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# REVIEW OF ISLAMIC AND WESTERN CONCEPTS OF MUSIC

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## **Trial**

The genre of music is "abstract" and its influence on the senses of the animal world can undoubtedly be acknowledged. As the art progressed, so did its appeal. It is true that religions, nations, and races cannot be compared in the universal nature of music because it takes the form of globalization. As the saying goes, "Music is about the soul". Although music has to do with animal nature, it is examined in terms of religion and nationality to clarify how important it is to Islam and the West. The topic under discussion has explored the religious significance and value of abstract art for the world of humanity. The light of the comparative mirror of Islam and the West has clarified it whether the musical debate is necessary for the survival of humanity. The summary of this discussion has also clarified it that religious rituals may clash with cultural

values. In this discussion, the art of music is introduced first to arrange its beginning and then end. The second stage of the debate has examined music in the light of Islam. The study of music in the context of the Western concept has concluded the discussion and thus clarified that the writer has succeeded in bringing out the desired objectives.

# What is a song called?

# **According to dictionary**

In Arabic, the word Al-Ghana is used for the Urdu word Gana. In the famous Arabic dictionary "Al-Munjid", Al-Ghana is described in the following words: Al-Ghana: song, tone, melody. (Plural: Al-Ghaniyah, Al-Agniyyah, Al-Agniyyah. In addition, Agani and Agani are also plurals of the same. "

Under another reference: "Gana" means the sound which is both guttural and invigorating. Or that; every sound, such as singing in common parlance, is invigorating, even if a poem or the Qur'an or something else is recited in that sound. "Below is another reference:" Song: that There is a voice that is invigorating."

According to the scholars of the time, every sound that is considered a song is deemed to be a song, and this proper alteration creates tune and tenderness.

## **Basic information for music**

The "process of abstraction" has a massive hand in the human world. It would not be wrong to say that there is a hand of abstraction in every man-made process. The term abstraction is used for "freedom, imagination and thought." The nature of music is not natural but abstract. All man-made arts are based on abstraction. At present, only the arts related to materialism are studied in "Academic Realistic Art." Otherwise, all the arts are abstract. Abstract art is found in two types: geometrical abstraction and free abstraction. In the art of abstraction, nature is briefly described. Music also uses imagination and ideas to form a common art form.

#### **Musical Instruments**

Musical instruments are also electronic and are usually found in hand-played instruments. Electronic musical instruments produce sound using electronics.

# The ups and downs of art music

The partition of India is based on a two-nation ideology, and thus the hostility between Pakistan and India is clear from day one. The effects of this hostility on the arts can be seen. In the race to degrade each other, the Muslims of India did not even keep their own culture and religious traditions. Thus, a different kind of civilization came into being. It has no clear connection with Islam.

Over time, while the creation process is clear in every field, the art of music is also witnessing considerable changes. Many arts have been lost their original form.

Art flourished in Pakistan for almost a quarter of a century and good films, music, poetry and stories were written. But as the shadows of time faded, so did the art of creation. Creativity is an individual's ability and it does not depend on what class or race that person belongs to. But in the dust of time, the creative process took the form of individualism and grouping, and feudal thinking began to take hold in the fields of creation as well. It was made a part of art.

#### Use of instrument in music

# Sing without an instrument

There are thousands of emotions associated with man. And these emotions have their flow. Islam is a natural religion, and therefore it does not prevent man from doing any natural thing. But it does teach us to follow this nature with a few principles and rules. If human emotions are expressed within limits and good morals, then Islam does not prevent any living being from doing so. Stops the flow Then they are not justified in public discourse, nor the art of poetry or the art of music. Singing in both Arabic and Urdu does not necessarily mean always being associated with the instrument. A song without an instrument is also called "Ghana." The following are the terms of the singing of other instruments.

## 1. The article should not be obscene

It is narrated on the authority of Abu Sa'eed Al-Khudri that the Prophet (Peace And Blessings of Allah be upon him) once saw a man singing a poem and said:

"Catch the devil. He said: Stop the devil. If one's stomach is full of pus, it is better for him whose stomach is full of lions."

