



# Guru Layathvam

Academy of fine arts

## TYPES OF TALAS

Sooladi sapta talas	7
Desadhi and Madhyadhi talas	innumerable
Chapu talas	4
Marga talas	5
Desi talas	innumerable
Melakartha talas	72
Ashtothrashata talas	108
Navasandhi talas	9
Chanda or thiruppugazh talas	innumerable
Simhanandhana tala	unique
Sarabanandhana tala	unique
Aparoopa talam	unique

# GURU LAYATHVAM THEORY

## SOOLADHI SAPTA TALAS

The details of these talas are given below. It is given in the order Name of the Talam, Angas of that talam , and the aksharas of that talam. The aksharas of the indicated talam can be changed by changing the Jaathi of that Laghu.

- 1) Dhruvam - laghu , dhrutham , laghu , laghu - 1011 - 14 aksharas
- 2) Matyam - laghu, dhrutham , laghu - 101 - 10 aksharas
- 3) Roopakam – dhrutham , laghu - 01 - 6 aksharas
- 4) Jhampa – laghu , anudhrutham , dhrutham - 1U0 – 10 aksharas
- 5) Thriputa – laghu , dhrutham , dhrutham - 100 - 7 aksharas
- 6) Ata – laghu ,laghu , dhrutham , dhrutham - 1100 - 14 aksharas
- 7) Ekam - laghu - 1 - 4 aksharas

Here Laghu comes in all the seven Talams. So by changing the Jaathi of the Laghu, the total aksharakaalam can be changed. The default aksharakaalams indicated above coressponds to chathurashra dhruvam(14), chathurashra matyam(10), chathurashra roopakam(6), Mishra jhampa(10), Thisra thriputa(7), chathurashra ata(14), and chathurashra Ekam(4).

The total no. of sooladhi saptha talam comes to 175. This seven talams can have variations in five jaathis as well as in five gathis. So  $7*5*5 = 175$ .

Note : The Jaathi betham is applicable to Laghu only. But this Gathi bedham is applicable to all Angas of the talam including laghu.

Thala	Symbol	Jaati				
		Trisram	Chaturasram	Kandam	Misram	Sankeeranam
Druva	I0II	11	14	17	23	29
Matya	I0I	8	10	12	16	20
Rupaka	0I	5	6	7	9	11
Jampa	IU0	6	7	8	10	12
Triputa	IO0	7	8	9	11	13
Ata	II00	10	12	14	18	22
Eka	I	3	4	5	7	9

Table of 35 Thalas with their respective Akshara Kalas

# GURU LAYATHVAM THEORY

## CHAPU THALAM

The word chapu came from the tamil word SAARBU, which means “belongs to”. Chapu talas has the origin from folk music. The chapu talam will have either two thattu (tapping) or a veechchu (turning ur palm facing upwards) and a thattu.

Chapu talas does not have a specific structure. It doesn't have angas like other talas. Chapu talas are 4 in number.

- 1) Misra chapu (3+4) - 3 syllables for first beat and 4 syllables for second beat.
- 2) Khanda chapu (2+3) - 2 syllables for first beat and 3 syllables for second beat
- 3) Trisra chapu (1+2) - 1 syllable for first beat and 2 syllables for second beat
- 4) Sankeerna chapu (6+3) - 6 syllables for first beat and 3 syllables for second beat.

The above-mentioned procedure is not constant. The way of tapping the talam can vary but the total length with in the talam will be the same.

Each chapu has the duration of aksharas as half of its original jathi per cycle.

Misra chapu	3 and half aksharas	half of Mishra jathi	ie 7
Khanda chapu	2 and half aksharas	half of khanda jathi	ie 5
Trisra chapu	1 and half aksharas	half of trisra jathi	ie 3
Sankeerna chapu	4 and half aksharas	half of sankeerna jathi	ie 9