

**Comparative analysis of the melody in the Kṛti
Śri Mahāgaṇapatiṇavatūmāṁ with references to
Saṅgīta Sampradāya Pradarśini of Subbarāma Dīkṣitar and
Dīkṣita Kīrtana Mälā of A. Sundaram Ayyar**

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Introduction:

One of the indelible aspects of music when it comes to passing on to posterity is the variations in renditions, mainly since the sources contain not only texts of songs and notations but also an oral inheritance. This can be broadly witnessed in the compositions of the composers of Carnatic Music. Variations generally occur in the text of the song, rāga, tāla, arrangement of the words within the tāla cycle and melodic framework, graha, melodic phrases and musical prosody¹.

The scholars who have written and published on Muttusvāmi Dīkṣitar and his accounts are named in chronological order as follows:

Subbarāma Dīkṣitar
Kallidaikuricci Ananta Krishṇa Ayyar
Natarāja Sundaram Pillai
T. L. Venkatarāma Ayyar
Dr. V. Rāghavan
A. Sundaram Ayyar
R. Rangarāmānuja Ayyengār
Prof. P. Sāmbamūrthy

Dr. N. Rāmanāthan writes about Śri Māhādēva Ayyar of Kallidaikuricci thus: He is a student of Kallidaikuricci Vēdānta Bhāgavata and along with A. Anantakṛṣṇayyar (well known as Calcutta Anantakṛṣṇa Ayyar) and A. Sundaram Ayyar (of Mayilāpūr), has been instrumental in learning the compositions of Dīkṣitar from Śri Ambi Dīkṣita, son of Subbarāma Dīkṣita and propagating them to the next generation². Dr. V. Rāghavan (pp. 76-92), in his book Muttusvāmi Dīkṣitar gives an index of Dīkṣitar's compositions which is forked in two sections. The former section illustrates the list of kṛti-s as notated in Saṅgīta Sampradāya Pradarśini of Subbarāma Dīkṣitar while the other one lists almost an equal number of another set

¹ Rāmanāthan N. 1996. Problems in editing the kṛti-s of Muddusvāmi Dīkṣita. Journal of the Music Academy. LXIX: 58

² Ibid.: 61

of kṛti-s not included in Saṅgīta Sampradāya Pradarśini but found in the 14 volumes of Dīkṣita Kīrtana Mālā of A. Sundaram Ayyar³.

The focus of the study here will be on the two traditions of Subbarāma Dīkṣitar's and Sundaram Ayyar's. That is, the article is confined to the notation documented in the treatises Saṅgīta Sampradāya Pradarśini of Subbarāma Dīkṣitar and Dīkṣita Kīrtana Mālā of Vainīka Vidvān Subbarāma Dīkṣitar.

Analysis of the Composition Śrī Mahāganapatiravatumām

The following section contains the comparative analysis of the melody of the composition as notated in Saṅgīta Sampradāya Pradarśini and Dīkṣita Kīrtana Mālā.

Range of the composition

| <u>Aṅga-s of the Kṛti</u> | <u>Saṅgīta Sampradāya Pradarśini</u> | <u>Dīksita Kīrtana Mālā</u> |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Pallavi | Mandra pa to Madhya pa | Mandra pa to Tāra ri |
| Anu Pallavi | Mandra ni to Tāra ri | Mandra ni to Tāra ri |
| Caraṇa | Mandra pa to Tāra ri | Mandra pa to Tāra ri |
| Colkaṭtu Svara | Absent | Mandra pa to Tāra ma |

The range is common for the Anu Pallavi and Caraṇa as in both the notations. The difference is in the Pallavi section. Colkaṭtu svara is not seen in the notation of Saṅgīta Sampradāya Pradarśini. The spread of notes in all the three octaves implies that the kṛti embraces a comprehensive use of saṅcāra-s pertaining to the rāga.

