

Raga of the Month December 2015

DhaniKouns/Malavika/DhaniTypeII.

Raga DhaniKouns(Malavika/DhaniTypeII) is a melodious Raga of recent origin. As the name suggests, the Raga is considered as an Audawa (Pentatonic) variety of Dhani. The scale of Raga Dhani includes notes S,R,g,M,P,n. Shuddha Rishabh is used in Avaroha, whereas DhaniKouns omits Rishabh altogether. Raga Dhani has g as Vadi and n as Samvadi and it is a Raga suitable for light compositions. DhaniKouns has a close association with Raga Bhimpalasi as it shares the Aroha with it and also Vadi and Samvadi swaras- M Vadi and S Samvadi. It also has resemblance to Raga MalaKouns- it shares serious mood, Meendpradhanatwa and S-M swarasangati.

Raga DhaniKouns is classified under Kafi Thata and Melakarta No.22 Kharaharapriya. Ragas Suddha Dhanyasi and UdayRavichandrika of Carnatic Music share the same scale with Raga DhaniKouns. The basic information of Raga DhaniKouns is given below:

Scale- SgMPn; *Vadi* M; *Samvadi* S; *Audawa*; Time 1p m to 4 p m ;

Aroha- `nSgM, PnS"; *Avaroha*- S"nP, M, g `ng->S;

Chalan- S, `n, `n, `P,`P'nS, `P'nSg, `ng->S, SgM, gMPMg, MgS; SgM, gMPnPM, gM, MP, gMPn, PnS", PnS"ng"ng"S", S"nP MPM, gMPM, g, `ng->S

Raga DhaniKouns is documented as an Audawa variety of Raga Dhani in Raga Darshana Vol.I by Pandit Manikbuwa Thakurdas and in Raga Vidnyan Vol. 8 by Pt. Madhusudan Vinayak Patwardhan. Dr. Alka Deo Marulkar has introduced and presented this melody structure as Raga Malavika.

For comparison, excerpts of the audios of Raga Dhani sung by Vidushi Malini Rajurkar and Raga Malavika sung by Dr Alka Deo Marulkar, are presented.

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