At a Glance

Editor

Prof. Amitabha Chatterjee

Associate Editor:
Dr. Gurudas Ghosh

Assistant Editor:
Shri Partha Sarathi Das

Editorial Board

Prof. J K Sarkhel
Prof. K P Majumder
Prof. P K Panigrahi

Quote of the Month

" Libraries are reservoirs of strength, grace and wit, reminders of order, calm and, continuity, lakes of mental energy, neither warm nor cold, light nor dark "

- Germaine Greer,
Australian-born writer and public intellectual.

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: Brief Report

The 31st All India Conference of IASLIC, jointly organized by the Department of Library & Information Science, Banaras Hindu University (BHU); Sayaji Rao Gaikwad Central Library, BHU; and Indian Institute of Technology Library (BHU), was successfully held during November 7- 9, 2017 at Swatantrata Bhawan (BHU).

The inaugural function, which was held on November 7, 2017, was presided over by Prof. Kumar Pankaj, Dean, Faculty of Arts, BHU. Dr. Neeraj Tripathi, Registrar and Actg. Vice-chancellor of BHU, was the chief guest. The programme started with the garlanding of the bust of Mahamana Madan Mohan Malaviya, the founder of BHU. This was followed by Kulageet (university anthem) sung by the students of the department and lighting of the ceremonial lamp by Prof. Pankaj, Dr. Tripathi and other dignitaries. Prof. Aditya Tripathi, Organizing Secretary & Head, DLIS, BHU, welcomed the dignitaries, guests and delegates. The General Secretary of IASLIC, Shri Sajal Kanti Goswami, in his address, mentioned about the activities of IASLIC, while Prof. P K Panigrahi, Court Member of BHU, justified the selection of the venue of the conference. Prof. A R D Prasad, Professor & Head DRTC, Bangalore, and Conference President, gave an overview of the public library system of the country and expressed the hope that the conference would invigorate and reenergize this system. Dr. J N Satpathi, President of IASLIC, recalled the contributions made by IASLIC. Dr. Neeraj Tripathi highlighted the significant role of public libraries. In his presidential address, Prof. Pankaj stressed on the convenience of printed books as compared to that of e-books. Dr. Naveen Upadhyay, Deputy Librarian, IIT (BHU) and Joint Organizing Secretary, proposed the vote of thanks.

The technical sessions started with introductory remarks by Prof. H N Prasad, Professor, DLIS and Librarian, BHU, who served as director of the thematic sessions. There were six technical sessions in which 34 accepted papers were presented by respective authors/co-authors, besides five invited papers presented by Prof.N R Satyanarayana, former professor of DLIS, Lucknow University; Prof. N Lahakar of DLIS, Gauhati University; Prof. Amitabha Chatterjee, former Professor, DLIS, Jadavpur University, Kolkata; Prof. K P Majumder, former Professor, Jadavpur University, Kolkata; and Prof. A R D Prasad of DRTC. One invited paper and four accepted papers on the main theme could not be presented as the authors were not present. There were interesting interactions at the end of each technical session. The papers on SIG topics were presented in two parallel sessions (sessions 7a and 7b). In session 7a, three papers out of four accepted papers were presented, besides an invited paper presented by Prof. Amitabha Chatterjee; while all the three accepted papers were presented in session-7b.

A panel discussion was conducted after the technical sessions on the topic 'Library Legislation in India and Public Libraries', which was chaired by Prof. Lahkar. Other panelists were Prof. N R Satyanarayana and Prof. K P Majumder. At the poster presentation venue, six posters were presented out of twelve accepted for presentation. Of these, two presentations entitled 'Status of public library system in north-east India: problems and prospects', by Pulak Saha and Abhijit Mukhopadhyay and 'Services for differently-abled people in public libraries of Lucknow', by Junaid Rayini and Babita Jaisawal were adjudged as best poster presentations. The meeting of IASLIC Governing Body was held on November, 7, 2017 and the Annual General Meeting was held on November 8, 2017. A book exhibition was organized outside the conference hall, in which a good number of local and international publishers took part. There were also some product presentations during the conference.

