

PREFACE (Introduction)

The Hindutani music (North Indian Music) has inculcated many aspects of music. But in this study only classical music is being given priority.

There are 3 main styles which are recognized and given equal importance. These 3 aspects of music are vocal, instrumental & dance respectively. Vocal music is at the top followed by instrumental & then followed by dance. The area of research comes under the category of instrumental music, hence my focus will be instrumental music. Instrumental music also has many aspects. It has mainly 4 categories, They are:-

1. String Instrument – Tantu vaadya
2. Striking instrument – Ghana vaadya
3. Wind instrument – Sushir vaadya
4. Percussion Instrument – Avanadya vaadya.

All these categories are directly connected or associated with instrumental music. But in this research the category of Percussion instruments is given priority & focus. Avanadya or percussion means the instrument which has a surface of leather on the top & hollow from inside is helpful for producing Rhythm/beat. As a research student my choice of instrument is Tabla which belongs to the category of percussion instrument. As far as leather surface on the top of the instrument is concerned. Tabla is not first percussion instrument of this type. Before this many small percussion instruments were there. Which were have less importance now,



for instance Dundubhi & many more. This can be found as an evidence in many books written by our great scholars.

In my research I would like to throw light on the detailed study of Tabla – Its origin, History with historical evidence & the various schools of thought with their differences of opinion.

As per survey Pt. Arvind Mulgaronkar had written a book called “Tabla” in which he says that Tabla was found before the reign of sultan Allanddin Khilji that was between 1210 to 1296 a.c..

In an another survey it was found that according to Dr. Gaurang Bhavsar , around 4000 yrs. Ago Tabla emerged as an inspiration and came to know that this (Tabla) concept was found form a sculpture of a beautiful lady, In short, there is no specific evidence of how and when this instrument came into existence. It has been a silent journey as in the history of music also this aspect doesn't have a very clear picture of specific evidence on the origin of this instrument.

My subject or topic of research is Tabla. thats' why instead of throwing light on the history of Tabla, I would like to focus on Gharana Such as what is gharana? When & from where did it Start? Who was the pioneer of introducing Gharana etc.

I would like to provide detailed information about all these from various sources & books written by our great maestros & scholars. My topic of research is **“The Systematic & Traditional playing style of Punjab Gharana” – a study**. From where did this Gharana evolved? Were there other Gharanas also prior to this? According to the history and as per the study it is found that there were already 5 gharanas prior to this. According to the scholars & their research whatever data & evidences were available it can be said that the gharana style



might have started way back in the year 1710. According to Pt. Arvind Mulgaonkar's book and research the gharana style started from delhi in the year 1710. It means Delhi is the mother of all gharana style of playing (School of playing style) came into practice & thus the journey of gharana commenced.

It is part of my research study that not only Punjab Gharana but also the remaining gharanas to get enough exposure & I shall try my best to do justice with all the gharanas.