

الطاف حسين خان

d. 16.3.1946

Sir,

I have the honour to present to you Shri Altaf Hussain Khan, a foremost exponent of vocal music of the Hindustani School.

Shri Altaf Hussain Khan was born at Khurja in 1875. He had his early training in music under his father, the late Shri Zahoor Khan, a distinguished scholar, musician and composer.

Shri Altaf Hussain Khan has deep knowledge of the traditional and classical forms of music, such as *Dhrupad*, *Dhamar* and *Khayal*. His rich repertoire includes *Qaul*, *Qalbana*, *Praband*, *Tirvat* and *Tarana*. He is the sole repository of hundreds of compositions of his versatile father.

Shri Altaf Hussain Khan is also distinguished for his profound knowledge of the *Gayaki* of Tanras Khan Gharana. He is noted for his masterly way of rendering *Khayals* in the most intricate *taals*. His expositions of the complicated and difficult *taans* are highly expressive and impressive. His art has thus a rare quality of dignity and excellence.

For his pre-eminence in music and his life-long 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 Hindustani School, and to award to him a Shawl, a gold *Shrinkhal* and a *Sanad* in token of that recognition.