

THE PHYSICS BEHIND THE PITCHED DRUMS OF KERALA

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Drums are an integral part of the cultural life in India. One special characteristic of many Indian drums is that they produce a well-defined pitch, compared to western drums. In this article, the harmonic nature of the strokes of four pitched drums Maddalam, Mridangam, Tabla and Edakka commonly used in Kerala are studied. Our studies show that Edakka, a unique traditional musical drum from Kerala is the best musical drum among the other drums studied.
