area of digital learning of performing arts and Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT), an autonomous organisation under Ministry of Culture of Government of India, is conducting online classes w.e.f. '15th January, 2024 for Kathak, Bharatnatyam and Odissi dance forms.

2. The duration of the classes for each discipline will be one year and certificates will be given to successful candidates. The classes will be held by the following renowned artists:

<b>Discipline</b>	<b>Teacher- I</b>	<b>Teacher- II</b>
Kathak	Richa Jain	Ragini Maharaj
Bharatnatyam	Kalashree Debasmita Thakur	Madhura Bhrushundi
Odissi	Vrinda Chadha	Arunima Ghosh

The CVs of teachers are mentioned below(Annexure-I) for reference.

3. The timing of the classes will be 03:00PM(IST) and classes will be held on every Monday for Odissi students, on every Wednesday for Bharatnatyam students and on every Friday for Kathak students. Other details can be seen at Annexure-II where SOP registration of students for online classes for Kathak, Bharatnatyam and Odissi are given. The classes are scheduled to commence from 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 onwards.

4. A nominal fees equivalent to US\$20 per student per discipline towards registration fees will be charged in advance for the classes. The fees can be submitted at the Consulate General of India Erbil (Iraq) giving details (full name, Father's/ Mother's Name, country, city, email id, mobile number and name of Dance form). The candidate can register themselves by scanning QR code attached herewith. Only registered candidates will be provided login credentials in order to enable them access the classes. The candidates may please note that if they fail to deposit the requisite fees by 04.01.2024 they will not be registered for the classes.







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# International Kathak Class

Kathak dancer Richa Jain started her formal training in Kathak at the age of three under the guidance of her parents, Kathak exponents Late Guru Shri Ravi Jain (Disciple of Padmashree Shambhu Maharaj of Lucknow gharana and Alaknanda Devi of Benaras gharana) and Guru Smt. Nalini Malhotra Jain (Disciple of Pt. Sunder Prasad ji and Pt. Kundan Lal Gangani, Jaipur Gharana).

Because of her extensive training under her parents, Richa's Kathak performances are a blend of the Lucknow, Jaipur and Benaras gharanas (Styles) of Kathak. She also received her initial vocal music training from Shri Ajit Kumar Mishra and later was groomed in Hindustani classical vocal music under the guidance of renowned guru and exponent, Sangeet Natak Academy awardee Pt. A. Maheshwar Rao of the Gwalior Gharana. She is making a humble effort to bring back the Katha Vachan parampara from where Kathak originated.

Besides being an A grade performing artist of National Television of India (Doordarshan - Ministry of Information and Broadcasting), Richa is an empanelled artist



Richa Jain  
Richa Jain  
Richa Jain





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# International Kathak Glass

Ragini Maharaj is the granddaughter of Padma Vibhushan Pt Birju Maharaj and a prolific Kathak dancer herself. She belongs to the Lucknow Kathak Gharana. Ragini did her schooling from The Banyan Tree School, New Delhi. She then pursued her graduation in Sociology from Sri Venkateswara College. She is about to finish her Masters from IGNOU in Social Work. She was raised in New Delhi.

Ragini's grandfather was from Lucknow and her grandmother from Varanasi and hence she was raised in a mix of cultures and influences. Ragini has been performing extensively across India as well as abroad for the past 20 years.



***Ragini Maharaj***





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# International Bharatnatyam Class

**Kalashree Debasmita Thakur is a senior disciple of Late Guru Dr Saroja Vaidyanathan. She has completed her diploma in dance and Masters in Public Administration. She has played the leading role in 'Swachh Bharat', one of her guru's unique productions. She has not only performed in India but also internationally along with her guru. Debasmita has assisted her guru Dr. Saroja Vaidyanathan for workshops across India and abroad. She also went for workshops and demonstration programmes at Shikhoabad, UP with Dakshina Vaidyanathan and conducted other workshops under the guidance of her guru at the Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan, Jaipur.**

**She has also conducted summer workshops with NDMC for many years. Debasmita has been awarded the Nataraj Nritta Samman, Nritya Suvarna Mani Samman, Nritya Vilasini and the Kameshwari Nritya Samman.**

