



Music- A Literary Social Science

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Abstract

Music is the movement of sound to reach the soul for the education of its virtue. The study of music is a part of biology as the study of living organisms. Music exists because people create it, perform it and listen to it. The human brain is an information processing system. Music is a higher revelation than all wisdom and philosophy. Music is a super-stimulus to express the strong emotions about the internal mental state of the speaker. The musicality of speech is much more subtle than that of music, but it provides important information which the listener's brain processes in order to derive some information. This information is applied to modulate the listener's emotional response to speech, and this accounts for the emotional effect of music. The normal function of the cortical map that responds to consonant relationships between different notes occurring at the same time within harmonies and chords must be the perception of consonant relationships between pitch values occurring at different times within the same speech melody. There are at least five and possibly six symmetries of music like: Pitch translation invariance, Time translation invariance, Time scaling invariance, Amplitude scaling invariance, Octave translation invariance and Pitch reflection invariance. Constant activity patterns in the speaker's brain are echoed by similar constant activity patterns in the listener's brain. This accounts for the emotional effect of music as an information processing function, results in quite specific explanations of how major aspects of music such as scales, regular beat and harmony are processed in the brain. To many people in many cultures, music is an important part of their way of life. Ancient Greek and Indian philosophers defined music as tones ordered horizontally as melodies and vertically as harmonies. Indian Carnatic and Hindustani are devotional music which melt the heart of the great God Almighty. Tyagarajar, Muthuswami Dikshitar and Shyama Shastry, king Sri Swathi Thirunal Rama Varma, Purandaradasa are the well known singers of devotional compositions. Rabindranath Tagore was a towering figure in Indian music. Meerabai was an aristocratic Hindu mystical singer. We shall see in detail about the music of renowned personalities in our research paper.

Keywords: Music, education, super-stimulus, emotions.

Introduction

The study of music is a part of biology as the study of living organisms. In other words we can call Music as a literary Social Science. Social sciences are branches of knowledge relating the community in general of nations and races belonging to a social system. Music is also a Social science to connect the community. Music is created by people and it flourishes. Music is a higher than all wisdom and philosophy. It is a great-stimulus to express the emotions of the internal mental state of one. Music can change people. The human brain is an information processing system. To many people in the world, music is an important part of their way of life. Indian philosophers and Ancient Greek defined music as melodious rhythm which bring harmony to the mind set. Indian Carnatic and Hindustani are devotional music which melt the heart of the great God Almighty with love. Music contains of four major elements: Melody, Rhythm, Harmony and Interpretation. A melody is a series of notes sounding in succession. The notes of a melody are created with respect to pitch systems such as notations. Harmony is the study of vertical sonorities in music.

Spontaneous music is created by musical improvisation. We are all touched by Music and it is healing us.

Purpose of Music: Music is composed and performed for many purposes, ranging from spiritual harmony, aesthetic sense, ceremonious glamour and entertainment. Professional musicians are employed by organizations, including Armed forces, symphony orchestras, broadcasting, churches and synagogues, film industries, and music schools. According to culture and social context the creation, performance, significance, and the definition of music vary. Music originated from a celestial sound and it is the sound that controls the whole universe. Sound energy is greater than any other power in this world¹. With sound, we can make and at the same time, war. The war band with its terrific sound, makes man an animal to kill his own brethren. Musicology is the study of the subject of music. It is defined as three sub-disciplines: systematic musicology, historical musicology, and comparative musicology or ethnomusicology. Music therapy is used for the improvement of the health of mental, physical, emotional, social, aesthetic, and spiritual aspects of a patient. Music therapy is used with individuals of all ages and with a variety of conditions,

including: psychiatric disorders, medical problems, physical handicaps, sensory impairments, developmental disabilities, communication disorders, interpersonal problems, and aging. It is also used to improve learning, reduce stress, do physical exercise, and alleviate health-related activities.

The emotional effect of music as literary information processing function and an art: Important information which the listener's brain processes accounts for the emotional effect of music. There are at least six symmetries of music like: Pitch translation invariance, Time translation invariance, Amplitude scaling invariance, Octave translation invariance, Pitch reflection invariance and Time scaling invariance. Constant activity patterns in the speaker's mind are echoed by similar constant activity patterns in the listener's brain. This does the work of an information processing function in the brain. Among 'arts' music is a performing fine art. It is divided as classical music and folk music. Without music, life would be dull. Poems express the aesthetic qualities of language to evoke emotional responses through musical rhymes and rhythms. Pitch is a subjective sensation, reflecting generally the lowness or highness of a sound. Rhythm is the arrangement of sounds and silences in time. Meter animates time in regular pulse groupings, called measures or bars.

The music of India includes classical music, folk and popular pop. The Indian scale was based on 7 main notes: SA, RE, GA, MA, PA, DA and NI. India's classical music tradition, including Carnatic and Hindustani music, has a history spanning millennia. It remains fundamental to the lives of Indians today as sources of spiritual inspiration, cultural expression and pure entertainment. India is made up of several dozen ethnic groups who speak their own languages, having cultural traditions. Indian music has mainly three forms of classical music, Hindustani, Carnatic, and Dhrupad styles². Each shuddha swara (i.e., Sa, Re/Ri, Ga, Ma, Pa, Dha/Da, and Ni) is traditionally held to have originated in the sound of a different animal, and some have additional meanings of their own. Also, each swara is associated with one of the seven chakras of the body. Just as the swaras ascend through the saptak, so they are mapped onto the chakras in the body in ascending order. Komal notes are associated with the left side of each chakra; the left channel, Ida Nadi, is the side of emotion and intuition. Shuddha and tivra notes are associated with the right side; the right channel, Pingala Nadi, is the side of logic. Ragas, therefore, have more or less of an effect on a given chakra depending on the notes they contain.

