

A B S T R A C T

Hindustani Music has been traditionally taught by Gharana system in a Gurukul atmosphere which can not be followed in today's schools due to limitations like large student to staff ratios and limited contact hours. The teaching methods of this subject are stagnant causing a gradual fall in standards.

This work involved development of Audio visual aids and an innovative teaching method using these aids so as to improve the Music Education in schools. To demonstrate the effectiveness of this technique, an experiment was conducted on students of class IX offering Vocal Music as a subject at four different schools in Agra and a comparison of the normal teaching with the innovative teaching was done.

Audio visual aids in the form of Audio cassettes, Charts and Picture books were developed specifically corresponding to the needs of the students of this level and as per their syllabus. These tools were developed with the objectives of

- i) giving them Knowledge ,
- ii) to improve their sense of music appreciation,

& iii) to teach correct methods of vocal practice.

The innovative teaching method gives a great stress on motivation. To this effect the teaching is not restricted to prescribed syllabus but exposes the students to topics of general knowledge related to music. The methods developed and used in this teaching technique are,

- I. Specific Exercises for understanding Swara and Laya,
- II. Vocal practice system,
- III. Play-way teaching technique,
- IV. A systematic method for giving individual attention in large classes,
- V. Use of Audio cassettes specifically developed for practice at their homes by students,
- VI. Imparting General knowledge of Music apart from the prescribed syllabus using Audio visual aids.

To compare the innovative teaching with the Normal teaching, practical tests were periodically conducted by a team of experts in identical conditions and the results were statistically analysed which established a significant improvement in the students' standard by the innovative teaching technique.

Apart from the vocal achievement the effect of

this method of teaching on the Interest and the comprehension of Music of the students is also assessed. In this work, the tests for assessing the Interest and Comprehension of Music were also developed as standardized tests are not available. These tests were also administered on the sample and it is statistically established that there is significant improvement in the Interest and musical comprehension of the students due to the innovative teaching.

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