**Debasmita Thakur**







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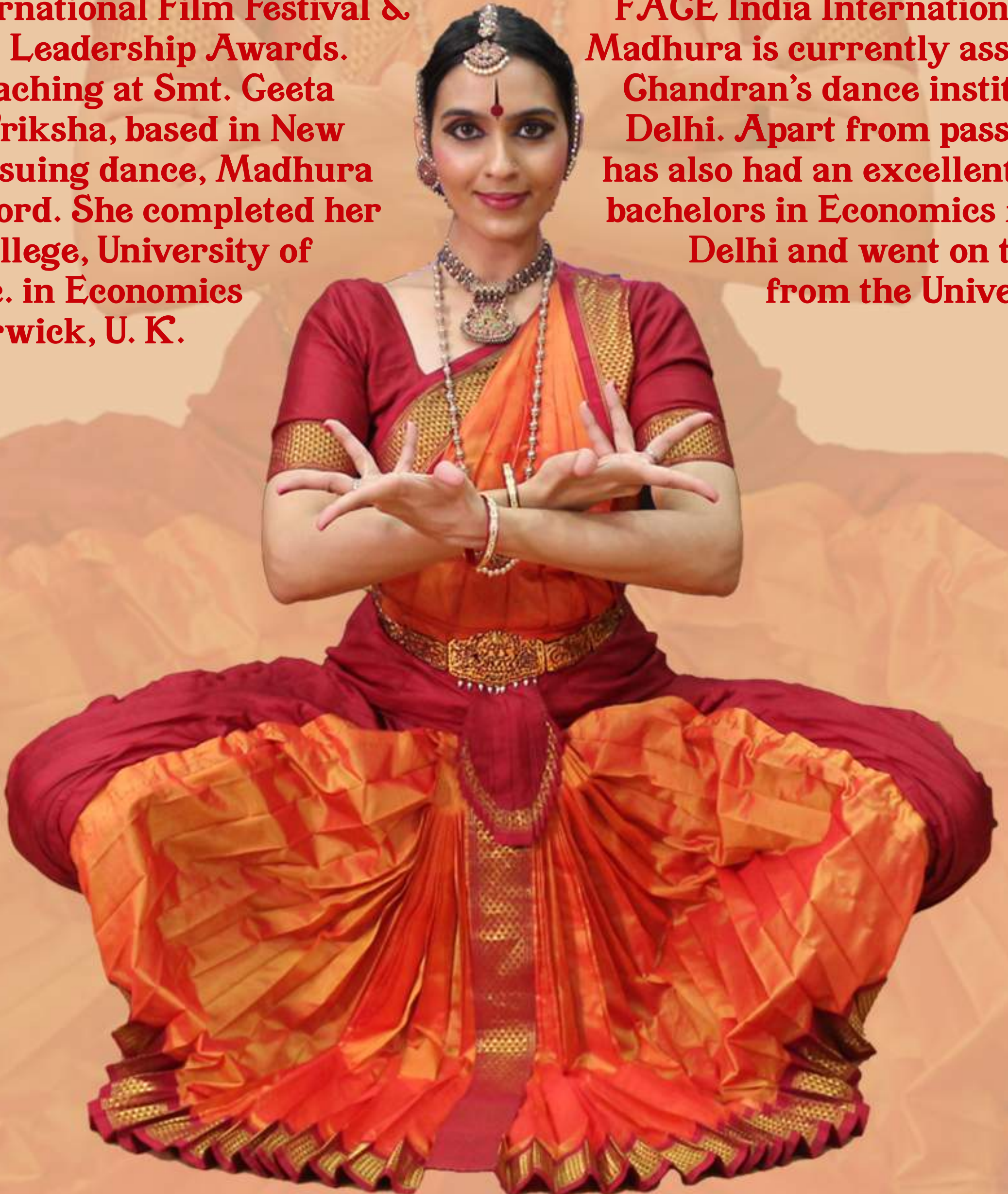
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# International Bharatnatyam Class

Madhura Bhrushundi, a dancer based in New Delhi, has been training in Indian classical dance form of Bharatanatyam under the tutelage of (Padmashri) Guru Geeta Chandran for the last 13 years. She presented her formal solo debut performance, the *Arangetram*, in the year 2014. A recipient of the scholarship to Young Artistes awarded by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, she is also a Grade B artist of the Doordarshan & Madhura is a senior dancer with her Guru Smt. Geeta Chandrans Natya Vriksha Dance Company. As part of the company, Madhura has performed in group choreographies for diverse audiences across the country. She has been a part of major productions at numerous festivals such as the Khajurajo Dance Festival, Sahitya Kala Parishad's Youth Festival, Ganga Mahotsav, Uday Shankar Choreography Festival, Kalidas Samaroh, Naadaneeranjam Festival, National Festival of Creative Arts & Hampi Utsav among several others. She has also had the opportunity to be part of dance productions that were presented at the Rashtrapati Bhawan in the august presence of the President, Vice-President and the Prime Minister of India. As a solo performer, Madhura has presented performances at various platforms such as the Amritanjali Mahotsav, 3rd Bangla Film Festival, Karur Natyanjali, Sai Nrityotsav, Delhi International Film Festival &

Women Leadership Awards. with teaching at Smt. Geeta Natya Vriksha, based in New ately pursuing dance, Madhura demic record. She completed her Hindu College, University of her M. Sc. in Economics of Warwick, U. K.

FACE India International Madhura is currently assisting Chandran's dance institute-Delhi. Apart from passion-has also had an excellent aca-bachelors in Economics from Delhi and went on to do from the University



## Madhura Bhrushundi





# International Odissi Class

Vrinda Chadha is a senior disciple of renowned Odissi dance exponent Guru Ranjana Gauhar (Padmashri and SNA awardee). Vrinda has trained under her Guru from a very young age and is a professional Odissi performing artist, repertoire member & teaching faculty at her Guru's academy. She holds a Master's degree in Philosophy from Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi University and has received the National scholarship, in the past for Odissi Dance, from the Ministry of Culture (Gov. of India). She is empanelled with the Indian Council for cultural relations as well as with Doordarshan. She's also been nominated by the President of International Dance Council (CID) UNESCO, Paris and made a member of this community.

