Raga of the Month- May, 2011-

KoushiBahar/ MalkounsBahar.

The name, KoushiBahar, suggests that it is a jod-Raga, fusion of two melodious Ragas, Malkouns and Bahar. Basic academic details of grammar of the Ragas is given below:

Raga Malkouns- SgMdnS"; S" nd->M,g->S

Raga Bahar - SM, MP (M)gM, MDnS"; R"NS", S" DnP, MP, gM, (S)RS.

It will be noted that scale of Raga KoushiBahar is very close to Raga Bageshree except with the addition of 'd'- Komal Dhaivat.

Raga Bageshree- S (M)g MDnS"; S"nD MPD MgRS.

Special points noted in Raga KoushiBahar are:

- N is omitted altogether, typical phrases of Bahar SM, MP (M)gM are avoided;
- Typical combinations of Bageshree are avoided, such as, Use of P as MPDMg (instead, DnP is preferred); MgRS (instead, MPgM (S)RS is used);
- 3) Malkouns anga is kept prominent, flavour of Bahar is added by phrases, such as, gMDnS", DnP, MPgM (S)RS, etc.
- 4) 'D' is used for switching over from Malkouns to Bahar anga, and, conversely 'd' is used for re-entering the province of Malkouns.
- 5) Independent Phrases- RS 'd, gMPDnS".

Pandit Chhota Gandharva presents the Raga KoushiBahar in the form of a "Tarana with Persian (Farsi) lyrics in Antara" set to drut Ektal.

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