

ABOUT THE EDITORS



Prof. Keshava obtained Ph.D. from Karnatak University, Dharwad. He started his career as lecturer at Karnatak University, Dharwad and presently he is working as Professor at Tumkur University. Professor Keshava is the Dean, Faculty of Science and Technology and Chairman, Dept of Library and Information Science, Tumkur University. He has 22 years of rich experience in teaching and research. So far he published more than 100 research papers in national and international peer-reviewed journals and conference proceedings. 09 doctoral studies were awarded under his guidance and at present 08 students are pursuing their research under his guidance. He organised two national conference and one International Conference at Tumkur University. He is the member of BoE, BoS and BOA of several universities and national institutes across the country. He took part in many national and international conferences and chaired many technical sessions. He is a life member of ILA, IATLIS and KALA. He visited abroad on academic assignment and his areas of research interest are Scientometrics and Information Processing and Retrieval.



Mr. Salek Chandis working as Sr. Documentation Officer and Head, National Documentation Centre of National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi. He also worked as Library & Information Officer and Head, Library & Resource Centre of the Election Commission of India, New Delhi on deputation. Prior to this, served as a Librarian in Ministry of Water Resources Delhi and as Documentation Officer in Central Road Research Institute, Delhi. He has 30 years' experience in various capacities. He has contributed more than 36 papers and published at national and international level. He has a credit of publishing two book reviews, edited five books and also serving as a reviewer of many Journals. During his academic carrier, he conducted various training courses, seminars and projects. He is recipient of many national and international awards from various reputed institutions of globe. He is very actively associated with various professional bodies such as Indian Library Association; Medical Library Association of India; Ranganathan Research Circle, SALIS, LPA, SLP, CSSD, MANLIBNET, SLA Asian Chapter, etc. Also worked honorary Director, Special Library Association (SLA) Asian Chapter. Presently, he is working honorary Secretary, Library Professional Association (LPA), New Delhi; President, Compact Society for Social Welfare (CSSW), Delhi and Treasurer, Science & Technology Division, SLA, USA. He has visited abroad with different assignments in Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, China, Australia, Greece, Thailand, Japan, South Korea, USA, UK, Germany, Italy and Switzerland.



Prof. B.T. Sampath Kumar is a Professor in the Department of Studies and Research in Library and Information Science, Tumkur University, Tumkur, India. He has the rare distinction of achieving First Rank in M.Sc. Library and Information Science and receiving Gold Medal. He pursued his Ph.D. degree from Kuvempu University and also obtained Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Science (P.G.D.C.S) from the University of Hyderabad, Telangana. He has published more than 150 research papers in International/national reputed journals and Seminars/Conferences proceedings. He has received "I. L. A. P. V. Verghese Award" for the best research paper published in ILA Bulletin. He also received "Best Academic LIS Professional Award" by Library Professional Association (LPA) During I-KOAL 2019 at Sardar Patel University, Gujarat. He served as Registrar (In-charge); Dean, Faculty of Science and Technology; Director, College and Development Council; Deputy Registrar (Academic Section); Special Officer (Academic Section); Syndicate Member and Academic Council Member of Tumkur University, Tumakuru. He also served as Asst. Director, Prasaraanga of Kuvempu University. At present, he is serving as Director, Planning Monitoring and Evaluation Board (PMEB), Tumkur University, Tumakuru. His interested areas of research are ICT, Search engines, Webometrics, Web designing and Internet use.



Mr. Anand A. Jha (Ph.D.) comes with two decades of working experience. He is doctorate in Library & Information Science and graduated in sociology, he has more than 20 years of experience in academic and development sector. He has also worked as library in-charge in various reputed institutions. He has considerable experience in the areas of campaign & communication through films, creating awareness, publication, editing, concept of designing and development, women empowerment, urban rural development functions. His areas of expertise include project planning and management, public relation, capacity building and behaviour change communication. He has credit to organise five competitive and six traveling CMS VATAVARAN- Environment and Wildlife international film festival and forum in different states of India and seven years worked as Co-coordinator of CMS ENVIS, a project of Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEF & CC) Government of India. Besides these, he organises many national and international conference in the field of Library & Information Science, mainly ICDL and I-KOAL are prime one. He is well known as an efficient organiser of seminars, conferences and workshops on professional skills development. Apart from that he is founder member of many reputed organisations like Library Professionals Association (LPA), Society for Information Research & Studies (SIRs), Lakshya Foundation, All Day Foundation and Gramin Samridhi Foundation.



