Dance has always been an integral part of me throughout my life. To learn more of this art and enhance my knowledge in dance made me pursue my Masters in Dance from the University of Hyderabad. It was at that time I was drawn towards research in dance which would help me achieve my goal of further studies in dance.

Right from the beginning I was keenly interested in pursuing research on the temple sculptures which portrayed dance. My interest lay in the Vijayanagara period because of their immense contribution to the Telugu culture. The interest to study the scenario of dance in the Vijayanagara period made me select my topic “A Study of Dance during the Vijayanagara period”.

The research study was undertaken with an intention to have a better understanding of the evolution of dance through the times, with emphasis on dance during the Vijayanagara times. The research comprises studying the history, patronage of arts by the Vijayanagara kings, the role of dance and dancers in the society of Vijayanagara. It also focuses on how dance appears in the literary works and sculptural productions of temples of the times, thus depicting its integral role in all arts and culture of the society. Finally, the importance and prominence of the dancers of the times are studied through the inscriptional sources which mention dance.