



MUSIC EDUCATION IN THE INSTITUTIONS AT PRESENT

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KEYWORDS :

Introduction:

Music is an integral part of god's creation. Man was originally used this integral music at first only to praise the god. Man was started to learn music and started to teach this music to their children and family members as a part of spirituality and other religion activity. Later kings of the kingdoms are thought to develop and protect the arts. So the kings are started to conduct competitions in arts by offering awards and titles. Kings also had given specific place for musicians at their courts. Because of all these activities people are inspired and they started to learn music. Like this at every time based on the current situations and facilities music education was developed. Once upon a time music was taught to some specific casts and religions only. So there is no chance to every person to learn music at that time. But in this modern period if a person wants to learn music he has numerous options and opportunities. This paper is intended to highlight the present trends in music education in institutions in various aspects.

Gurukula system:

Gurukula system is also known as 'Ashram' (hermitage) system. In the ancient times, the teachers or masters were Sages and a student had to live in the hermitage for twelve years and get the knowledge by serving the master. The hermitages were given patronage by the kings and wealthy persons in the society. The life in the hermitage was rigorous, pensive and full of knowledge through direct experience. All students, they may be a prince or common man, had same treatment; there was no discrimination. Music is a performing art and is related to sound. Learning of music depends on the power or capacity of listening, so it is also called as 'art of audio-interpretation'. In Gurukula system, the student was taught on specific days, for specific period and then only, he was announced as a well versed person in the art. But this system was not too rigid; on the contrary it was flexible. The master use to train the student considering his capacity and deficiency. Every student use to get personal attention of the Guru and his grooming was taken care under his careful supervision. Student had to go through various tests during the twelve years of training for assessment. By order, Guru was considered to be highest authority and given importance like a 'verse of Veda'. The students had to perform daily rituals and were kept aside from the pleasure of thing and leisure of life for attaining the mastery over there art. Music was taught practically with experimentation and so, in the ancient times, the music was not taught through writing or notations; but it was transferred to disciple by master only through oral tradition.

Music education in schools:

At first music education was started as a part of school curriculum in 1830 in Boston in the department of public education of United states. In India Rabindranath tagore has started this music education after he found the Viswabharati university. After this both central and state governments are started to give importance for music by appointing music teachers in Kendriya vidyalaya ,Navodaya vidyalaya, Sainik schools, Z.P. high schools, M.P.P.schools and etc.... Later in modern period the NCF-2005 (National Curriculum Framework) also suggested that " Art education must become both a tool and a subject (up to class X) and facilities for the same may be provided in every school ". So because of all these

suggestions and also awareness of parents about music in society now most of the schools has started to giving importance for music. It is also really very important to teach music to every child at school level, because there are many benefits and advantages for a child with music education at this school level.

Benefits of music education:

1. A mastery of memorization: student musicians are constantly using their memory to perform. The skill of memorization can serve students well in education and beyond.
2. Increased coordination: students who practice with musical instruments can improve their hand-eye coordination.
3. Kids stay engaged in school: An enjoyable subject like music can keep kids interested and engaged in school. Student musicians are likely to stay in school most of the time to achieve in other subjects.
4. Emotional development: Particular students those who are learning music can be more emotionally developed ,with empathy towards other cultures they also tend to have higher self esteem and are better at coping with anxiety.
5. Music can be relaxing: Students can fight stress by learning to play music. Soothing music is especially helpful in helping kids relax.
6. Development in creative thinking: kids who study the arts can to think creatively . This kind of education can help them solve problems by thinking outside the box and realizing that there may be more than one right answer.

General observations:

1. In schools the music teachers are mostly teaching patriotic songs, motivational songs, folk songs, cine songs and devotional songs.
2. It was observed that especially from the primary sections children are having very good enthusiasm towards the music. They are singing very loudly and sweetly.
3. Music teachers also selecting some special songs for these small children and teaching positively.
4. In secondary and senior secondary sections children are showing interest in learning music with awareness and enthusiasm. Like babe black sheep...rhyme.
5. Here also music teachers are selecting some semi classical songs for these children and teaching to them.
6. In this school level music teachers are conducting music competitions and sending the selected children to zonal, state, national level music competitions.

Suggestions:

Only the central government schools are having regular music teachers. But few of the state government schools are having music teachers in selected schools only. It will be appreciable if the state government also gives more importance for music by appointing regular teachers in every school.

- Most of the private schools are taking music as a occasional event only like on independence day , foundation day , annual day or during on inspection of the schools progress and working. It will be appreciable if all private schools also give

more importance for music as per the norms of NCF-2005 and appoint a regular music teacher.