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Transforming Library as
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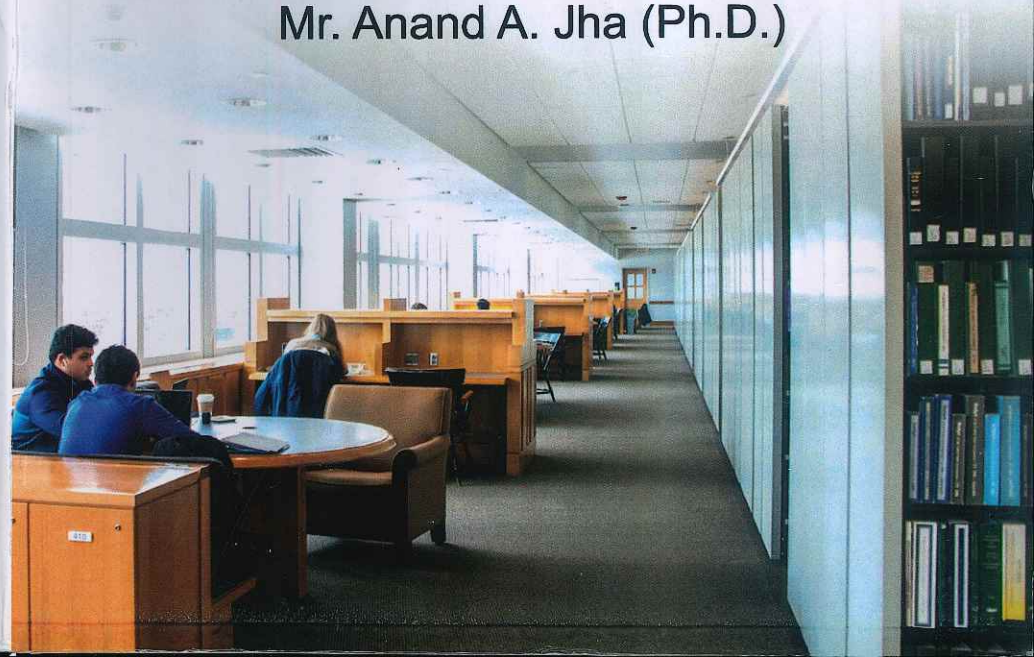
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Digital Transformation and Moving Towards Developing Smart Libraries Transforming Library as Educational/Institutional Repositories

Editors

Prof. Keshava
Mr. Salek Chand
Prof. B.T. Sampath Kumar
Mr. Anand A. Jha (Ph.D.)



**Digital Transformation and Moving Towards
Developing Smart Libraries:
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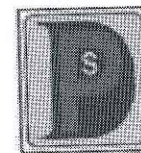
Editors

Prof. Keshava

Mr. Salek Chand

Prof. B.t. Sampath Kumar

Mr. Anand A. Jha (Ph.D)



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Contents

<i>Preface</i>	<i>xi</i>
1. Transformation in Services, Collections, Space, and Operational Activities After Covid in the Academiclibrary's Paradigms <i>Mr. Amit Kumar, Dr. Jitender Singh</i>	1
2. Lessons Learned for Webometric Research: Insights from a Time-Series Study for Audio Search Engines <i>Mr. Bernd Markscheffel</i>	17
3. New Bibliometric Indicators <i>Dr. Anil Kumar Dhiman and Dr. Sachin Kumar Kaushik</i>	39
4. Mapping the Evolution of Aquaculture Research: A Scientometric Analysis <i>Arun Kumara T.s, Dr. K. T. Santhosh Kumar and Pushpa J.</i>	55
5. A Study on Institutional Repositories of Universities in Karnataka <i>Ashwini N, Mallinath Kumbar, Sheela V.</i>	78
6. Global Literature on Institutional Repositories: A Bibliometric Study <i>Dr. Basavaraja M T, Dr. B. T. Sampath Kumar, Mr. Vinay R S</i>	88

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Role and Concept of Library and Information Centres in the Society in Current Context

