

TEACHER'S GUIDE

**FOUNDATION PROGRAMME FOR LITERACY
NUMERACY AND SKILLS**

VOCAL MUSIC

GRADE 7

**TITLE OF CARD : Implementing Swaras
and Taal to Learn Patriotic songs**

**MOE
MAHATMA GANDHI INSTITUTE
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GRADE 7

GUIDE TO EDUCATORS

Card 3

TITLE OF CARD :

**Implementing Swaras and Taal to
Learn Patriotic songs**

Competency

Students develop their sense of musicality, singing ability, rhythmic understanding, and patriotic expression by singing national and local patriotic songs using correct swaras and rhythm.

Element

Produce and sing patriotic songs with confidence, correct pitch, clarity, and rhythmic accuracy.

Performance Criteria

Level 1: Sing selected phrases of the song with teacher support, maintaining a steady rhythm.

Level 2: Sing full songs independently with accurate pitch, clear articulation, steady rhythm, and expressive delivery.

Range:

- Mauritian National Anthem
- Local patriotic songs (e.g., "Donn to Lame, Pren mo Lame"; "Mauritius Hai Desh Humara")
- Rhythm cycles: 4/4, 3/3 (adapt as necessary for Carnatic Music)

Purpose of Activity

- Introduce students to patriotic songs while reinforcing swara knowledge and rhythm skills.
- Build vocal clarity, rhythmic discipline, and expressive singing.
- Foster national pride, respect for the anthem, and appreciation of Mauritius's cultural identity.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the lesson, students should be able to:

- Sing the Mauritian National Anthem and other patriotic songs with correct melody and rhythm.
- Identify swaras within melodic phrases.
- Maintain vocal clarity, posture, and expressive delivery.
- Demonstrate rhythmic awareness using clapping or tapping before singing.

Resources & Materials

- Whiteboard and markers
- Hindustani/Carnatic notation of the songs
- Audio playback (optional)
- Body percussion tools (clapping/tapping)

Teaching Trajectories / Implementation Guidelines

Introduction

What is a Patriotic Song?

A patriotic song is a type of music that expresses love, pride, and loyalty to one's country. These songs often celebrate a nation's history, culture, heroes, and achievements. They encourage citizens to feel connected to their homeland and to work for its progress. Patriotic songs are sung during national holidays, school events, and ceremonies. They can inspire unity among people and remind them of the values and traditions that make their country unique. In Mauritius, patriotic songs are an important way to teach young people respect for the nation and pride in being Mauritian.

What is the National Anthem?

A national anthem is an official song that represents a country. It is a symbol of national pride, unity, and identity. Citizens often sing it during official events, sports matches, and national celebrations. The words and music of a national anthem usually reflect the country's history, values, and aspirations. It reminds people of their shared heritage and encourages respect for their nation.





Why is the National Anthem Important?

The national anthem is important because it unites people and strengthens their sense of belonging to the country. It reminds citizens of their shared values, history, and culture. Singing or listening to the anthem shows respect for the nation and its achievements. It inspires patriotism, pride, and responsibility among citizens. The anthem is also a symbol of identity, representing the country to the world during international events and official ceremonies.

Who Wrote the Mauritian National Anthem?

The Mauritian National Anthem, "Motherland", was written by Jean-Georges Prosper and composed by Philippe Gentil



Teaching Steps

1. Begin with breathing exercises, soft humming, and vowel articulation to prepare the voice.
2. Revise the swara scale (Sa-Re-Ga-Ma-Pa-Dha-Ni-Sa).
3. Review the rhythm cycle of the song (e.g., 4/4 for the National Anthem).
4. Introduce the song phrase by phrase using call-and-response.
5. Highlight the swaras in each melodic phrase.
6. Practice clapping or tapping the rhythm cycle while singing.
7. Encourage students to maintain posture, steady tempo, and expressive delivery.
8. Conduct small group or individual singing checks for pitch and clarity.
9. End the session with a full-class performance of the song.



Activity 1:

Listening and Echo Singing

- Teacher sings a phrase of the anthem or patriotic song; students echo it back.
- Focus on correct pitch, articulation, and rhythm.



Activity 2:

Writing & Matching

- Students complete worksheets to identify swaras in selected song phrases and match them to notation symbols.



Assessment

- **Formative:** Observation, oral questions, class participation.



Assessment Criteria

Criterion	Basic	Intermediate	Proficient
Pitch & Singing Technique	Struggles to match pitch; needs support	Matches some notes; sequence mostly correct	Sings all phrases clearly, accurately, independently
Rhythm & Timing	Hesitant; inconsistent clapping/singing	Responds moderately well; minor mistakes	Maintains steady rhythm and tempo confidently
Listening & Response	Requires repeated prompts	Responds with moderate accuracy	Responds confidently and accurately in echo tasks
Written Identification	Incorrect swaras or order	Mostly correct with minor errors	Fully correct and neatly written
Posture & Vocal Skills	Unstable posture; inconsistent breath support	Developing posture; needs reminders	Maintains stable posture, breath support, and clear voice independently



Extension Activity

- Learn “Donn to Lame, Pren mo Lame” (3/3 rhythm). Clap the 3-beat pattern, practice phrase by phrase, identify familiar swaras, and sing expressively.
- Learn “Mauritius Hai Desh Humara” (4/4 rhythm). Review 4-beat claps, practise melody phrases, identify swaras, and focus on accurate pitch and confident singing.



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