

Fukuoka Prize 2018 Arts and Culture Prize

Teejan Bai

India

Pandavani Performer

Born August 8, 1956 (aged 61)

Biography

- 1956 Born in Atari Village (Patan), Durga District, Chhattisgarh State, India
Was raised in Ganiyari Village
- 1968 Married at the age of 12 (divorced without going to her husband's home)
Learnt the traditional art of Pandavani from her maternal grandfather, and later received informal training under Mr. Umed Singh Deshmukh
- 1969 Gave her first public performance in a neighboring village, Chandrakhuri (Durg), singing in the Kapalik shaili [style] of 'Pandavani', the first time for a woman
Became known in neighboring villages and invitations poured to perform at special occasions and festivals
- 1970 Was ousted by the community for singing Pandavani as a woman
- 1982 Performed at a concert organized by Bharat Bhavan in Bhopal
Performed for then Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi
- 1985-86 Performed for Indian festival in Poland, her first performance abroad
Travelled all over the world as a cultural ambassador to countries including France, Germany, and the UK
- 1986- Worked at the Bhilai Steel Plant
- 2001- Established a troupe to give performances and train pupils
- 2003 Honorary Doctorate in Literature, Guru Ghasidas University in Bilaspur, Raipur University, Jabalpur University

Major Awards

- 1988 Padma Shri, Government of India
- 1996 Sangeet Natak Akademi Award
- 1998 Devi Ahilya Sammaan Award
- 1999 Isri Award
- 2003 Aditya Vikaram Birla Kala Shikhar Sammaan Award
Padma Bhushan, Government of India
- 2008 Chandrasekarendra Saraswati National Eminence Award
- 2012 Was selected as one of the 10 Indian music maestros for 'People of the Year' 2012 in the Limca Book of Records
- 2013 Radio Top Listener Award
Alvas Nudisiri World Heritage Award
Chhattisgarh Award
- 2014 Mahira Nau Ratna Award
- 2015 H.L.Nagegaura Rashtriya [National] Award
- 2016 M.S.Subbulakshmi National (Centenary) Award

Major Performances

- 2010 International Women's Day concert, India
- 2011 Teejan Bai: The Pandavani Festival, Vadodara, India
East Central Railway Women Welfare Association (ECRWWA), Patna, India
- 2015 The 33th Foundation Day of Bharat Bhavan, Bhopal, India
Sahaj Parab, Kolkata, India
- 2016 Bengaluru Poetry Festival, Bengaluru, India
- 2017 Meet the Masters Series: Teejan Bai, New Delhi, India

To add these, many other performances in India including programmes by the Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music And Culture Amongst Youth (SPIC MACAY) and abroad such as in France, Switzerland, Germany, the UK, Italy, Malta, Cyprus, Turkey, Yemen, Bangladesh, and Mauritius.