



Indian Classical Music Heritage: A Progress and Impact in Kolhapur City, India

KEYWORDS

Indian Classical Music, Heritage, progress, Kolhapur city, India.

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ABSTRACT Kolhapur is old city established during the historic period in first century before Christ. The city has very rich heritage of Indian Classical Music. The progress of musical heritage in the city is remarkable. There are more than 50 institutes actively engaged in teaching and training students. Thousands of students are trained every year and there are more than 300 artists currently giving their stage / public performances. 44% common population gave choice to Indian Classical Music and 77% by trained people. The choice within the Indian Classical Music given by the trained persons refer to 30%, 28%, 12%, 16%, 13% and 1.00% for chota khayal, bada khayal, Drupad-Dhamar, Tarana, Thumri and others respectively. Within the semiclassical music common people preferred Abhangwani 54%, Gazal gayan 28% and Natya geet 18%. For hearing, most of the people preferred Hindustan classical (90%) than Karnataki (10%) at morning 30%, night 26% and afternoon 10%. 90% people opinioned that Indian Classical Music can remove stress and tension, 60% believed in increase of freshness and 8% believed in naturalizing the mind. Therefore, 96% people wants to learn and 100% wants to protect heritage of Indian Classical music in Kolhapur city. Historical accounts of heritage of Indian classical music with popular institutes and artist have also given in the paper.

INTRODUCTION :

Music is medicine of mind. Due to the changing environment and life style, humans are under tremendous stress which affects the peace of mind, internal processes of body, brain and finally the health. Hence, musical heritage of a country or region has great importance in maintaining the health. In fact, musical heritage is progress indicator of the region. Kolhapur is old city established during the historic period in 1st century before Christ. Now it became fashionable, progressive and heritage protective city of India. Kolhapur has very rich heritage of Mahalaxmi Temple, Kolhapuri shoes, agriculture farming, heavy resource industry and forestry in the form of Western Ghats, the 18th hot spot of the world of biodiversity and Indian classical music. It is capital of Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj, historically known as secular and very progressive King. Every city should have characteristics of its birth, progress and rhythm. The beauty and infrastructure of Kolhapur is not less than the cities of any advanced countries. Therefore, in the present work heritage of Indian Classical Music of Kolhapur city with historical account is highlighted. Review of literature indicates that several workers worked on Indian Classical Music (1 to 11).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Kolhapur is situated between 15° to 17° North latitude and 73° to 74° East longitude with an average rainfall 1100 mm and more than 5,50,000 population favoring the sex ratio to males. Literacy rate of Kolhapur city is more than 92.00%. Indian Classic Music heritage was studied by making survey of Institutes, University Departments, Music Schools, Internet sources, personal contacts and discussions with city people and official authorities and with the help of questionnaire during the year 2014. More than 40 questions related to Indian Classical Music were asked in the questionnaire with personal name, address and signature.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The progress made by Kolhapur city, India in heritage of Indian Classical Music and the feeling of people about

music are represented in tables 1 to 8 and figs. 1 to 4. The choice given for Indian Classical Music by the common population was significantly high (44%). However, the trained population gave highest (77%) choice to the Indian Classical Music. The choice within the Indian Classical Music given by the trained persons refer to 30%, 28%, 12%, 16%, 13% and 1.0% for Chota khayal, Bada Khayal, Drupad-Dhamar, Tarana, Thumri and others respectively indicating highest (30%) preference to fast rhythmic composition; 'Chota khayal' and slow rhythmic composition 'Bada khayal' (28%). Comparative choice for types of music by trained persons is recorded in tables 3 & 4. The feelings of common population about Indian Classical Music are recorded in table 5 to 7. Within semiclassical music, 54% choice was given to Abhangwani and 18% to Natya geet while 28% choice was given to gazal gayan. As regards to the literature availability, 30% people were satisfactory, 8% were not satisfactory and 62% were not in position to express their views. As less than 50% people were satisfactory, there is scope to generate more literature in Indian Classical Music. The literature in local language may be very helpful to undergraduate population although the literacy rate of Kolhapur city is more than 92.00%. Most of the people (90%) preferred Hindustani Classical Music than Karnataki (10%) and 30% people hear at morning, 26% at night and 10% at afternoon while, 34% population adjusted for hearing at any time. 90% people said that Classical music can remove the stress and tension and 60% population believed in increase of freshness due to classical music and 8% opinioned that Classical Music can neutralize the mind, probably due to which 96% people wants to learn and 100% people wants to protect the heritage of Indian Classical Music in the city.