This means that if the poems contain mention of women, praise, or other such obscene words, then the one who recites and recites the poems is the brother of Satan.

## 2. Do not distort beliefs

If polytheism, ingratitude to God Almighty, aversion to religion, etc., are mentioned in the lyrics of the song, then such nonsense poems should be avoided. In the same way, it is forbidden to describe the attributes of the prophets or saints back and forth. The reference to this article is as follows: There the little girls of his house were playing the tambourine and singing war songs. They saw the Prophet (Peace and Blessings of Allah be Upon Him) and recited this verse: "And among us is the Prophet who knows what will happen tomorrow."

Upon hearing this, the Prophet (Peace and Blessings of Allah be Upon Him) said: "Say what she used to say."

## 3. Women should not listen to men's voices

Once the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) forbade Baraa ibn Malik for approaching women and reciting poetry. That is, it is not permissible for women to hear men's sarcastic voices. And the same rule applies to men listening to women's voices.

## 4. Singing like professional singers

According to a hadith, Ayesha (may Allah be pleased with her) once heard a woman singing a song. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said on this occasion:

"Satan has blown into his nose."

In another verse, Hazrat Ayesha (may Allah be pleased with her) said:

"Uh! This is the devil. Get him out." So people kicked him out.

In Islam, it is permissible for professional women to recite poetry in front of other women in a cheerful manner, but it is not permissible for the singer to shake her face or perform other gestures.

# When is it permissible to sing without an instrument?

Following the following conditions, there are some occasions where singing is allowed.

# Hadi Khawani during the journey

This method is very popular among the Arab tribes that during the journey a person sings some poems in a beautiful voice. Thus animals including human beings (especially camels) enjoy it. They get rid of their fatigue by having fun. This method is still used in many places today as drivers usually listen to music to relieve their fatigue. Except that these poems do not contain words that disobey Allah and His Messenger or contain obscene material. Nor should there be any instrument in it.

## To create the spirit of jihad

Poems and speeches have a significant effect on the human mind. Therefore, poems are used to encourage Mujahideen during Jihad. These poems evoke enthusiasm and zeal and help to revive the spirit of jihad in the hearts.

# On the occasion of marriage and happiness

According to a narration, Hazrat Ayesha (RA) married a relative of hers and after leaving, the Holy Prophet (PBUH) asked her if she had sent a singer with her.

When Ayesha Raza replied in the negative, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said to her, "It would have been better if you had sent a singer with her who would sing:

## "We came to you, we came to you

# So may we also be safe, may you also be safe."

That is to say, it is permissible to recite some poems in a simple manner on the occasion of marriage or any happiness without any instrument or musical instrument, whether it is farewell or reception.

Similarly, on the occasion of Eid, there is a reference to singing without an instrument. Syed Ayesha (May Allah be Pleased With Her) narrates that on the day of Eid-ul-Fitr or Eid-ul-Adha, Hazrat Abu Bakr (May Allah be Pleased With Him) visited her. The Holy Prophet (Peace and Blessings of Allah be Upon Him) was also present. Two girls were singing at the time. Which the Ansar had read in the Battle of Ba'ath.

Syedna Abu Bakr (May Allah be Pleased With Him) said twice: "Why this devilish instrument?"

The Holy Prophet (Peace and Blessings of Allah be Upon Him) said:

# "Leave them alone. Every nation has an Eid day and today is our Eid day."

It is clear from this Hadith that it is permissible for minor girls to play the tambourine only on the occasion of Eid, and it is also permissible to recite poems without instruments. But it is also important to keep in mind that music is haraam. It is not permissible to arrange a regular singer to recite the poems.

#### Occasional music

There is no concept of timeless music in Islam. That is, it is permissible to play the tambourine on happy occasions or on Eids. But it is also not permissible to play the tambourine in vain.

