



KUCHIPUDI DANCE RECITAL

The dance form Kuchipudi (pronounced as 'Koochipoodi') developed in what is now known as the state of Andhra Pradesh in southern India. Kuchipudi derives its name from the village Kuchelapuram, where it was nurtured by great scholars and artists who built up the repertoire and refined the dance technique. With its fast rhythmic footwork and sculpturesque body movements, this dance form has become immensely popular all over the world.

Bhavana has been initiated into the dance form at a young age by Dr. Jonnalagadda Anuradha, a well-known Kuchipudi exponent and has been engaged in learning its intricacies for the last 20 years. In her dance career, she has to her credit of performing both solo and ballets at several prestigious festivals throughout India. After moving to the US in 2004, she started teaching dance imparting her knowledge in this dance form.

Today's number, "**Pasyata Pasyata Bhagavantam**", is being performed by **Bhavana Vytla** and her disciple **Swetha Popuri**. This item is a personification of the celestial dancers who are rejoiced by having a glimpse of Lord Vishnu incarnated as the little Krishna on earth. He is found to be playing with the cowherd boys as one among them by stealing their pots of curd rice and entertaining them with his divine anklets. The dancer in this item also dances on the rim of a brass plate executing complicated rhythmic patterns with dexterity.