



The art of combining vocal or instrumental sounds (or both) to produce beauty of form, harmony, and expression of emotion Is the what we call

MUSIC

ORIGIN

OF MUSIC

In Hindu scriptures, dance is believed to have been conceived by Brahma. Brahma inspired the sage Bharata Muni to write the Natya Shastra, a treatise on performing arts, from which a codified practice of dance and drama emerged. He used pathya (words) from the Rigveda, abhinaya (gestures) from the Yajurveda, geet (music) from

the Samaveda and rasa (emotions) from the Atharvaveda to form the Natyaveda (body of knowledge about dance). The best-known of Hindudeities—Shiva, Kali and Krishna—are typically represented dancing Shiva's cosmic dance, tandava, Kali's dance of creation and destruction and Krishna's dance with the gopikas (cow-herd girls)—Rasa Lila—are popular motifs in Hindu mythology.







In ancient India, there were no dedicated auditorium halls or theaters, and dance was usually a functional activity dedicated to worship, entertainment or leisure. Dancers usually performed in temples on festive occasions and seasonal harvests. Dance was performed on a regular basis before deities as a form of worship. Even in modern India, deities are invoked through religious folk dance forms from ancient times. Classical dance forms such as Bharata Natyam use *mudras* or hand gestures also to retell episodes of mythological tales such as the slaying of Kaliya by Krishna Gradually dancers, particularly from South India moved from temples to houses of royal families where they performed exclusively for royalty. India offers a number of classical Indian dance forms, each of which can be traced to different parts of the country. Classical and folk dance forms also emerged from Indian traditions, epics and mythology.





Hariprasad Chaurasia, Flute Player



Ravi Shankar, Sitar Maestro



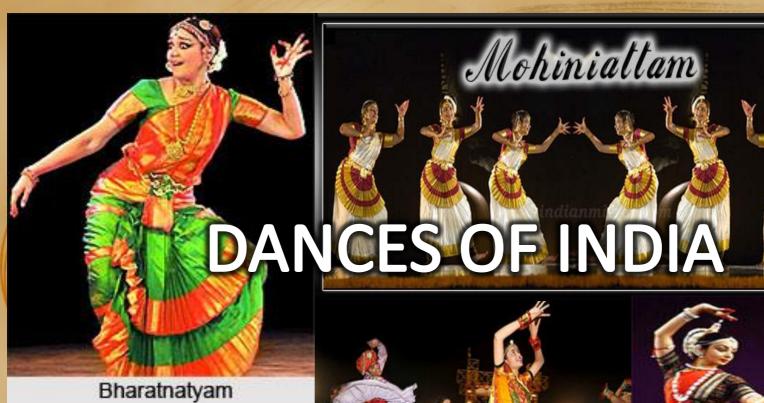
M S Subbulakshmi

FAMOUS INSTRUMENTALISTS OF INDIA



Zakir hussain, tabla player







Kuchipudi



PUNJABI



KATHAKALI



Odissi Dance



KUCHIPUDI

Fine Arts: Music is one of the fine arts. Like other forms of art, it requires creative and technical skill and the power of imagination. As dance is an artistic expression of movement and painting of colors, so music is of sounds. What a pretty sight is to the eyes, aroma is to the nose, delicious dish is to the palate and soft touch is to the skin, so music is to the ears.

Music is an important aspect of Education: According to Plato, one of the eminent Greek philosophers, music is an important aspect of education. In his scheme of education, he has laid emphasis on three disciplines:

Gymnastics for the training and development of the body, Mathematics for the training and development of brain, and Music for the realization of the soul.

Thus, music connects us with the real self, i.e. soul. While listening to relaxing music, we tend to begin the journey inward.

Music is loved by all living creatures: Love for music is not a tendency of human-beings only. It is a common characteristic of nearly all living creatures. The moment musical notes softly enter our ears; they rouse the dormant love for it. Mythology as well as folk tales bears evidence to the fact that even animals respond with joy to the melodious vibrations of the harp. The crows used to respond to the call of Lord Krishna's flute and flock round him when it was time to return home.

ROLE OF MUSIC IN LIFE

Treatment of ailments: Music has miraculous powers for treating certain mental ailments such as anxiety, abnormal excitement or depression. It is also helpful for the treatment of patients suffering from insomnia. It has excellent exhilarating power. It can be compared to mother's love. Just as a child forgets everything and feels joy in mother's lap, in the same way we forget all worries and anxieties in musical environment.

Magical power: Music has magical power. This is testified by the fact that Orpheus, a legendary Greek musician could make stones dance to his music. The stories of Tansen and Baiju Bawra are not unknown to us. They could light lamps, melt stones, blossom flowers in autumn, cause rain just by the accurate use of the 'accurate tune'.

Emotional and spiritual uplifting: There is no doubting the various powers of music, but the aspect of music which is of the greatest value to the human being is its emotional aspects. No achievement can be as great as the emotional and spiritual uplifting that we get from music.

Conclusion: Music washes away from the soul, the dust of everyday life and inspires one to live a lofty life. There is absolute tranquility and harmony, when the magical notes of music enters one's heart. Such experiences are beyond words and can only be experienced. The notes of music take the listener to the region of the unknown where there is only emotional ecstasy and transport him to a world of melody and sympathy.







WESTERN DANCES





