

Raga of the Month- May, 2015

ShyamSarang/LomSarang/LooSarang/SarangGour.

Raga ShyamSarang is a rare, though melodious, Raga having a combination of Raga Shyam in Aroha and Sarang in Avaroha. The Raga has been introduced by Pandit Balwantraai Bhatt, a leading disciple of Pandit Vishnu Digambar Paluskar, in one of the Lecture Demonstration Series. In the Lecture he had expressed that Ragas LooSarang (Dhrupad origin) and SarangGour (mentioned in SangeetParijat) could be considered as equivalent Ragas.

Pandit Bhatkhande has considered Raga Shyam and ShyamKalyan to be the same- Ref Sangeet Shastra Vol.1. {However, Pandit Manikbuwa Thakurdas has documented Raga Shyam as a separate Raga having its scale as S R m D N- Raga Darshan Vol.2}. Raga LomSarang performed by Pandit Radhika Mohan Maitra was discovered recently from a 78 rpm disc of 1930s and its melody structure was matches with that of Raga ShyamSarang. The Raga has shades of Ragas ShyamKalyan, BrindavaniSarang and ShuddhaSarang.

The basics of Raga ShyamSarang can be explained as follows:

Scale- SRMmPnN; *Vadi* R, *Samvadi* P; *Audawa* Pentatonic, Time 1 p m to 4 p m ;

Aroha- SR, mP, NS"; *Avaroha*- S" nP, MR, 'NS;

Chalan- S, ,NSRm, RmP, PnnP, nPmP, M->R, mPn->P, mP, RMR, 'NS; mPNS", R"S", NS"R"M"R", NS" n->P, mPRm, PS"nP, nm, PnP, nm, PmPRMR, 'NS, RmPNS" nP, mPMR, R 'NS.

Important Phrases- RmPnP, P-RMR, RNS, nmPnP, PmPRMR, mPNS, NSRMR, NSnP, P->R, M->R, P->n->P;

Phrases to be avoided- RP, RMP, PnS, PmR, SNP, nMP.

Please listen to a *drut* Composition in the Raga, played on Sarod by Pandit Radhika Mohan Maitra.

{Updated 1-5-2015}

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