

# An Introduction To Indian Rhythms

## Part 1: Modulating Phrases

Pete Lockett

The Five Main Rhythmic Units

Number Of Beats	Subdivision	Syllables	Name
3 beats	3	TA-KI-TA	Tisram
4 beats	4	TA-KA-DI-ME	Chaturusram
5 beats	2+3 OR 5	TA-KA TA-KI-TA or TA-TI-KI-DA-TUM	Kandam
7 beats	3+4	TA-KI-TA TA-KA-DI-ME	Misram
9 beats	4+5	TA-KA-DI-ME - TA-TI-KI-DA-TUM	Shankeernam

Exercise 1 (3 +3)

Musical notation for Exercise 1 (3+3) in 4/4 time. The notes are grouped into three sets of three, indicated by brackets above the notes.

Exercise 2 (4+4+4)

Musical notation for Exercise 2 (4+4+4) in 4/4 time. The notes are grouped into three sets of three, indicated by brackets above the notes.

Exercise 3(5+5+5)

Musical notation for Exercise 3 (5+5+5) in 10/4 time. The notes are grouped into three sets of five, indicated by brackets above the notes.

Exercise 4 (7+7+7)

Musical notation for Exercise 4 (7+7+7) in 14/4 time. The notes are grouped into three sets of seven, indicated by brackets above the notes.

## Exercise 5: Five-beat unit modulation

III : 5

TA      TI      KI      DA      TUM

II : 2

TA      TI      KI      DA      TUM

TA   TI   KI   DA   TUM   TA   TI   KI   DA   TUM   TA   TI   KI   DA   TUM

TA   TI   KI   DA   TUM   TA   TI   KI   DA   TUM

TA   TI   KI   DA   TUM   TA   TI   KI   DA   TUM   TA   TI   KI   DA   TUM

TA   TI   KI   DA   TUM   TA   TI   KI   DA   TUM   TA   TI   KI   DA   TUM

Exercise 6: Five-beat unit modulation with sticking

## Exercise 7: Five-beat unit modulation with sticking, orchestrated on the kit

R            L            R            L            L

R            L            R            L            L

R3 L    R3 L    R3 L    R3 R    L3 L    R3 R    L3 L    R3 L    L3 L

R L    R L    L R    L R    L L

R L R L    L R L R    L L R L    R L L R    R L R L L

R L R L    L R L R    L L R L    R L R L    R L R L L

# Counting Gaps

Pete Lockett

Here are keys to some common gaps:

Exercise 1	3:  THA - (GA)
Exercise 2	4:  -  - THA (AH)
Exercise 3	5:  -  - THA (AH) (GA)
Exercise 4	6:   or THA - (GA) THA - (GA)   THA - (AH) - (AH) -
Exercise 5	7:   - THA - (AH) - (AH) - (GA)
Exercise 6	8:   - THA - - - (AH) - - -
Exercise 7	9:   - THA - (AH) - (AH) - (AH) - (GA)

Exercise 8: The 'A' Section (written in 4/4) x4

3/8      5      4      3      5      4      5

Exercise 9: 'B' Section (written in 4/4) x4

3/8      5      4      5      5      4      3

## Exercise 10: 'C' Section (not in 4/4) x4

3/8      5      5      5      5      5      5      5

## Exercise 11: 'D' Section (not in 4/4) x3

\* On the third time through, the last note becomes beat 1

3/8      5      5      5      5      5      5      2/4

## Exercise 12: 'E' Section

5/16      5/16      5/16      5/16      6/16      6/16      6/16      5/16      7/16      7/16      7/16