Graha Svara-s

As per Saṅgīta Sampradāya Pradarśini:

1. Rṣabha

R m P r p mpmg
śrī mahā gaṇapati (Pallavi-1st line)

r gm R
suvar nā.....karṣaṇa (Caraṇa)

R m p n p
kōmaṭatarā (Madhyamakāla-Anu Pallavi)

r r g R r
ravi sahasra sannibhadēhō (Madhyamakāla-Caraṇa)

³ Rāghavan V. 1975. Muttuswāmi Dīkṣitar. Bombay. National Centre for the Performing Arts:73

2. Pañcama

P m r g gm r
kāmajanaka vidhīndra (Anu Pallavi)

According to Dīkṣita Kīrtana Mālā

1. R̄ṣabha

rsR M M P R
śrī mahāgaṇapati (Pallavi)

R GM rsR
suvar nā.....karṣaṇa (Carāṇa)

Rmpnp
kōmaṭatara (Madhyamakāla-Anu Pallavi)

r r m R s
ravisahasra (Madhyamakāla-Carāṇa)

2. Pañcama

P; M R M M
kāmajanaka (Anu Pallavi)

pmgm rgm taṇakujam (Colkaṭṭu Svara)

In both the notations R̄ṣabha and Pañcama represent two dominant graha svara-s. In all the instances it could be observed that the graha svara saṅcāra is almost similar in both the notations. Niṣāda can be seen as a connecting start in between the lines. As for instance, in the Carāṇa

N P N P ;
kuvalaya (Common in both notations)

n P n ś Ŕ
prakāśakarō bhavajaladhināvō (Saṅgīta Sampradāya Pradarśini)

nřś n P
pra kā śakarō (Dīkṣita Kīrtana Mālā)

The phrases are almost similar in the examples illustrated above.

Nyāsa Svara-s

The Nyāsa svara-s including the phrases in which they are incorporated are exactly similar in both the notations.

1. Śadja

In the Madhyamakāla sections

R gm r s ns

mātaṅga mukha (Pallavi)

r ś n P m rg m R s n s

guruguhāgraja śśivātmaja. (Anu Pallavi)

r ś ś n p pm r g m r s n s

avinā śa kai val ya gē ha (Carāṇa)

Pañcama as a subordinate Nyāsa svara could be mentioned which occurs in the ending of the first line of the Madhyamakāla in the Carāṇa.

m r m p n p pmp n P P

kavijananuta mūśikavāhō (Saṅgīta Sampradāya Pradarśini)

m r p m n p pmp n pm p,

kavijananuta mūśikavāhō (Dīkṣita Kīrtana Mālā)

Thus Śadja is the predominant ending note with reference to the two notations.

Saṅgati-s

| <u>Aṅga-s of the Kṛti</u> | <u>Saṅgīta Sampradāya Pradarśini</u> | <u>Dīkṣita Kīrtana Mālā</u> |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Pallavi | None | First line – 4 Second line – 2 |
| Anu Pallavi | " | First line – 2 Second line – None |
| Carāṇa | " | None throughout |

Dīkṣita Kīrtana Mālā incorporates embellishments while Saṅgīta Sampradāya Pradarśini just delineates the basic structure.

Mārga and Kālapramāṇa

| <u>Saṅgīta Sampradāya Pradarśini</u> | <u>Dīkṣita Kīrtana Mālā</u> |
|---|--|
| Aticitratama Mārga (1 svara per tāla unit) | Citratara Mārga (4 svara-s per tāla unit) |

Though the tāla is same in both notations the difference in the Mārga accounts for a variation in the reckoning of the tāla. In the former, however, the number of svara-s placed in one unit or mātra of the tāla equals the number of sāhitya-akṣara-s or syllables of the text occurring in it. This feature is not observed in the latter. The Kālapramāṇa is self-suggestive in both the cases.

Graha or Eduppu

The graha is Sama throughout the composition as witnessed in the two notations.

Pada Chēda-s

| Sr. No. | Saṅgīta Sampradāya Pradarśini | Dīksita Kīrtana Mālā |
|------------|--|------------------------------|
| 1. | suvarṇākarṣaṇa = suvarṇāka + rṣaṇa | vighnarājō = vighnarā + jō |
| 2. | vighnarājō = vighnarā + jō | gauravarṇa = gaurava + rṇa |
| 3. | pādāmbujō = pādāmbu + jō | pāśāñkuṣa = pāśā + ḥkuṣa |
| 4. | gauravarṇa = gaurava + rṇa | mūlaprakṛti = mūla + prakṛti |
| 5. | kuvalaya svavisāṇa = kuvalaya svavi + ḫāṇa | |
| 6. | pāśāñkuṣa = pāśā + ḥkuṣa | |
| 7. | bhavajaladhināvō = bhavajaladhinā + vō | |
| 8. | mūlaprakṛti = mūla + prakṛti | |
| 9. | svabhāva = svabhā + va | |

Umpteen examples are traced in the notation of the Saṅgīta Sampradāya Pradarśini compared to the Dīksita Kīrtana Mālā. This is because the former incorporates Aticitratama Mārga and the number of svara-s per unit of tāla is congruent to the number of sāhitya-akṣara-s.

