

Shankar-Jaikishan Foundation

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*Emperor of Golden Era of Indian
Film Music Industry*

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SHANKAR JAIKISHAN FOUNDATION

A Memoria for the Maestro

What could be a befitting tribute to the musical maestro than establishing a foundation that immortalizes the essence of their melodies? A group of fans of the legendary 'Shankar - Jaikishan' did exactly that in Ahmedabad by establishing the 'Shankar - Jaikishan Foundation'. It was a hearty tribute, a show of respect and adoration to this iconic duo; and it is an endeavor to engrave the memory of these legends into timelessness.

The foundation was incepted with the prime objective of cultivating the art and interest of relishing the melodious and supremely genius music of this much adored pair amongst the younger generation. It was also an earnest effort to give a ground to the upcoming and ambitious music composers for learning the nuances of Shankar - Jaikishan style of creating music.

In the recent past, the SJ Foundation had organized six programmes : 'A Tribute to Shankar - Jaikishan, Timeless Classic Part I to VI. Living up to the occasion, they invited musicians and arrangers of Mumbai Film Industry to play the orchestra for the event. Now, the Foundation is envisioning organizing such programmes in major cities across the country.

Recently, the Government of India brought out a postage stamp, honoring the music contribution of Shankar-Jaikishan, In 2012, the Indian Film Industry completed 100 years, on this occasion, the B.B.C. Asian network carried out listeners' voting which selected Film Suraj song Baharo Phool Barsao as the No. 1 song. Also in the first 5 songs, 3 were SJ songs.

Tales of the legend should be scripted on the stones of eternity Legends are many in our Film Industries such as Naushadji, Burmanda, Anil Biswas, Madan Mohan, O. P. Naiyyar, Ravi, Vasant Desai, Roshan, Salilda, Hemantkumar, Lataji, Rafiji, Sahirji, Shailendraji and Majroohji, but the gems of all legends leave behind their trial of

brilliance for the rest to admire and follow. Shankar - Jaikishan are one such geniuses who have scripted their own history and that is why we all fans of SJ are inspired to form Shankar - Jaikishan Foundation.

Outstanding achievements

- First Indian Film Music Directors who were honored by the Government of India with 'Padmashree Award' in the year 1965.
- The highest paid Music Directors, who were paid more than the leading actors during their era.
- Ruled the Indian Film Industry for nearly two decades as the most sought after music composers.
- In the words of the great playback singer Lataji, 'They were the trendsetters of Indian Film Music by putting their songs on the lips of people, just by creating simple and sweet tunes with the use of orchestra from their debut film 'Barsat' in 1949.' She also claimed that "they are the best music composers till date in the film industry."
- The first to cross the milestone of 100 films with their musical scores. Eventually composed music for 183 films.
- Played a significant role in establishing careers of Bharat Ratna Su. Lata Mangeshkar, and Padmashree Mohmad Rafi.
- Legendary singer Shri Manna Dey hailed Shankar - Jaikishan as the greatest Music Directors in Hindi Film Industry, who used his voice to the best of his ability.
- Legendary music directors Shri. C. Ramchandra, O.P. Naiyyar, Kalyanji - Anandji, Laxmikant - Pyarelal, Usha Khanna and Anu Malik considered Shankar - Jaikishan as the best ever music directors of hindi cinema.
- Legendary music maestro Shri R. D. Burman and Pyarelalji, of the renowned Laxmikant - Pyarelal, considered Shankar - Jaikishan as their inspiring and iconic figure. He stated that, "You cannot sing their song without their piece of music, as both words and music are so well blended with each other. The exemplary score for this is 'Awara

