

Chapter 6

Conclusion

Our classical music has a rich tradition and it is something we need to be proud of. Indian classical music is one of the world's greatest musical traditions. With time it has become richer and has come forward as a highly developed and most complete musical art form that is inimitable and is second to none. Due to its mixture of Persian and Indian influence it consists of a variety of high quality elements out of which the Khayal is one of the best elements. The development of Khayal and its tradition is a result of the inputs and hard work of various artists over time spanning through generations. It embodies the gravity of the 'Dhrupada', the romanticism of the Thumri and the lyricism of the lighter forms like Dadra and even Ghazal. Khayal, a classico-romantic form, rejected some of the rigidities of the Dhrupada and enclosing some of the aesthetic qualities of the Thumri. Khayal is a highly specialized art form which has a quite complex composition and enjoys a vast liberty in comparison with Dhrupada. There are several steps in its elaboration in Khayal; each of these steps is meant to emphasize a specific point of aesthetic and musical excellence. Khayal has a rich classical background having Alaps, various Tanas, Ghamaks, Khatka, Meend, a wide variety of rhythmic patterns and creative variations of the words of the composition with appropriate combinations of notes. All this adds significant sentimental enrichment to Khayal singing. Khayal is a very organised and scientific music form which is ideal for every kind of listener. It is based on various Indian music forms and is capable of expressing and influencing the heart and mind of a variety of listeners. It thus has something interesting and attractive to offer to almost every variety of listeners.

There are many benefits of listening to Khayal music. Many researches have been going on by doctors, scientists and medical professionals over the effect of Khayal on the body and the mind of the listeners. Listening to Khayal music can have a positive impact on the mind of growing children and students. Researches have shown that a continued listening to Khayal music can help in increasing the concentration of students and it aids in improving their creative potential as well. Not only students, but common people can also benefit from listening and singing Khayal as it results in a positive effect on both the mind and body of the listener. Medical professionals are using music as an adjunct in the treatment of many diseases and music has been used in improving the standard of living of many patients suffering from psychological and brain related diseases. In this way Khayal singing can help the human mind and body.

These are some of the reasons why Khayal, which is such a traditionally rich and beneficial art form, should be propagated throughout the world. It becomes the duty of every music lover to make people aware of its benefit and spread it all around them so that people can appreciate Khayal and improve their lives in the process. This becomes imperative especially in today's scenario where everyone is in a hurry and life is full of worries. Every person strives for a peace of mind and a sense of balance and stability. Khayal can very well provide it in this hour of need and prove itself as a boon for human society. For this everyone has to participate in this awareness campaign. Every person has to play their individual role in it as the task at hand is huge and cannot be achieved by the strength of a few people. The Khayal revolution has to be well organized and well planned effort. It requires the affiliation of music experts, artists, music educators, Students and promoters in unison while putting away their differences and issues. Then and only then can this target be achieved.

If we look at the present scenario, the state of classical music is not that good. The common masses are far away from the Khayal. These findings have been observed from the survey undertaken and we can also see the glaring for the same. These reasons have to be understood and will have to be eliminated. From a historical perspective it can be observed that many unwanted elements and wrongful practices seeped into the classical music since the music became prevalent in the royal courts as well as among the uneducated masses of the time. With a motive to get jobs in the royal courts or to prove the superiority of their own Gharana the artists of the old times concentrated less on the art form as such but put more emphasis on the skill of singing. As a result the music became more complex and got further away from the masses. The aesthetic value and the emotional richness took a backseat and complexity of singing and Tanas came to the forefront. The complexity of music was mistaken as the quality of the singer. Less emphasis was being put on the aesthetic sense, emotions, expression by lyrics. The more complex the Tanas (singing), the better the singer was considered. The music took a back seat and individual singers came to the fore. This rat race by artists to be considered superior than others actually changed the direction of development of classical music for the worse.

