Raga of the Month-December, 2019

Raga Prabhat/PrabhatBhairav

In this month, we shall study, a rarely heard Bhairav-prakar, Raga Prabhat/PrabhatBhairav. The Raga belongs to Bhairava Thata and 15th Melakarta Mayamalavagaula of Carnatic Music. Its scale is S,r,G,M,m,P,d,N. It would be noticed that TeevraMadhyam is added to the scale of Raga Bhairav. Inclusion of Teevra Madhyam facilitates introduction of Lalitanga in Avaroha in conjunction with Shuddha Madhyam. Vadi Shuddha Madhyama, Samvadi Shadja; Ganasamaya 4th prahar of night, i.e. 4 a m to 7 a m. The Raga is sung by Bhairavanga.

Chalan- SrrS, 'd'd, 'NS, G, M, GrrS, GMmMG, GMrrS, 'd'NSrS; SrG, rGM,GMd, dP, dMPGMGrS, GMd, NdP, GMmMG, PGMrrS; GMddP, dd, NS", dNS"r"S", S"r"r"S", S"G"M"r"r"S", S"NddP, MGM, ddP, GMmMG, GMrrS.

It would be interesting for the viewers to know that there is another Raga in BhairavThata having same scale that is, S,r,G,M,m,P,d,N; LalatPancham. It is sung by Lalitanga, has Lalat, having Komal Dhaivat, as the base and has characteristic phrases 'NrG, mdNS'' of Lalat and includes use of Pancham.

Teevra Madhyam "m" is also included in Raga Ramkali, but use of Teevra Madhyam "m" is restricted to the phrase "mPdndP" where it is used in conjunction with Komal Nishad.

The Raga has been documented in Hindustani Sangit Paddhati- Kramik Pustak Malika Part 5, Abhinav Geet Manjari- Acharya S N Ratanjankar-Part 1; Abhinav Geetanjali- Pandit Ramashreya Jha- Part 4 and Raga Nidhi Prof. B. Subbarao Part 3.

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Please listen to the audio clip consisting of bandishes sung by Pandit K G Ginde and Pandit Ramashreya Jha.

Date: 1st December, 2019.