

Different Sources of Academic Research in the field of music

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ABSTRACT

Curiosity is a distinctive feature of us and we are always ready to know about ourselves and our universe. Questions are always arising in our mind. Whenever we encounter problems, we try to find solutions to them. Finding answers to various problems has given us progress to human life. Research is composed of two words 're' and 'search', which means to search again or a careful investigation to re-understand and re-examine the facts. Indian music includes music in all its forms-vocal, instrumental, folk etc. The process of working out a research in music is a little bit different. In music, techniques are most important. Some sources play a very important role in research, through these sources the investigator ensures that he will most properly achieve his research objective without having to spend amount of time, money and energy.

Keywords:- Invention, Musicology, Progressive, Research, Sources.

Indian civilization is one of the oldest civilizations of the world. As a result Indian religious, social and music systems are also very old. During vedic period, the knowledge was imparted to the students orally. The vedas were composed in hymns and the students learnt these by heart. These vedas and purans may be considered genesis of music activities. Bharat's Natyashastra (300 BC) is perhaps the oldest and detailed research presentation for music theory. The traditional methodology of India in the Sangeet lakshagranths which are the authoritative music treatises written in Sanskrit poetry reveals that the scientific approach of musicology was released from the ancient period.¹ In an age, when reading and writing are rare accomplishments, the main sources of our knowledge in our Indian music and its history are epigraphs, manuscripts, coins etc. They all are secondary sources of information besides musical pillars stones, are very important for research. Musical compositions of various artists other advanced instruments like tapes, CD, gramophone records. These sources are very useful in our music research as the non-book materials form a very important part in saving knowledge in these fields. On the other hand journals, articles, books play an important role in this connection.

1. MUSICAL PILLARS AND STONES

Generally the musical pillars or musical pillars are a group of columns of stones being distributed along the periphery with the residual, central massive pillar serving to give stability to the entire structure. India is very famous for her mighty achievements in the realm of music. These pillars have no ornamental base or decorated top. These pillars are the most important part of our temples. When a musical pillar is struck with a piece of wood or thin smooth stone, one can easily hear the note given by it and also feel with one's fingers the vibrating

state of the pillar. It is very easy to hear the swaras, when struck in the clockwise order. Here the note "Panchama" is heard only in the square pillars and "Madhyam" is heard only in a octagonal pillars alone. It is noted that it is so complex and huge that no musician can play on it single handed.² The musical stone pillars in a our temples are a standing testimony to the artistic genius of the music. The musical stones pillars could be classified under four heads:-

1.1 Shruti stambhas or drone pillars providing sound which could be used for shruti. They were used for sounding the drone notes. With the tonic notes given by the pillars, the sacred choir gave recitals of sacred music.

1.2 Gana stambhas or musical pillars which could be used while singing notes. These were used for providing musical accompaniment. In this case two players with thin bamboo stood at opposite end and played in a Concerated manner.

1.3 Laya sthambhas or rythmic pillars used for the rythmic accompaniment while singing.

1.4 Pradarsana sthumbs or experimental pillars used to measure and verify tones and notes. The pillars here in Illustrated acoustical laws and phenomena. The opposite corner pillars are so accurately tuned that when one pillar is just tapped the pillar at the opposite corner which is tuned to the note of the same frequency, immediately vibrates. The vibration can be clearly heard and also felt by the fingers.

The musical icons figuring in some temples offered interesting study. These pillars and icons don't need any repair. They are therefore all ages to come, to give Forth their beautiful clear notes if men could only use them. These pillars which weather cannot wrap-nor time destroy, should certainly be preserved unaffected with the standards of notes as accepted in those glorious days of music.

II. EPIGRAPHY AND INSCRIPTION

Epigraphically and inscriptional records are sources of highest value in the research in music. Their value as a contemporary records thus remains permanent. Epigraphy is the study of inscription and inscriptions literally means any writing engraved on the some objects.³ These stone records are the static representation of the dynamic art in as much as they contain valuable information regarding the visual demonstration of music, dance and drama. For music research the inscriptions may be classified into four categories:-

2.1 The inscriptions that are useful for studying the history and development of concepts in Indian music.

2.2 The inscriptions having reference to ritual music, dance and drama. This includes the other epigraphical records regarding the establishment of endowment and institutions for music in the temples.

2.3 Records mentioning the music achievements and qualities of the rulers and their clans.

Musicians and instrumentalists were highly respected and liberally gifted with grants and endowments. These stones and metal records purport to be the most authentic records for the study of development of music.⁴

III. TEXT BOOKS

A textbook is a book of instruction. Its primary aim is not to impart information about the specific subject but to enable one to develop proper understanding of the subject. Presentation is extremely important and it is prepared to serve a particular level of readership. A good textbook takes into consideration the method of

teaching and it is revised keeping in view new developments and changing methodology of teaching. The most important component in over Indian music tradition is couched in sanskrit, but there are quite a few text in persian,old hindi,Tamil,Telugu etc.Indira Gandhi National Center of Arts New Delhi has undertaken the publication of major text of Sangeet shastra. Our knowledge and experience of current practice, which is directly linked with the oral tradition, naturally condition of understanding of the textual traditions. Then notable point is that the text has been composed with the presumption that the oral tradition would supplement the written one. There is a huge corpus of song text handed down in both the written and oral tradition. A serious study of this valuable material has not yet been under taken. Apart from providing insights with the implications of the usage of technical terminology, this body of material has very rich potential for studies from historical and social points of view in respect of patrons, attitudes centers of musical activity etc.⁵

