IASLIC NEWSLETTER

For Members only
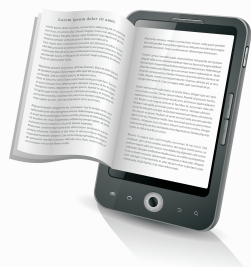
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Quote of the Month

" *I ransack public libraries and find them full of sunk treasure.*"

- Virginia Woolf
British fiction writer

Appeal to Readers

News from different regions / states are solicited from IASLIC members for inclusion in the newsletter. Send such news to the Editor.

Email: *chatterjeeamitabha@yahoo.co.in*

IASLIC ACTIVITIES

IASLIC 31st ALL INDIA CONFERENCE 2017

Theme: **Public Libraries in India in 21st Century**

Special Interest Group Discussions

SIG01: Social Science Information
Information Literacy Competency Development

SIG02 Computer Applications in LIS
Digital Indian Initiative and Libraries

Organized by

Department of Library & Information Science
Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi 221005

Organizing Secretary

Dr. Aditya Tripathi
Associate Professor & Head
Department of Library & Information Science
Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi 221005

Date:

November 7- 9, 2017

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Note: **The last date for submission of full papers has been extended upto August 25, 2017**

Study Circle Lecture on Public Libraries in Australia

The 330th IASLIC Study Circle meeting was held on June 29, 2017, in the Seminar Room of the Association. The meeting was chaired by Shri Soumen Sarkar, Deputy Director of Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation. Shri Partha Sarathi Das, Assistant Library & Information Officer, National Library, Kolkata, delivered a lecture on 'Sharing experience of present public library system in Australia'. Shri Das, in his lecture, first discussed the background of his recent visit to Australia sponsored by International Network of Emerging Library Innovators (INELI) South Asia and explained the objective of the network. He then presented an overview of the public library system in Australia, with special reference to Melbourne. He explained the nature and activities of public libraries in Australia and showed through ppt. presentation how the architecture of public libraries in that country attracted people to come and enjoy the facilities of public libraries. He also showed how the different sections of a public library, like the children section, reading room, space for community discussion, cultural activities, etc. made the public libraries more popular and attractive. He also described the role of NGOs and volunteers who sincerely work for the public libraries in Australia. The lecture was followed by a lively question-answer session. In his concluding remarks, Shri Sarkar mentioned about the scope and limitations of the public library system in India. He pointed out the limitations of RRRLF in developing the public library system in India as RRRLF was controlled by the union government, whereas the public libraries were being controlled by the state governments. He appealed to the LIS teachers to develop proper attitude about public libraries among the future librarians by giving assignments relating to the problems faced by public libraries and their remedies to their students. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Prof. Krishnapada Majumder, Vice-President of IASLIC.

CONFERENCES / SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS

National

Library Automation Course

Kerala Agricultural University (KAU), Thrissur, in collaboration with the Academic Library Association (ALA) and Kerala College Librarians' Association (KCLA), is organizing a short-term course on 'Library Automation, Digital Library Management and Web Tools for Documentation & Information Services' during August 3–9, 2017 at KAU Central Library, Vellanikakra. For details visit: *www.kau.in* or *www.kaucentrallibrary.org*

Event on Makerspace in Libraries

The Goethe-Institut/Max Mueller Bhavan, Bangalore, in collaboration with Karnataka State Library Association (KALA), Cologne Public Library, Germany, and EDUTECH, is organizing an event 'Makerspaces in Libraries: Day-out with Smart Technologies' on August 8, 2017. For details visit: *www.goethe.de/bangalore* or *www.goethe.de/india*

Seminar on Digital Licensing

National Law University, Delhi, in association with JNU Library, IASLIC Zone-4, Society for Library Professionals and Ranganathan Research Circle, is organizing a seminar on 'Digital Licensing: Smart Decisions for Smart Libraries' on August 9, 2017, on the occasion of the birthday of Dr. S R Ranganathan. For details visit: *http://api.ning.com/files/3vA-IPLwmVufl67c0vMMoQRfYC4iBADdf VlhAftHyL9Ns0ELOh1IfWj8u0mRWUJXCAREfwpSaRDk S8OAhehFQ02MgpHxiDPG/DigitalLicensingBrochure20 1715072017.pdf*

