

## Raga of the Month- March, 2012.

### Devaranji or Devaranjani.

Raga Devaranji is an aprachalit Raga adapted from Carnatic Music. It belongs to Bhairav Thata (Mayamalavagaula Melakarta- No.15). It is a pentatonic Raga (Audava- Audava using 5 notes only). Its special feature is that two consecutive notes Rishabh and Gandhar are omitted. Raga Vistara (Elaboration of the Raga) therefore becomes extremely difficult. From the audio sample presented here one notices that The Raga has an appealing melodic structure, and it requires a high level of skill and maturity to present the Raga.

The scale of Raga Devaranji is S,M,P,d,N and Komal Nishad 'n' is sometimes used as dndP. Its Aroha is SMPdNS'' and Avaroha is S'' NdPMS. S, M and P are Nyasa Swaras and the Raga is UttarangaPradhan. Meend (Glissando) M->S and S''->d are prominently employed and (Grace note) sparsha of Shuddha Nishad 'N' when singing Komal Dhaivat d is observed. Ragas Jhilaf of Bhairav Thata and Jogia are allied to it.

In carnatic Music, apart from Mayamalavagaula Melakarta- No.15, Raga Devaranjini is documented under 3 other Melakartas viz. Kharaharpriya (No. 22), Sarasangi (No. 27) and Harikambodi (No. 28).

{Ref: Pt. V.N.Bhatkhande-Hindustani Sangit Paddhati- Vol.V ; B. Subbarao-RagaNidhi- Vol.II; Pt. Ramashreya Jha- Abhinav Geetanjali- Vol 4; Raga Pravaham-Dr. M.N.Dhandapani and Smt. D.Pattamal}

Presented here is an excerpt of the Raga Devaranjani sung by Pandit Balasaheb Poochwale, a doyen of Gwalior Gharana.

### Listen

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