

Raga of the Month- December, 2010- GOPIKABASANT.

Raga Gopikabasant, adapted from Karnatak Music, is a *janya* (derived from) *Melakarta* Natabhairavi (*That* Asavari). The scale of *That* Asavari is S R g M P d n. In Raga Gopikabasant Shuddha Rishabh - R- is dropped in *Aroha* (Ascent) as well as *Avaroha* (Descent). Thus, the scale of Raga Gopikabasant reduces to S – g M P d n. It will be noted that, omission of R, transforms its scale such that it has shades of two melodious Ragas, Malkouns (S g M d n) and Bhairavi (S r g M P d n). Although there is a Raga named *Gopikavasanta* in Karnatak Music, Raga Gopikabasant of Hindustani Music, has resemblance to Raga *Hindolavasanta*. (Ref. Raga Nidhi- Encyclopedia of Indian Ragas- Vol. II- Sri. B Subbarao and Abhinava Geetanjali- Vol II- Pandit Ramashreya Jha “Ramarang”)

In spite of being a highly melodious Raga, it has still not gained popularity in Hindustani Music. To listen to the Raga Gopikabasant, sung by the late Sangeet Mahamahopadhyaya Maniramji, the doyen of Mewati Gharana, elder brother and Guru of Sangeet Martand, Jasraj, click [here](#).

Image of scale of Raga Gopikabasant

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