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Sufi music

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Today Sufi music has gained a foothold in the world marketplace. Sufis are Islamic mystics, and Sufi music plays a key role in many of their rituals and whole life of Muslim's community. While many Islamic nations officially banned all forms of music because it was often said to incite unruly passions, some adopted it, some adapted it, and some merely condoned it. Sufi music was on its peak in Pakistan under the regime of so-called Islamic minded Late. Gen. Zia-ul-Haq. From the Sufi drumming of West Africa to religious chanting in Bosnia-Herzegovina, from the whirling dervishes of Turkey to the body movement dance forms of Indonesia, and passionate dancing and clapping on the rhythm of Folk music, Ritual ceremony, Qawwali and Kafi in Pakistan, Sufi music today plays a major role in the lives of Muslims world-wide.

Sufis played very important part in the popularity of Islam in many regions like Sub-continent, North Africa, East Africa, the Balkans, the Central Asian Republics of the former USSR, east across Malaysia and Indonesia, and also within the many Middle-Eastern nations. Maulana Jalal al-Din Rumi, Sidi Ahmed Sheich, Amir Khusrau, Shah Abdul Latif, Shah Inayat, Bulleh Shah, Sachal Sarmast, and Kali Das influenced the millions of millions people with their message of Sufism and music.

For thousands of years Asia has been home to a vast cultural diversity, determined by geography, belief and

Koi Khudaye showed the respect for others religions. Dum Dum Ali Ali, Alif, Allah Chanbey Di Booti, Allah Ho, Allah Ho, Sab Virdh Karu Allah Allah, Jhoole Lal and many others. He used poems of great Bulle Shah and Warris Shan to enrich its Sufi music. I still remembered, the live performance of Nusrat Faith Ali in open air Alhamra Council where entire audience lost in the attractive voice, mesmerized in his facial grimace, and closed eyes. Some foreigner spectators began to dance and lost in the melodious and soulful Sufi music of the one and only Nusrat Ali Khan.

Jeff Buckley described Ustad Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan as velvet fire is no more with us but his everlasting Sufi songs are very much with

abilities. A talented and gifted singer, she mainly sings classical, ghazals and sufiana kalam. But it is reality that secretes of her immense popularity lies in her passionate Sufi Songs. She has received many awards and including the prestigious Pride of Performance, awarded by the government of Pakistan. Abida Parveen is considered one of the outstanding current promoter talent of the Sufi music and kafi. A blessed voice, Abida is the spiritual daughter of Shah Music i.e. Abdul Latif Bhittai, the major Sufi saint of Sindh. She is very passionate to sing Sufi songs and Kafi she never ceases to sing her fiery love for the Divine. Aaj Piya Hori Khelan Aaya, Allah Hik Hai Allah Hik Hai

Ishq Da Rog Dadha, Meda Lal Qalandar Sohna Lal, Naad-e-Ali Parh Naad-e-Ali, Nayzah Naaz Da Maar, Ranjha Ranjha Kardi Ni Mein, Saki-e-Bawafa Manum are some famous Sufi Songs of one and only living legend Abida Parveen. Abida Parveen is a force to reckon with in the Sufi music all over the world.

She is known all over the world for her Sufi Songs. She frequently visits India to mesmerize the audiences with her Sufi Songs. She always tries to bring closer the people of both the countries through her passionate, simple and magical Sufi songs. She is



by geography, Sufi music of the region reflects every aspect of its history. The range of Sufi music includes the highly structured genre of qawwali, kafi, na'at, hamd and various regional genres of similar ethos. Sindh and Punjab, great medieval centers of Sufi thought and culture have produced many scholars and mystics such as Shah Abdul Latif, Shah Inayat, Bulleh Shah, and Sachal Sarmast who changed the life patterns of millions of people. Their radical love poetry can be compared to the works of Kabir, Surdas, Meera and other Sufi-bhakti poets of North India. They all have played an important role in evolving the folk and Sufi musical traditions of this region. Fakirs and wandering mystics can be found even today singing the kafis and ghazals of these mystics throughout the region.

Amir Khusrau is supposed to be pioneer of Sufi Music in the Sub-Continent. Pakistan has produced many legends in the field of Sufi Music who are healing the wounds of suppression, depression, social injustice, illiteracy, soul and bodies with their God gifted voices. Singers like Pathaney Khan, Shahida Parveen, Ustad Jumman, Abida Parveen and the last but not the least the one and only great Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan are giving the message of love, respect, sacrifice, and humanity for many years. In this article I will only pay my heartedly tributes to King and queen of Sufi music i.e. Ustad Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan and Abida Parveen.

The voice of Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan was "Part Buddha, part demon, part mad angel simply incomparable." Nusrat Ali Fateh Khan was extraordinary in every sense from his immense and powerful voice to the vast spirituality of his music and that ample girth. He was not doubt the Shahan-sha-e-qawwali. Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan took Sufi music to an unbelievably wide international audience. His wailing songs of Sufi devotion are exhilarating displays of genius, and the forest of tablas and harmoniums that backed were terrifically dense. The great Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan was a highly gifted practitioner of Sufi music the world has produced so far. He was the apex of the genius singer's marriage of Sufi devotional poetry and Pakistani classical music.