There is a similarity in the splitting of sāhitya as fashioned in the Saṅgīta Sampradāya Pradarśini. In most of the examples, the splits extend up to exactly two mātra-s from the Sama of the respective tāla cycles. This also indicates the dominance of sāhitya over the melody and tāla in the Caraṇa. The spread of sāhitya in the other aṅga-s of the composition is uniform throughout.

Gamaka-s

There are no gamaka symbols associated with in the notation of the Dīksita Kīrtana Mālā. Saṅgīta Sampradāya Pradarśini is known for the enunciation of Pañcadaśa gamaka-s. Among the 15 gamaka-s six are occurring in the notation of the kṛti. They are Kampita, Pratyāghāta, Sphurita, Tirupa, Ullasita and Orikai. Each of them is being illustrated as under-

1. Kampita

Umpteen examples for Kampita could be traced in the notation most of which are applied to the Rṣabha (four in the avarōhaṇa prayōga and three in the ārōhaṇa prayōga).

The kṛti itself starts with Kampita. It also serves as an example for Kampita in Rṣabha in the ascent. Kampita for Rṣabha in the descending phrase is adjoined as the succeeding example.

Rṣabha

\tilde{R} m p
śrī mahāgaṇapati (Pallavi)

\tilde{R} s ḡ p
siddhivināyakō (Pallavi)

Gāndhāra

.....P m M r/ \tilde{G} gm r
mūlaprakṛti svabhāva ssukhatarō (Carāṇa)

Madhyama

P M g \tilde{M} rm p np
pā dāmbujō gau rava rṇa (Carāṇa)

Pañcama

.....r m / \tilde{P} p m n P
narādivinuta lambō da rō (Carāṇa)

Niṣāda

n śr̥ ṣ n p/ N nŚ
bhava jaladhi nāvō (Carāṇa)

Ṣadja

.....n ṣ ṛ $\overset{\sim}{ṛṣṇ}$ / \tilde{S}
kamalālayataṭa ni vā sō (Anu Pallavi)

2. Pratyāghāta

This gamaka widely spread throughout the notation has been found employed on Ṣadja (thrice), Rṣabha (5 times), Madhyama (5 times) and Pañcama (twice). Few illustrations are put on below.

Rṣabha and Ṣadja in the descending contour

.....gm ṛ ṣ ṣ ṣ p
suvarṇāka rṣaṇa vi ghna rājō (Carāṇa)

Madhyama in the descent

n p n P ṣ p pmm ṣ r r
kuvalayasvaviṣā ṣa pā sāṅkuśa (Carāṇa)

Gāndhāra in the avarōhaṇa

P N p m M r / G g
mūla prakṛti svabhāva (Carāṇa)

3. Sphurita

Only a couple of instances are found in the notation for Śadja, Rṣabha and Pañcama

R ḫ g R ḫ S n p / R R
ra visahasra sannibhadēhō (Madhyamakāla-Carāṇa)

p ḫ s n w s N s / R ḫ s n S
a vanatadēvatāsamūhō (Madhyamakāla-Carāṇa)

4. Tirupa

This one is the most abundantly scattered in the notation featuring Gāndhāra (half a dozen of times), Madhyama (a couple of times) and Niṣāda (10 times)

Gāndhāra and Niṣāda

r p mp mg w m r s snS
gaṇapa ti ravatumām (Pallavi)

Madhyama
/P pm n P
lambō darō (Carāṇa)

5. Ullasita

Consisting of Ēṭra Jāru (upward glide) and Irakka Jāru (downward glide), the former appears 11 times and the other one, 4 times in the notation

Ēṭra Jāru
r / gm R / g m r s
suvar ṇā ka rṣaṇa (Carāṇa)

Irakka Jāru
P \ m \ r g g m
kā ma janaka (Anu Pallavi)

6. Orikai

It is found just once in the entire notation namely, in the Carana

m p pm m m ^{YY} r̄ r̄ g m r̄ r̄
sva vi šā ḥa pā sā ḥkuša (Caranā)
Mātu laya

It is the arrangement of the syllables of the text within the tāla framework, i.e. the duration of the syllables in the hrasva (short) and dīrgha (long) syllables. A syllable becomes a dīrgha vyanjana (long consonant), i.e. it becomes dīrgha if the following syllable is a samyuktākṣara or conjunct consonant. The duration of hrasva and dīrgha are always proportional. If the former is given one unit then the other would have two. A dīrgha could be stretched beyond two.

