

Padma Shri Ustad Wasifuddin Dagar is the leading exponent of the Dagarbani dhrupad and president of the Dhrupad society as well as the Dagar Brothers memorial trust. Trained by his father Ustad N. Faiyazuddin Dagar and his uncle Ustad N. Zahiruddin Dagar, Wasifuddin was initiated into learning since he was a child. At the age of 15, he began to accompany his father and uncle duo who came to be known as the Junior Dagar Brothers.

In 2010, the Government of India conferred upon him the Padma Shri. In 2003 the prestigious College de France in Paris conferred upon him the title of Dr Honoris Causa for the excellence of his presentation on dhrupad.

Rajasthan, the land of his ancestor Baba Behram Khan Dagar, has recognised his contribution to dhrupad, conferring upon him various awards including “Virasat” and the “Rajasthan Gaurav”. He was selected by the American satellite radio, WorldSpace for their “Worldspace Honours 2007”. In 2014, he was conferred upon the “Maharaja Swati Tirunal Award” in Varanasi



After the death of his father in 1989, he joined his uncle Zahiruddin Dagar and they performed and recorded as Dagar Duo in India and in Europe, Japan, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Since 1994, after the death of his uncle, he has been teaching and performing solo. He assumed presidency of Dhrupad Society in 1994.

Some highlights of his illustrious career: In 1998, he was invited for a series of four concerts within a week at UNESCO Paris. This is available under the prestigious Smithsonian Folkways Recordings label. In 1999, he recorded at Maheshwar (M.P.) for Jecklin Recording company, Switzerland, a 5-CD album of nine ragas sung at their appropriate time. In 2000, he sang at the United Nations Peace Summit of Religious and Spiritual Leaders in New York as a representative of ancient Indian sacred music. He was one of the five artistes selected from the world for this special Spiritual Summit for Peace. In 2001, he was invited by Philip Glass in New York for the World Festival of Sacred Music of H.H. the Dalai Lama, co-curated by John Shaeffer of WNYC Radio and web archive.

In 2003, he performed at the prestigious Western classical music festival curated by Seppo Kimanen, the Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival, Finland. In 2007, he recorded for Festival Suds, Arles, France A Navras label record in 2009. In 2013, he recorded for Spotlight a CD with compositions by Baiju Bawra & in 2018 for Darbar Festival at London's Barbican Centre.

He has worked with Films Division of India on the production of a film on the Dagar family. In 2010, he published a DVD and a booklet on tanpura. In 2011, he was "fellow-in-residence" at the Institute of Advanced Studies (IEA) in Nantes which is attached to the University of Nantes, pursuing musical research on the tanpura and microtones.



**Wasifuddin Dagar is not only an internationally renowned singer, he is also known as a pre-eminent teacher with students in India, Europe, Japan and America.**

**Listen to his music:**

<https://folkways.si.edu/north-india-dhrupad-singing-by-ustad-f-wasifuddin-dagar/world/music/album/smithsonian>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r0fraPaZS4w>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3qgkXBJV98>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qGlcoC1wly0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TODtRiJbX04>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rg97O-y8dJs>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wfnjwl69Hqw>