Now the time is to change these archaic dogmas and bring the development of music back on the right path. Now the need is to bring the emphasis back on the music and let go of the obsolete complexities and direct the music to its actual purpose i.e. to

bring pleasure for the mind and the soul of the listener. We have to understand that because of its growing complexities, the classical music had moved away from the very masses from which it originated. This has to be done to make it emotionally and aesthetically rich so that it can find interest among the masses again. The artists have to be mindful of the fact that their main motive should be to please the listeners and not displaying their superiority by showcasing their skill in singing complex Tanas.

Today the responsibility of the artist has increased. He has to understand that with changing scenario the presentation has to be in done in such a way that it caters to the needs of the listener. The artist has to mould his/her performance in such a way that he/she gives maximum quality to the listener in minimum time. The singer listener involvement has to be high. These changes will be in the favour of both the artist and the listener and ultimately the music itself.

The changing times have led to a change in the responsibilities of music teachers, educators and gurus. Music education has to come out of its narrow minded approach. Jealousy and ego issues will have to be kept aside and a common platform will have to be provided to disseminate the music knowledge. The educators will have to go hand in hand with the changing times and understand the fact that this age is the age of machines. They have to become hi tech and make technology a part of music education as well. The educators will have to play various roles. The students nowadays face various challenges like having a steady job and making a comfortable living for themselves and their families. These become even more apparent in a country like ours where art education is not as developed and the life of an artist is a constant struggle. The educators have to prepare and guide the students in such a way that they are able to face these challenges with courage and come up tops every time. For this to happen the educators themselves have to be highly learned and capable to guide the students through these challenges that they might face. Educators today have to be aware about his surroundings and the scope of his respective field. Then and only then will they be able to provide a holistic development of their students.

The educator should make use of the modern technologies like TV, tape recorders, computers, mic systems etc. to make music education more interesting for the students. This way of involving them in the studies would be more beneficial for the

students. These steps will have to be taken by the music educators to make the music education better than before.

The classical music event management institutions (musical institutions) also have a big role to play in the development of classical music in the current scenario. The more the number of musical events, the greater the awareness of classical music will be among the masses. Organisers will have to be on their toes. Their responsibilities will include making people aware of the event, provide the artists with the proper necessities, propagating the event through media, getting in touch with the sponsors, organising the event in a proper way etc. Social media can be utilised to promote the events in all directions by sending invite (e-vites) through facebook, twitter, Whatsapp. Event listings can be done at online portals like bookmyshow. Proper media coverage to the event can be provided and sponsors found via internet. Educational institutes, government and non-government organizations, private societies can collaborate and put in a combined effort to work single-mindedly to promote classical music among the masses.

The artists have to be mindful of the fact that in the end the ultimate responsibility of bringing classical music to the masses still lies with them. They will have to come in direct contact with the masses and will have to involve them in their music. They will have to leave their pride and ego behind and present before them and for them.

In today's time technology has a big role to play in virtually every field. Music is no exception to this. There are many artists today who have come to fame with the help of internet. Facebook, YouTube, Whatsapp, etc. are many famous social networking sites and musicians and artists should make full use of these to promote themselves and get in touch with the masses through them. They should make full use of these technologies. Artists should record and share their classical music and performances online and get a wider listener base. Information should be provided about ragas and basic concepts of classical music to make it more pertinent and meaningful to the common people. We all should make it a point to use the internet and make people more aware and help them experience the wonderful world of Indian classical music. In this way, such concentrated and concerted efforts will definitely make Khayal popular among the masses.

On more thing that needs to be stressed upon is developing a relation between the younger generation and the classical music. They should be made aware of the rich and wonderful culture and tradition of Indian classical music from a very young age so that they become interested in it. That is the reason that efforts need to be made by everyone to make sure that this becomes a part of their curriculum from junior classes inwards. Music education should be present in every school so that the children have an opportunity to explore it and be engrossed in it by themselves.

All these efforts have to be combined and streamlined to promote the advent of classical music among the masses so that finally classical music can reach the pinnacle that has been due for centuries once again.
