

## Raga of the Month- February, 2017

### Raga PadmaKalyan

In this month we shall study Raga PadmaKalyan. This is a relatively new Raga Swarupa conceptualized by Late Pandit Manohar Chimote\*. It would be interesting for listeners to know that the scale of Raga PadmaKalyan is the same as Raga Yaman. However, avoiding Gandhar and Dhaivat in Aroha, gives the shades of ShuddhaSarang and Shyamkalyan. Also the phrase SRmP creates impression of Raga Saraswati in Poorvanga.

#### **The Scale of the Raga PadmaKalyan is SRGmPDN.**

The Raga is included in Kalyan Thata and in Melakartha No. 65 MechaKalyani in Carnatic Music. The Aroha and Avaroha of Raga Chikkara Kuliya of Carnatic Music resembles Raga PadmaKalyan. Aroha of PadmaKalyan: SRmPNS''; Avaroha: S'' NDP, mPDP, PGRS;

Swaras Rishabh and Pancham play an important role in delineating the Raga;

Chalan- S, 'NS, 'NRS, S'N'D'P, 'm'P'NS, GR'N'P, 'PS'NR, 'NGR, GRS; SRmP, PGR, SRP, DPGR, RmP, mPDP, PGR, GRS; SRmP, RmPD, DP, RmPN, NDP, mPNS'', S''NR''S''; R''NDP, RmPDP, mNDP, DPGR,G-RS.

Visitors will also find it interesting to note that 7 Ragas share the same scale, but have a lot of variations in their melody structures, such as, ChandrakantKalyan has prominence of Bhupali; Maru and MargBihag shows shades of Bihag; SampoornaHindol of Hindol, Shankarakaran of Shankara and Rajyakalyan of ShuddhaKalyan, Hindol and Shankara. (Audio samples of all the Ragas are available on the web site.)

\* **Pandit Manohar Chimote**, was born in 1929 in Nagpur. Young Manohar had a passion for harmonium right from his childhood. He received basic training from Pandit Bishmadev Vedi including some basics of harmonium playing like its techniques and paltas. Later Vediji advised Manoharji to go to his gurubandhu, eminent vocalist Gunigandharva Pandit Laxmanprasad Jaipurwale of Kunwarshyam gharana for musical training. Manoharji learnt nuances of gayaki and the rich repertoire of bandishes of the Kunwarshyam gharana. Next he shifted to Mumbai and gradually became the most sought after harmonium accompanist and had the honour of providing accompaniment to leading stalwarts of the day like like Ustad Bade Ghulam Ali Khan, Ustad Nazakat Ali and Salamat Ali. He also had a brief stint in Film Industry. However, he preferred to pursue his main objective of development of Harmonium as solo instrument and establishing his music academy named

Samvadini Sangeetalaya at Goregaon (East). He used to teach both vocal music and samvadini to students in guru shishya parampara. Pandit Chimote received many awards, the prominent being Maharashtra Gaurav Puraskar in 1998.

(Courtesy web site: <http://panditmanoharchimote.com>)

Please listen to excerpts of Raga PadmaKalyan sung by Pandit Chandrakant Limaye. (Updated on 01/02/2017.)