

MUSIC IS LOVE!

GREAT VOCALIST

Mr. Prabhat Rao

~ParneetModi(XI-B2), Tina Mishra(XII-A), Sehajdeep Kaur (IX-C), Janvi(IX-C)~

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MUSIC IS LOVE. Music is a pure essence of happiness that satisfies one's inner soul. It can be vocal or instrumental, both of them are enjoyable. One of the great vocalist Mr. Prabhat Rao visited Modern Senior Secondary School and the students of Life Magazine society interviewed him. Let's have a look at this interview.

ParneetModi: What are your major hobbies?

Prabhat Rao: Yeah so, I love cooking and that is my major hobby. As I am a vegetarian I prefer cooking my own food at home.

Sehajdeep Kaur: Who inspired you to start music?

Prabhat Rao: My grandmother was a Karnataka singer, the south Indian classical music and we have a musical atmosphere at home. My father was very passionate about me to continue music as a hobby.

Janvi: At what age did you start learning music?

Prabhat Rao: My first solo concert was when I was 7 years old. So I must have started at the age of 3.

Tina Mishra: Is there anything that you will love to do besides being a vocalist?

Prabhat Rao: So, if I wasn't a vocalist...umm... actually can't answer this question. Because I feel that I am what I was meant to be. But, as a second option... I don't know I really don't know I am just dedicated to music.

Tina Mishra: What qualities of being a vocalist inspire you and what did you learn being a vocalist?

Prabhat Rao: Firstly, there are two things; one as a vocalist what I find most special is the sound that is produced by the body. The sound of music is within me, I am the instrument and that very feeling is fantastic. Secondly, the impact of my music spreads on my surroundings, makes them forget about their pains and disappointments.

Sehajdeep Kaur: Who is your Guru?

Prabhat Rao: I have many gurus; one of my gurus is Smt. Chandrima Mishra from the Patiala Gharana and presently my teacher is Professor Ojesh Pratap Singh and he is from the Gwalior Gharana.

Janvi: Do you have any unforgettable incident related to music?

Prabhat Rao: Yes! There is one thing that I will never be able to erase from my musical journey is my meeting with swami Tejomayanandaji. I met him 13 years ago and I have been like you know...mentored by him. That meeting was a milestone and that basically removed all the fears that I had in my mind.

Tina Mishra: Any incident that you feel is a turning point of your life?

Prabhat Rao: The most inspiring person for me was Ms. Aditi Upadheya, she was my music teacher in school for one year. As I couldn't go for sports due to the disorder that is called hemophilia, I used to go to the music room and used to be with Aditiji. So that whole year changed my perspective for music.

Sehajdeep Kaur: Do you have any particular school memory?

Prabhat Rao: I always used to sing in school assembly, programmes and in other functions also. Whenever music was needed everyone was like, call Prabhat. So, it was always a very happy moment

for me that made me feel so special you know. Like sports trophy everyone won, competitions anyone could win but for music it was only me each time.

Parneet Modi: So you took part in all the competitions of music?

Prabhat Rao: Yeah! I was involved in every music activity in the school. That was great.

Sehajdeep Kaur: Which was your favourite subject in school?

Prabhat Rao: My favourite subject was English. I really enjoyed English language.

Parneet Modi: Tell us something about Chinmaya Mission?

Prabhat Rao: So, do you know anything about Chinmaya Mission?

Parneet Modi: We don't know the actual perspective of that but I had an interaction with Swami Swarupananadaji and we had a great lecture on truth and spirituality.

Prabhat Rao: The Chinmaya mission has been started by Swami Chinmayananda. The motto of this organization is to give maximum happiness to maximum people for maximum amount of time and it teaches us that happiness is not external rather it is internal. Happiness is found when you connect with your true self. You are taught Mool Mantra and Upanishad.

Sehajdeep Kaur: How many hours you do reeaz?

Prabhat Rao: Sometimes I do it for 6-7 hours. If I am teaching then I reeaz for 2-3 hours only.

Parneet Modi: Do you teach?

Prabhat Rao: Yes I do.

ParneetModi: In which school or institute do you teach?

Prabhat Rao: Well, I teach at home and I run private classes also.

Sehajdeep Kaur: Did your parents support you in music?

Prabhat Rao: Yeah! absolutely.

Tina Mishra: Any siblings?

Prabhat Rao: Yeah one sister and she is an artist.

Parneet Modi: Has she ever presented her artistic skills in the art gallery?

Prabhat Rao: Yeah, she is teaching. She conducts shows , organizes workshops and is actively involved in this line.

Parneet Modi:Can we know her name?

Prabhat Rao: Chitrlekha Kumari

Sehajdeep Kaur: Where do you basically belong to ?

Prabhat Rao: My family is from Andhra Pradesh but I went to school in Bangalore and then I went to London when I was 16.

Janvi: How many countries have you visited?

Prabhat Rao: Oh gosh! I have to check my passport. I have travelled to many countries hahaha! Yeah I went to UK, England, France, etc.

Sehajdeep Kaur: What do you observe about the people in different countries?

Prabhat Rao: What I find is that the audience is very receptive in foreign countries. They sit very quietly and listen to every single word that you sing on stage and they are very fascinated also, not afraid to ask questions, they meet me backstage after the show and ask questions about musical instruments.

Tina Mishra: How is your experience in Modern School?

Prabhat Rao: Amazing, I am very excited and inspired too.

Sehajdeep Kaur: What message you want to convey to the students?

Prabhat Rao: Just explore things you are passionate about and give up the fear of losing.