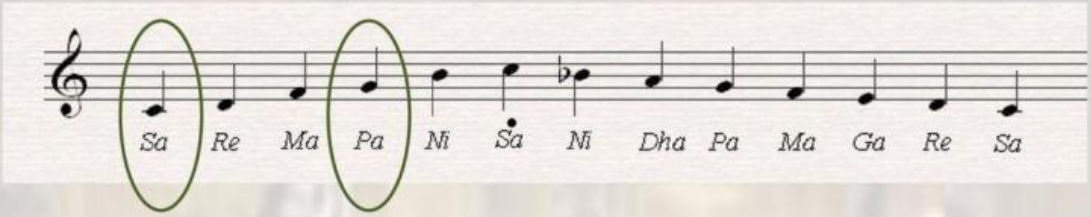Rag Desh 'Scale'



- Like with scales, the first note is the most important and so is the dominant.
- Using these notes will make the **drone** that accompanies all Indian classical music.

Notes used in Rag desh

- The notes used in rag desh are based on the Indian system known as *sargam* in which the notes are named:

  Sa Re Ga Ma Pa Dha Ni Sa

- The tonic note is C (Sa) and this forms the principal drone note.

- The notes in Rag Desh are:
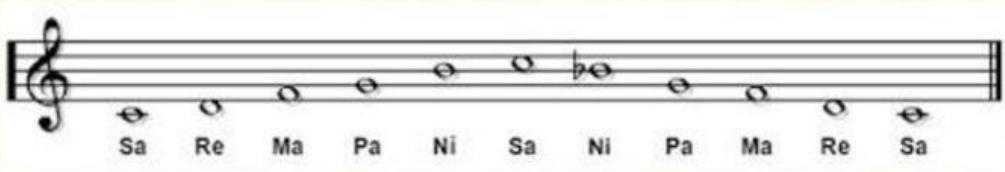
C	D	F	G	B	C	Bb	A	G	F	E	D	C
Sa	Re	Ma	Pa	Ni	Sa	Ni	Dha	Pa	Ma	Ga	Re	Sa



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Use the rag (pattern of notes) above to create an **alap** section for a **solo instrument** plus a **drone**. The music should be slow at first, gradually speeding up. It should have a free **improvisatory** feel. Start mainly with the lower notes of the solo instrument and move gradually towards the higher notes. Introduce the notes of the rag gradually, beginning with small groups of two or three notes.

Take a tal (repeated rhythm pattern) that you know or invent one of your own. Transfer the tal to **percussion instruments** which should emphasise the appropriate accents. Improvise a **drum part** over the tal and add a **drone**. The piece should start off quite **simply** with some repetition and gradually get more **complex**. The end of the performance should be signalled by the use of the thrice repeated pattern **tihai**.

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