



*Acharya Shama  
(Allsama Basar)*

Origin: India

Genres: Indian classical music  
Specialize: Kathak classical  
dancer, teacher, choreographer

## *Achievements in Brief...*

- Performed at prestigious Indian dance festivals organized by Government of India and other reputed platforms.
- Multiple performance as a child artist at the age of 3 in Doordarshan (public service broadcaster by Govt. of India) – Indian classical and folk dances.
- Choreographed various dance styles: kathak, folk and fusion.
- Brilliantly performed solo and group dances on various major stage performances.
- Held several kathak workshops in India and recently in USA.
- Acharya Shama is an established teacher and founded ‘Samarpan Kathak Dance Institute’ in Philadelphia, PA, USA. She also was a guide to kathak students in India till 2016 in ‘Samarpan Kala Kendra’, an Indian classical dance school founded by her present Kathak Guru Pradipto Kumar.

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## *Early Life and Background...*



As a dancer of the young generation of Jaipur and Lucknow Gharana, Acharya Shama has a firm academic foundation in music and dance. From her *tender age of 3*, she started learning kathak from her Guru Late Pt. Kishan Lal Maharaj (*Jaipur Gharana*). She completed the academic qualification in Kathak from Pracheen Kala Kendra, India. Later, she became a follower and student of Kathak Guru Pradipto (*Lucknow Gharana*), who is a disciple of Jai Kishan Maharaj, son of Padma Vibhushan Pt. Birju Maharaj.

*\*The Padma Bhushan is the third-highest civilian award in the Republic of India, preceded by the Bharat Ratna and the Padma Vibhushan and followed by Padma Shri.*



With Pandit Birju Maharaj  
(Padma Vibhushan)

*Guru Pradipto*

*Acharya Shama (Allsama Basar)*

## *Goal for Indian Classical Dance: Kathak*

“To provide knowledge of India’s ancient classical dance form to the younger and current generations, and allow them to explore their inner self to add-in the beauty of dance.”