In this composition the number of syllables in a unit of the tāla is not exceeded than the number of the mātra-s in a tāla āvarta, as seen below:

As conforming to notation given in the Saṅgīta Sampradāya Pradarśini:

| <u>Pallavi</u> | | | | | | | |
|----------------|----|------|----|-----|------|-----|------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | Total no. of syllables |
| śrī | | ma | hā | | ga | ṇa | 7 |
| pa | ti | ra | va | tu | mā | m | 7 |
| si | | ddhi | vi | nā | | ya | 7 |
| kō | | | mā | taṇ | gamu | kha | 7 |

The Mātu laya in the syllable ‘kō’ is three and in the sāhitya ‘Mātaṅgamukha’ is eight. Since the latter is set in Madhyamakāla the duration of the text in the framework of tāla gets reduced by half, i.e. four. Thus $3+4=7$ which is the total count of one tripuṭa tāla. This is a speciality of Muttusvāmi Dīkṣitar where the sāhitya, though set in two degrees of speed, blends smoothly without interrupting the flow of melody.

| Anu Pallavi | | | | | | | |
|-------------|----|------|-----|----|----|----|------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | Total no. of syllables |
| kā | | ma | ja | na | ka | vi | 7 |
| dhī | | ndra | san | | nu | ta | 7 |
| ka | ma | lā | | | la | ya | 7 |
| ta | ṭa | ni | vā | | sō | | 7 |

The Madhyamakāla sāhitya being double the speed, the mātu laya accounts for 14 mātra-s, as shown below:

| Madhyamakāla sāhitya | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Total no. of syllables |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|---|-----|----|----|-----|----|----|--|------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | | |
| kō | | ma | la | ta | ra | pal | | la | va | pa | da | ka | ra | | 14 |
| gu | ru | gu | hā | | gra | ja | | śśi | vā | | tma | ja | | | 14 |

| Carana | | | | | | | | Total no. of syllables |
|--------|----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|--|------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | | |
| su | va | | rñā | | ka | r | | 7 |
| ṣa | ṇa | vi | | ghna | rā | | | 7 |
| jō | | pā | | dā | | mbu | | 7 |
| jō | | gau | | ra | va | r | | 7 |
| ṇa | va | sa | na | dha | rō | | | 7 |
| phā | | la | ca | | ndrō | | | 7 |
| na | rā | | di | vi | nu | ta | | 7 |
| lam | | bō | | dha | rō | | | 7 |
| ku | va | la | ya | | sva | vi | | 7 |
| ṣā | | ṇa | pā | | śā | | | 7 |
| ńku | śa | mō | | da | ka | | | 7 |
| pra | kā | | śa | ka | rō | | | 7 |
| bha | va | ja | la | dhi | nā | | | 7 |
| vō | | | mū | | la | | | 7 |
| pra | kṛ | ti | | sva | bhā | | | 7 |
| va | | ssu | kha | ta | rō | | | 7 |

| Madhyamakāla sāhitya | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|----|----|----|----|------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | Total no. of syllables |
| ra | vi | sa | ha | | sra | san | | ni | bha | dē | | hō | | 14 |
| ka | vi | ja | na | nu | ta | mū | | śi | ka | vā | | hō | | 14 |
| a | va | na | ta | dē | | va | tā | | sa | mū | | hō | | 14 |
| a | vi | nā | | śa | kai | | va | | lyā | gē | | ha | | 14 |

As per the notation detailed in the Dīksita Kīrtana Māla:

Since there are two syllables for each mātra of the tāla the total syllabic duration will be 14. In this notation also the measurement does not exceed the same.

| Pallavi | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|------|-----|------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | Total no. of syllables |
| śrī | | ma | hā | | ga | ṇa | pa | ti | ra | va | tu | mā | m | 14 |
| si | | ddhi | vi | nā | | ya | kō | | | mā | tañ | gamu | kha | 14 |

| Anu Pallavi | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|------|-----|----|----|----|------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | Total no. of syllables |
| kā | | ma | ja | na | ka | vi | dhī | | ndra | san | | nu | ta | 14 |
| ka | ma | lā | | | la | ya | ta | ṭa | ni | vā | | sō | | 14 |

