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CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE POETS IN RITIYUGA FOR ODISSI MUSIC

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ABSTRACT:

Music is an art of sound that expresses ideas and emotions in significant forms through the elements of rhythm, melody, harmony and colour. It is a form of entertainment that puts sound together in a way that people find interesting and dance too. The traditional music of Odisha that developed in ancient period is popularly known as the Odissi music. It is specially used in temples. Although the Odissi music is the oldest one still it is enriched by the contributions of the poets in Ritiyuga. The Ritiyuga starts from the second half of the 17th century and it lasts still the 19th century. In this century many prolific personalities enhanced the odia language through their contributions. They composed many literary works based on devotion, which are now used in the Odissi music. In this period Jagannath culture was spread out all over the world through its devotional composition. The research paper entitled " **Contribution of The Poets in Ritiyuga For Odissi Music** " explores the contributions of the poets in Ritiyuga to Odissi music and how it has enriched the Jagannath culture. The paper focuses on the importance of poets in Ritiyuga and their compositions based on devotion which popularise the Odissi music.

The research paper then examines the beautiful composition of the poets in Ritiyuga which acquires love through the recitation of the Odissi music. This paper highlights about the Raga and Tala used by the poets in Ritiyuga in their composition which has become popular in the Odissi music.

KEYWORDS:

Alankar, Riti Yuga, Kabya, Bhakti, Pala, Karana, Bagha gita, Chadhei gita, Chaupadi, Janana, Baishnava, Kosha, Prema,

INTRODUCTION:

The Ritiyuga is called Alankara yuga, Because in this yuga alankara was vastly used in literature. The new raga, ragini, alankara, chhanda etc were used in this period. All the literary works were specially written in a poetic way. The main theme of writing was based on lord Krishna and goddess Radha. Their love, affection and friendship reflects in the writing of Ritiyuga.

Literature and music are two sides of a coin. Because both are co-related to each other and they reflect the social values of a civilization. The songs composed in the Ritiyuga are the base of the Odissi music. The Odissi music got more love and appreciation by reciting the songs composed in the Ritiyuga. The Ritiyuga was glorified through the writing of the poets like Kabi Samrat Upendra Bhanja, Bhaktakabi Dinakrushna Das, Kabi Surya Baladev Rath, Abhimanyu Samant Sinhara, Kabi Banamali Das, Gopalkrushna Pattnaik etc.

Kabi Samrata Upendra Bhanja was a 17th-century Odia poet-composer of classical Odissi music. He is mostly known for his Odissi songs and kabyas written in the Odia language, primarily Baidehisa Bilasa, Labanyabati & Koti Brahmanda Sundari. He was born during 1670 in Kulagarh, Ghumusar zamindari, present day Kulada near Bhanjanagar, 80 kms from the Silk City Brahmapur, Odisha and died during 1740. He had a thorough training in Sanskrit classical literature and mastered Sanskrit dictionaries such as Amara Kosha, Trikanda Kosha and Medini Kosha. He even wrote a dictionary Geetabhidhana in Odia to help poets. The town of Bhanjanagar is named after him. The music of Upendra Bhanja is considered as the centre of Odissi music, the traditional classical music of the state of Odisha and Bhanja is widely respected as one of the greatest Odissi composers of all the time. The works of Upendra Bhanja are based on Odissi classical music. He uses ragas and talas in the Odissi tradition in a unique and was enriched the repertoire in a peculiar way. His compositions are well-known throughout Odisha and are frequently employed in Odissi dance as well as Gotipua, Sakhi Nata, Prahallada Nataka, Radha Prema Lila and other allied artforms.

Here is some famous Odissi music composed by Kabi Samrat Upendra Bhanja.....Ahe prabhu komala kanta, Kala shrimukha he nagala mohara dukkha, Basi kanduthiba manini prana sajani re, Rama ramana he tumbhe para daya sindhu, Nirmala chandra mandala sarade, Dekhi naba kalika bikalika, Bitalaku alingana kari janhabi.

Kabisurjya Baladeva Rath was an Odia poet who wrote many poems in Odia language, and a composer and also a musician of Odissi music, known as poet-composer of the Champu. Kabisurjya has composed hundreds of songs in the tradition of the Odissi music, employing unique traditional ragas & talas. His Kisorachandrananda Champu is a cornerstone of the Odissi music repertoire & Kabisurjya is widely renowned for his peculiar compositions. He wrote in both Sanskrit and Odia. He was born in Bada Khemundi (presently Digapahandi), Ganjam, Odisha. Baladeva Ratha's mother died when he was ten years old. He was brought up by his maternal grandfather, Tripurari Hota in Athagada. He married at the age of 15. After his father's death he moved to the nearby Jalantara state. The prince of Jalantara, Rama Chandra Chhotaraya encouraged him for his literary skills and named him as 'Kabisurjya', which means The 'Sun among Poets'.

