

.. KR̥TI: ĒMINĒRAMU

Rāgam: Śankarābharāṇam

C D E F G A B c

Tyāgarāja (1767–1847)

Tālam: Ādi (4+2+2 beats)

O Rāma, you have a great reputation for having saved Gajēdra [an elephant devoted to Rāma] and other distressed ones. Why delay in protecting me? Am I a great burden to you?
(Language: Telugu)

This piece will be preceded by an ālāpana (melodic improvisation in free rhythm revealing the different aspects and beauty of the rāgam) by vocal and violin. The drum is silent during this section. Following the ālāpana improvisation the song is sung by the vocalists, together with violin and mṛdaṅgam. In the middle of the song there will be a brief niraval improvisation (new melodic variations) using the words dīna banduḍani dēva dēvuḍani. The niraval will be followed by another type of improvisation called svarakalpana (melodic and rhythmic improvisation within the framework of the tālam). A small phrase of the song is used as the point of return in this improvisation. Using Indian sol-fa syllables the svarakalpana phrases become progressively longer and reach a climax. All of the principal musicians of the ensemble participate in this section. After the svarakalpana there will be yet another type of improvisation—a drum solo—at the end of which the musicians return briefly to the song and conclude the kṛti.

5. DEVOTIONAL SONG (Light): KAṆMAṆI

Maṇavarāyanēndal Subbarāma Bhāgavata
(1880?–1940?)

Rāgam: Kāpi

Tālam: Ādi (4+2+2 beats)

C D F G B^b (B) c – c B^b A B^b G F E^b (E) D C

O my dear fair-eyed girl, please convey my message to the beautiful Lord with lotus-like eyes. Even though he has six heads [i.e., has a six-fold mind] he does not give me a consoling word. He is caught in love for another. To him who has hair like the dark clouds, to the husband of Valli, please convey my message.
(Language: Tamil)

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6. TILLĀNA: NA DAR DAR DAR

Ponniāh Pillai (1887–1945)

Rāgam: Mandāri

Tālam: Ādi (4+2+2 beats)

C D^b E F[#] G B c

This text consists mainly of drum syllables, plus a brief verse: O noble and handsome youth, upright in conduct and beautiful to behold, this girl praises you repeatedly in her heart, and, having seen you close by, desires your love.