

# The Sound of Music

## Part - 2

### The Shehnai of Bismillah Khan.

- 1) The (Shehnai / Hungi) was a 'needed noise maker'.
- 2) (Bismillah Khan, A barber, Ali bur) turned the hungi into a shehnai.
- 3) Bismillah Khan paternal ancestors were (barbers, Professional Musician).
- 4) Bismillah Khan learnt to play shehnai from (Ali bur, Paigambar bur, Ustad Jaiyaz Khan).
- 5) Bismillah Khan's first trip to abroad was to (Afghanistan, U.S.A, Canada).

III.

1) Why did Aurangzeb ban the playing of pungi?

=> Aurangzeb banned the playing of pungi because it had a shrill unpleasant sound.

2) How is Shehnai different from pungi?

→ The Shehnai was broader & longer than pungi, and it has 7 holes in it.

3) Where was Shehnai played traditionally? How did Bismillah Khan change it?

=> Shehnai was traditionally played in temples and weddings but Bismillah Khan brought this instrument onto the classical stage.

4) When & how did Bismillah Khan get his big break?

⇒ With the opening of the All India Radio in Lucknow in 1938 came Bismillah Khan's big break. He soon became an often-heard Shehnai player on radio.

5) Where did Bismillah Khan play the Shehnai on 15 August 1947? Why was that event historic?

⇒ Bismillah Khan played the Shehnai at Red Fort on 15 August 1947. It was historic because it was the day when we got Independence.