# of Folk Music

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and with every new generation, a new genre of music would move a step forward. However, Habib's 'Punjabiwala' took the listeners by storm, not only because of the lyrics, but also his treatment of the music, his mixes of the western and the traditional and also his creation of a complete new aura which gave a new meaning to young listeners.

24-year-old Deepa Matin works in a multinational and has been following the music scene in Bangladesh for years together. She thinks that it is very natural for music tastes to change and listeners to crave for a variety. "This is one of the reasons why sometimes we find folk music slowly disappearing from our collections," says Deepa. "But these songs are coming back to us again. In way, the remixes and remakes of these age-old songs have made many youngsters dig out the original tracks."

When the band Bangla came into existence, listeners were introduced to yet another dimension of music in the country. They did rock versions of *Lalon* numbers and even jazzed them up with their guitar strums and soft rolls of the drums. While their first album 'Kingkortobbobimur' revived many of the old folk melodies, the band's second album 'Prottutponnomotitto' was created based on the concept of existence and survival of the fittest in terms of religious justification.

The folk music of our country voices out the pains and joy of our people. Even today, these compositions speak to us about our ancestors, the lovers' woes and God's ways with men. And to add to it all, these folk mixes sound all the more soulful and touching even when they are presented in their new form - simply a slight tweak to the music.



