

Bismillah Khan Q/A

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I. Tick the right answer.

1. The (Shehnai, pungi) was a 'needed noise-maker'.
2. (Bismillah Khan, A Balabear, Ali Bux) transformed the pungi into a Shehnai.
3. Bismillah Khan's paternal ancestors were (barbers, professional musicians).
4. Bismillah Khan learnt to play the Shehnai from (Ali Bux, Raigambur Bux, Ustad Faiyazuddin Khan).
5. Bismillah Khan's first trip abroad was to (Afghanistan, USA, Canada).

- II. Find the words in the text which show us that Bismillah Khan's feelings about the items listed below. Then mark a tick () in the correct column.

Bismillah Khan's feelings about	Positive	Negative	Neutral
Teaching children music.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
The film world		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
migrating to the USA		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
playing at temples			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
getting the Bharat Ratna	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
The banks of the Ganga	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
leaving Benares & Dumnaon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Bismillah Khan (Q/Ans)

III: Answer these questions in 30-40 words:-

Q.1 Why did Aurangzeb ban the playing of the pungi?

Ans - Aurangzeb ban the playing of the pungi because of the shrill & unpleasant sound of the pungi.

Q.2 Where was the shehnai played traditionally? How did Bismillah Khan change this?

Q.2 How is a shehnai different from a pungi?

Ans - A shehnai's stem is hollow, longer & broader than that of the pungi. Shehnai has holes in its body & when it is played it gives pleasant sound than pungi.

Q.3 Where was the shehnai played traditionally? How did Bismillah Khan change this?

Ans - Traditionally, shehnai was ~~never~~ played in weddings and at temples. Bismillah

Khan took it onto the classical stage.

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

Ans - Bismillah Khan got his big break with the opening of All India Radio in Lucknow in 1938. He became an often heard Shehnai player on radio.

Q.5 Where did Bismillah Khan play the Shehnai school in the on 15 August 1947? Why the event historic?

Ans - Bismillah Khan played the Shehnai from the Red Fort on 15th August 1947. He was the first Indian to greet the nation with his Shehnai. The event was historic because that is the day when India got independence. Bismillah Khan played Raag Kafi to an audience that included Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

Q.6 Why did Bismillah Khan refuse to start a shohna school in the U.S.A - ?

Ans - Bismillah Khan refused to start a shohna school in the U.S.A because he did not want to leave his country. He felt an unbreakable bond with his town - Varanasi, the holy river - Ganga.

Q.7 Find at least two instances in the text which tell you that Bismillah Khan loves Indian and Benaras.

Ans - Two instances in the text which tell us that Bismillah Khan loves India & Benaras are :-
1) He says that whenever he is in a foreign country, he keeps yearning to see Hindustan.
2) He also says that when he is in Mumbai, he thinks of only Benaras and the holy Ganga.