¹Dr. D. D. LAL, ²Mrs. Yogita Talwar

¹(Ph.D., M.Phil., MLIS, BLIS, B.Sc. Math Hons, PGDJMC, APGDCA), Head, NBRC Library & DeLCON
Coordinator National Brain Research Centre, (Department of Biotechnology,
Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India) India. Email: ddal@nbrc.ac.in;
²(M.Com, B.Com, MLIS, BLIS, NET), Assistant Librarian, Lovely Professional University, Jalandhar -
Delhi, Grand Trunk Rd, Phagwara, Punjab-144001. Email: talwaryogita6@gmail.com

Abstract

Libraries and information centres play a crucial role in supplying communities around the country with convenient, open, and free educational data centres. A library only offers text descriptions, while a knowledge centre provides precise information. An information centre, on the other hand, is an agency that collects, acquires, holds, and retrieves information in response to demands, as well as prepares abstracts, excerpts, and indexes of information. From a variety of perspectives, a library differs from an information centre. Micro documents are provided by libraries, while macro documents are provided by information centres. Libraries and information centres are vital cultural hubs that act as research, career growth, healthcare, and, more recently, resistance centres.

Keywords: Library, Information Centre, Information Analysis Centres, Clearing house, Data Centres and Data Banks.

Introduction

In the cutting edge data society, libraries and information centres have another task to carry out. This is because of the expanding utilization of online data sources and electronic administrations. Libraries are additionally being overseen in a more just manner because of adaptable correspondence frameworks and productive work association. Their administrations are likewise client driven.

The types of records, kinds of clients, their levels, availability of documents instead of information, and rendering resources to both internal and external users distinguish libraries from documentation/information centres. A significant distinction is that a library only contains knowledge about a book, while documentation/information centres offer precise information.

In this paper, we will talk about the job of libraries and data associations in the public arena. We will likewise contemplate the meaning of libraries in schooling, culture, and entertainment.

Understanding “Library” & “Information Centre”

Library

Library is a place where all sorts of reading material is organized in a manner that finding and collecting the data or information becomes very easy. Libraries are characterized with well trained staff so that the users can get their required materials on time without much extra effort. In the modern era, the libraries have become not only the organized storehouse of printed materials but also non-print resources. These may include e-journals, e-books, audio, video, graphics, databases, etc.

UNESCO define Library as, “any organized collection of printed books and periodical or any other graphic or audio-visual materials with a staff to provide and facilitate the use

of such materials as are required to meet the informational research, educational and recreational needs of users.”

The library is a social association and a vital unit of society. It is organized for the purpose of disseminating society's facts and experiences to the general public. Books and other materials such as manuals, tables, audio-records, microfilms, and so on are used to do this.

Dr. S. R. Ranganathan, portrays the library as a public organization or foundation accused of the consideration of the assortment of books and the obligation of making them open to the individuals who need to utilize them.

As a result, the aforementioned meanings suggest that a library is a collection of archives of human thought. These records are in an actual structure, i.e., human considerations encapsulated as valuable compositions, books, periodicals, general media records, microfilms, diagrams, outlines, and so on These are masterminded, put away, and safeguarded in an actual practical design for viable usage by likely clients later on.

The functions of a library may be divided into four categories:—

- 1) **Education:** Libraries provide opportunities for individual and group self-development at various stages of education. This helps to fill in the gaps between personal knowledge and recorded information. As an educational institution, libraries promote a variety of educational opportunities, including conventional, non-formal, life-long learning etc. This is accomplished by providing the community with books and other reading materials.
- 2) **Information Dissemination:** Libraries assist people and groups in obtaining accurate and current information, particularly on themes of interest. The scope of information services has been expanded to incorporate information on society's

socioeconomic demands. A library must function as an information centre or a referral centre for specialized information sources. Job openings, public utility services, and social awareness programs run by various departments are all regarded important sources of information. Libraries gather and archive information concerning these topics in order to disseminate them to the wider audience.

- 3) **Culture Promotion:** Libraries serve as one of the main hubs of cultural activity, encouraging people to participate in, enjoy, and appreciate many forms of art. Culture promotion has two aspects: first, reading and thinking, which broadens one's mental range and enhances one's creative ability. Second, the library must contribute to society's cultural enrichment by hosting outreach events such as lectures, seminars, symposia, exhibition of books, and cultural meetings.
- 4) **Recreation:** By providing material for change and relaxation, libraries actively contribute in supporting the proper usage of spare time. A library's important role is to provide opportunities for healthy or constructive usage of free time. Fiction books, magazines, newspapers, and other forms of leisure reading are available. Films, television, radio, audio-video cassettes, and other audio-visual products boost the use of a public library. Libraries may also host a variety of performance arts events, transforming them into real cultural centers.

