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FROM

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ADINET has initiated half-day lecture programs, which are being held in various libraries of Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar. This program was initially called "Librarians Meet". In these meetings very informative & valuable lectures are given by senior librarians, also the librarian of the host institution gives a talk on the special collection & other useful details about the library. Again it enables librarians to visit & see both the library & the work done in the institution. This is a boon as many institutions are not open to the public. Since these meetings have become very useful and important, this program is now being called "Current Trends in Libraries". The fourth such program was held at the Gyanmandir at Koba in Gandhinagar.

On 6th of March 2011, Library Education in India has completed 100 years. This big landmark in the LIS field needs to be celebrated. Dr. Shyama Rajaram has given a historical sketch about "100 Years of Library Science Education in India" She has also suggested that we can celebrate this occasion by gifting atleast one book each to two children. Since we could celebrate this special event in many other ways, suggestions are invited. Library Science schools may also like to celebrate this special event in different ways.

ADINET Yuva Group in collaboration with INFLIBNET had organised a one day Workshop on Koha. More than thirty participants attended this workshop. Since Koha is an important open source library

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management software, this workshop created an awareness about this software, and also gave a working knowledge to use Koha.

CURRENT TRENDS IN LIBRARIES

Series 3

ADINET has initiated a series of half day programs to discuss the Current Trends in Libraries. This quarterly program is held in different Libraries of Ahmedabad. The first in this Series was held at the Institute of Plasma Research, during which the Importance and Advantages of e-Books were discussed. The second program was held at the Consumer Education & Research Centre. Besides discussing the need and importance of consumer education, an informative talk on "Bibliographic Control in India" was given. The third program in this series was conducted at the Acharya Shri Kailashsagarsuri Gyanmandir Kobatirth , Koba on 12th February, 2011

The focus of this program was to discuss various aspects of preservation and conservation of books especially manuscripts. It was held at the new campus of the Institute known as Aradhana Bhavan. Shri Mukeshbhai Shah, the Trustee, Shri Kanubhai Shah, Director, Shri Manojbhai Jain, Associate Director, Smt. Rhoda Bharucha Director, ADINET Task Force Group, Smt. Pragna Pathak, Co-ordinator, Shri Satish Deshpande graced this occasion by their presence. The total number of Librarians present in this meeting was over fifty.

The programme commenced by a prayer recitation by Pandit Shri Navinbhai Jain. Thereafter, Shri Kanubhai Shah in his welcome speech informed the participants that the Institute's Library is a great and rich

resource. Here a large number of books and two lakh valuable manuscripts pertaining to Jain and other religions and Darshana, Jyotish and specially on Indology are available for the research scholars. The software of the Library is very user-friendly. Then Shri Manojbhai Jain gave a brief introduction of the Koba Tirth.

Dr. Hemantkumarji, the Head of Library, through



PowerPoint Presentation introduced Shri Mahavir Jain Aradhana Kendra and Gyanmandir to the participating librarians from Ahmedabad. Thereafter, Shri Manojbhai Jain, Associate Director provided very useful information regarding Jain script, manuscripts, and Bhupalaymala granth which he elaborated in detail. He showed the participants some original manuscripts possessed by Gyanmandir. The librarians were greatly benefited by his talk and felt that they have gained a lot.

Then, after the tea-break, Shri Ketanbhai Shah Head, Computer Department, gave a PowerPoint presentation about the very useful software developed by him for Library Management. This was followed by a question-answer session regarding software for library, preservation and conservation of manuscripts, the management of books received on gratis, and the procedure of issuing and receiving books.

Shri Mukeshbhai Shah, the Trustee dwelt in detail about the importance of libraries for its readers, how libraries mould their lives and enable them to meaningfully serve society. He recollected his own experience when he started his study at college, during which he was greatly benefited by the help and information which was given by the college librarian. He welcomed suggestions from the participants to develop the Gyanmandir's Library.

Shri Satish Deshpande gave a useful presentation on analysis and reports related with libraries. Smt. Rhoda Bharucha gave a Vote of Thanks to the Trustees and staff-members of Acharya Shri Kailashsagarsuri Gyanmandir and expressed her appreciation for their lavish hospitality.

After lunch, librarians visited the library, museum and computer centre. They showed a lot of interest in the manuscript section and asked many questions about preservation of manuscripts. Librarian's expressed their wish to come again to visit this beautiful museum and library.

Kanubhai L. Shah

Director, Acharyashri Kailassagarsuri Gyanmandir, Koba

REPORT ON One Day Workshop

Report on one day Workshop on Koha held on 26th February 2011 at ADINET

The Workshop on KOHA open source library management software was organized by ADINET Yuva members in collaboration with INFLIBNET center at ADINET, Ahmedabad.