Whether he was performing at music festivals, for world leaders or at the shrines of Sufi saints in Punjab he transported listeners to the realms of sublime and ecstasy. In the sub-continent Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs alike appreciated his music. He was ambassador of peace, harmony, and friendship among the different sects and religions in the sub-continent. CNN declared me as Bridge between East and West. The famous song like Koi Bole Ram Ram

us. Khan was considered one of the world's greatest singers of Sufi devotional. He was renowned worldwide for his songs of Sufi devotion in Urdu and Punjabi. He was very popular in the West. He performed in US, Europe and Canada and recorded duets with Eddie Vedder on the soundtrack to "Dead Man Walking" simple version of Noha. He also worked with Joan Osborne, Peter Gabriel and Jeff Buckley. Nusrat also had songs on soundtrack for "Natural Born Killers." He was champion of Sufi songs. He spread the message of peace and love by singing Sufi songs from the depth of his heart. Ustad Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan was the first and most successful performer to bring the Sufi devotional music known as qawwali to the West. This thrilled form of Sufi singing, with its extended, towering vocals, its centuries old poetry and its stupor invoking performances, seemed a remarkably unlikely music to achieve popularity with Western audiences. He was Bubba to his parents and smiling Buddha to Japanese, fire to English intelligentsias, Maestro to Indian Film Industry, miracle to Canadian masses, a tuneful Jabba the Hut to the West and pure and simple Sufi to religious devotees and simply magic to common people of Pakistan.

With his vocal range and elasticity he could switch octaves almost at will, something that South Asian classical singing does not rely on. Nusrat remained one glorious exception of Sufi Songs. True to his simple spirit, he always presented what he considered the best. And he was indisputably the best. The Sufi music of great Fateh Ali Khan will make you feel relaxed and take you out of this world into the other world, in which you feel free from all worries, free from desires and free from fears.

Sufi music has no language and accepts no border. It is treated as message of heart to heart and love to love. Once, while singing for a French audience, Nusrat offered to have the lyrics translated for them. The audience declined, saying they could well understand the spirit of his Sufi music and the intensity of his work. Material words were, for them, largely immaterial. Kenyan audiences, mostly third-generation Africans of Indian origin, took instantaneously to his soul-stirring beats of Sufi music. And some Japanese even considered him a reincarnation of the Buddha; they always attended his concerts barefoot.

Abida Parveen is the contemporary queen of Sufi music. Abida Parveen is among the few Sufi singers of today who, after the late Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, enjoys international fame. She is known all over the world for her singing

pure thrill and ambassador of love and peace. She is treated as cleansing soul singer has purification motives. She tries to spread a message of love and induce a state of spiritual ecstasy with her Sufi mystic songs. She expresses the love of God at every turn. Abida Parveen is the fervour of gospel, the emotion of soul, the abandon of rock and the vocal flexibility of scat. Truly, Abida's Sufi songs devotional is a joyous and musical manifestation of Sufism striking is her voice strong and beautiful, full of longing and passion making a listener want to accompany her on the road to divine connection.

After Ustad Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, Abida is an artiste who has emerged as a driving force in an art form dominated by men. No one, it is believed, can express Sufi mysticism and its depth as mellifluously as Abida. Admirers of the late Sufi doyen artiste Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan seem to have found the true heir to his legacy in Abida. Her musical talent truly comes across in her hearty rendering of Sufi and folk songs in Sindhi, Punjabi, and Saraiki dialects. She has been messenger as one of the finest voices in the Sub-continent and regarded worldwide as the 'queen of Sufi mystical singing. When she sings, there is a wild masti about her as she raises her hands exulting to an invisible God. It appears that time has stopped and there is rain of blessing is going on. Abida, who was brought up in an ambience of Sufi culture as well as music, started learning at an early age from her father Ustad Ghulam Haidar. She was soon performing the songs of mystics like Shah Latif Bhattai, Ghulam Farid and Shaikh Ayaz at the Urs. The singer, who is the 'spiritual daughter' of Shah Abdul Latif Bhattai, the renowned Sufi saint of Sindh, Abida is considered one of the prominent contemporary exponents of the Sufi and kafi in the Indian Sub-continent. Her singing exhibits the intense encounter between sensitivity and spirituality that is Sufism; love for Divine and for all.

Both are shining stars and ambassadors of love and peace. They are pride of Pakistan pure in their Sufi sinning and simple in their profession. When I, got depressed with the injustice practice, rule of the illogical, ill will of non senses people, distrust of campaigns, euphoria of so-called indispensability, and abnormality of narrow minded people I, use to listen the evergreen soulful Sufi Songs Ustad Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan and Abida Parveen to give myself some sort of comfort, happiness, hope and believe in cooperation, sacrifice, vice, innocence, true spirits, decency and above all believe in Almighty the king of all king and hope of hopeless - God. 🌸