

## Raga of the Month- December, 2012-

### Basantmukhari/Vasanthamukhari/BasantBhairavi.

From the name itself it appears that the Raga is adapted from Carnatic Music. It belongs to MelaKarta No. 14- Vakulabharanam. Melakarta Vakulabharanam has a scale consisting of S r G M P d n, which is a combination of Bhairav Thata in Poorvanga and Bhairavi Thata in Uttaranga. The Raga can also be viewed as a combination of Raga Bhairav with Shuddha Nishad –N replaced by Komal Nishad- n or Raga Bhairavi with Shuddha Gandhar-G in place of Komal Gandhar- g.

Aroha: Sr, GM, P, dnS''; Avaroha: S'' ndPM, Gr,S;

(Pakad) Diagnostic Phrase- PGMrS, 'd'n SrS.

It is understood that Raga Hijaz or Hijaz Bhairav, though extinct now, had a similar melody structure. In recent times the Raga Basantmukhari was introduced to Hindustani Classical Music by Acharya S N Ratanjankar. It is interesting to see how the same Raga, deriving its base from Carnatic music, is presented in divergent interpretations by Senior Musicians, such as, Ustad AmirKhan, Pt. Ravi Shankar; Ustad Ali Akber Khan, Ustad Vilayat Khan, Ustad Lateef Khan and Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia with stress on Bhairav-Bhairavi or AhirBhairav-Jogia or Jogia-Jounpuri-Asavari or Bhairav-Malkouns combinations.

{Ref: B. Subbarao- RagaNidhi- Vol.I; Abhinav Geetanjali- Pt. Ramashreya Jha- Vol. III; Abhinav Geet Manjiri- Acharya S N Ratanjankar; Shruti Vilas- S V Kashikar DeepakRaja's Blog- swaratala.blogspot.com- Article-June 2010; }

**Presented here is an excerpt of the Raga Basantmukhari sung by Pt. K G Ginde.**

**Listen**

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