

Great Female Singers of India

Music is nearest to soul and is liked and loved by everybody. In fact, even animals and plants love music.

When we think of the great female singers of India, naturally our attention gets riveted to Lata Mangeshkar, Asha Bhonsle, Anuradha Podwall, Usha Uthap, etc. However, even before these celebrated female singers emerged on the scene, there was a woman singer who was no less adept in the art of singing than any of these.

That female singer was Shamshad Begum. She is the same Shamshad Begum who was the mother of Naseem Bano and grandmother of the famous film actress, Saira Bano. She was perhaps the first female singer to hit the silver screen.

In 1944 she shifted to Mumbai. She ruled the world of music for two decades in 1940's to 1960's. She died on Aug. 14, 1998 at the age of nearly 100 in Mumbai.

The three films which made her most popular were Mughal, Mother India and CID though she sang for several other films, including Mehboob Khan's Humayun. She is still remembered for several hit songs including 'Kabhi Ar Kabhi Paar' 'Leke pehla pehla pyar', etc. some of her hit songs are available on various lines.