There is a tradition that Hazrat Hassan Basri (May Allah Have Mercy On Him) said:

"Playing tambourines (inadvertently) is not one of the ways of the Muslims, and Abdullah ibn Mas'ud (May Allah be Pleased With Him) used to break burials."

With the above references in mind, it can be concluded that music is not permissible in Islam, and even if it is permissible to play the tambourine on certain happy occasions, it is clearly wrong to compare it to playing the drum, because the drum produces the head. While it is not possible to create rhythm from the tambourine. In other words, it has been proved that there is no room for head and instrument in Islam because these things lead to misleading both the human mind and the brain. It is agreed that the concept of singing is forbidden in Islam. And Muslims should avoid it.

## Music: In the light of Our'an and Hadith

Music has become an important part of modern times. And with the addition of new types of equipment, it has become more difficult to explain the issue of whether it is haraam or not. Of course, it is clear to everyone that there is no concept of instrument in Islam, but because of the back and forth of beliefs, there seems to be room for space somewhere in everyone's mind. Therefore, it will be proved that music is not permissible in Islam by considering the references of the Qur'an and Hadith as the last word. The purpose of shedding light on this issue from the Qur'an and Hadith is clear because these references are undoubtedly the last solution to this problem. After them, there is no room for further objections. The majority of people nowadays listen to music. And music has become so common and prevalent that now the very idea of its being halal or haraam is disappearing from hearts and minds. However, it is also true that it is not permissible to declare it halal because of the majority. The Qur'an explicitly forbids following the advice of the majority of people as they cause them to stray from the right path.

## Music: According to the Qur'an

# The first argument from the Qur'an

In Surah Luqman, the Almighty says:

#### **Translation**

"There are some people who buy the delusional word (Lahu al-Hadith) in order to deviate from the path of God without any argument and make fun of it. These are the people for whom there is a disgraceful punishment."

Explaining this hadith, Hazrat Abdullah bin Masood (may Allah be pleased with him) said: "The blood of the hadith means sin.

Imam Qurtubi (may God have mercy on him) has the following commentary on this verse:

"Of all the interpretations of Lahoo Hadith, the most appropriate one is "singing" and this was the opinion of the Companions of the Holy Prophet (PBUH)."

# The Second argument from the Qur'an

In Surah An-Najm, the guidance is from the Almighty.

#### **Translation:**

"Now, are these the things that you express surprise and laugh at and do not weep and avoid them by singing? Bow down before Allah and worship Him."

According to Imam Abu Ubaidah, the meaning of "Thamud" in this verse is to sing in the Yemeni dialect.

# The Third argument from the Qur'an

In Surah Bani Isra'il, Allaah says (interpretation of the meaning):

## **Translation:**

So let the devil slip whomever he can with his voice, ride on them with your cavalry and infantry, associate with them in wealth and children, and ensnare them in the snare of promises, and the promises of the devil except a deception. Nothing."

Allama Ibn al-Qayyim (May Allah Have Mercy On Him) wrote in his commentary on this verse:

Ibn Abi Hatim said that according to Ibn Abbas, the voice of Satan in this verse refers to anything that invites disobedience to God. There is more to singing than that, and that is why the voice of the devil is interpreted by singing."

# The Fourth argument from the Qur'an

In Surah Al-Furgan, Allah describes the attributes of Ibad-ur-Rehman and says:

#### **Translation:**

"They don't get involved in nonsense."

"Alzor" is used in this verse. According to the commentary of Ibn Katheer, one of the meanings of "Al-Zawr" is "singing".

# Music: In the light of Hadith

In addition to the above quotations from the Qur'an, it is also forbidden in the hadiths to sing or play in very clear words, thus eliminating the objection that music is not forbidden in the Qur'an in clear words (although this view). Wrong. Music has been declared a sin in many places in the Qur'an.

## **Hadith No.1**

# **Translation**:

"The Prophet (Peace And Blessings of Allah Be Upon Him) said: Soon there will be people in my ummah who will consider adultery, silk, alcohol and music to be lawful."

