

C(hembai) VAIDYANATH BHAGWATAR

b. Aug/Sept 1896/d. 16 Oct 1974

Award 1958  
Music: Carnatic Vocal

Sir,

I have the honour to present to you Shri Chembai Vaidyanath Bhagwatar, a foremost exponent of vocal music of the Karnatic School.

Born in 1896 at Chembai near Palghat in Kerala, Shri Vaidyanath Bhagwatar belongs to a musical family with a tradition of 500 years. He is the great grandson of Ghanachakra Tana Subbier. Gifted with a rich, ringing, melodious and lustrous voice, he learnt music from his father Shri Anantha Bhagwatar.

He was honoured with the title of *Gayaganandharva* at Tanjore in 1940 and *Sangeet Kalanidhi* by the Music Academy Madras in 1951. He has also been recognised and patronised by royal families and acclaimed by connoisseurs and laymen alike as a great singer of this generation.

His concerts are noted for the high entertainment value combined with a scholarly approach. He is a master of rhythm and is able to render intricate *Pallavis* with extraordinary ease.

For his pre-eminence in music and for his life long devotion and service to its cause, I pray, Sir, that you may be pleased to grant him recognition as musician of the year, in the field of vocal music of the Karnatic School, and to award to him a *Shawl*, a gold *Shrinkhal* and a *Sanad* in token of that recognition.

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