Conference on Challenges for Libraries

The National Institute of Technology Library, Kurukshetra, in collaboration with Haryana Library Association (HLA), is organizing the 29th HLA National Conference during August 12–13, 2017 to celebrate the 125th birth anniversary of Dr. S R Ranganathan as Librarians' Day. The theme of the conference is 'Digital Revolution and Challenges for Libraries'. For details visit: *http://nitkkr.ac.in/docs/National%20Conference.pdf*

Workshop on Koha

The Resource Centre of National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research, Taramani, Chennai, is organizing a National Workshop on Koha during August 14–18, 2017. For details visit: *http://www.nitttrc.ac.in*

Workshop on IndKoha

The Bengal Library Association is organizing a Workshop on 'IndKoha' during August 26–27, 2017 at Swami Vivekananda Auditorium, Heritage Institute of Technology, Kolkata. For details visit: *http://www.blacal.org/*

Workshop on Digitization

Indira Gandhi Memorial Library, University of Hyderabad, is conducting a 'Workshop on Digitization' during August 26–27, 2017, on the occasion of Librarians' Day. The workshop registration is free. For more details visit: *http://igmlnet.uohyd.ac.in:8000/*

Web Conference on LIS

The 2nd National Conference on 'Library, Information Science & Information Technology for Education' (NCITE'17) is being organized by Modern Rohini Education Society (Regd.), Delhi, on August 27, 2017. It will be organized through technology platform i.e. web conferencing. For details visit: *http://conference.rtmonline.in*

Seminar on API Score

Department of Library, K S Rangasamy College of Technology, Tirunchengode, is organizing a National Seminar on 'Improving Your API Scores based on UGC Regulations' on August 28, 2017. For details visit: *www.ksrct.ac.in*

Workshop on Preservation of Library Materials

A UGC Sponsored National Workshop on 'Preservation of Library Materials in North East India' is being organized by the Central Library of Debraj Roy College, Golaghat, Assam, during September 8–9, 2017. For details visit: *https://drive.google.com/ file/d/0B8_yAyc3lRHOWDR2Mklv LXR4Vzg/view*

Seminar on Challenges of Information Needs

IASLIC Zone-2, in association with Health Science Librarians Association of India (HLAI), is organizing a National Seminar on 'Challenges of Information Needs and Innovative Services in the Digital World' on September 16, 2017 at IIT-Bombay, Mumbai. For details visit: *https://iaslicmumbaizone.wixsite.com/ mysite*

Workshop on DSpace

Dr. Gaur Hari Singhania Institute of Management and Research, Kanpur, will organize an Introductory Workshop on 'Digital Repository using DSpace' on October 7, 2017. For details visit: *http:// api.ning.com/files/driHK-hXK9vAtp3lc4X UpODD24ibIohEW7Bm4-cBOzNqZrOI Rp-CZ7Fy*1pRBCOoFr2MxzUAjnut417MkYvcU6CZMtk aJfgE/BROCHUREDSPACE2.pdf*

Workshop on Building Smart Libraries

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi, is going to organize a Workshop on 'Digital Marketing and Role of Social Media to Build Smart Libraries 2.0' during November 8–10, 2017. For details visit: *http://www.teriin.org/events/smart-library*

Refresher Course in LIS

The Academic Staff College, University of Hyderabad, will conduct a Refresher course in Library and Information Science during December 8–28, 2017. For details visit: *http://www.uohyd.ac.in/index.php/ component/content/article/161-more-links/368-ugc-hrd-asc*

