

# INDIAN MUSIC: AN OVERVIEW

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## Abstract

Humans have interacted over long distances for years and this interaction, in turn, gave rise to a term “globalisation”, which is a process of international arising from the interchange of world views and other aspects of culture. Even India is not untouched of this globalisation in any context. The present article deals with impact of Indian music on the lives and interest of music lovers around the world. The oldest and rich tradition of Indian music has helped it extend beyond narrow borders of social classes and geographic borders.

Although Indian music is a so-called ‘classical’ tradition, with an ancient and highly developed theoretical base, it also has important links to folk and popular styles. Indian music has had a significant impact on western music at various points in history. Indian musicians/performers have been adapted well and with deep respect in the west also. Among them, Pt. Ravi Shankar and Zakir Hussain are the names which readily come to one’s mind. The sitar’s popularity in West has been done through performances and association of Pt. Ravi Shankar with renowned musicians of the West and it gained the zenith of popularity with popular rock band, “The Beatles”. At the same time, the impact of globalisation is such that even the West is now increasingly becoming a consumer of Bollywood music. In this regard, Indian musician A.R. Rahman has made distinguished contribution by giving music in Hollywood movies. This globalisation of Indian music is appreciated by all. On the other hand, the term global has certain economic and political connotations. The big challenge globalisation puts forward in the face of Indian music is the question of diversity.

**Keywords:** Globalisation, Classical Music, Bollywood.