

1. Why did Swami Haridas say Tansen was 'talented'?

Ans: Tansen, as a child, learnt to imitate the calls of birds and animals. One day he roared like a tiger in the forest. He intended to frighten the travellers. Swami Haridas was impressed by the skill of Tansen and called him 'talented'.

2. Why did Akbar ask Tansen to join his court?

Ans: Tansen learnt music from Swami Haridas for eleven years. He became a famous singer. Sometimes he sang before Emperor Akbar. Akbar was so impressed that he asked Tansen to join his court in 1556.

3. How do we know that Akbar was fond of Tansen? Give two reasons.

Ans: Tansen became the favourite of the Emperor. Akbar used to visit Tansen's house to hear him practise music. He used to ask Tansen to sing at any time during the day or night. He also gave Tansen many presents.

4. What did the other courtiers feel about Tansen?

Ans: Tansen's popularity made other courtiers jealous of him. They made up their mind to ruin Tansen's fame in music.

5. i. What happens if Raga Deepak is sung properly?

If Raga Deepak was sung properly, the air would become so hot that the singer might burn to ashes.

ii. Why did Tansen's enemies want him to sing the Raga?

Tansen's opponents were envious of him and wished to kill him.

6. Why did Tansen agree to sing Raga Deepak?

Ans: Tansen agreed to sing Raga Deepak because he had to obey the Emperor. Secondly, he wanted to prove his ability.

7. i. What steps did he take to save himself?

Tansen took two steps for his safety. He requested the king to give him some time. Next, he taught his daughter and her friend to sing Raga Megh.

ii. Did his plan work? How?

Yes, Tansen's plan worked. His singing made the environment hot. Flames shot up and lighted the lamps. Just then, the two girls started singing Raga Megh. The rain came down suddenly and saved Tansen's life.