During the historic period from 1st Century before Christ to ninth Century AD, Kolhapur was situated on the Bhrahmpuri hills. During the Satwahan period there was wealthy and cultured population staying in the form of Kolhapur. Thus, heritage of Indian Classical Music of Kolhapur dates back since beginning of the first century.

The oldest, 125 year's old Karveer Gayan Samaj was established in 1883 to stimulate and boost classical music in Kolhapur. Later, in 1946 got amalgamated as the trust known as 'Gayan Samaj Deval Club', is still in existence and stimulating and popularizing the activities of Indian Classical Music in Kolhapur. Both, 'Gayan Samaj Deval Club' and recently, Shivaji University made significant contribution to protect and progress the heritage of Indian Classical Music in Kolhapur.

The visionary King of Kolhapur Rajarshi Chhatrapati Shri Shahu Maharaj made special efforts to popularize Indian Classical Music in Kolhapur. However, 'Gayan Samaj Deval Club' has played outstanding role in development of classical music. The outstanding workers of this Trust refers to the initiator of the Trust Shri Govindrao Deval, Chief Justice Vishwanathrao Gokhale and Police Office Shri. Natu, Shri. Mehendale and Shri. Limaye. The eminent artists, Ustad Alladiyakhn Saheb, Shri. Govindrao Tembhe, Shri. Balkrishnabuva Ichalkaranjkar, Ramkrishnabuva Vaze, Ustad Abdul Karim Khan Saheb, Bhaskarbuva Bakhale, Ustad Manjikhann Bhurjikhann Saheb, Bal Gandharva, Keshavrao Bhosale etc. shared their musical experiences by giving public and group programmes and guiding the musical trusts of Kolhapur at large extent.

The music lovers like Shri. Narhar Ramchandra Joshi, Shri. Narayan Apte, Shri. Rambhau Vijramushti, Shri. Rambhau Vankhede and many more regularly attended the musical programmes and gave fill up to musical activities in Kolhapur.

The stimulations and active performance in classical programmes by Ustad Abdul Karim Khan highly enlightened musical culture of Kolhapur. "Sangit ratna" Ustad Abdul Karim Khan born in Kairana village in Muzaffarnagar but, settled in Miraj (C. 1898-99 AD) and regularly performed in several music concerts in Kolhapur and other cities. Pt. Vishwanathbuva Jadhav was also outstanding artist of Kolhapur. He was well prepared artist in vocal under the guidance of Ustad Abdul Karim Khan and Ustad Abdul Wahid Khan. He often accompanied Khan sahib on "tanpura". Later, Pt. Vishwanathbuva trained extra ordinary followers (shishyas) namely, Pt. B.V. Jadhav, Swar ratna Pt. R.V. Jadhav, Pt. P.V. Jadhav and Smt. Shakuntala Rajee. That was the real golden era of Indian classical music of Kolhapur.

Gayan Samaj Deval Club is actively engaged in organizing musical programme since beginning of the trust. The trust started the task of musical education from 1921 in the form of music school in their own premises, initially governed by Shri.Keshavrao Gogate and Shri. Appayyabuva and later by Gundopant Walwalkar, Shri. Devasthali and Shri. Hawaldar. In recent years Deval Club is run by Shri. Arun Dongare as president and Shri. Prabhakar vartak as secretary.

'Gayan Samaj Deval Club' organized several vocal and recital programmes of popular artists like Ms. Alpita Gavkar, Dr. Sudhakar Karandikar, Shri. Shridhar Kulkarni, Pt. Raja Kale, Ms. Shivani Marulkar, Shri. Vijay Koparkar etc.

Shivaji University has started the Dept. of Music and dramatics since more than 30 years. Now 7 courses in Indian Classical Music including Certificate, Diploma, P.G. and Ph.D. in vocal and instrumental music are available. The intake capacity of each course is recorded in table-1. The department has organized several seminars/ Conferences / Workshops/ Samelans etc. Ustad Aslamkhan Mumbai, Smt.

