

## **BIO-DATA OF PT.VENKATESH GODKHINDI**

**Pt. Venkatesh Godkhindi**, is one personality of which Kannadigas are proud of, hails from Dharwad. **Dharwad** in **North Karnataka** has produced many achievers. He was bitten by the music bug at a very tender age, developed his art to the professional level all by himself. One of the **senior Bansuri artistes** of the country, he is the **senior most in Karnataka. He has no Guru for flute – a la ekalavya!**

As a young child he toyed with Bansuri and various other instruments like Harmonium, Sitar, Jaltarang and was also very keen on learning vocal music as well. An **‘A’ grade artiste in Bansuri of AIR** for more than two decades, he is also a B-High graded classical and a light vocal music artiste. He composes music and is also a playwright, director and an actor.

**Pt. Godkhindi** plays Bansuri in the **Gayaki Ang** of **Kirana Gharana**. Perhaps he is the only Flautist who is also a vocalist in the country. He has received formal training in vocal music by Pt. Narayanrao Mujumdar of Gwalior Gharana.

**Sonorous blowing, deft handling of Meends, Gamaks and Taans** are but a few of the salient features of his flute recital. He has also improved the range of octaves by remodeling the flute to suit his requirements.

He has been broadcasting on AIR since 1967. His performances in **National Programme of Music** on Radio and Doordarshan have proven his high standard and originality in style. He has performed in all the major SANGEET SAMMELANS all over the country. Recently he performed at the prestigious SAWAI GANDHARVA FESTIVAL in Poona. **Has provided accompaniment on harmonium** to many great vocalists of India like **Pt. Bhimsen Joshi, Pt. Basavaraj Rajguru, Kishori Amonkar, Pt. Jasraj** etc...

He has received several awards including the title of **‘KARNATAKA KALASHREE’** by the **Sangeet Nritya Academy of Government of Karnataka in 1997**.

Pundit Godkhindi has started a **Bansuri Mahavidyalaya** along with his son **Suramani PRAVIN GOKDHINDI** who is also a well-known flautist of the country among the youngsters. Pandit VENKATESH GODKHINDI has plans of training as many students as possible, in both Vocal as well as Bansuri, to carry on the wonderful legacy of Hindustani music in Karnataka.

### **ADDRESS:**

Pt. VENKATESH GODKHINDI  
# 270, 1<sup>ST</sup> A MAIN, 4<sup>TH</sup> CROSS,  
BANASHANKARI III STAGE, BANGALORE-85.  
PH: 26729208, 26420056.