

The String Instruments In The Folk Music Of Odiṣā- A Brief Study

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Odiṣā is one of the 29 states of India. It is bounded by the Bay of Bengal in the east, West Bengal in the north east, Jharkhand in the north, Chhattisgarh in the west and Andhra Pradesh in the south. Odiṣā is a village dominated state and surrounded with natural beauties. The people of Odiṣā, especially the people living in rural area are so much fond of music. Because folk music is a strong medium to easily express the human feeling, so that the people of this state like folk music very much, especially the people of southern and western region of this state are very much fond of folk music. They cannot think to celebrate any festival without music; even it would not be superficial to say that music is the part of their daily routine life. For an example I would like to present a reference here which I observed during my field survey, that there is a hut in most of villages which is use to call Bhāgavata Tungi or Ākhadā Ghara in Odiā language. The villagers (mostly the male villagers) use to gather in that place in every evening for the relaxation after their daily routine life, where music helps them to get relax. At that place they use to listen the holy chanting of Bhagavad-gītā and Rāmāyana etc. and after this session, they use to sing many folk songs and they express their feelings, emotions through music in a small gathering. This why folk music is the medium where someone express their devotion to god where as other express their love to nature, someone express the love for his beloved as other one express the sorrow for split up.