Prabhati Mukherjee Kolkata and several others participated in such events. Rajashri Shahu Sangeet Rajani Mahotsav, is organized at Kolhapur since 1991. During the last 25 years every year the department has frequently organized the programmes of outstanding artists such as Pt. Bhimsen Joshi, Pt. Hari Prasad Chourasia, Ustad Zakhir Hussain, Smt. Kishori Amonkar, Smt. Malini Rajurkar, Ustad Rashid Khan etc. and popularized the heritage of Indian Classical Music of Kolhapur and also organized workshops for training the students with valuable guidance of eminent artists like Pt. Arvind Mulgaonkar, Pt. Sudhir Sansare, Pt. Sudhir Mainkar etc. . The classical music, semi classical music, Natya sangeet, Sugam sangeet, film sangeet, Lok geet, powada, Gan-gavlan and Shetkari geet have hopefully highlighted in the programmes organized by the University. The non music departments like Zoology have also organized a series of lectures of Prof. T.V. Sathe on How to enjoy Indian Classical Music for increasing the interest of students in heritage of classical music.

University has also organized several musical programmes for stage performance by teaching and non-teaching staff wherein Dr. Mrs. Vaishampaian, Dr. T.V. Sathe, Dr.(Mrs.) Mulik, Dr.(Mrs.) Waingankar performed vocal Indian Classical Music. University Music Department has paid special attention for Natya geet improvement, the only semi classical music kind performed in Maharashtra, by organizing several Natya Programmes in the University.

There are more than 40 private classes of classical music in Kolhapur city involving more than 50 teachers actively engaged in giving training to the students irrespective of age and sex. Thousands of students are trained every year by various institutes in Kolhapur and more than 300 hundreds of artists are giving high quality stage performances.

The prominent artists of Kolhapur city refer to Pt. Appasaheb Deshpande, Shri. Latkar brothers, Digrajkar buva and more recent one Dr. (Mrs.) Vaishampaian, Dr. Vinod Thakur-Desai, Shri. Anand Dharmadhikari, Dr. Anjali Nigvekar, Shri. Pradip Kulkarni, Smt. Sneha Phadanwis, Smt. Priti Gulvani, Mrs. Tanvi Miskin, Shri. Kosambi and instrumental artists Shri. Dwarkadas Pai (Harmonium), Shri. Pandit Taware (Harmonium), Dr. N. V. Bhagat (Tabla), Shri. Prabhakar Dabhade (Tabla), Shri. Madhusudan Shikhare (Tabla), Shri. More (Tabla), Shri. Hiremath and Shri. Rabade.

Although 59 graduate colleges of traditional and applied subjects are scattered in the city, no music subject either vocal or recital taught in any of the college including well known Govt. Rajaram College. Therefore, there is urgent need to start courses of Indian Classical Music in these colleges. The role of Shivaji University and Gayan Samaj Deval Club is undoubtedly very crucial in development of heritage of Indian classical music of the city and the country.

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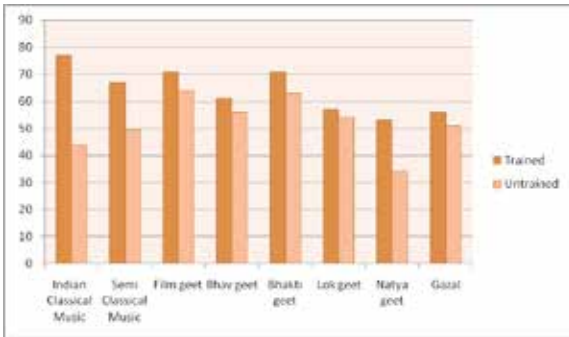


Fig – 1. Per cent choice for types of music by trained and untrained persons.