- Being a true creator of music, they introduced many new musical instruments and sounds like Scubas, Accordion, Mandolin, Violin, Clay Violin, Key Board, Synthesiser, Transicord etc., and used them with unmatched and greatly effective tunes.
- Honored with the highest number of FILMFARE Awards, 9 times as the best Music Directors. Till date this record is in their names. Besides, in the case of another 19 FILMFARE Awards given to different male or female singers and lyricists for their songs, Shankar - Jaikishan contributed immensely. Because of their major contribution in such awards, it would not be wrong to say that TEAM SJ won 28 Filmfare Awards, which is also a record in the film industry till date.
 - Mohd. Rafi got six Film Fare Awards out of which 3 were for SJ songs;
 - Mukesh got 4 Film Fare Awards out of which 3 were for SJ songs;
 - Manna Dey got his only Film Fare Award for SJ songs;
 - Hasrat, Shailendra, Neeraj got all their Film Fare Awards for SJ songs;
 - Asha Bhosle got maximum Film Fare Awards under the baton of SHANKAR-JAIKISHAN (RDB);
 - Manna Dey won National Awards twice, both times for SJ songs.
- In 1955 Shankar - Jaikishan were honored with 'Grand Prix' at South East Asian Film Festival for their musical score in the Film Boot Polish.
- Most of the SJ songs were played by the highly prominent film music Radio Program BINACA GEET MALA for nearly 20 years. (from 1953 to 1973). Their share in this programme was nearly 25% and the rest 75% all Music Directors of the Industries shared their places.
- The Cinegoers Association awarded them as the 'Best Musician' on six occasions.
- Awarded as Best Musician by Bombay Film Journalist for their music in film Basant Bahar & Chori Chori.

- In Bombay, crossroads opposite Eros and Church Gate Railway Station is named as 'Shankar - Jaikishan Chowk'.
- In Pune, a road opposite the well-known Symbiosis College is named after them as 'Shankar - Jaikishan Marg'.
- Shankar - Jaikishan and Shailendra were the first from music industry whose temples were set up in London.
- When Late Shri Raj Kapoor assigned them music score for 'Barsat' during 1946, Jaikishan was 17 years old, and the popularity of the film's music went beyond the expectation of Raj Kapoor when it was released in 1949. This means, Jaikishan became Music Director at the age of 19 years only! Is it not a miracle?
- Jaikishan belonged to a Panchal Community, who are basically engaged into Carpentering and Blacksmith works and least concerned with music. In spite of that Jaikishan became a music legend! Isn't it a magical tale of inspiration? became a music legend! Isn't it a magical tale of inspiration?
- A life-sized statue of Jaikishan has been put up at his native village Vansda in Valsad district of Gujarat. Jaikishanji is the only person to have received such honour from the people.
- First music directors to introduce the fusion of Indian and western music in their very first film 'Barsat' in the song “Patli kamar hai...Tirchhi Nazar Hai”.
- First music directors to present 'Musical Night' named as 'Shankar - Jaikishan Night' for raising fund for defense forces after Indo-China war, and collected handsome amount of Rs.15 Corers in the year 1964. Not only that, many dignities like Hon'ble President, Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Governor and Hon'ble Chief Minister, of Maharashtra remained present and enjoyed their live musical night. This was a miracle that this duo could perform.
- They were the first to work as a Team Shankar - Jaikishan through out their career, which includes their assistants Sebastian, Dattaram and Lyricists Shailendraji and Hasratji. The pair of Shankar - Jaikishan was the most versatile music composer who

hailed across the Golden Era of Indian Cinema, throughout the 40s, 50s and 60s. The best part of

Shankar-Jaikishan's work was that they knew the taste of the music lovers, and were able to cater to them as per their tastes and likings and they even moulded the musical tastes of the music lovers in their creation. Shankar - Jaikishan experimented and successfully blended Western music into Indian music. In 1968, they released an album titled 'Raga in Jazz Style'. Their compositions were based on innovations and experimentations as fusion. Indian Classical Music, Folk Music, Western music and Dance music echoed in their compositions. In the West, they are best known for their songs Awara Hun (Film Awara), Dost Dost Na Raha (Film Sangam) and Jaan Pehchan Ho (Film Gumnaam). This song was replayed in the American film Ghost World. In 2011, Jaan Pehchan Ho a song sung by Mohmad Rafi, penned by Shailendra and composed by Maestro Shankar-Jaikishan for Film Gumnaam was used for Heineken's 2011 "The Date" commercial. That is why their music still continues to play in the hearts of their lovers.

So, let your heart be touched by their eternal melodies, and let us come together to keep alive their legacy and our rich heritage of Indian Music. Join us to support this timeless musical cause, by furnishing any exclusive information as well as audio-visual materials related to Team SJ (Shankar Jaikishan, Shailendra, Hastrat, Sebastian and Dattaram).

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