

Cite as:

Meddegoda, Chinthaka Prageeth. 2018. Oral Teaching Systems Versus Ongoing Canonization in Hindustani Vocal Practice. *AEMR-EJ*, 2: 53–64.

ORAL TEACHING SYSTEMS VERSUS ONGOING CANONIZATION IN HINDUSTANI VOCAL PRACTICE

Abstract

This paper discusses the use of teaching methods, theoretical aspects and the notation system of North Indian music proposed by Vishnu Narayan Bhatkhande during the first half of twentieth century. The appropriation of his methods in Sri Lankan music practices and music education is emphasized in this paper. Further, this paper discusses how important are other elements of “terminology used such as the body language, metaphors, symbols, representative expressions while teaching North Indian music in addition to using canonized terminology and their definitions. As there are numerous studies done about Bhatkhande’s contribution to music and its deficiencies in Indian context, this paper will discuss the matter mainly in the Sri Lankan context, where teaching Hindustani Vocal Music is a basic appearance from elementary up to tertiary music education.

Keywords

Indian classical music, Bhatkhande, Sri Lanka, vocal music, teaching

Chinthaka Prageeth Meddegoda

He has been senior lecturer on North Indian music (vocal) at the University of Visual and Performing Arts in Colombo since 2010 where he is teaching theory and practice of Hindustani vocal music, and supervises student research projects.

He is interested in popular and traditional music of various Asian cultures as well as general issues of human society, philosophy and cultural studies. He obtained his PhD at Putra University, Malaysia, in 2015. During his studies, he was additionally trained as an audiovisual archivist and a conference assistant. He has published several academic papers in this field and has presented his research outcomes at international conferences. During his primary studies, he learned Hindustani music (classical, semi classical, and folk) under several gurus from Lucknow and Banaras, among them Dr. K K Kapur, Dr. S S Awasti, Prof Ritwik Sanyal, Prof Sarayu Sonni, Dr. Kavimandan, Pandit Channulal Mishra, Pandit Surendra Mohan Mishra, and Dr. Wanamala Parwatkar.

Contact

chinthaka.pm[at]vpa.ac.lk