Information Centre

An Information centre is defined as an organisation that

- Responds to requests by selecting, acquiring, storing, and retrieving content.
- Creates abstracts, extracts, and information indexes, and

- Wide distribution of information publically
- Shares information on a vast basis (Dissemination of information) in advance of and response of demands.
- Highly specialized Research and Development (R&D) organizations are home to Information Centres. A referral facility, literature search, translations, bibliographies, abstracting, and other resources are provided by an Information Centre to its customers.
- An information centre is "a facility dedicated to recording, encoding, and extracting data for distribution at frequent intervals, on demand, or selectively, in response to users' expressed needs."

Types of Information Centres

- **Data Analysis Centres:** They gather writing delivered in a specific field, assess its usage and impart to the experts leading examination in straightforwardly utilizable structure on demand. The middle checks the gathered data for its legitimacy, unwavering quality and precision before dispersal^[1].
- **Clearing Houses:** They are either developed on a cooperative basis, or, by a public or worldwide office. They give a solitary mark of admittance to data starting from various sources, nations and dialects. They arrange reference indices of specific trains and circle them to the associations intrigued by them^[1].
- **Information Centres and Information Banks:** Server farms gather, put together and accumulate mathematical information relating to explicit field to respond to explicit questions. They gather data fully expecting future necessities of its clients. Information Banks are normally worried about a more extensive subject field. They concentrate and interaction crude

information from the gathered information sources and applicable writing. These organized documents prepared to give right responses to user's questions are kept by them.

Information centers are overseen by field specialists just as library and data experts who sort out data to recover and scatter for leading research. Staff of these focuses changes yet may incorporate all or any of the accompanying: Exploration officials, bookkeepers, bibliographers or prepared data officials.

How are Library and Information Centres Different?

A library contrasts from an information centres from multiple points of view. Macro documents are provided by libraries, whereas micro materials are provided by information centres. Libraries give miniature archives to their clients while Information Centres focuses give miniature reports.

Library likewise contrasts from Information Centres focuses in the sorts of archives put away, types and levels of clients, arrangement of reports as opposed to information, delivering administrations to both, inside and outside clients. Aside of information from gathering, preparing, and dispersing information, documentation/data focuses are likewise engaged with the examination and show of information.

A significant contrast, along these lines, is that a library gives just the report in general, however information centres focuses give the archive as well as the subtleties of the substance of the record.

A library just gives you information about a document, while an information center gives you precise information. A library is an institution of records of human thinking. An information centre, on the other hand, is an institution that gathers, stores, and retrieves information in response to

queries, as well as prepares abstracts, excerpts, and indexes of information, among other things.

Libraries and Information Centres in this Modern Information Era

Society doesn't stay static however continues evolving. Library is a social institution, therefore, the job of librarians is influenced by social changes. Today's society has gone through a change in practically all areas. A few elements are liable for this change. These are as per the following:

- Making the general public politically and socially stable
- Extension of instructive offices and high pace of education
- Public, local, and neighborhood social practices
- Movement of populace towards cities and towns, and globalism because of relocation
- Development in exchange and trade, industry and business
- Consolation from public, neighborhood, and local government bodies
- Much better living standards
- Impact of pioneers and people in various fields
- Properly developed system of trading books
- Dissemination of information
- ICT

The cutting edge library has gone through changes in taking care of the fundamental elements of a library viz. assortment, preparing, capacity, recovery, dispersal, and usage of data. Latest Information, correspondence, and systems administration advances have brought about a change in the working of the libraries.

Information is gathered, prepared, put away, and dispersed utilizing complex advances. Using advanced technology, data is captured, analyzed, saved, and disseminated. Local Area Networks (LAN) and Wide Area Networks (WAN) deliver information to users at their desks or also at their residences. There is no compelling reason to visit a library to get to information and in this way save time.

A library is viewed as a help establishment. The appearance of the computer, communication, information, and systems administration advancements has represented an extraordinary test to administrators. To deliver productive administrations and help the clients to utilize the accessible assets, a custodian needs to comprehend, appreciate and acknowledge these changes. They should adapt to the progressions and receive them for exploiting something similar.