The Arabic word "excuse" is used in this hadith. Which means playing instruments and playing instruments with music. In this hadith, music is described along with major sins such as alcohol and adultery. That is, music itself is a big sin.

#### Hadith No.2

#### **Translation:**

"The singer is the enemy of Allah."

#### Hadith No.3

It is narrated on the authority of Hazrat Ayesha Siddiqah and Hazrat Anas that the Prophet (Peace And Blessings of Allah be Upon Him) said:

#### **Translation:**

"There are two kinds of voices which have been cursed in this world and in the hereafter. One is the sound of singing in times of happiness, the other is the sound of sighing and wailing in times of trouble."

## Hadith No.4

#### **Translation:**

"Whoever hears the singing of a singer, molten lead will be put in his ears on the Day of Resurrection."

#### Hadith No.5

#### **Translation:**

Hazrat Ali (May Allah Be Pleased With Him) says that the Holy Prophet (Peace And Blessings of Allah Be Upon Him) said: I have been sent to break musical instruments.

## **Hadith No.6**

# **Translation**:

It is narrated on the authority of Hazrat Nafi '(may Allah have mercy on him) that once Hazrat Abdullah bin Umar (May Allah Be Pleased With Him) heard the sound of a shepherd's flute, he put his fingers in both his ears and turned his ride away.

#### The trend of music in the West

Music in the West began in the ninth century, and the art of music underwent significant changes from the fifteenth to the nineteenth centuries. Music in the West began with "singles", a song sung individually. With the passage of time, the art of music was innovated and with the advent of modern electronic instruments, music in the form of groups flourished and thus "bands" began. In the West, the art of music has developed significantly. And since music has to do with one's own ideas and thoughts, people are generally more inclined towards it.

In the West, music is considered the food of the soul and is regularly taught there. Music captivates the human soul and spirit and thus takes on a general nature and goes far beyond the realm of religion. That is, it has no dealings with religion because it takes up so much space in hearts and nature that ignoring it is beyond human control. Something similar is found in Western art and music.

Historical events and regional proverbs make it clear that music, i.e. song and melody, has a significant effect on the animal mind and soul. The sense of hearing is present in all animals and

thus some of the tones of music, the melodies are those that directly interact with the cells of the mind. Hindus consider music to be an important part of their Dharma because they see it as a way to please their deities.

It is believed that the first music in the West came into being thanks to Pythagoras (a famous mathematician). According to his belief, this whole world is the creation of spiritual melodies and the soul is influenced by the melodies. Since then, Christians have sung ragas with musical instruments in their churches.

It is also known from the pages of history that according to the Jews, Cain invented the oud (musical instrument) and from his descendants a girl named Dhalal invented Ma'azif. It turned out that art and music in the West has been of historical significance and is still innovating. Despite the fact that Muslims also spent a lot of time and money on singing, playing and singing melodies during their rule, but it is also a fact that for Muslims it is like a forbidden tree which the nafs urges to touch but Shariah And religious dislike keeps him from going.

It is also true that despite religious dislike, the art of music had its beginnings and progress in the Muslim era. The art of Muslim musicians has a great hand in advancing and elevating music. In contrast, the West enjoys religious freedom as well as innovation. Thus, the trend of music in the West is much higher than that of Muslims and there is a lot of work on the art of music.

#### Outcome

The art of music has undergone dramatic changes over the decades and centuries. Whether in the West or in the East, the rise of music cannot be denied. The concept of music in Islam is on the level of sin and thus the interpretations and arguments in favor of it die here. On the other hand, if the concept of music in the West is compared with the concept of music in Islam, then this difference is also very clear. In the West, the art of music enjoys spirituality and religious fervor, while Islam, being a religion in itself, denies its existence, despite the fact that the personal tendency of Muslims towards music is in stark contrast to that of the Westerners.

Ultimately, the conclusion is that the concept of music is found in Islam, but its effects are more pronounced in a negative light. While in the West, the concept of music is seen in a positive light. Apart from religion, Muslims and the West are at odds with each other when it comes to the development of music, and perhaps this trend will continue.

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