



### SHRI K. PAJANIVEL



Shri K. Pajanivel is a Silambam Master. Silambam is a weapon-based 5000 years old warfare method of Indian martial art originating in Tamilnadu. Nowadays it has become popular and considered as a competitive sport in India as well as in other countries like France, Srilanka, Malaysia and Canada.

2. Born on 30<sup>th</sup> January 1973 in Pooranankuppam, Puducherry in a farmer family, Shri Pajanivel was interested in Martial Art Silambam and folk art activities from his childhood and dedicated his life to it. He learnt the Martial Art Silambam properly and participated in many competitions. He won the first prize in the International level Silambam competition under 56-60 kg category which was held in Trichirapalli, Tamilnadu in 2002. He also won the first prize in national level Silambam competition under 55-60 kg category which was held in Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu in 2004. He is also an expert in the field of martial arts like kuthu varisai, surul vilaiyattu, kalari payittu, sword fight, de horn fight, fire fight and folk arts like kaaliyattam, puliyattam, karakatta thappattam and other arts like yoga, acro yoga and gymnastics.

3. In the year 2002, Shri Pajanivel founded "Mamallan Silambam and Folk Art Development Club" in Pooranankuppam, Pondicherry. In his own land, he trained youths who were interested in Silambam. In the same year, he started to conduct free summer camp for school students for training them in Silambam and he continues this free camp till date. His students won prize at state level and national level competitions. He also taught Silambam to foreigners from France, Germany, Italy and Brazil. He has trained more than 5000 students in the past 35 years. He participated in state and national level government functions, parades, heritage programs, youth camps to wide spread Silambam. He also acted as a referee in Silambam competitions.

4. For his service towards martial arts, Shri Pajanivel was conferred "Akademi Puraskar Award" of Sangeet Natak Akademi presented by the Honourable President of India in 2023. Central government autonomous organization Nehru Yuva Kendhra has given him "Best Youth Award in district wise in 2004. Also, Puducherry State Government conferred "Puthuvai Kalaimamani" award on him in 2012. He has been awarded "Natupura Kalai Seminal"; "Silamba Kalai Kalanjiam"; "Silamba Kalai Sudar"; "Silamba Kalai Kalaimani"; "Life Time Achiever" by many other clubs.