- Very few schools only allotted a separate room for music. so it is good that if every school should allot a separate room for music .Because with this facility children can enjoy the music more and more.
- Though there is a prescribed syllabus from NCERT ,and CBSE for music, most of the teachers are not following the syllabus due to the lack of students interest. It will be appreciable if every teacher motivate the children towards to learn music syllabus.
- There are number of teachers are not teaching music with sruthi box due to some reasons like not having power point junctions, not having separate room, and so on. This is not good, it is mandatory that every music teacher should use a sruthi box while teaching music.
- At primary level there is no separate exam for music like as other subjects. Because of this may be students are not taking music as a serious subject. So it is good that if both teachers and management people should think about it.
- In some of the schools they are giving opportunity to learn music for some selected children or some selected classes only. It is good that if every school should give opportunity to every child and to every class to learn music.

Of course most of the schools and teachers are now doing really good work in developing music education. If they check or implement the above mentioned points in every school every child can get the real fruits of music.

Music education in colleges and universities:

At present colleges and universities are playing good role to develop music in this society. There are so many music courses are available in this colleges and universities like...certificate course, diploma course, visaarada , praveena, degree, post graduation, m.phil, and ph.d. In all these courses certificate and diploma courses are conducting in the timings of morning and evening only. So this courses are very useful for so many common people who wants to learn music like employees, house wife's, business people and etc...

There is a definite syllabus for this courses and exams also. Remaining visarada ,praveena, u.g ,p.g courses are fully use full only for the students who really wants to become music professionals or music teachers. Here we can find more qualified teachers. Each and every course has a specific syllabus and exam (both practical and theory). Once the student finish his p.g he can eligible to get an admission into m.phil and ph.d. If a person finish all this courses definitely there is a big chance to him/her to become a good artist or a good teacher.

General observations:

- First of all every one can feel and enjoy the music atmosphere at the premises of music departments in colleges and universities.
- In co educational colleges teachers are teaching music both boys and girls at a time. So specially in this cases both students and gurus of department of vocal are facing problem regarding sruthi.
- There is no common teacher (one teacher) to entire course for a batch.
- Still now there is no similarity about notation of compositions. We can find the definite changes in every two gurus notation on same kriti or keertana.
- Colleges and universities are selecting talented students from every department and sending them to setvin ,youth festivals ,inter college level music competitions.

Some of the merits:

1. By completing the courses the student can get certificate. Through this certificate the student can get good jobs from various institutions like schools, colleges and universities.
2. At the time of course the student is learning from different gurus ,so it is helping to him to understand the different types of singing or playing styles and traditions.

3. In co educational colleges gurus are use to teach in different srutis. So this is also helps to the student to get the capability of singing in different srutis.
4. Students are learning all this courses approximately at the age of 18 to 25. So this traditional music will help to them to keep their minds with positive thoughts.

Some of the demerits:

1. Students are concentrating mostly on syllabus and certificates ,because of this thoughts the quality of music is going down and the students are not learning any other kriti out of their syllabus.
2. They are learning music from different gurus ,because of this students are unable to get any one tradition from their gurus. It is true that a professional artist need a specific tradition.
3. They are singing in different srutis it may cause them to loose the sweetness of their voice.

Music education in private institutions:

These are very use full areas for people to learn music. We can see this in two forms.

1. Home tuitions: A person who was done some courses in music can starts music classes at his home with his comfortable timings. The people who wants to learn music they may come at his timings to his home. For this the person can collect money from the people in the form of monthly fee. Here they can not teach any specific syllabus and they will not conduct any exams also. So people from this tuitions can enjoy the music only.

2. Institutions : Here also some people who knows the music can set a building for music classes and they invite interested candidates to learn music. For this they can collect money from the people in the form of monthly fee. May be the lack of the interest of the people this institutions are not following any syllabus. This institutions can make the students as a music lovers ,but nothing more than that.

Some of the merits :

1. people who don't have time to learn music in regular day timings can learn in this institutions at their comfortable timings.
2. People who with out any music jobs are easily earn money through this methods.
3. These are surely helping in improving the number of music lovers in society.

Some of the demerits :

1. It is too difficult to become an artist from this institutions.
2. Institutions are not following any syllabus, so we can not expect any artist from this institutions.
3. We can not see a formal relation ship between guru and shisha.

Informal Training of music from various modern media:

In this modern age, there are a lot of educated persons who are curious or inquisitive about music and they want to satisfy their intellectual need about knowing the music or any art. For this section, the informal training method works better. On radio and television, there are many serials introducing music. There are many books, interactive CDs, websites, blogs, e-portals giving information on music by which one can get the basic information. Obviously, media cannot make a musician or researcher, which needs an extensive and in-depth training, but media at least provides basic information on music by which commoners can enjoy it in a better way and further be instigative for learning music.

These methods of music education are prevalent not only in India, but all over the world. No method of music education is completely ideal, but each is complementary to each other about the aim of spread of music.

Conclusion: If there is an artistic heart in humans definitely we can

see the artistic works in the society. Music has most of the power to develop the artistic heart in humans. To compare with past, at present the institutions are giving importance for music. But this is not enough, specially the state governments should think about music education. Recently some of the state governments (like A.P, T.S ,Tamilnadu states) are recruiting music teachers in their institutions. Really this is very good news for music education. As like this if every one give importance for music education we can see a complete change in entire one generation with having artistic hearts.

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