Here is some famous Odissi music composed by Kabi Surya Baladev Rath..... Kehi sariki prabhupane niladri keshari ki, Kamala basini prana bandhaba he, Badhila jani kshama kara nohile rama etc..... Kabisurya Baladev Rath wrote Kishore Chandrananda Champu, which play a very vital role in Odissi music. In this champu he wrote 34 songs which had been written alphabetically, starting from the Odia alphabet ka to kshya.... Here are some examples.... *KA-Ki helare kahita nuhain bhartire, KHA-Kharapa tu helure, khela lola Chandra nakhi ki sahasa kalure, GA-Galani ta gala kathare sangata Galani ta gala katha, GHA-Ghenain ambhe jete kahilure, ghenilu nahin bala pahilure ETC.....*

Banamali Das is an Indian medieval Odia bhakta-poet & composer of the Odissi music from the state of Odisha. "Dinabandhu daitari" "Kede chanda jane lo sahi" and "Manima he etiki maguni mora" are some of his notable writings that are used in Odissi. His songs are popularly sung in festivals, public gatherings and in Odissi dance. Banamali's compositions (especially chaupadis and jananas) are set to traditional Odissi ragas and talas & extremely popular in the Odissi music repertoire. He is considered to be the foremost poet of the medieval Odia bhakti-literature. Started with writing rustic devotional Poetry, he later began to compose "bhakti"-poetry which was larger acceptance and popularity among the other contemporary poets of his time. Typically, his poems are

according to eyewitness accounts, and the simple, fervent language which are much appreciated. Banamali's creations are frequently sung in classical Odissi music concerts & enacted in the abhinaya part of Odissi dance. He is known to have composed many songs, Odissi, Chhanda, Bhajana, Janana, Chautisa and more. He is not known to have written any single kavya, rather a huge number of individual songs. The Ragas used by Banamali in his works are unique ragas of the Odissi music tradition.

Although he has written many songs but I have put some examples from his composition below...*Asita pankaja mukha sasmita hasa mayukha, Ago dutti aja rati shyama preeti nohila go, Utha nishi pahila athara he bansheedhara, Manima he atiki maguni mora, Ahi para braja raja nandana go, Ade nirdaya kahinki sunabarana, Kali kahinki naile shyama nagara, Kahin gale murali phunka se jubati rasia kamini ranka, Kialo sajani keli kadamba mule, Ki range chanhila chhaila nabaghana kalia, Kede chhanda janelo sahi, Chhaila bara chhuanna tanuku mora, Jhulanti range rai sange shyama sundara, To lagi gopadanda manare kalia suna, Dukha nasane he sukha na paili dine.....*

Dinakrushna Das was an Odia poet, belonging to the Vaishnava tradition of Bhakti movement. He is known for his Odia poem titled "Rasakallola", which is devoted to Lord Krishna. Among his many literary compositions. Dinakrushna has written many songs overflowing with a sort of mystical human and divine love. He has written many famous songs dedicated to lord Jagannath. Here is some devotional songs of Dinakrushna Das..... *Jagabandhu pari jane samanta nahin nahin ta, Jaya jagabandhu he jadu nandana, Krupasindhu badana kari abalokana, Ahe nilachala nayaka dina akinchana sukhadayaka.*

Gopalakrusna Pattanayaka was an Odia poet & composer of Odissi music. His Odissi songs in various traditional ragas and talas are widely sung across the state, as well as other allied traditional artforms of Odisha, such as pala. Born in 1784 in a karana family of Paralakhemundi, Gopalakrusna's father Banabasi Pattanayaka was in the service of the Gajapati kings of the powerful princely state of Odisha. Some of the most iconic Odissi songs, such as *Syamaku Juhara Tara Premaku Juhara Ma, Jala Ani Jai Kali Kalindasutaku, Sangini Re Rasarangini Re, Kadamba Bane Banshi Bajila Re, Uthilu Ede Begi Kahinkire, Ki Nadare Prana Sangini, Manasija Mana Mohana* are creations of Gopalakrusna. Many of his songs are popular acting items in Odissi dance. Here is some well-known Odissi compositions of Gopal Krusna dedicated to lord jagannath and his incarnation to lord krishna....*Aja Sri Gostha Chandrama sajiba saja kebe mun dekhinahin ma, Bajuchhi Sahi Bajare To Naare Brajabajare, Banchiba Kehire, Chhailabara Chhamure Padil, Dhira samire basi dakuchi, Etharaka Syama Dosa Kara.*

Abhimanyu Samanta Singhara was an 18th-century Odia poet, best known as the writer of the iconic Bidagdha Chintamani kavya. Abhimanyu was one of the important musician-poets in the tradition of Odissi music in the 18th century, composing mainly in style. He has also written many Odia folk songs like Bagha Gita, Chadhei Gita. He has written many poems about the love between Radha and Krishna related to jagannath culture. He was born on 23 February 1760 in Balia village, Jajpur, which is situated near famous Buddhist place of Ratnagiri Mahavihara of Jajpur. His father Indrajita Samanta Singhara had no child. But it is said that

Abhimanyu was born due to the worship of a saint, Sadananda Kabisujrya Brahma. He was the teacher of Abhimanyu. He had written his first poem at the age of 9.

Here are some important writing of Abhimanyu Samanta Sinhara..... *Jaya jaya jagannath chadhi nandighosa ratha, Dhira chakra hruda padma mihira, Aprakruta prema murti jauya radha hari, Sadhaba suna he madhaba Dutti kari peshana, Shreeradha batuli prema rasatuli..*

The Odissi music was spread out all over the world by the songs of Ritiyuga. The beautiful songs composed by the poets of Ritiyuga are still getting a special position in the Odissi music. Now a days these songs are getting more love and appreciation through the Odissi music. The singers and audiences both like these songs very much.

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