

## A Descriptive Catalogue of the Birendra Kishore Roy Chowdhury Collection

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta (Kolkata) [hereafter CSSSC]

The Birendra Kishore Roy Chowdhury collection was acquired through the kind cooperation of his daughter Dr.Rani Ray who between 2012 and 2016 handed over the collection to the CSSSC for digitisation and preservation. The collection as it stands is in digital format and consists of the following:

1. Books in Bangla, English and Hindi.
2. Journals and Periodicals in Bangla, English and Hindi.
3. Note books of compositions and notations in Birendra Kishore Roy Chowdhury's hand.
4. Ephemera in the form of souvenirs and promotion brochures and publicity material of music associations.
5. Birendra Kishore Roy Chowdhury's index of the books and publications he possessed. Several of these are not available in the CSSSC's digital collection.

The collection has been organised by the CSSSC and catalogued in a way that arranges the existing material under specific folders. In the case of the note books, it appears that Birendra Kishore himself adopted a scheme of classification and arrangement – this is clear from the index preserved in the notebook identified as Birendra Kishore Sangrahitabishaysuchi in Pdf Notebook No. 4, 'Dhrupads and Kheals:DakhinaCharan Sen', p.36 of 42 (pdf)

### Books (Bangla) :(BKRC Books pdf)

1. *Bangla Bhashae Ucchanga Kheyal* by Satyakinkar Bandyopadhyay. Calcutta: Sangeet Press, 1369 (1963).
2. *Bangla Dhrupad Mala* by Swami Prajnananda. Calcutta: R.B.Das, 1345 Sraban.
3. *Bharatiya Sangit Prasanga Part I [Muslim Yug]* by Dr.Bimal Roy. Calcutta: Jijnasa, 1371 Jaistha
4. *Brahmasangit Swaralipi Part I* by Kangali Charan Sen. Calcutta: Published by Debendranath Bhattacharya, Magh 1826.
5. *Brahmasangit Swaralipi Part II* by Kangali Charan Sen. Calcutta:Published by Debendranath Bhattacharya, Magh 1827.
6. *Prachin Dhrupad Swaralipi Part I*, HarinarayanMukhopadhyay. Kashidham: 1341.
7. *Prachin Dhrupad Swaralipi Vol.2 Part I*, Kashidham: 1339.
8. *Prachin Dhrupad Swaralipi Vol.2, Part II*, Kashidham: 1340.
9. *Prachin Dhrupad Swaralipi Vol.2, Part III*, Kashidham: 1341.
10. *Prachin Dhrupad Swaralipi Vol.2, Part IV*, Kashidham: 1341.
11. *Prachin Dhrupad Swaralipi Vol.2, Part V*, Kashidham: 1341.
12. *Prachin Dhrupad Swaralipi Vol.2, Part VI*, Kashidham: 1342.
13. *Sangit Sudha* by Premlata Devi. Foreword by Gopeshwar Bandyopadhyay
14. *Sangitchandrika* by Gopeshwar Bandyopadhyay. Calcutta:Rabindra Bharati University, 1374.
15. *Saptaranjani Setar Sadhana* by Shri Jitendra Mohan Sengupta, Vol.III. Calcutta: D.M.Library, 1348 Aswin.
16. *Saptaranjani Setar Sadhana* by Shri Jitendra Mohan Sengupta, Vol. IV. Calcutta: Gitabitan Granthabibhag, 1361 Sree Panchami.

17. *Saptaranjani Setar Sadhana* by Shri Jitendra Mohan Sengupta, Vol.VI. Publisher Sunitabala Sengupta, 1373 Aswin.
18. *Saptaranjani Setar Sadhana* by Shri Jitendra Mohan Sengupta, Vol.VII. Publisher Sumitabala Sengupta, 12 March 1971.
19. *Seni Geety Mala* by Shaukat Ali. Part I. Calcutta: Published by the author, 1935.
20. *Seni Geety Mala* by Shaukat Ali. Part II. Seni Sangeet Samaj, 1951.
21. *Seni Geety Mala* by Shaukat Ali. Part III. Seni Sangeet Samaj, 1954.
22. *Seni Geety Mala* by Shaukat Ali. Part V. Printed and Published by Sangeet Press, 1961.
23. *Seni Setar Sikshaby* Shaukat Ali. Part II. Calcutta: 1961.
24. *Tabla Tarangini* by Prasanna Kumar Saha Banik Vol.II. Calcutta: Kuntalin Press, 1341.
25. *Tan Taranga* by Durgacharan Bandyopadhyay. Calcutta: Kuntalin Press, 1339, Ashar.

