

# **BHATKHANDE MUSIC INSTITUTE**

1, Kaiserbagh, Lucknow-226001  
Uttar Pradesh  
Telephone : (91) - 0522-2610248, 0522-2610318  
Fax : 91-0522-2622926



The history of music education in India dates back to ancient period when all education was imparted in Gurukulas and Ashrams of great Saints, Rishi, Munis. The system of modern institutionalization of education in graded, time bound structure was ushered in by the British rulers from the mid-nineteenth century. Indian music education was brought and structured in this system in the beginning of twentieth century. Two stalwarts of Indian music in this century, Pandit Vishnu Digambar Paluskar and Pandit Vishnu Narayan Bhatkhande led and developed two strong and parallel traditions of this institutionalization of music education and training system.

In 1926 Pt. Vishnu Narayan Bhatkhande established a music school in Lucknow with the help and co-operation of Rai Umanath Bali and Rai Rajeshwar Bali and other music patrons and connoisseurs of Lucknow, culturally vibrant princely state of Awadh. This institution was inaugurated at the hands of the then Governor of Awadh Sir William Marris and was named after him as "Marris College of Music". On 26th March 1966, the State Government of Uttar Pradesh brought this college under its control and aptly renamed it after its founder as "Bhatkhande College of Hindustani Music."

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At the request of the State Government, the Government of India by a notification on 24th October, 2000, declared this institute as "University", thus elevating its status and making it the only-of-its-kind Music University in India. Bhatkhande Music Institute is registered under the registration of Societies Act 1860 and is an autonomous institution. On 2nd November 2002, Hon.H.E. the Governor of Uttar Pradesh consented to become the President of Bhatkhande Music Institute

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Bhatkhande Music Institute (University) has a very glorious history with exemplary achievements in the past. The alumni of this Institute are spread all over the world and many are in the active pursuit of music education and performance. Its University status spells good higher quality music education, training and grooming to the students of not just the city, but of state and worldwide. Bhatkhande Music Institute is also much sought after destination for music students from Sri Lanka, Nepal, Central and East Asian Countries. Many of the students from these countries are studying on I.C.C.R. scholarships.