International

Conference on Libraries beyond Borders

The Department of Library Services of Christian Medical College, Vellore, in collaboration with Library and Information Science Society for Asia and the Pacific, Chennai, is organizing an International Conference on 'Libraries Beyond Borders: Innovative Trends, Issues and Challenges in Knowledge Dissemination' (ICLLB 2017) during August 18–19, 2017. For details visit: *http://iclbb.com/*

Conference on Informatics

International Conference on 'Informatics and Computing (ICIC) 2017, APTIKOM, IEEE and Scopus' will be held at Papua, Indonesia, during November 1–2, 2017. For details visit: *http://icic-aptikom.org/*

Conference on Information Systems

The 1st International Conference on 'Information Systems & Security' (ICoISS2017) will be held at Melaka, Malaysia, during November 7–9, 2017. For details visit: *http://icorast.usim.edu.my/cfp/icoiss/*

Conference on Digital Libraries

The 19th International Conference on 'Asia-Pacific Digital Libraries' (ICADL 2017) will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, during November 13–15, 2017. For details visit: *http://www.icadl2017.org*

Conference on Future of Libraries

An International Conference on 'Future of Libraries: From Promises to Practices'(ICFL) is being organized by Documentation Research & Training Centre, Bangalore, during November 15–17, 2017. The last date for submission of papers is August 31, 2017. For more details visit: *https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B-NYaeh_KQIkNjh3UGU5WENGc3c/view*

Conference on Knowledge Discovery

The 6th International Conference on 'Knowledge Discovery (ICKD 2017)--Ei Compendex and Scopus' will be held at Penang, Malaysia, during November 24–26, 2017. For details visit: *http://www.ickd.org/*

Conference on Social Sciences Research

The 6th International Conference on Social Sciences Research 2017 will be held on December 5, 2017 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The topics to be discussed in the conference include Information Science. For details visit: *http://worldconferences.net/icssr*

Conference on Social Sciences and Humanities

The 4th Academic International Conference on Social Sciences and Humanities (AICSSH) will be held at Cambridge, UK, during December 7–9, 2017. The topics to be discussed in the conference include Information Sciences. For details visit: *http://www.flelearning.co.uk/ vaicssh/call-for-papers*

Conference on Divyangs

Punerutthan, a Delhi based NGO, in association with Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), New Delhi, is organizing an International Conference on 'Divyangs and PMG' at IIMC on December 10, 2017. One of the sub-themes of the conference is 'Divyangs and Libraries in Digital India'. For details email to: *icdpmg17@gmail.com*

Conference on Big Data

The ACM - 2017 International Conference on 'Big Data and Internet of Thing (BDIOT2017) Ei Compendex,

Scopus and ISI' will be held in London during December 20–22, 2017. For details visit: *http://www.bdiot.org*

Symposium on Technologies in Libraries

The IEEE International Symposium on 'Emerging Trends and Technologies in Libraries and Information Services' is going to be organized by Bennett University, Greater Noida, in association with University of East London, during February 21–23, 2018. The symposium is being technically sponsored by IEE UP Section (India). The last date for paper submission is August 31, 2017. For details visit: *http://www.bennett.edu.in/ettlis2018/*

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Replacement for Demolished Library

Having come under severe criticism from residents and heritage activists for demolishing a 100-year-old library in Murphy Town in Bangalore to build an Indira Canteen, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has now planned to build a public library in front of the canteen, says a report published in *Deccan Herald.* The library was demolished recently to enable the construction of the state government's flagship project, Indira Canteen, offering food at subsidized rates. Sensing trouble after the demolition, BBMP commissioner N Manjunath Prasad said, "We are planning to build a library in front of the canteen. The reason why we demolished the building was that it was lying unused for 10 years and was in a dilapidated state. Although the public library was relocated two weeks ago, the demolition took the nearby merchants by surprise. For details visit: *http://m.deccanherald.com/index.php?url=/content/624723/after-razing-heritage-structure-canteen.html&secid=7*