The purpose of the one day workshop was to familiarize the participants with KOHA open source library management software, provide basic idea about various modules like OPAC, circulation, cataloguing, acquisition, serials and popularize the concept of open source and open source software among libraries and library professionals.

The first session was started by Mr. Satish Deshpande (Former Librarian, British Library). He gave an introduction to Open Source Software. Mr. Madhukar Pai delivered the keynote speech on Open Source Software and its Implication. His presentation covered an introduction to Open Source Software, genesis, different licenses, pros and cons of Open Source Software. He also provided live examples of different open source softwares and their use in general and specific to library work.

In the second session a live demo of KOHA and its different modules was covered. Mr. Pragnesh Parekh, IIM Ahmedabad, gave an overview of different parameters which need to be set before running KOHA. He also demonstrated OPAC module, its functionality and briefly covered some advance features available in KOHA. Mr. Viral Navik, IIM Ahmedabad demonstrated the Acquisition, Cataloguing and Serials modules with examples. He discussed the overall process of each of these above modules. He also explained different advance features available like z39.50 in KOHA. Circulation module was discussed by Mr. Bharat Chaudhary IPMG, Gandhinagar, he demonstrated different features available in the circulation module.

The 3rd session which was immediately after lunch provided hands on practice of different modules of KOHA. Resource persons of the practical session were ADINET YUVA team members Mr. Viral Navik, Mr. Mallikarjun Dora, Mr. Bharat Chaudhary, Ms. Manju Yadav and Mr. Pragnesh Parekh. The programme was successfully completed with an informal discussion with the participants After obtaining their feedback, certificates were distributed by Mrs. Rhoda Bharucha, Hon. Director ADINET.

Reported by ADINET Yuva

100 YEARS OF LIBRARY SCIENCE EDUCATION IN INDIA

A historical sketch

Dr. Shyama Rajaram
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Library Education in India has completed 100 years, as William Alanson Borden started his first class of one year course on March 6, 1911 at Central Library Baroda; His Highness Sir Sayajirao Gaekwad III had invited Borden in 1910 to set up free public libraries in Baroda State. However, the training programmes conducted by MacFarlane at Imperial Library Calcutta dates back to 1901, but it was only for the staff of the library. Eleven students who attended the course started by Borden were given Rs. 25 each as monthly scholarship. This programme it seems was not continued in 1912.

However, Borden, who had also been lecturer in Melville Dewey's first library training class in the Columbia University, could see the need to develop more human resource through some systematic scheme as more and more subscription libraries were to be converted into free libraries which meant the need for more library staff. Therefore, Borden submitted a proposal to the government in February 1913 to start a library training programme of five months duration to train town librarians. In his proposal he had also asked for a scholarship of Rs. 12 per month to be made to 20 students who would attend the course. The government approved the proposal and the course began in March 1913. Borden's efforts proved successful as this course outlived Borden's departure and continued for the next 34 years till 1947. Nevertheless, the passing away of the great ruler of Baroda, Sir Sayajirao Gaekwad, in 1939 resulted in a tremendous setback to the library movement in Baroda.

In the meanwhile, in 1915 in Punjab University (in the undivided India) Asa Don Dickinson started a three months course in Library Education for the first time at the university level. In 1920 Andhra Desa Library Association at Vijayawada and M. Vishweshwaraiah at Bangalore also conducted some training programmes for librarians. In 1929 Madras Library Association started a three month certificate course which was eventually taken over by Madras University in 1931 and by 1938 this course was replaced by a post graduate diploma in librarianship of one year duration. All these developments at Madras were owing to the active involvement of S R Ranganathan. As Ranganathan moved to Banaras Hindu University, it became the second university to start a post graduate diploma in librarianship in 1941. University of Bombay started a diploma in 1944 followed by Calcutta University in 1946. As Ranganathan moved to University of Delhi in 1947 he was instrumental in starting a post graduate diploma in Library Science there in the same year. In 1949 University of Delhi was the first university to start a Master's degree course and also a PhD in Library

Science. The first PhD in LIS was awarded by University of Delhi in 1958 to Dr. D. B. Krishana Rao and the second after two decades in 1977 by Punjab University to Dr. Pandey S K Sharma.

A sketch of present scenario

Today LIS education is offered at different levels, viz. Certificate, Diploma, BLIS, MLIS, MPhil and PhD. There are also specialized Post Graduate Diploma courses; there are integrated MLIS programmes or truncated programs. Apart from the traditional distance learning programmes there are e-learning courses. Besides about hundred universities imparting education in LIS, many colleges also offer BLIS programmes; some State Library Associations and Departments of Libraries also offer certificate courses. NISCAIR offers two year Associateship and DRTC offers MS in LIS. As of today, perhaps, nearly thousand PhDs might have been awarded.

During 1970s when documentation, information retrieval, computer applications were introduced in the curriculum of many library schools, the nomenclature of the schools and programmes changed from Library Science to Library and Information Science. Since 1990s with the growth of Internet and the Web, a lot of Information Technology components also found their way in the LIS curriculum that being the need of the hour.

