Chapter : 9
Music Classes of Baroda
9:1 Introduction

Music College is well known and very old institution in Baroda which is educating people in the field of classical music. Other than that lots of private classes are engaged in giving training in the same field. They not only train the students but also conduct exams for the same. They have also contributed a lot for the development of classical music in Baroda. In this Baburao Karnik, Baburao Kadam, Baburao Sant etc. have given enormous contribution. Saraswati Sangeet class has also giving a lot contribution in the field of classical music.

9:1:1 Arunoday Sangeet Class

(Baburao Karnik's Class)

Baburao Sakharam Karnik, came in Baroda, in 1930, and took admission in Gayan Shala of Baroda to learn Dilrooba. Besides principal of Gayan Shala Shri Hirjibhai Patrawala, taught him Dilrooba in private tuition too. From this Shri Baburao got an idea to start separate music class. He established, his private music class named “Aroonodaya Sangeet Class” in 1939, located in Dandia Bazar, near Lakdipool opposite Fadke Engineering. He trained, almost 2000 students, in this institute.

He used to manage the working of the class very systematically. There were separate rooms for teaching Male and Female students, Regular attendance in registers, accurate record of fees, received from students, fixed place for keeping different instruments, definite time for starting and closing the class. Systematic and cleanliness, in all workings of classes was the specialty.

He used to teach, Dilrooba, Harmonium, Flute, Violin, himself and for teaching Tabla, he has appointed Tabla players, in his class. Well known
music director Shri Shriniwas Khale, had taken initial training of music from this class only.

He had many disciples out of which some are as follows:- 1) Smt. Rajani Kulkarni- Dilrooba, 2) Smt. Jyotsna Date-Violin, 3) Sudha Sule-Violin, 4) Rajani Nene- violin, 5) Kunda Fansalkar- Violin, 6) Shri Prabhakar Date-Tabla, 7) Shri Vasant Bhonde- Flute, 8) Sau. Ranjana Pradhan- Jaltarang. From 1955, the institute, got approval for examination centre of Bhatkhande University of Lucknow. Those days, around 35 students from this class passed the “Sangeet Visharad’ examination.\[1\]

9:1:2 Saraswati Sangeet Vidyalaya:

This class is started and conducted by Shri Prabhakar Date himself. It is running successfully for the last thirty five (35) years. After Arunoday Sangeet class was closed, all their instruments were bought by Shri Prabhakar Date and started Saraswati Sangeet Vidyalaya. Here he teaches Tabla playing to the students. Here students appear for the exam of Gandharva Mahvidyalaya, Miraj. Along with Shri Prabhakar Date, his son Shri Nandkishor Date also teaches Tabla over here.\[2\]

\[1\] Ipsit/sham kulkarni/publish by-nishigandha desponde/1st edition/2012/page no.159
\[2\] Excerpts taken from interview with shri.Prabhakar Date/5-6-2012
9:1:3 Personal Teaching Classes

Other than above mentioned well known music class, there are many music classes giving training in classical music in Baroda. In which, Shri Manubhai’s Class at Fatehgunj, Music Class of Yog Niketan, Smt Natarajan Madam’s class at Ellora Park, Shri Ghanekar Sir’s class at Vasana and Madhumita Majumudar’s class are worth a mention.

The students get training in classical music various classes and appear for exams in the following:

1) Gandharava Mahavidyalaya, Miraj
2) Bruhad Gujarat Sangeet Samiti, ahemadabad.

There are many centers for conducting exams for above two institutions. The exams for above two institutions, the exams are conducted twice in a year. The students of Baroda appear for these exams for Upto the following degrees.

1) Sangeet Visharad
2) Sangeet Alankar.[1]

[1] Excerpts taken from interview with shri. Prabhakar Date/5-6-2012