E-Library for Print-disabled

In a landmark move, the National Association for the Blind (NAB), Jharkhand chapter, and Ranchi-based voluntary outfit Lakshya have come to an understanding with Bookshare the world's largest digital library for the differently abled to allow special readers in the state free access to a collection of over 5 lakh books, says a report by Animesh Bisoee published in *The Telegraph*. The virtual library, supported by the US Department of Education, offers books in user-friendly formats, including DAISY (Digital Accessible Information System or talking books) and BRF (Braille Ready Format), to the print-disabled people who cannot effectively read printed material because of visual, physical, perceptual, developmental, cognitive or learning disabilities. For full report visit: *https://www.telegraphindia.com/1170715/jsp/jharkhand/story_161983.jsp*

A Book for Every Hand

'Har haath ek kitaab' ('one book for every hand') is the new scheme set in motion by the National Book Trust, according to a *The Hindu* report. Under the scheme, people can make donations to children in the form of books with a simple method. They can transfer money to online shopping site Snapdeal, with which the Trust, an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MoHRD), has formally tied up, and the money will then be transferred to NBT. NGOs that are in touch with local communities choose the books to be distributed to children from within NBT's catalogue of children's books. "We will supply our books, meant for children between the ages of 6 and 12, across the country, through these tie-ups," said an official. The NBT is also subsidizing the cost of the books by about 23.5 per cent. Already, 3,726 children's books have been sent out under the scheme. For original report visit: *http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/a-book-for-every-hand/article19205479.ece*

Library of Unpublished Books

"In the books of the Richard Brautigan Library, the humanity is so thick it's almost unbearable", says Matthew Korfhage in an article in *www.wweek.com* website. "Do I have a jaundiced view of youth because I, myself, am no longer young?" muses Gladys Hunt of Eugene. "I would like to know why life is so different than it used to be." The Richard Brautigan Library is three bookshelves in the basement of the Clark County Historical Museum in Vancouver, Washington. Amid its 311 volumes are books about frontier adventure, nuclear war scenarios and entire lifetimes of regret. Every book is united in one respect: none has been published by any commercial house, and none of them ever will be. These shelves exist because poet and novelist Richard Brautigan described a library of unpublished books in his 1971 novel, *The Abortion: An Historical Romance*. And 27 years ago in Vermont, a man named Todd Lockwood decided he would create the library for real. Lockwood fielded submissions from as far away as Saudi Arabia, but in 1995 he ran out of money. The collection was orphaned until 2010, when John Barber, a Brautigan scholar, arranged to have the library brought to a new Vancouver home. In the dusty-tiled basement of the historical museum, the identically bound volumes take on an almost unseemly intimacy. Grammatical errors have been preserved, as has a great deal of sadness. Reading each volume feels like spying creepily on a life, a rear window onto human needs that feel far too naked to be made public. For full report visit: *http://www.wweek.com/arts/books/2017/07/11/theres-a-library-in-vancouver-full-of-hundreds-of-books-that-have-never-been-published-and-never-will-be/*

Website for Book Donation to Needy

A news item that Mrunal Jitendra Bajaj saw in 2015 touched her deeply and gave her life a new meaning. The news was about a boy in Class IX who committed suicide as he had no money to buy textbooks. It prompted her to start a portal, *www.donateurbooks.com*, for people wishing to donate books to those in need of books, says a report by Varda Sharma published in *The Hindu*. All

transactions on the website are free. "Every house has a stock of old books that are rarely used. Due to space constraints, many sell these to scrap dealers at throwaway prices. While some of us wish to give them to the needy, we are not aware of where we can donate them," says Ms. Bajaj. Ms. Bajaj, now a Class XII Commerce student of Saraswati Secondary High School, Thane, has been running the website for two years. Around 587 customers have registered on the website and nearly 125 books are listed on it, most of them in the educational category. For inspiration, Ms. Bajaj didn't have to look beyond her family. Her grandfather, Sudhakar Bajaj, is a freedom fighter while her parents, Jitendra Bajaj and Reema Bajaj, have been running a free educational institution for underprivileged children in Thane since 1994. "I have seen the financial constraints faced by such children up close; particularly how difficult it becomes for them to buy textbooks," says Ms. Bajaj. For full report visit: *http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/mumbai/the-gift-of-knowledge/article19273360.ece*

