

## For Kannada Music Lovers

By C.B. Ullagaddi

Over the last 35 years I have visited many music stores both in India and USA. I have purchased Indian music recordings from Europe, Singapore and Hong Kong. But internet has changed the lengthy process of collecting music. Now you can go online, review music and order CD's or purchase music files instantly. I believe there is at least one web site that will satisfy your music needs.

There are many websites available for you to listen Indian music and let you purchase the music CD's or MP3 or files in other popular formats. If you are interested in Indian music here are my recommendations: (1) musicindiaonline.com, (2) itcsra.org (3) sawf.org, and emusic.com. For the lovers of Kannada music I recommend KannadaAudio.com and udbhava.com. The musicindiaonline site also has some coverage of Kannada music. I am going to introduce you to the KannadaAudio.com web site at this time.

The KannadaAudio.com collection has practically of every kind of music that Kannada people would like to listen. Here is the list of their collection:

1. Bhavageethe: There are 82 albums which covers poems of renowned Kannada poets like, **KuVemPu, D.R. Bendre, G.S. Shivarudrappa** and others. This is a remarkable collection and it is still growing.
2. Devotional: There are over albums including all saints and Gods worshipped in Karnataka. A few (23 total) Veerashaiva vachanas included in a subsection named Shivabasava Vachanas.
3. Folk Music: Has 35 albums. This section includes music from all regions of Karnataka. There is an album called Bagyada Balegara. Maryland VSNA group has performed folk dances set to the tune of the main song Bagyada Balegara many times and won the appreciation of VSNA members. This section still needs to include Gigi Padas, Lavani Padas and Bhajans which are specialities of north Karnataka. I have yet find a folk song that was popular 50 years ago written by **D.R. Bendre** titled "Innu Yaka Baralillava Hubballiyarva"; it is missing from this and many other sites I have visited.
4. Classical: There are quite a few Karnatak style music, which includes items from **Vasantha Kumari, Subbulakshmi, Balamurali Krishna** and other well known musicians. Their Hindusthani music coverage is limited. Many well known Kannada musicians like **Mallikarjun Mansur, Basavraj Rajguru** and **Gangubhai Hangal** have not found coverage here. The sites listed for Hindusthani music have provided adequate coverage for these rare musicians.
5. Patriotic: Yakshagana, drama and instrumental music have reasonable collections.
6. Significant coverage for pop and Kannada filmi (movie) music.
7. Radio: They have 24/7 radio program. I have yet to log on and experience the radio music.

In addition to the music, the site sells Kannada movie DVDs and many musical CDs at reasonable prices. In my opinion KannadaAudio.com is an outstanding Kannada music resource and I highly recommend it for all Basava Samiti members.

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