



**Education
in classical
music**

On Jan. 21 last when the country was experiencing the coldest hours of the winter season, the BTV had put its classical music programme, 'Jalsa' on the air at 10-30 p.m. It was really very mind-influencing to listen to the music in the quiet hour but of course ignoring the sufferings of the poor masses in the biting cold weather!

Ustad Abed had rightly observed that not only in classical music peoples' interest in other disciplines of art is also declining. And in my opinion, it is mainly because of the poor economic condition of the people. Moreover, the classical music had attained its climax during a period when it was actually practised & patronized by the then rich zaminders and the poor masses of the sub-continent had no access to music, art

and culture. As such, the majority of the people were not able to inherit any taste for classical music, although classical music is undoubtedly the base of any musical make-up.

To popularize the classical music & to encourage its practice, I think, the Jalsa will contribute a lot as it has already started to show its merit in the field. Ms. Raushan Ara Mustafiz's further explanation to the term, 'melody' was quite educative. As a matter of fact, melody in music is something, as taught to me by my piano tutor, which is produced by the artist in close co-ordination of his mind with action, be it playing an instrument or singing a song.

The classical base is actually common in all the music. My piano teacher, who was

from Hongkong often used to ask me to sing any Bengali song of my preference. And the most astonishing thing was that he could play the music of my song soon after listening to it even without understanding the language of my song. He would say, "This is what's common in music—the classical base, which is understandable to any classical musician. To produce melody, you must utilise your ears and apply your mind to action and this will offer a permanent tune over your notes."

Anyway to perpetuate proper knowledge in music, expansion of classical music education is imperative.

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