

## DELETERIOUS POLITICAL EFFECT ON INDIAN MUSIC EDUCATION

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### Abstract

*The singing of the birds, the sounds of the endless waves of the sea, the murmuring of trees, songs, beautiful sounds produced by strumming the strings of musical instruments—these are all music. There cannot be a truer statement than the one made by Mr. Longfellow - Music can cross barriers and permeate cultures. Many studies have indicated its positive effects on the mind, body, and soul, extolling its therapeutic benefits. Now, Music is a part of education in India like most of the other nations. System of attaining and deliver knowledge is on going since ancient times. Now a days, there is sort of malfunctioning of governing policies that having adverse effect on music education system. The paper explores the deleterious political effect on Indian music education including its impacts and consequences. For the sake of vote bank political parties leads to such false effect on music education and risen the danger to the future of music along with education too.*

**Keywords:** Indian Music Education, Deleterious Political Effect

### **The 'Gurukul' and 'Guru–Shishya Parampra'-**

*“Guru Brahma, Guru Vishnu, Guru Devo, Maheshwarah, Guru Saakshat Parabrahma, Tasmay Shree Guruve Namah ||”*

The quote written in Sanskrit language states the richness of guru or a teacher in our life and also signifying that this tradition of teaching and learning process is ongoing since ancient time.

'Guru-ShishyaParampara' has been the most ancient and is also known as the best system of teaching and learning. Since the times of Vedas, music education has been given by the Gurus orally which is known as 'Gur-mukh'. The student while living in a Gurukul would offer services to the Guru and at the same time, living under a stringent discipline, spending moderate lifestyle and perpetually practicing whatever education has been given to the student by the Guru and learning by heart was the only way to receive knowledge. The description on music education that we get from the Vaidik-Yuga shows that there were no names given to any school or even there were no niceties on the numbers of students in each class. Whatever is available through passim sporadically they point to the fact that education of music and other art forms were taught giving personal attention and this

precisely has been defined as 'Guru- Shishya Parampara'. Hence, it was the old time tradition of teaching and learning process in music. Now days, as government changes unfortunately the policies also get changed directly or indirectly it creates an adverse effect of music. Gurukul and other academies similar like Gurukul got paid by government to pursue such academies and keep the traditional treasure of music alive and Guru-ShishyaParampra as well. But later, when the government changes, the ruling government declines such policies provide no financial helps to such traditional institutions. Now days, very few institutions of music are left in India those are similar to the Gurukul-system and 'Guru-Shishyeparampra'.

### **Quota Reservation in India and Music Education:-**

Reservation in India is the process of setting aside a certain percentage of seats (vacancies) in government institutions for member of backward and under-represented communities (defined primarily by caste and tribe). Reservation is form of quota based affirmative action. Reservation is governed by constitutional laws, statutory laws as well as local rules and regulations. Dr. Baba Sahib Ambedkar made certain arrangements for backward classes to allow them to enjoy a human

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lifestyle and bring their upliftment in political field. In 1979, 'Mandal Commission' was established to assess the situation of the socially and educationally backward classes.

At general level reservation policies are playing a vital role to raise the poor and backward strata of the society, but if we talk in relation with music it gives us some conclusion its false affect on education system of music. There must be some provision to take attention toward assessing the total knowledge in terms of theory as well practical both. Such unorganized policies and regulations system of education causes fall to the status of education as well level of music in the society.

For example- Student of an under-represented caste qualifies the 'National Eligibility Test' with very low percentage and hence eligible for the post of assistant professor in college, but there is no such assessment regarding the practical knowledge, where a general-category student who may have sufficient knowledge of music in aspect of practical as well as theory went for "try again" to qualify the exam because that particular student have to score higher as compared to an reserved category student. If we compare music with other subjects like Economics, English, Mathetc; they are moreover theoretically based even with their written exams perspective, but on other hand music which has been worshiped since ages and comes under performing arts and it is more overly depends on practical knowledge only. Hence, there also must be some provision to assess the practical level of student along with theory. But such false and poor policies of quota reservation in music by government are affecting education very deleteriously. Therefore, government should pay attention toward such falling system of education and their current policies and enhance the quality of education as well.

#### **Doordarshan & Akashwani-**

Such communication bodies of AIR used for informing, entertainment and education, are basically controlled by government bodies. All India Radio creates the graded artist for broadcasting of music through AIR. There is also the vital role of such government bodies which governs the rules and regulations of gradation to the artist. Hence change

in ruling government also affects the policies of gradation to an artist. Change in government causes change in policies hence the criteria for gradation to an artist also changes.

#### **CONSEQUENCES**

Such circumstances lead to falling status of music because of untrained teachers in schools and colleges who are teaching music without having its practical knowledge.

- This leads to the danger to a music student who chooses music as career.
- Quality and purity of Indian classical music will be disappeared soon.
- In today era, the stress and depression level is getting higher and higher day-by-day, hence there is the need of securing the purity and quality of our treasured classical music for wellness of human life as well as for the future of music.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Music education need a strong advocacy at various level i.e. - policy makers, board of educational committees and governmental bodies. A revised curriculum for music education is needed with its aim to provide a bright future in field of music and teaching profession as well. The purpose of presenting this research paper is not to harm the feelings of any community or any specific strata of society but to light the deleterious effect of current ongoing false policies by government system; those are responsible for falling status of music in the society. The paper provides recommendation to deal with the problems and enrich the music education system to enable each and every student of music can believe in bright future in music. Along with this, every strata of society can equally enjoy the benefits of reservation system in terms of education as well as their bright career. Hence, we may hope for the bright future of education as well as music education in India soon.

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