Writing-Reading Celebration

Leading Britishers, writers Irenosen Okojie, Courttia Newland, Bidisha, and Alex Wheatle MBE, are to take up residencies in London libraries as part of a new literary initiative in association with Arts Council England, Spread the Word and the Association of London Chief Librarians, says a post on *thebookseller.com* website. City of Stories is a London-wide celebration of writing, reading and stories designed to inspire Londoners to reveal their stories as part of a two-year literary initiative. The project, which will continue from 2017 to 2018, will run 40 free short story writing workshops for adult learners, and those with English as a Second Language. The four writers in residence, located in four libraries, will produce original short stories based on their borough, which will be made into films. The project will also host a City of Stories Short Story Competition for participants who have attended the workshops, with a judging panel comprised of the writers in residence. For more details visit: *http://www.thebook seller.com/news/leading-writers-take-residencies-london-libraries-556526*

Publisher wins Copyright case

One of the world's largest science publishers, Elsevier, won a default legal judgement recently against websites that provide "illicit" access to tens of millions of research papers and books, says a report by Quirin Schiermeier posted on *www.nature.com* website. A New York district court awarded Elsevier US$15 million in damages for copyright infringement by Sci-Hub, the Library of Genesis (LibGen) project and related sites. Judge Robert Sweet had ruled in October 2015 that the sites violate US copyright. The court issued a preliminary injunction against the sites' operators, who nevertheless continued to provide unauthorized free access to paywalled content. Alexandra Elbakyan, a former neuroscientist who started Sci-Hub in 2011, operates the site out of Russia, using varying domain names and IP addresses. For details visit: *http://www.nature.com/news/us-court-grants-elsevier-millions-in-damages-from-sci-hub-1.22196*

Mobile Library to Impart Digital Literacy

A mobile science lab and digital library will soon begin its journey through the rustic village roads of Kerala with the aim of ensuring digital literacy for the rural masses and to spread awareness about cashless economy among them, says a *The Times of India* report. The mobile science laboratory-cum-digital library with the message 'Growth of Society through Technology' was inaugurated by Kerala Transport Minister A K Saseendran recently. The van will pass through rural Kerala, educating the public on topics like better health care, organic farming, digital banking, environmental protection and so on. For details visit: *http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/thiruvananthapura m/mobile-science-lab-and-digital-library-to-begin-journey/articleshow/57418609.cms*

British Library Digitizes Rare Bengali Books

The British Library, which is leading an international partnership to digitize rare materials from its South Asian printed book collection, has scanned 1,000 old and rare printed Bengali books of the 19th century, according to project coordinators, says a *The Times of India* report. As part of the 'Two Centuries of Indian Print' (TCIP) project, in total, 4,000 early printed Bengali books, amounting to more than 800,000 pages, will be digitized and made freely available online. "So far we have scanned 1,000 books. There are books literally from every discipline you could think of. There are treatises on sciences, education, religion, missionaries coming to India and translation of the Bible," Tom Derrick, Digital Curator, TCIP told IANS at Jadavpur University, Kolkata, recently on the sidelines of a symposium exploring the history of print in South Asia. The TCIP pilot project is a partnership between the British Library, the School of Cultural Texts and Records (SCTR) of Jadavpur University, Srishti Institute of Art, Design and Technology, and the Library at SOAS University of London, involving collaborations with the National Library of India. It marks the start of a major programme to share the wealth of Indian printed books held by the British Library dating from 1713 to 1914. For more details visit: *http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life-style/books/features/british-library-digitising-rare-printed-bengali-books/articleshow/59629121.cms*

