

Characteristics of Both European and Indian (and Perhaps All?) Classical Music Cultures

David Schonfeld, November 30, 2023

1. Prosperous agrarian economy with food surplus.
2. Political and social stability.
3. Sufficient leisure time for music producers and consumers.
4. Well-developed cultural institutions.
5. Flourishing literary tradition.
6. Parallel tradition of classical dance.
7. Royal and/or aristocratic and/or government patronage.
8. Close connection with established religion.
9. Skilled instrument makers.
10. Established system of music education.
11. Rigorous training required for performers.
12. Musician becomes a recognized profession.
13. Composers are known and honored.
14. Supporting body of music theory.
15. Highly refined musical formal structures.
16. Widespread appreciation for musical nuance and complexity.