



SHRI N. SWAMINATHAN



Shri N. Swaminathan is an eminent artist in the field of Tamil music. The canonical collection of hymns to Lord Siva in Tamil language, known as Thirumurai, are sung traditionally by Othuvvars in Tamil Pann Isai which is the root of present Carnatic music. Of the Othuvvars of the present day, he is the supreme artist who is capable of making the audience spell bound during his performances of musical discourse. He is proficient and connoisseur in his art and attracts so many ardent followers across the continents.

2. Born on 6th July, 1945, Shri Swaminathan received his early education in his native place at Thanjavur district of Tamil Nadu and started learning Tamil music at Thevara Padasalai of Pichai kattalai estate of Thirukadavur, a famous shrine and then at the school of Dharmapuram Adheenam at Mayiladuthurai. He became a master of the art and served as Othuvar in many temples of Tamil Nadu and later worked at Thiruttani Lord Murugan Temple for nearly 26 years. Hence, the name of the place Thiruttani has prefixed to his name as Thiruthani Swaminathan. He has imbibed and enriched himself in the intricacies of Tamil Pann Isai and became very popular for his stage performances among his devotees.

3. Shri Swaminathan has served as a teacher in V.S. Trust, a charitable trust to Lord Nataraja Temple in Chidambaram and seven students were given intensive training in Thirumurai Isai by him. He has travelled far and wide especially Singapore, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Switzerland etc. He is an 'A' grade artist in All India Radio, Tiruchirappalli. He has so far released more than 100 cassettes and compact discs of Thirumurai Pann Isai. He is now the head of Thevara Padasalai of Dharumapuram Aadheenam and is giving training so students in its above act. He has devoted more than 55 year of his life to this fine art.

4. Shri Swaminathan's integrity and devotion in this field have attracted many institutions to honour him with awards and titles. He has received twelve awards to his credit that includes Kalaimamani Award by the Government of Tamil Nadu; Sangeet Samrat by Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Coimbatore; Thirumurai Kala Nidhi by Dharmapuram Adheenam; Dr. Sirgazhi Govindarajan Award by Karthik Fine Arts, Chennai; Thirumurai Isai Kala Nidhi by Thiruvavaduthurai Adheenam; Sandron Virudhu by Sekkizhar Kalai Panpattu Kazhagam, Chennai; Isai Kalai Selvar by Ramalingar Pani Manram, Chennai; Thirumurai pan Isai Semmal by Perur Adheenam, Coimbatore; Thirumurai Isai Maamani by Aran arul, Chennai; Thirumurai Isai Sittar by Kovai Sekkizhar Thirukoottam; Pann Isai Perarignar by Tamil Isai Sangam, Raja Annamalai Mandram, Chennai; Thirumurai Rathna by Malaysia Hindu Sangam, Kuala Lumpur.