Indian Donation to Jaffna Library

Taranjit Singh Sandhu, the Indian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka, donated as many as 16,000 books to the iconic Jaffna Public Library in Sri Lanka recently, according to a *The Times of India* report. The newly donated collection will be kept at the 'India Corner' of the library, the one Prime Minister Narendra Modi had inaugurated during his maiden visit to that country in 2015. Chief Librarian Suganthy

Sadasivamoorthy was quoted saying, "the titles cover topics ranging from culture, literature, philosophy, politics to science." The new books, mostly in Tamil, will add to the library's existing collection of some 1,00,000 books collected over the 30 years. For details visit: *http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life-style/books/features/india-donates-books-to-sri-lankas-iconic-library/articleshow/59396985.cms*

Poor Condition of Old MNS in Chennai Library

Piles of ancient palm-leaf manuscripts, boxes containing rare books, now torn and damaged, scattered papers and records welcome to the seventh floor of the Anna Centenary Library where the Government Oriental Manuscript Library (GOML) has been shifted from the University of Madras campus recently, says a report by M T Saju published in *The Times of India* recently. Despite objection from activists and scholars, manuscripts were transported in May to execute a government order issued in February by the Commissioner of Archaeology. But while officials were prompt in executing the order, their unplanned approach meant that rare manuscripts were dumped into rooms, strewn on the floor, and kept on window sills. Experts say palm-leaf manuscripts need special care, but the Anna library authorities seem to have thought otherwise. "The manuscripts have been collected from various scholars and families since 1869. It was with great pain and devotion the library preserved those rare collections," said S Muthu Kumar, a research scholar based in Chennai. "Today, those rare palm-leaf manuscripts have been dumped in a room. It shows how careless the government is in preserving our culture and heritage," he said. According to its website, GOML has 50,180 palm-leaf manuscripts, 22,134 paper manuscripts and 26,556 rare printed books. But scholars say many manuscripts might have been lost while being moved to the new address in Kotturpuram. "Despite suggestions from top officials that the entire process needs to be recorded, it was not done. We don't know whether they have the original catalogue which has details about all the works that GOML housed. Many manuscripts must have been lost while shifting," said Kumar. For more details visit: *http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/at-anna-library-annals-of-yore-left-to-elements/articleshow/59327668.cms*

Lost British Manuscripts found in New Zealand

Two handwritten music manuscripts discovered in a library clearout at an amateur orchestra in New Zealand have been confirmed as the work of British composer Gustav Holst, untraced for more than a century, says a Reuters report carried by *www.librarystuff.net* website. The North Island's Bay of Plenty Symphonia is mapping the path of the 1906 manuscripts after Britain's Holst Archive said they were the authentic and original signed work of a composer best known for his orchestral suite, "The Planets". For details visit: *http://www.librarystuff.net/2017/07/19/from-trash-to-treasure-british-composer-holsts-lost-manuscripts-found-in-new-zealand/*

Huge Collection of Library Fines from Children

In their 2015 public tax returns, the New York's three independent library systems, the New York Public Library, the Queens Library and the Brooklyn Public Library, reported collecting a total of $5.5 million in fines, according to a recent *New York Times* report. Just as adults discover they cannot renew their driving licenses if they have too many unpaid tickets, children discover that they lose library privileges if they rack up more than $15 in late fees. A recent tally found that library cards were blocked for more than 225,000 young people in the city. That means around one in five city children with library cards cannot use them. The social cost has become too steep, says Anthony W. Marx, president of the New York Public Library, the largest system. "We see the blockage of fines concentrated in the poorer neighborhoods where we want kids to be reading," Mr. Marx said. "If fines are getting in the way, we need to find solutions." Among a number of approaches, Mr. Marx has sought private funding for a $10 million endowment that would create fine-free borrowing in perpetuity. The other leaders of city libraries, Dennis M. Walcott (Queens) and Linda E. Johnson (Brooklyn), say they, too, would rather be handing books to children than collecting fines from them, but have not joined Mr. Marx's quest for an endowment. For details visit: *https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/04/nyregion/library-fines-children-books.html?rref=collection%2Ftimestopic%2FLibraries%20and%20Librarians&action=click&contentCollection=timestopics&region=stream&module=stream_unit&version=latest&contentPlacement=1&pgtype=collection*

