

Appreciating Hindustani Music
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Lecture 43
Dhrupad - Song Texts in Different tala-s

Here we look into Dhrupad song texts in Different talas with layakari. As we all know that Dhrupad song texts are of various kinds, evoking different Gods and Goddesses, talking about the royalty, describing nature, philosophy, mythology - all these constitute the Dhrupad song text.

And we have a rich repertory of song texts in our country and compositions that come from various vaggeyakaras. We are aware of the names of Baiju, Tansen, Bakshu, Bhanu, Sarju, Swami Haridas, Haridas Dagur and many more; also some things that come from the temple tradition - from the Astachaap tradition.

So, let us look into Chaartaal compositions. Chaartal or Chautal, usually the Chaartal is sung in a very regular mood, it is dignified, there is tranquillity, devotion; when you say devotion it is both Bhakti Rasa and Shanta Rasa and the tempo is medium slow and rarely fast. We do have some fast Chautal compositions also.

So, my accompanist here Aditya Deep will recite Chaartal. It has 12 beats, 6 divisions.

Dha Dha Din Ta Kita Dha Din Ta Tita Kata Gadi Gana

So, I am going to sing a beautiful composition of the legendary Tansen who was one of the gems of the court of Akbar - also evoking the Goddess [Music]. The composition is in Raag Yaman Chautaal [Music].

Now the song has 4 parts, 4 sections, the Sthayi, Antara, Sanchari and Abhog. I sang the Sthayi and Antara, now this is the third part - the Sanchari [Music].

Now let us take Sultaal 10 beats - very dynamic, it could be medium fast and very fast, Sultaal has a very special character, very playful and joyful. There is a buoyancy, also very vibrant and a lot of joyful and happy feelings that come into the Sultaal.

So, Aditya Deep will play the Theka.

Dha Dha Din Ta Kita Dha Tita Kata Gadi Gana

There is also a very fast Sultaal which has a different Theka.

So, please play the fast Sultaal Theka [Music] recite both [Music] Good.

Now and a very old composition of Baiju and Raag Gujari Todi. [Music].

Another very famous composition of Tansen and Brindavani Sarang, this song also has seeped down into the Khayal tradition sung in a different way [Music].

Another very popular taal Teevra, also very fast and virtuosic movements possible in this taal and this taal sometimes can also be sung in the medium tempo that grips gives more gravity and restraint. So, I will request Aditya Deep to play taal Teevra Theka

Dha Din Ta Tita kata Gadi Gana

also the fast version.

Now I will sing two compositions, one in Raag Chalnaat which is called Jog, this is more dignified. The medium tempo followed by a very fast composition in Raag Gunkari [Music].

Now, it is interesting here what we call the Komal Ga, it is Chatushruti Rishabh [Music].

Now when you play that Damaru syllabic movements, the content is very well described in this song, how is the Damaru played [Music].