OM as celestial Music of India: Earth is a sub-tone of the celestial vibration. The alignment of earth with heaven, and man with the Supreme God, was obviously the purpose of life. One can say that they merge with the divine supreme by means of the sounds AUM or OM, which are the earthly sound of the prime creator, Brahman³. Om is also widely mentioned and discussed in other Upanishads, such as the Chhandogya, Nada Bindu, Amrita Bindu, Maitri, Katha, Sveteshwatara and

Dhyana Bindu Upanishads. Chandogya Upanishad says that the essence of the earth is water. The essence of water is the plant. The essence of the plant is man. The essence of man is speech. The essence of speech is the Rigveda. The essence of Rigveda is the Samveda. The essence of Samveda is Om⁴.

Maitri Upanishad says that Om is the primordial throb of the universe. It is the sound form of Atma (Consciousness).

Dhyana Bindu Upanishad says that like the continuous flow of an oil stream and like the vibration of a bell, Om is to be chanted. This is the way to really know the meaning of the Vedas.

Carnatic Music of South India: Tyagarajar was a versatile composer of thousands of devotional compositions, in praise of Lord Rama which is highly influential in the development of the South Indian classical music tradition. Tyagaraja Aradhana, the music festival is held every year at Thiruvaiyaru in the months of January to February in Tyagaraja's honour¹. On the Pushya Bahula Panchami, thousands of Carnatic musicians sing the five Pancharatna Kritis in unison, with the accompaniment of a large number of accompanists on veenas, violins, flutes, nadasvarams, mridangams and ghatams. Muthuswami Dikshitar and Shyama Shastry, king Sri Swathi Thirunal Rama Varma, Purandaradasa are the well known singers of devotional compositions. M. S. Subbulakshmi was a renowned Carnatic vocalist. She was the first musician ever to be awarded the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian honor. She is the first Indian musician to receive the Ramon Magsaysay award, often considered Asia's Nobel Prize, in 1974.

Rabindra Sangeet: Rabindranath Tagore was a towering figure in Indian music. Writing in Bengali, he created over 2,000 songs now known by Bengalis as 'rabindra sangeet' whose form is primarily influenced by Hindustani classical, sub-classicals, Karnatic, western, bauls, bhatiyali and different folk songs of India. Many singers in West Bengal and Bangladesh base their entire careers on the singing of Tagore musical masterpieces. The national anthem of India and national anthem of Bangladesh are Rabindra Sangeets.

Meerabai was an aristocratic Hindu mystical singer and devotee of Lord Krishna from Rajasthan and one of the most significant figures of the Sant tradition of the Vaishnava bhakti movement. Some 1,200–1,300 songs or bhajans of her in praise of Lord Krishna are popular throughout India and have been published in several translations worldwide as a literary work⁵.

Indi-pop music: Indian pop music, known as Indi-pop, is based on an amalgamation of Indian folk and classical music, and modern beats from different parts of the world. Pop music really started in the South Asian region with the famous playback singer Ahmed Rushdi's song 'Ko-Ko-Korina' in 1966. After that, much of Indian Pop music comes from the Indian Film Industry, and until the 1990s, few singers like Usha Uthup,

Sharon Prabhakar, and Peenaz Masani were popular. Since then, pop singers in the latter group have included KK, Baba Sehgal, Alisha Chinai, Shantanu Mukherjee aka Shaan, Sagarika, Colonial Cousins (Hariharan, Leslie Lewis), Lucky Ali, and Sonu Nigam, and music composers like Jawahar Wattal, who made top selling albums with, Daler Mehndi, Shubha Mudgal, Baba Sehgal, Swetha Shetty and Hans Raj Hans⁶.

Music as a Social Science: Music is experienced by individuals in a range of social settings ranging from being alone to attending a large concert. Musical performances take different forms in different cultures and socio-economic milieus. In Europe and North America, there is often a divide between "high culture" and "low culture." "High culture" types of music typically include Western art music such as Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and modern-era symphonies, concertos, and solo works, and are typically heard in formal concerts in concert halls and churches, with the audience sitting quietly in seats⁷.

Internet place a great part as a social network. Digital storage costs are low, so a company can afford to make its whole inventory available online, giving customers as much choice as possible. Another effect of the Internet arises with online communities like YouTube and Face book, a social networking service. Such sites simplify connecting with other musicians, and greatly facilitate the distribution of music.

Music –a literary Social Science: Music can be considered literature as songs can be considered poems given a melody and set to a rhythm. Music and Literature both are arts. They can be put in writing and both have letters that represent sound and both are mediums for storytelling. Due to the richness in terms of the layers of composition and range and also because of its long tradition as a medium of storytelling especially

accompanying opera, classical music I think most stands out as a literary genre of music. Music is primarily an aural form rather than a written one. The oldest form of literature is oral literature and in any case music can be written down. Most important is that music can tell a story which is what literature is all about.

Conclusion

I conclude by saying that through Literature Music came out with rhythm as poetry. All literature is associated with society and hence Music is a literary Social science

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