

CHAPTER-2 | The Sound of Music

QUIZ
PART-05

1. Who was the first Indian to greet the nation with his shehnai on Independence Day, 1947?
- Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru
 - Bismillah Khan
 - King Zahir Shah
 - Vijay Bhatt

(B)

Explanation: On 15 August 1947, Ustad Bismillah Khan played Raag Kafi from the Red Fort to greet the nation.

2. Which film was inspired by Bismillah Khan's shehnai and became a hit?
- "Tryst with Destiny"
 - "Gunj Uthi Shehnai"
 - "Sanadhi Apanna"
 - "Dil ka khilona hai toot gaya..."

(B)

Explanation: Film director Vijay Bhatt named his film Gunj Uthi Shehnai after hearing Bismillah play; it became a nationwide hit.

3. Despite success in films, how many movie projects did Bismillah Khan work on?
- One
 - Two
 - Three
 - Four

(B)

Explanation: His film ventures were limited to Gunj Uthi Shehnai and Sanadhi Apanna.

4. Which prestigious foreign venue invited Bismillah Khan to perform as the first Indian artist?
- Carnegie Hall, USA
 - Lincoln Centre Hall, USA
 - Royal Albert Hall, UK
 - Opera House, France

(B)

Explanation: He was the first Indian invited to perform at the prestigious Lincoln Centre Hall in the USA.

5. Which major international events featured Bismillah Khan's performances?
- Olympics and FIFA World Cup
 - World Exposition, Cannes Art Festival, Osaka Trade Fair
 - Nobel Prize Ceremony, UN Assembly, Paris Expo
 - Venice Film Festival, Berlin Expo, Tokyo Fair

(B)

Explanation: He played at the Montreal World Exposition, Cannes Art Festival, and Osaka Trade Fair.

6. Which top civilian honour did Ustad Bismillah Khan receive in 2001?

- Padma Vibhushan
- Padma Bhushan
- Bharat Ratna
- Padmashri

(C)

Explanation: In 2001, he was awarded the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian honour.

7. What advice did Bismillah Khan give after receiving the Bharat Ratna?
- Promote film music globally
 - Teach your children music, India's richest tradition
 - Support orchestras financially
 - Focus only on modern instruments

(B)

Explanation: He urged people to teach children music, calling it India's richest tradition.

8. Which places remained closest to Bismillah Khan's heart despite his worldwide fame?
- Delhi and Mumbai
 - Benaras and Dumraon
 - Lucknow and Patna
 - Paris and New York

(B)

Explanation: He cherished Benaras and Dumraon as the most wonderful towns in the world.

9. Why did Bismillah Khan refuse to settle in the USA despite offers?
- He disliked the people
 - He feared losing Indian citizenship
 - He said the River Ganga could not be transported there
 - He was too old to travel

(C)

Explanation: He told a student that without the River Ganga, recreating Benaras in the USA was impossible.

10. What does Bismillah Khan's life represent in India's cultural context?
- The fusion of East and West
 - A balance of science and art
 - The rich cultural heritage where faith and music coexist
 - The dominance of film industry music

(C)

Explanation: His life is seen as a perfect example of India's cultural heritage, where a devout Muslim could play daily at the Kashi Vishwanath temple.