ADINET, CALIBNET, DESIDOC, DELNET, DRTC, IASLIC, NISSAT, SAARC Documentation Centre, NASSDOC AND INFLIBNET etc. are the main Libraries and information centres in India.

Objective and Functions of a Library & Information Centre

Objective

The Objective behind building up a Library and Information Centre is to serve the general public by taking assistance from the account of human contemplation and articulations by making them accessible to all.

Functions:

The functions of a Library and Information Centres are given below:

- Gather and make all sorts of reading materials either print or non-print resources available for

everyone to help individuals to be mindful so that they can work freely.

- Cultivate and advance the expansion of information, schooling and society.
- Give office to formal and casual long lasting self-instruction locally.
- Preserve the artistic and social legacy of humankind of any kind as these can be used as vehicles of culture and material for research.
- To make trustworthy information available to a wide range of clients regardless of age, colour, position, belief, shading, religion, gender, and so on
- Gather assets to advance an illuminated citizenship and to enhance individual life
- Work with headway of culture locally.

Why Are Libraries and Information Centers More Important Than Ever?

Both libraries and information centres are significant parts of community that serve as centres of learning, professional development, healthcare, and now, resistance. Libraries and Information Centers have been focal points for the effort to protect women, refugees, persons of color, communities, and others who are persecuted for their religious beliefs. There are free public spaces where everyone can feel comfortable and find opportunities.

Providing free Educational Resources to Everyone

Libraries and information centers play an important role in delivering a convenient, open, and free educational resource center for all members of the public in communities around the world. Individuals and communities of all social backgrounds may rely on their libraries to provide them with the tools they need to excel as well as answers to crucial questions that they would not otherwise be able to identify.

Librarians not only assist their customers in finding their next book, but also in answering questions about training of computer and internet, career applications and resume writing, and carrying out government forms, such as tax and health care papers, all this for free.

Libraries as a boost for Local Economies

Both libraries and information centers play an important part in the financial well-being of the greater population. They offer a work space for telecommuters, provide free internet access for job seekers, and provide support regarding employment opportunities and interview those in need.

The local government bodies and libraries both work together to guide small businessmen by making them available resources like online and in-person resources, inclusive of monetary guidance, contract opportunities, information related to market, assistance in planning business etc.

Libraries assist entire community in improving their economies and increasing their local capital by assisting individual community members to financially excel in their lives and small businesses.

Role of Libraries and Information Centre in Language Learning

Libraries and information centres play a very significant role in language learning. People from all over the world travel to various countries in search of better opportunities for themselves and their families, and English is always not their first language. They must first locate a location where they can learn a new language that meets their requirements before they can achieve success.

Whether it's by periodicals, magazines, audiobooks, or online tools, libraries provide a variety of ways for language learners to immerse themselves in their new language.

Many libraries already provide multilingual books for people of all age groups that are intended to assist new language learners in learning the language in a enjoyable and entertaining manner.

Libraries provide educational services in addition to physical resources, such as free language workshops, bilingual accommodation and assistance in job opportunity, information related to resource and contact for adult education courses held outside of the library.

Contribution of Libraries and Information Centres in Making Communities Healthier

You usually don't think of a library as a fitness and wellness center, but it is in many ways. Libraries and information centers offer valuable fair access resources to those accessing health information and services through their outreach activities, direct librarian support, fitness courses, and basic internet access.

Libraries, in collaboration with local government bodies, healthcare providers, and medical practitioners, keep cities safe and more vibrant in a significant way.

Conclusion

Information centres and libraries have a new task to accomplish in today's information society. This is due to the growing popularity of web-based information and technological services. Due to a flexible communication system and effective work organization, libraries are also operated in a more independent manner. Their services are similarly centered on the user. This paper explored the function of information centers as well as libraries in proper development of the community. It also looked at the value of libraries in terms of education, culture, and enjoyment. Libraries meet all of the community's requirements, allowing users to study in a variety of fields and providing entertainment and information to all socioeconomic groups.

Specialized information demands are met through the establishment of information centres. The core functions of a library, such as collecting, processing, storage, retrieval, distribution, and usability of information, have changed in the modern library. In this modern era, both libraries as well as information centres have got a new and more important role to play.

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