UGC has played an important role in LIS education in India. The committee that it appointed in 1957 under the chairmanship of Ranganathan to look into the functioning of college and university libraries also focused its attention on education for librarians. In 1961 again under the chairmanship of Ranganathan UGC appointed a Review Committee on Library Science education in Indian universities. This committee made insightful recommendations which are still considered a landmark. UGC also supported two national level seminars in 1973 and 1977 on LIS education that was organized by Delhi University. The two Curriculum Development Committee reports, i.e., Kaula Committee (1992) and Karisiddappa Committee (2001) are other significant landmarks. National Knowledge Commission's working group on Libraries proposed in 2006 setting up of an Indian Institute of Library and Information Science to revamp LIS education and research in the country.

All these committees and subject panels have made excellent recommendations and have shown the path of development for LIS education in the country. Nevertheless, the clear path charted out by them has got clouded by much undesirable growth. Over the years we have witnessed mushrooming of LIS schools not only in the universities but also in colleges with scant regard for the recommended infrastructure. The Review Committee recommended in no uncertain terms that the practice of part time teachers or asking the library staff to teach should be avoided in the LIS schools; Kaula committee clearly recommended at least a total of eight full time teachers for departments running both BLIS and MLIS courses. Today out of about hundred, barely a handful of universities have six or

more full time teachers to teach. Majority are running the show with one, two or three full time teachers. Many such schools depend on part time teachers and visiting faculties. The overburdening of the full time teachers impedes the growth of quality research; and the services of part time teachers or busy working librarians results in the development of semi-professionals rather than professionals who understand the science behind the subject.

The Review Committee had discouraged the inclusion of non-professional course in the LIS curriculum like, languages, cultural history, general knowledge etc. Therefore, such subjects were gradually removed from the curriculum. Oddly though, now once again there is a trend to include a course on 'Soft Skills' in some LIS schools and such a course is eulogized. Soft skills are definitely needed for employability, but, then one expects a graduate in any discipline (which is the requirement for BLIS programmes) to possess the needed soft skills. Students were given a scholarship when Borden first started and proposed training programmes and this was to attract talent, where as today, we see more and more schools proposing and practicing self financed programmes, scholarships are rarely in sight. It is time the stakeholders woke up to these issues and struggle to implement the recommendations made by the aforesaid committees and resist dilution of the standards.

In order to CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF LIBRARY EDUCATION IN INDIA, let us gift at least one book each to any two children in our region in a language of their choice. (Children after reading the book may circulate it further if they so wish.) Let us also try and inspire two more individuals, i.e., fellow professionals or any friends, to do the same.

The reasons for suggesting this way of celebration are: firstly, this would promote the culture of reading amongst the young; and secondly, we librarians would be able to gain a special and honourable place in the thoughts of the young minds; thirdly, this way we would be able to keep on our celebrations throughout the year and if desired even longer!

Just let us remember to write on the top of the title page of the books that we are gifting:

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF LIBRARY EDUCATION IN INDIA.

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LIBRARIANS DAY SEMINAR

TWENTY ELEVEN

ADINET will be celebrating Librarians' Day in the month of August 2011. The Seminar theme is 'Networking of Libraries in Gujarat for Resource Sharing'

The sub-themes are :

- **Need and Importance of Networking**
- **Areas of Collaboration : Activities and Services**
- **Technology Aspects**
- **Skills and Competencies Required for Networking**

Last date for Registration : 20 July, 2011

Last date for Paper Submission : 31 May, 2011

DATE : Saturday, August 6, 2011

VENUE : Ahmedabad Management Association,
Ahmedabad

LIBRARIANS

MASTERS OF THE INFO UNIVERSE

Librarians, information specialists, knowledge managers or whatever title -- their skills are in high demand. Enjoy the following tidbits of information.

Famous people who were librarians FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, Casanova, Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir, former first lady Laura Bush and China's Mao Zedong. At one point in their lives, each of them either worked as librarian or in a library

Librarians are techno-savvy Librarians don't just use books anymore. Searching through tweets, blogs, podcasts, websites and more to find accurate and authoritative information has become more the rule than the exception. At a time where anyone can Google just about anything, librarians don't just find information, they find the correct information -- and fast. ALA reports reference librarians in the nation's public and academic libraries answered nearly 5.7 million questions each week in 2010.

Librarians **influence** our culture and society & also **track** spy info and classified intelligence

Librarians are **heroic** and are **behind the scenes** in current events.

A character in "The Callahan Touch", one of science fiction writer Spider Robinson's books, said, **"Librarians are the secret masters of the universe. They control information.**

For more details log on to <http://edition.cnn.com/2011/LIVING/04/12/librarians.masters.of.universe/index.html>

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