Vrinda has travelled extensively in her Guru's troupe as well as for solo performances for various prestigious dance festivals in India and abroad. She has performed in Spain, Argentina, Korea, Japan, China, Singapore, 9 cities of the United Kingdom, Madagascar, Seychelles and the Dominican Republic to name a few. She has been conferred with the Nalanda Nritya Nipuna Award in Mumbai, the Young Talent Award by the International Academy of Mohiniyattam in Delhi, the title of Odissi Ratna in Bhubaneswar and the Kameshwari award in Guwahati amongst other accolades.



**Vrinda Chadha**





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# International Odissi Class

**Arunima Ghosh is a renowned Odissi classical dancer with over 20 years of experience in the field. She was born in a small town in north Bengal and began learning Odissi at a young age under the guidance of Guru Monalisa Ghosh in Kolkata. She later moved to Delhi to study under Guru Sharon Lowen. Arunima has performed extensively across India and abroad, including at the Yuva Shrastriya and Aarambh festivals in New Delhi, the Kala Samagam festival in Guwahati, and the**

**Octave festival in New Delhi. She has also performed at the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi, The Times of India in Chennai, Bhavan's Naatya Utsav in Delhi, the Yog Parv festival in New Delhi, the Mandu Festival, and the Delhi Odissi Utsav. In addition to being a performing artist, she is also a dance teacher and the**

**founder of Manasija School of dance and music. The school has been providing training on dance and music for over a decade now, and its students have received numerous awards and accolades across the country. Arunima believes in imparting not just the technique of the dance form, but also the rich cultural heritage and philosophy that underlies it. Arunima is also an active choreographer and has created several works that have been well-received by audiences. Some of her notable work includes 'Khel ek anand ki khoj' for kids and young adults and 'Varsha Var-**

**nanam'. She has received several awards for her dance, including the Nritya Nandan title, a Gold Medal in Odissi dance final year exam, and multiple state level awards. In addition to her passion for dance, Arunima is also actively involved in social causes and uses her art as a means of spreading awareness and promoting cultural exchange. She is an inspiration to many young dancers and continues to push the boundaries of Odissi dance with her innovative choreography & performances.**



**Arunima Ghosh**



**Standard Operating Procedures(SOPs) for registration of students for online Kathak, Bharatnatyam and Odissi Classes by ICCR in cooperation with Routes2Roots(R2R) and Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT)**

1. ICCR is launching Online Beginner Level Classes in Kathak, Bharatnatyam and Odissi in cooperation with Routes2Roots, Non-Government Organisation and CCRT, an autonomous organisation under Ministry of Culture of Government of India. The details of the classes are as below:
    - a) The total duration for the classes in each discipline will be one year.
    - b) The classes will be divided in four trimesters of three month each.
    - c) The biodata of teachers alongwith syllabus and lesson plan for first trimester is attached herewith for reference and the lesson plan for remaining trimesters will be shared in due course of time.
    - d) The Minimum age for registration in the classes will be 17 years.
    - e) The fees for one year class will be US\$20/- which will be collected by the Missions/Posts/Indian Cultural Centers(ICC) at the time of registration.
    - f) The classes will commence from 15th January, 2024 onwards at 03:00PM(IST) for Odissi students every Monday, for Bharatnatyam students every Wednesday and for Kathak students every Friday.
    - g) English language will be the medium of instructions.
    - h) The candidates can register for one or more disciplines.
    - i) There will be no midterm admission of any candidate.
  
  2. The Mission/Post/ICC are requested to advertise the same through their website, social media sites & other means and seek nomination from interest participants. The candidates can fill the registration form by scanning **QR code**.
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3. The Missions/Posts/ICCs will collect fees for classes equivalent to US\$ 20 from interested participants at the time of registration. The fees received from the participant (equivalent of US\$ 20) to be deposited in ICC's bank account or Mission/Post under the "Head 8443 Civil Deposits – Deposits for work done for public bodies or Private Individuals". Head of Account for the same is "8443-00-117-02-00-00 – Deposits from ICCR".
  
  4. The Mission/Post/ICC will forward a list of registered candidates who have deposited the fees (including full name, Father's/Mother's Name, country, city, email id, mobile number and registered for discipline) in excel file on the email id [iccsection.iccr@nic.in](mailto:iccsection.iccr@nic.in) latest by 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2023.
  
  5. The link, username and password for classes will be shared on receipt of list of participants alongwith the confirmation of payment by the Missions/Posts/ICCs concerned. The participants will be able to access the classes online. The infrastructure/ technical requirements for attending the classes is as under:
    - a) A computer/ LED Display preferably 55 inches and above with webcam and microphone
    - b) Internet connection



6. The CCRT will conduct periodic evaluation of the students and issue certificates to the students on successful completion of the classes with minimum 75% attendance. The hardcopies of the certificates will be forwarded to the Missions/Posts/ICCs for distribution to the participants.

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