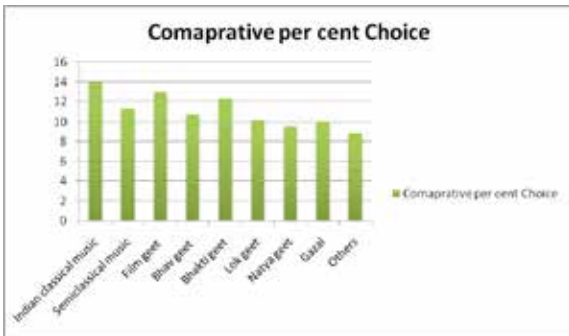


Fig-2 Comparative choice for types of music by trained persons

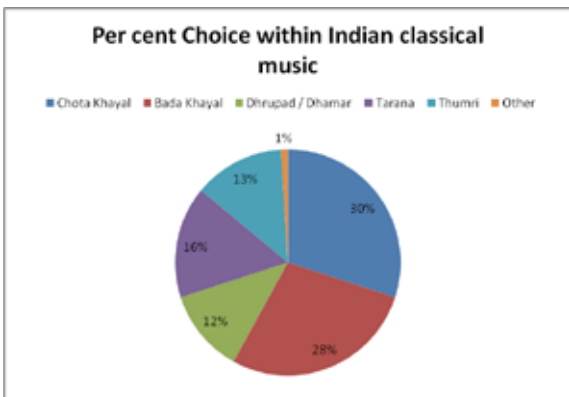


Fig 3 : Per cent choice within Indian Classical Music by trained persons

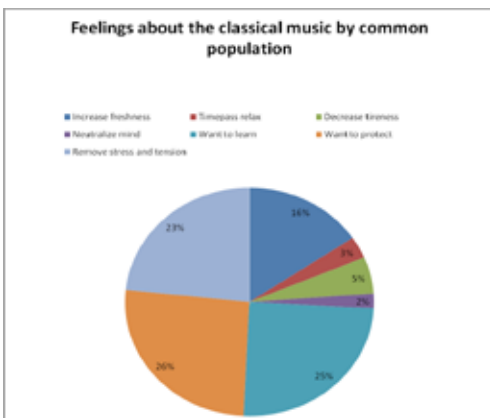


Fig. 4 Feelings about the classical music of common population

Table 1 : Institutional status of Indian classical music at Kolhapur.

Sr. No.	Institute	Co-op/ Private	Course	Subject taught	Intake capacity	No. of teachers	Students trained (2008-13)
1	Dept. of Music & Dramatics, Shriya University, Kolhapur	Semi-Co-op	i) MFA Course ii) MFA Course iii) Bridge Course iv) Bridge Course v) Diploma Course vi) Certificate Course	Indian Classical Music Instrumental Music Indian Classical Music Instrumental Music Indian Classical Music Instrumental Music Sugam Sangit	15 15 15 15 25 15	03 03 03 03 03 03	75 75 75 75 125 75
2	Sanskrit Sanshodhan Mandal, Kolhapur	Private	Under graduate / graduate / PG (Sangit, Chhanda / Sangit, Chhanda / Alankar)	Vocal Instrumental	100 100	06 03	450 400
3	Local classes of Indian Classical Music (40)	Private	Under graduate / graduate / PG (Vedant / Sangit, Vaidik)	Vocal Instrumental	200 100	30 10	1250 400
4	Loka (Fractions and Applied) Colleges (30)	Govt (2) Private (2)	--	--	--	--	--

Table 2 : Choice for type of music by trained and un-trained persons

Sr. No.	Type of Music	Per cent choice by person	
		Trained	un-trained
1	Indian Classical Music	77.00	44.00
2	Semi Classical Music	67.00	49.50
3	Film Geet	71.00	64.00
4	Bhav Geet	61.00	56.00
5	Bhakti Geet	71.00	63.00
6	Lok Geet	57.00	54.00
7	Natya Geet	53.00	34.00
8	Gazal	56.00	51.50

Table 3 : Comparative choice for type of music by trained persons

Sr. No.	Type of Music	Per cent choice
1	Indian Classical Music	14.00
2	Semi Classical Music	11.31
3	Film Geet	13.00
4	Bhav Geet	10.71
5	Bhakti Geet	12.34
6	Lok Geet	10.14
7	Natya Geet	9.50
8	Gazal	10.00
9	Other	8.80

Table 4 : Choice within Indian Classical Music by trained persons

Sr. No.	Type of Music	Per cent choice
1	Chota Khayal	30.00
2	Bada Khayal	28.00
3	Dhrupad / Dhamar	12.00
4	Tarana	16.00
5	Thumri	13.00
6	Other	1.00

Table 5 : Feelings about the classical music of common population

Sr. No.	Feeling	Per cent population
1.	Increase freshness	60.00
2.	Timepass relax	12.00
3.	Decrease tiredness	20.00
4.	Neutralize mind	8.00
5.	Want to learn	96.00
6.	Want to protect	100.00
7.	Remove stress and tension	90.00

Table 6 : Choice and time of hearing Indian Classical Music

Sr. No.	Type / Choice	Per cent population
1	Karnataki	10.00
2	Hindustani	90.00
	a) Morning (Hearing Time)	30.00
	b) Afternoon (Hearing Time)	10.00
	c) Night (Hearing Time)	26.00
	d) Anytime(Hearing Time)	34.00

Table 7 : Choice of common population within Semi - Classical Music

Sr. No.	Type	Per cent Choice
1	Abhangwani	54.00
2	Gazal	28.00
3	Natya Geet	18.00

Table 8 : Literature availability awareness population about in Indian Classical Music

Sr. No.	Item	Per cent opinion
1	Literature satisfactory	30.00
2	Literature not satisfactory	8.00
3	Cannot say about literature	62.00

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