



శ్రీ వేపచేదు విద్యా పీఠము

**VEPACHEDU EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

మన సంస్కృతి

Mana Sanskriti (Our Culture)

Chief Editor: Dr. Sreenivasarao Vepachedu, Esq.

## WARRIOR DANCE

Perini Sivatanavam<sup>1</sup>, the inspirational dance of Lord Siva, flourished during Kakatiya dynasty that ruled Andhra Pradesh and Telangana between the 11th and 14th centuries with *Orugallu* (Warangal) as the capital.



Perini, a pre-war dance ritual to seek inspiration and blessings from Lord Siva, can



be seen in the intricate sculptures at the 13th century Ramappa Temple near Warangal and in the *Nritya Ratnavali*, written by Kakatiya military general Jayasenapati.

Dr. Nataraja Ramakrishna (1923 – 2011)<sup>2</sup> was responsible for the resurrection of this 700 year old Perini dance form, along with a few other ancient spiritual dances, *Agama Nartanam*<sup>3</sup> and *Navajanardana Parijatam*<sup>4</sup>. He established Perini

Institute in Warangal at the campus of the *Pothana Vignana Mandiram*.

*Siva aka Nataraja*, the king of dance, is the Supreme God and Lord of the Universe. *Nataraja* inspires modern physicists and believers alike<sup>5</sup>, because the cosmic dance that is the basis for the dynamic harmony between matter and wave is similar to the dance of

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Nataraja, the ultimate embodiment of rhythm and harmony, and ceaseless patterns of energy flowing into one another.



The beautiful bull Nandi watches over the presiding deity Ramalingeswara Swamy at Ramappa Temple located at Palampet village, 65 km from Warangal. The temple is known for its elaborate carvings that speak volumes about the dexterity of craftsmen. According to inscriptions, it was said to be built in 1213 AD by Recharla Rudra, a general of Kakatiya king Ganapati Deva. Ramappa, the chief sculptor, built the temple for 40 years and hence it was named after him.

"Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's needs, but not every man's greed." - Mahatma Gandhi  
Hinduism is a way of life, with diversity of religion, and Indian teachings share the importance of seva (service).

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Om! Asatoma Sadgamaya, Tamasoma Jyotirgamaya, Mrityorma Amritamgamaya, Om Shantih, Shantih, Shantih!

(Aum! Lead the world from wrong path to the right path, from ignorance to knowledge, from mortality to immortality, and peace!)

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**Bibliography**

<sup>1</sup> Perini Sivatanavam – the war dance of the Kakatiyas: <http://www.goheritagerun.com/perini-sivatandavam/>;  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=reJMn8X6yfY>; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jw3iIPCF5Oc>

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Nataraja Ramakrishna: <http://www.narthaki.com/info/profiles/prof1125.html>

<sup>3</sup> Dances performed in the temple according to the rituals were called Agama Nartanam. Natya Shastra classifies this type of dance form as margi, or the soul-liberating dance, unlike the desi (purely entertaining) forms. Dances performed in royal courts to the accompaniment of classical music were called Carnatakam. The Sangeet Natak Akademi (Indian National Academy of Dance and Music) defined Natya Shastra-based performing art styles as classical dance. Sangeet Natak Akademi has been engaged for long in the work of mapping, preserving, and promoting the traditional performing arts of India. Creation of a database of the various performing arts of India has now become an essential requirement for creation of a National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH). Andhra Natyam and Vilasini Nrityam/Natyam are Telugu dances that are not recognized as classical dances by the academy. <http://hinduonline.co/HinduCulture/IndianClassicalDance.html>.

NDIAN CLASSICAL DANCE: <http://noopura.com/ClassicalDance.aspx>

<sup>4</sup> Navajanardana Parijatam is a female dance form. It is an example of give and take between two dance tradition of solo and dance drama forms. But over the years it has been performed by men. There are also many amazing features of comparisons between two kalapam's. [http://www.indianetzone.com/58/navajanardana\\_parijatam.htm](http://www.indianetzone.com/58/navajanardana_parijatam.htm)

<sup>5</sup> The Dance of Siva, <http://catdir.loc.gov/catdir/samples/cam034/95035644.pdf>

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