### **Books (Bengali) : (BKRC Books Pdf 2)**

1. *Kantha Sangit Sutra. Part 2* (This seems like an extract from a volume on notated compositions)
2. *Mridanga Manjari: A Treatise on Mridanga* by Raja Sir Sourindro Mohun Tagore. Second edition, Calcutta: 1902, Printed and Published by Sasibhushana Kritiratna Bhattacharyya.
3. *Sangit Manisha*. (Front matter missing)
4. *Sangit Manjari* by Sri Ramprasanna Bandyopadhyay. Calcutta: Sanyal and Company, 1314 Baisakh.
5. *Sangit Prabesika* Introduction by Professor Murari Mohan Gupta. Calcutta: Publisher Kailash Chandra Vidyabhushan, n.d.
6. *Saral Harmonium Sutra: A Comprehensive Theoretical and Practical School for Harmonium* by Dakshina Charan Sen. Calcutta: Sahitya Library, 1313)
7. *Sharada Rasacandrika* (second edition) by Nirendrakrishna Mitra. Shovabazar Rajbari, 1331, Ashar)
8. A hand copied version of the Sangita Ratnakara (An ancient treatise on Hindu Music by Sarangadeva with Sangit Sudhakara , a commentary by Sinha Bhupal edited by Kalivara Vedantavagisha and Sharadaprasad Ghosh) Calcutta: New Arya Press, 1879. (It is not clear who has copied this)

### **Books (English):(BKRC Books English pdf)**

1. *Universal History of Music* by Sourindro Mohun Tagore. (Front matter missing)
2. *Indian Music and Mian Tansen*, Birendra Kishore Roy Choudhury, Published by Shri Krishna Kali Bhattacharyya, Gouripur Music Trust, nd.
3. *Gita Sutra Sar Volume II Part II* by Krishna Dhan Banerjee, Translator's Explanations and Notes on Grammar and Theory of Hindusthani Music as spoken of in Bengali , by above author , in his above book, Gita Sutra Sar by Himansu Sekhar Banerji . Calcutta: 1941. Published by Nirendra Nath Banerjee.

### **Books (Hindi):BKRC\_Books\_Hindi\_pdf**

1. *Dhrupad Swaralipi* by Hari Narayan Mukhopadhyay (Part I) Indian Press Limited, Prayag, 1929.
2. *Marif-un-nagmat* (a compilation of songs sung by eminent musicians of Hindustan) by Mohammad Nawab Ali Khan. Part II, Lucknow 1924

### Journals and Periodicals in Bangla and English

1. *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, Puja Number 1949  
*Amrita Bazar Patrika*, Puja Number 1951  
*Amrita Bazar Patrika*, Puja Number 1952  
*Amrita Bazar Patrika*, Puja Number 1953  
*Amrita Bazar Patrika*, Puja Number 1954  
*Amrita Bazar Patrika*, Puja Number 1955  
*Amrita Bazar Patrika*, Puja Number 1958
2. *Ananda Sangita* 1914  
*Ananda Sangita* 1918  
*Ananda Sangita* 1919
3. *Inmusica: An Anthology*, Vol. P 3-4, Indian Association of Music, Calcutta, April 1968
4. *Music of India (The Calcutta Music Association and its Journal, Quarterly Magazine)*. This is a bilingual journal edited by Birendra Kishore Roy Chowdhury. Vol. 1 No.1, January 1958.  
*Music of India (The Calcutta Music Association and its Journal, Quarterly Magazine)* Vol.2, No.1, April 1938.  
*Music of India (The Calcutta Music Association and its Journal, Quarterly Magazine)* Vol.3, No.2, March 1940.  
*Music of India (The Calcutta Music Association and its Journal, Quarterly Magazine)* Vol.3, Nos.4 and 5, July and September 1940.
5. *Nada Rupa* (Second Issue) College of Music and Fine Arts, Banaras Hindu University, Chief editor Dr. B.R. Deodhar, January 1963, Vol.II No.2
6. *Prasad* (special number on Music), Yr. 6, Sraban 1379.
7. *Samgita Prakasika* 1902 (Adi Brahma Samaj, Calcutta)  
*Samgita Prakasika* 1904 Part 3  
*Samgita Prakasika* Parts 4 and 5  
*Samgita Prakasika* 1908 Part 8  
*Samgita Prakasika* 1910 Part 10.

