

KATHAKALI FESTIVAL

SREE PUTHIYAKAVU DEVI TEMPLE

LOCATION

Panchayath/ Municipality/ Corporation	Kollam Corporation
District	Kollam

ACCESSIBILITY

Nearest Town/ Landmark/ Junction	Kollam Railway Station Junction
Nearest Bus station	Kollam Bus Stop -2 Km
Nearest Railway station	Kollam Railway Station - 600 M
Nearest Airport	Trivandrum International Airport- 72 Km

CONTACT

Sree Puthiyakavu Devi Temple ,
Near Railway Station,
Kollam- 691001
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TIME	DATES	FREQUENCY	DURATION
	Monthly On The Malayalam Star *Makam*(7:30 PM-10:30 PM)	Monthly	1 Day

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

Originated in Kerala, *Kathakali* is essentially a musical dance drama. The tradition of *Kathakali* dates back to the 17th century. *Kathakali* was created from *Ramanattam* and *Krishnanattam*. The origin of *Kathakali* is attributed to the Zamorin of Calicut in the 17th Century. He was a devotee of Lord Krishna who wrote plays known as *Krishnanatam*. It is believed that Zamorin refused to send his troupe to Travancore. This resulted in Raja of Kottarakkara's writing the *Ramanattam*, a series of eight plays about Rama. The word *attam* means enactment. Thus *Ramanattam* and *Krishnanattam* gave birth to *Kathakali. Kathakali* had flourished long in Kerala under Royal Patronage. It was given its present form by Mahakavi Vallathol Narayana Menon.





RELEVANCE- (Local / National / International)	Local	NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED	Approx. 100

EVENTS/PROGRAMS	DESCRIPTION *(How festival is celebrated)*
Kathakali   	The literal meaning *Kathakali* means “story-play”. *Kathakali* is best known for its elaborate costumes, glaring makeup, detailed gestures and well defined body. The actors rely very heavily on hand gesture to convey the story. These hand gestures, known as *mudra*, are common throughout much of classical Indian dance. The makeup and costumes form an essential part of the art. The themes of *Kathakali* are usually religious in nature and the text is a mixture of Sanskrit and Malayalam. The dancers perform and act out scenes from epics like Mahabharatha, Ramayana and also the ancient Indian scriptures. *Kathakali* is usually performed only by men. Female characters are portrayed by men dressed in women's costume. Recently woman has started to become *Kathakali* dancers.

