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Media Article: Folklorist’s Global Jukebox Goes Digital Introduction: Alan Lomax was a famous folklorist and ethnomusicologist. He was a true music lover who collected all fine pieces of traditional music from around the world. His efforts and contributions as a traditional music collector are endless and unforgettable. Alan Lomax had a dream of brining the different traditional music masterpieces on one single platform which he envisioned as “ Global Jukebox” which he wanted to spread and share with the entire world (Larry Rother). Music has no boundaries with any identity. Music is an expression; a medium to express love, peace and harmony. It connects cultures with one another and brings people and different nationalities under one roof. However, the long awaited dream of Alan Lomax has been given a real existence to spread the traditional music and culture of different nations from around the globe.
Analysis of the Article:
Alan Lomax was the first American folklorist and a prodigious traditional music collector who dreamt of creating a global jukebox, even before the internet was introduced (Larry Rother). Alan Lomax was the first one to record Muddy Waters and Woody Guthrie. He set a platform for the American to get a better understanding of folk and traditional music. He developed a strong relation between the music and the cultures. Alan Lomax has hugely contributed in revolutionizing the music industry. He can be considered as a pioneer in giving the support to the traditional music and introducing it for once again in the minds of people. In other words, it can also be said that in American culture, where Afro-American music was considered as “ destructive for the soul of music”; Alan Lomax stepped ahead and appreciated the versatility, richness and uniqueness of Afro-American music in the American culture. Culture can be well studied by the customs, music and traditions of any particular region. Music is an international language of peace and love. Alan Lomax has tried his level best in bringing all the traditional music and dance styles from around the world together. This would enable people to better understand and analyze the cultural differences of other nations. People would compare and contrast the versatility and uniqueness of their culture with other cultures. This would benefit a large group of people from around the world who are keen to know and explore different cultures. A culture represents different key aspects of a nation, region or group of people.
Conclusion:
Enormous efforts and contributions made by Alan Lomax in rejuvenating the essence of traditional music and making people from all over the world to understand and analyze the folk dances and different languages of different regions, cultures and groups. He had a dream of creating a medium through which he could share his collections with other people from around the world. However years after his death, his dream has been put into reality which would enable people to refresh their memories of the lost folk music, dancing styles and the languages. These efforts by Alan Lomax can be considered as a platform for bringing the different cultures from around the world together for the better understanding of key cultural differences among different nations.
Work Cited
Rother, L. ‘ Folklorist’s Global Jukebox Goes Digital.’ (2012) [Available Online] http://www. nytimes. com/2012/01/31/arts/music/the-alan-lomax-collection-from-the-american-folklife-center. html? \_r= 1&ref= arts Accessed on 31st January 2012.