The Madhyamakāla sāhitya being double the speed, the mātu laya accounts for 28 mātra-s, as shown below:

Madhyamakāla Sāhitya

kō- ma ḥa ta ra pa- la va da ka ra gu ru gu hā- gra ja- śśi vā- tma ja- = 28

| <u>Carana</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Total no. of syllables |
|---------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|----|------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | |
| su | va | r | ṇā | | ka | | rṣa | ṇa | vi | gh | na | rā | | 14 |
| jō | | pā | | dā | m | bu | jō | | gau | | ra | va | r | 14 |
| ṇā | va | sa | na | dha | rō | | phā | | la | ca | n | drō | | 14 |
| na | rā | | di | vi | nu | ta | lam | | bō | | da | rō | | 14 |
| ku | va | la | ya | | sva | vi | ṣā | | ṇa | pā | | sā | ṇ | 14 |
| ku | śa | mō | | da | ka | | pra | kā | | śa | ka | rō | | 14 |
| bha | va | ja | la | dhi | nā | | vō | | | mū | | la | | 14 |
| pra | kṛ | ti | | sva | bhā | | va | | su | khā | ta | rō | | 14 |

Madhyamakāla Sāhitya

ra vi sa ha- sra san- nib ha dē- hō- ka vi ja na nu ta mū- ṣi ka vā- ho- = 28
a vana ta dē- va tā- sa mū- hō- a vi nā- śa kai- val- lya gē- hah- = 28

Colkattu Svara

pmgm rgm ta ḡa ku jam- nsr ki ṭa ta pns ja ḡu ta nsrm = 28
ta ka ḡam- mgm ta ḡa ta ppm dhi mi ta mpnp ki ṭa ta ri pnsr = 28
ku kun ta ri mpn ki ṭa ta jam- rg ta ka ja ḡu ta dhi mi srs nsnp = 28
pn̄p ti mi ta ka ta ri gmrs r- ta ḡa ku jam- npm ta tiñ ki ḡa tōm = 28

Thus the Mātu laya is uniform throughout in both the available notations.

Śri Mahāganapatiravatumām as portrayed in performing style

Plenty of musicians have rendered this kṛti in concerts many times. The recordings of 14 eminent vocalists and seven veteran instrumentalists have been taken for references. The similarities and variations in the renditions with regard to the documented sources are been detailed below:

1. The Graha and Nyāsa svara-s applied as witnessed in all the aforesaid recordings are intact as seen in the documented notations
2. Saṅgati-s: The number of saṅgati-s applied in the Pallavi and Anu Pallavi differs in each renditions.

The following table represents the number of saṅgati-s allotted by different stalwarts to each line of the Pallavi and Anu Pallavi:

| <u>Name of the Musician</u> | Saṅgati-s in the Pallavi – 1 st line | Saṅgati-s in the Pallavi – 2 nd line | Saṅgati-s in the Anu Pallavi – 1 st line | Saṅgati-s in the Anu Pallavi – 2 nd line |
|---------------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Chembai Vaidyanātha Bhāgavathar | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| M S Subbulakshmi | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| M S Gopālakrishṇan | 5 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Sheik Chinna Moulāna | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| M D Rāmanāthan | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| Mahārājapuram V Santhānam | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| T M Thiyāgarājan | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| T S Kalyānarāman | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| R K Śrīkanṭan | 4 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| N Ramaṇi | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| M Chandrasēkharan | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| V V Ravi | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| Maṇi Krishnaswāmy | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| A K C Natarājan | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| Pārassāla Ponnammāl | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| R Vēdavalli | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| P S Nārāyaṇaswāmi | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| Madurai T N Sēshagōpālan | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Madurai G S Maṇi | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| Neyvēli Santhānagōpālan | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Mandolin U. Śrīnivās | 5 | 3 | 3 | 2 |

It can be noticed that the Pallavi and Anu Pallavi have a special reservations for including the musical embellishments while in the Caraṇa, where, as mentioned earlier, the sāhitya dominates the tālā, leaves hardly any room for them. Nevertheless, one or two saṅgati-s could be seen in the portion, ‘Prakāsakarō’ in the Caraṇa rendered by a few aforesaid giants, which is again a well-accepted spot for delivering Svara-kalpana as seen in the recordings.