IV.COMPOSITION AND NOTATION

Music is a progressive art. After a time when all literature consisted of only poetry, the sahyas of musical composition were written after the style of poetry. The sahyas in most cases was conceived first and was set to music later on. When the center of gravity in a musical composition got shifted to music and it came to realized that what mattered in a musical composition was more its musical setting rather than its sahyas, prose came to be freely used.Musicography is “ sangeetlipi” or musical notation.It deals with the various symbols used in representing music on paper. It is the translation of music in a visible form. The original music of many of the compositions have been lost since they were not recorded in notation because no notation worth the name had been developed at that time.⁶ A new method of collective education in Music Bhatkhande invented a formulated notation system. All his textbooks have the ragas movement and silent points written in notation. Bhatkhande strongly advocated the cause of a universal notation system for the reason that it would create a common understanding in the artistic feel and would build up emotional integration among musicians and music lovers. It would prevent distortions, which inevitably result from an exclusively oral method of teaching. It would also keep a correct record of present day music for next generation. It is true that all the subtle nuances of music and balances of rendering could not expressed and recorded through notations and not possible to express particular shade of a note in a particular raga. Bhatkhande’s opinion in this connection is that his notation system was a basic skeleton which helped a learner to be well versed in the grammar of classical music and only a sound knowledge of the grammar could create well qualified performers,teachers, critics and listeners.⁷

V.JOURNALS AND ARTICLE

In the modern world of research, the results are communicated through articles, monographs, books and handbooks of these the journals are the major Vehicles, where in the articles containing the results of research are published. The articles published in a journal is characterized by the following features:-

5.1 It attempts to answer a question by examination of relevant evidences.

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5.2 It deals with question which are specific Narrowly defined and fit to be encompassed in a single investigation.

5.3 It is started with a brief introductory account of the current state of research on the problem.

5.4 It interprets the observed facts in relation to the problem, and it draws conclusions on the basis of the interpretation.

VI. GRAMOPHONE

Sound recording and reproduction is one of the most significant contribution of modern technology. Probably for the first time in human history, it has been possible to copy, store and reproduce sound using a suitable medium. This has opened a variety of new possibilities particularly in the field of music. We can now record songs of our favourite artist and enjoy listening to them any number of times at our leisure. Also now he has become possible to preserve the music of great artist for posterity. This also enables us to trace the growth of music, lot of research is going on to develop new techniques and new material for recording and Storage of sound. This field is relatively new and constantly changing with the addition of more and more new information. With Edison invention of the phonograph in 1877, it became possible to store sound. Technology and provided different formats for recording viz, flat discs, Plastic records, spool tapes, audio, video Cassettes and the most modern compact disc CD. With This, various reproduction machines were invented such as talking machines, gramophones record players and changers, wire and spool recorder video/ tape etc. Both sound recording and reproduction witnessed the changes in technology ranging from mechanical to electrical and now the optical methods using lazer traced are very popular. There are so many electronic items for recording is available in market like pendrives and modem, DVD, USB modems, USB cable Android phones etc. But now these inventions helps us knowing the names and listening to the performances of different artists. It also helped in knowing the forms of various 'ragas' and ragnis, which were rare.

VII. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND DICTIONARY

A dictionary is a book, which deals with words of language or of some special subjects, authors etc. Thus a dictionary is wordbook. Although a dictionary is supposed to deal with words but often it may go beyond this. Biographical Dictionaries contain life sketches of many musicians and the persons related with this field. In such books information varies from a single paragraph to many pages. For Indian music the biographies are very resourceful and important. On the other hand encyclopedia is a book, giving information on all branches of knowledge of a specific subject. It is an ideal book, which deals with concepts. An encyclopedia is store house of knowledge giving all information of significance. However, it is best used for finding answers to background questions related to general information and self-education one often turns encyclopedias for once every day information requirements.

VIII.C d's

The emergence of digital computers soon afterward world war 2 brought in one of the most sophisticated equipment to the service of mankind. Digital computer is and information transforming device, its use is bound

to be all persuading. No discipline of study remains untouched by computers. The use of digital computer in fine arts and music started as early as in 50's. The creation of music by artificial means has been subject of considerable interest in the past few years specially since the introduction of sophisticated equipments capable of handling and processing information. These have resulted in the production of some delightful music however in India, not much work has been done in this direction. Thinking about the possible uses and therefore impact of electronic and computerized sounds on Hindustani classical music, these all are very important factors in research work, in this area so we can easily say that all these sources of research in Indian classical music is very important because as a result these are very helpful and very important in research work it helps us to do a good work.

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