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

New Reading App

The United States currently has 160 million people who don't yet know about all the goodness libraries have to offer. To enlighten these potential library users about the wonderment of reading, OverDrive has introduced a new way to find and engage with their local library, according to a post on OverDrive Blog. Libby, the new one-tap reading app built by OverDrive, is the quickest and easiest way to get started reading and discovering digital library content from anywhere in the world. Libby was designed based on guidance from librarians and the feedback of thousands of beta users to provide a reading experience perfect for all users. At the same time, Libby makes bringing new users to the library a snap through its intuitive and simple interface. By bringing in new users, libraries will be able to reach more of their community and introduce them to more valuable programs and free online services everyday. For more details visit: *http://blogs.overdrive.com/featured-post-library-blog/2017/06/21/meet-libby/*

SPECIAL FEATURE

Books that you can eat !

While reading an interesting book, every one of us often devours it like a savoury. But can a book be a real savoury? Yes, it was made possible by some enthusiasts as early as in 2000, when the first Edible Book Event - Edible Book Festival - was organized at Forbes Library, the public library for Northampton, Massachusetts, USA. The idea of organizing the event first struck Judith Holmberg, an art librarian of Santa Monica, California, during her Thanksgiving dinner with book artists in 1999. She along with Beatrice Corn then initiated the event to commemorate the birthday of famous French gastronome Jean-Anthelme Brillat-Savarin, who is best remembered for his book *Physiologie du goût*, which is a witty meditation on food. His book is a discourse on the pleasures of the table, which he considered a science.

What is actually an 'Edible Book'? Edible book is the book that must be edible and have something to do with books: looks like a book, includes text to read, or illustrates a theme taken from a book or a book title. In other words, an edible book must relate to a real book through the integration of text, literary inspiration or the form. Obviously, edible books are made of edible materials as these are actually consumed on the day of the event after it is displayed and judged. The participants and judges nibble the entries.

The International Edible Book Festival is celebrated on or around April 1st of each year, which is also known as Edible Book Day. Besides the international event, many libraries throughout USA organize such an event every year. Not only that, such events are now organized in many other countries. According to a report, presently such events are organized in at least 23 countries, viz., Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, England, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxemburg, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, USA, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Sweden and India. In India such a festival is regularly organized in Auroville in Puducherry. In these events "edible books" are created, displayed, and small events are held. Each piece of edible book is ranked by local celebrity judges and artists/chefs and the winning piece gets an award often donated by local businessmen. The creations are also photographed and submitted to *www.books2eat.com* and then consumed.

The above website, *www.books2eat.com*, has clearly delineated the ground rules of edible book festivals, which are generally followed by the managers of such festivals. These rules state that the event must be held on April 1 or close to that date; all edible books must be 'bookish' through the integration of text, literary inspiration or quite simply, the form; and organizations or individual participants must send a link to their photo album or upload pictures on Facebook and see to it that the event is immortalized on the web and share the fun.

The categories of awards that are given in edible book competitions are quite interesting in nature. We can get an idea of such categories from those announced by some organizers of Edible Book Festivals this year. University of Illinois Library of USA gave awards in following categories: Best Depiction in Classic, Best Visual Presentation, Most Appetizing, Funniest/Punniest, Best Entry Based on Books for Children or Teens, Best Collaborative Creation and People's Choice; while the famous Bodleian Library of Oxford University gave awards in the following categories: Most Creative, Most Fun (i.e. Funniest), Most Bookish and People's Choice.