- Placement of sāhitya-akṣara-s or the syllables of the sāhitya: The practical renditions share with the documented notations in majority. Few small changes could be found as exemplified below:

In all the renditions mentioned above, the Madhyamakāla portion of the pallavi is split mā – – taṇ – ga mukha, i.e. 3 + 3 + 2 while in the documented notations it is 2 + 2 + 4, i.e. mā – taṇ – gamukha –

The former pattern is followed by the majority of artistes while a few namely, Tanjavūr Śrī S Kalyānarāman, Saṅgīta Kalānidhi M S Gopālakrishṇan, Saṅgīta Kalānidhi R K Śrīkanṭan and Violin maestro Śrī V V Ravi follows the 2 + 2 + 4 pattern.

Again, Saṅgīta Kalānidhi T M Thiyāgarājan and Saṅgīta Kalānidhi A K C Natarājan render the same piece half a mātra later from the same place.

The Anu Pallavi portion ‘Kamalālayataṭanivāsō’ which begins on the Sama of the tāla is taken off after one mātra as witnessed in the audio clip of M Chandrasekharan as seen below:

II – kama I lā – I laya II taṭani I vā – I sō – II

The same portion as rendered by the veteran violinist Śrī V V Ravi has the arrangement as follows:

II kamalā I – la I ya – II taṭani I vā – I sō – II

Saṅgīta Kalānidhi M S Subbulakshmi renders the portion as follows:-

II kamalā I – – I laya II taṭani I vā – I sō – II

The sāhitya ‘Kuvalaya svavisāṇa...’ in the Caraṇa is rendered after one matra as observed in the rendition of Bhārat Ratna M S Subbulakshmi. The distribution of the syllables of the text in the concerned portion also undergoes slight modifications.

To cite a similar example the rendition of Saṅgīta Kalānidhi R Vēdavalli in the portion ‘Gauravarṇa vasanadharō...’ is as follows:

II – – gau I – ra I va – II rṇa – va I sana I dha – II rō - - phā - - I la can I – drō II

Whereas in the textual notations it splits as:

II – – gau I – ra I va – II rṇa vasa I na dha I rō – II phā – la I can – I drō – II

Again, the sāhitya in the Madhyamakāla of the Anu Pallavi is ended as “....guruhāgraḥ śivātmajō”. This has to be because the words are in ‘Prathama Vibhakti’, i.e. guruhāgraḥ śivātmajah. So if it is sung it has to be joined as, “guruhāgraḥ śivātmajah śrī mahāgaṇapati rāvatumām.” Since Colkaṭtu svara is followed by the Anu Pallavi the sāhitya has to be pronounced either as ‘śivātmajah’ or ‘śivātmajō’. The latter sounds musically better. In this case it can be noted in the clipping of Bhārat Ratna M S Subbulakshmi, the pronunciation as ‘guruhāgraḥ śivātmajah’.

In the Caraṇa the sāhitya ‘kuvalaya svavisāṇa pāśāṇkuśa mōdaka’ as follows:-

II kuvala I ya sva I viṣā II – ḥa pā I – śā I – ḥku II śa mō – I daka I – – II

While in the documented notations it spreads as follows:

II kuvala I ya – I svavi II śā – ḥa I pā – I śā – II kuśa mō I – da I ka – II

4. Tāla: The tāla to which the composition is set seems to be Miśra Cāpu rather than Tripuṭa
5. Kālapramāṇa: The tempo is relatively brisk in the renderings of Saṅgīta Kalānidhi Chembai Vaidyanātha Bhāgavathar, Saṅgīta Kalānidhi Sheik Chinna Moulāna, versatile musical giant T S Kalyāṇarāman and the prodigious artiste Mandolin U Śrīnivās. The kālapramāṇam is quite slow as witnessed in the rendition by Saṅgīta Kalānidhi M S Gōpālakrishṇan. The other stalwarts render the composition in a medium tempo.
6. Inclusiveness of Colkaṭtu svara: All the stalwarts mentioned above except Saṅgīta Kalānidhi M S Gōpālakrishṇan, render the kṛti with the Colkattu svara.

Conclusion

From the observations it is clear that though Subbarāma Dīksitar and Sundaram Ayyar belong to the same tradition there are paltry differences found in the notation. Nevertheless, the basic structure is the same. The same applies to the

performing tradition also. Musicians according to their musical virtuosities decorate the parts with saṅgati-s, slight alterations in the placements of sāhitya syllables etc. But the basic edifice on which they are built is the same.

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