

Impact of Western Music on Indian Music

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Introduction

Indian music has its own journey right from the vedic era till date. Music included instrumental music of various types. Music was used mainly for two function : to propitiate deities and to accompany sacrificial offerings. Both solo and choral were in use. Four major forms of music were prevalent in samgana- taken as whole. Each kind of music affected different changes in vedic mantras and were perceived to be necessary by the concerned musicians.

Samagana was accompanied by veena according to the procedure that connected body movements, gestures, postures and correct intonation of singing.

Four types of gurus were prevalent at that time – Acharya, pravakta, shrotriya, Adhyapak. There were two types of shishyas as well. One who paid fees were called – Acharya Bhaga. The one who lived with gurus and performed domestic chores were called – Dharma shishya.

In music, the term "modernism" means significant changes in musical language that occurred in beginning of the 20th century, with a new understanding of harmonic, melodic, and rhythmic aspects of music. Modern music is also known as 20th Century Music. It has been one of great changes. Technology and our understanding of the world that we see on our daily basis have inspired people to write and compose music that reflects their perspective of the world, and how they feel about what they see. During the Modern period, Music composers did the same thing. They explored different techniques to produce sound. Different patterns of rhythm, changing frequently in a piece, Melody was becoming more dissonant and harsher Harmony was

also becoming more dissonant. It is worth mentioning here, once while experimenting with the harmony of the western music composers introduced western music into Indian music . Harmony is the basic element of western music.

Impact on Bollywood

Harmonization

Bollywood and popular Indian music use western music techniques and features with Hindi and regional languages. Traditional Indian Music is Melody. Western Music is harmony. The western concepts of chord, harmony, orchestration, choir, and symphony are used beautifully by Indian Music industries.

The diatonic major scale matches with the *sudh* notes of Indian Music. This relation assists the comfortable blending of two different musical ideas. Also many Indian Ragas scale formation matches with different scales and modes of Western Music.



(Senorita)

Foreign artists and singers are being promoted

Foreign artists like Akon and Maria Fernandez are being promoted and given opportunities in Bollywood .



(Chammak Challo)

English lyrics are being sung

English lyrics are being sung in quite a few bollywood songs which is again a part of westernization of Indian music. It is indeed innovative as it also creates a balance between the melodies of Indian music and harmonies of western music.

Certain songs are from completely different language that is , Spanish. Which means not only harmonization but Indian music is also becoming the fusion of harmonization with different languages.

English chorus is becoming common in bollywood songs which is again a part of harmonization

Impact on classical

Fusion is becoming common

Fusion of classical and modern Indian music is becoming very common, which means inclusion of basic classical elements into today's modern Indian music. Many of today's songs and singles are having classical element with a modern touch.

Fusion of classical singing with western singing is becoming common. Fusion of classical singing with western instruments is becoming common. A lot of artists are now singing classical compositions with western tracks and beats.

A lot of classical singers are now looking forward to singing light singles in a modern way as a result their dress up and the essence of classical is losing.

