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Pali Chandra, a global ambassador for Kathak

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Kathak, an Indian classical dance form, conventionally follows a rhythmic progression in tempo - from slow to ... [Read More](#)

Thiruvananthapuram: Kathak, an Indian classical dance form, conventionally follows a rhythmic progression in tempo — from slow to fast. Kathak exponent Pali Chandra's career also follows a similar pattern, from a six year-old child reluctant to learn dance to a busy artist who heads three institutes in Europe and the Middle East.

Chandra, a native of Lucknow, now settled in Switzerland, is in city in association with her online Kathak training project. It was the popularity of some videos on Kathak that Chandra uploaded on social media a few years ago — and the demand that followed for a consolidated series — that led her to develop an online Kathak training project. In the project being completed in association with Invis Multimedia, a multimedia solutions provider company based in the city, Chandra has completed 150 videos for the beginners in Kathak. Now, she is into the shoot for intermediate level.

Chandra, who learned Kathak from Guru Vikram Singh at Kathak Kendra, Lucknow, is a graduate in economics and anthropology. She is an active member of Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing (ISTD) and works towards the global recognition of Kathak. Adhering to the conventional format of Kathak, Chandra incorporates contemporary issues in her choreography. Chandra, who is the artistic director of three Kathak institutes in London, Dubai and Switzerland, brings her students to India under a programme titled Parampara, where they take part in workshops and seminars to explore the art form.

She had visited Kerala in 2010 to explore the dance forms here. "The literature of the dance forms was translated so that we could understand the lyrics and the subject. We could even incorporate kalari in our performances," said the 49-year-old artist.