The themes chosen for entries are also very interesting. Some examples of the themes which were depicted in this year's festivals are: a row of white teeth in human mouth designed after the novel 'White Teeth' by Zadie Smith; a bust of American poet and short story writer Edgar Allen Poe with his biography; Crime and "Bun"-ishment (the term coined after Russian writer Dostoyevsky's novel Crime and Punishment) showing buns within a cage; a figure of dragon made of chocolate pieces placed on a table representing 'How to Train Your Dragon', an American animated film based on Cressida Cowell's story of the same name; a figure of mustached Lorax - the famous animated character of American 3D children's film, The Lorax, based on Theodor Seuss Geisel's book of the same name - sitting in front of three trees; The Giving Tree showing the cover by the book written and illustrated by Shel Silverstein depicting a tree giving away an apple to a child, and the remnant portion of a cut tree and an apple; and so on.

It is true that edible books are meant for eating and not for reading. But edible book festivals do attract people, specially children. The edible books fire their imagination and create inquisitiveness. They are encouraged to read the real books, the replicas of which they witness in these festivals. So let us start a movement to spread edible book festivals in all corners of our country to promote reading habit among children.

[Sources: *http://forbeslibrary.org/giving/edible-book-northampton/history-of-the-edible-book/, http://www.books2eat.com/, http://blogs.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/science/2017/02/03/edible-book-festival-2017/, http://www.nationalwhateverday.com/whatever-days/april/edible-book-day/, http://bookriot.com/2017/04/04/20-incredible-edible-books/, http://www.library.illinois.edu/ediblebooks/*]

NEW LIS LITERATURE

[Note: Publishers of books enlisted here and/or any new books in LIS may send copies of such books to the Editor, *IASLIC Bulletin*, for review]

Indian

1. SUDHIER (K G). Informetric studies: on Physics Theses of Indian Institute of Science. 2017. B R Publishing Corporation, Delhi. Rs.1250. ISBN: 9789386223548

(Contents: Evolution of Metric Studies in LIS − Informetrics − Citation Analysis − Authorship Studies − Aging and Obsolescence Studies − Ranking of Journals − Core Books Study − Application of Bradford's law of Scattering − Application of Lotka's law of Scientific Productivity − New Trends in Informetrics and Altmetrics)

Foreign

1. BAKER (David) and EVANS (Wendy). Innovation in libraries and information services. 2016. Emerald Publishing, Bingley, UK. ISBN: 9781785607318

   (Explains various types of innovation through case studies and exemplars)

2. KEELER (Hali R). Working with library collections: an introduction. 2017. Rowman & Littlefield, Lanham, Maryland. ISBN: 9781442274907

   (Deals with the technical service aspect of library work - the processes that put a book on the shelf or online)

3. MABE (Michael) and ASHLEY (Emily A). The developing role of public libraries in emergency management: emerging research and opportunities. 2017. IGI Global, Hershey, PA. $ 120. ISBN: 9781522521969

   (Explores what is emergency management, and describes why public policy and traditional reactionary approaches to emergency have caused

the profession to grow and develop in a different direction)

4. MARDIS (Marcia A), *Ed.* Librarians and educators collaborating for success: the international perspective. Libraries Unlimited, Santa Barbara. $65. ISBN: 009781440837500

   (Documents the collaboration endeavors in international school libraries)

5. WEBB (Jo). Teaching information skills: theory and practice. 2nd ed. 2016. Facet Publications, London. $99.95. ISBN: 9781856049498

   (Shows librarians how to empower their library users and teach information skills)

PERSONALIA

Dr. J. K. Vijayakumar has taken over as Library Director at King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST), Thuwal, Saudi Arabia, on July 1, 2017. Dr. Vijayakumar joined KAUST Library in 2009 as its founding team member and contributed to its growth in many leadership roles, such as Senior Subject Specialist, Research and Reference Manager, Collections and Information Service Manager and Interim Director. Prior to joining KAUST, he was Associate Library Director at American University of Antigua in West Indies and Scientist at Information and Library Network Center (INFLIBNET) in India. He is a member of several Journal Editorial Boards, Publisher's Librarian Advisory Boards and IFLA ACD Standing Committee. Dr. Vijaykumar is a life member of IASLIC.

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