### Notebooks and Notations in Birendra Kishore's hand (Manuscript book list)\*

This folder has a typed index of the list of books, periodicals, notebooks and other materials (drafts, and manuscripts) belonging to Birendra Kishore Roy Chowdhury. This typed index does not correspond to what is now available in the collection. This folder has fifteen notebooks with lessons (talim) from Muhammad Ali Khan and from a number of other ustads, bandish, gat (that is vocal and instrumental compositions), alap, bol sargam notations, Seni theory, marginalia and illustrations that provide genealogical details of several musicians and their lineage. Notebook No.15 is titled Bettiah gharana. Notebook no.4 in this collection titled 'Dhrupads and Kheals: Dakhina Charan Sen' carries two important indexes, the first (p.36 pdf) refers to the contents of all the notebooks in his collection and the second (pp. 41-42 pdf) provides the list of dhrupad and khyal compositions in this particular

\* A draft version of a technical catalogue of musical material contained in the thirty five notebooks in the Birendra Kishore Roy Chowdhury Collection has been prepared by Indranil Bhowmik in consultation with Professor Sanjoy Bandyopadhyay. This is in the form of an excel sheet with three thousand eight hundred and seventy five entries organized around five categories. This offers a convenient search tool for users. This will be refined further.

notebook. The first index, (in Notebook 4) is valuable as a guide to the collections and is reproduced below:

1. Songs and alap methods of Muhammad Ali Khan Saheb and other Seni ustads.
2. Songs of Seni ustads and the best notebook.
3. The dhrupads of Dabir Khan and Sagir Khan
4. Dakhina Charan Sen (Notebook 4)
5. Mehdi Hossein and the songs of other disciples
6. Seni talim (mixed)
7. Dhrupad of Dabir and Sagir Khan
8. Kalyan Thaat notebook (Seni gharana)
9. Alap in the Seni gharana
10. Dabir Khan and Sagir Khan
11. Dabir Khan and others, dhrupad and prabandha sangeet
12. The talim of Muhammad Ali and Alauddin Khan, alap and dhrupad
13. Seni theory
14. Ghulam Reza Khan, theory
15. Khyal and Dhrupad, Birendra Kishore

### **Collection of BKRC MS\_PDF**

This has twenty note books of instruction material, notations and songs.

### **Manuscripts, Notebooks TIF Jpeg and PDF**

This has two designated folders Notebooks 1 and 2.

Notebook of BKRC 1 has 107 pages and consists of draft articles that the author (Brajendra Kishore?) intended for later publication. These range from glimpses of Bengal's village life to National music, vocal practice, tappa, dhrupad and khyal.

Notebook of BKRC 2 has 20 pages and is a collection of notations, songs and bhajans.

Additionally, there is a collection of songs (drama) Shah Jahan O Pratap Singher Gaan, of Music related essays (Sangit Prabandha 1 and 2 with additional pages). These are essays written most probably by Brajendra Kishore Roy Chowdhury and cover a range of topics related to music. These contain occasional letters as well. The folder also has a hand-written copy of *The Dramatic Sentiments of the Aryas* by Sourindro Mohun Tagore.

### **Ephemera**

1. *Chattagram Sangeet Sammelanee: Abhibhasan* 1346-47, Birendra Kishore Roy Chowdhury
2. *Limelight-Entertainment News Fortnightly* Vol.1 No.12. Calcutta: Friday 4th November 1960
3. *Sangeeta Sammelanee: Golden Jubilee and Rabindra Centenary*. Calcutta: 1961
4. *Commemoration Volume in Honour of Dr. S.N. Ratanjankar*. Bombay: Published by K.G. Ginde on behalf of Dr. Ratanjankar's 61st Birthday Celebrations Committee, 1961.

5. *Bhowanipur Sangit Sammilani As I Know It* by Anath Krishna Basu, Calcutta: Published by Amiya Madhab Mitra, 1970.
6. *Birendra Kishore Birth Day Celebration Committee (Souvenir)*, May 1972.
7. *Bharatha Ratna Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Fine Arts & Cultural Academy, Sixth Anniversary Celebration, Souvenir*, 30-04-1972.
8. *Viswavina: Satabarsher Alope Birendra Kishore Roy Chowdhury*, 24 Yr. No. 4, 2003.

### **Miscellaneous**

1. Rabindranather Koekti Chithi (letters and exchanges, Rabindranath Tagore and Birendra Kishore Roy Chowdhury), publication details unknown.
2. *Sangeet Natak*, Journal of the Sangeet Natak Akademi-29: 4 Great Masters, July- September 1973. (This Issue has an article by Birendra Kishore Roy Chowdhury titled 'Senia Gharana of Rampur')