The curtain came down on the conference in the valedictory session chaired by Shri Lal Mani Prasad Singh, former Librarian of BHU, who also delivered the valedictory address. Prof. Kumar Pankaj was the chief guest. In his valedictory address, Shri Singh lamented that the users' relationship with libraries was diminishing day by day and said that in ICT enabled environment too the bonding between the library and the public must be ensured. Prof. Kumar Pankaj highlighted the eternal value of the book and stressed on the need for preserving the traditional book and judicious use of technology. Best Poster Presentation awards were handed over to the respective authors/co-authors during the session. The report of the conference and the draft resolutions were presented by Prof. Durga Shankar Rath, Head, DLIS, Vidyasagar University, Medinipur, and the Rapporteur General of the conference. The draft resolutions were approved with some additions and modifications suggested by the participants. The session ended with a vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Bhaskar Mukherjee, Professor, DLIS, BHU.

List of New Members

The following is a list of newly enrolled members of IASLIC:

Life

1. Dr. Atanu Das, Kolkata [3952-L(Z-6)]
2. Mr. Sandip Majumdar, Malda [3951-L(Z-6)]
3. Ms. Chandana Hazarika, Tinsukia [3953-L(Z-5)]

Ordinary

1. Dr. Saji Nair, Thiruvananthapuram [3959-O(Z-1)]
2. Mr. Abhishek Chakraborty, Jalpaiguri [3954-O(Z-6)]
3. Ms. Chitra Anand, Bangalore [3955-O(Z-1)]
4. Dr. Devendra, Bangalore [3956-O(Z-1)]
5. Mr. Arnab Mahajan, Kolkata [3958-O(Z-6)]
6. Mr. Soumya Jash, Burdwan [3960-O(Z-6)]
7. Ms. Satabdi Mondal, Burdwan [3961-O(Z-6)]
8. Dr. Suresh Kumar Tejomurtula [3957-O(Z-1)]
9. Ms. Antara Dassharma, Kolkata [3965-O(Z-6)]

Institutional

1. The University Librarian, Maharashtra Animal and Fishery Sciences University, Nagpur [3964-I(Z-2)]
2. The Librarian, Sagi Ramkrishnam Raju Engineering College, West Godavari [3963-I(Z-1)]
3. The Principal, Women's Christian College, Kolkata [3962-I(Z-6)]

CONFERENCES / SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS

National

Conference on Connecting Digital Divide

A National Conference on 'Connecting Digital Divide through Academic and Public Libraries' is being organized by the Department of Library, Sri Sarada Niketan College of Science for Women, SALIS and District Central Library, Karur, during December 1 - 2, 2017. For details visit: *http://salis.in/ current programme1.php*

SoFerence 2017

TCS Information Resource Center (IRC), Bhubaneswar, in collaboration with Odisha Library Academy, is organizing the 4th National Level Social Conference on 'Success Stories, Learnings, Creativity, Case Studies, Best Practices and Failures in LIS and related areas' (SoFerence 2017) on December 2, 2017. For details visit: *https://sites.google.com/site/soference2017*

Workshop on Conservation of MNS

A National Mission for Manuscripts sponsored Workshop on 'Preventive Conservation of Manuscripts' is being organized by Institute of Tai Studies and Research, Moranhat, Assam, during December 4 - 8, 2017. For details visit: *http://taistudiesmoranhat. org/webdocs/MRC_Workshop_Advertisement_ An_outline.pdf*

Conference on Librarianship

A National Conference on 'Librarianship: Information: Management', is being organized by Kerala College Librarians' Association, in collaboration with the Department of Library, St. Thomas' College (Autonomous)**,** Thrissur, and with the support of St. Mary's College Thrissur, during December 7 - 9, 2017. For details visit: *http://kcla2017.weebly.com/uploads/ 6/8/5/6/68562051/brochure-conf17.pdf*

Conference on Libraries of the Future

The 5th National Conference of Chandigarh Librarians' Association (CLA) is being organized by CLA, in collaboration with Dev Samaj College for Women,

Chandigarh, on December 8, 2017. The theme of the conference is 'Libraries of the Future'. For details visit: *http://api.ning.com/files/lVFAEL-9ZLYxzq1yNguHHho738uu9FBUUY7941TmNOJkN*qVj2LuTNTocpaQP9JDNoaNTBTDIBYanzbVfJtT6lNnAp26rFvZ/CLAConfrence.pdf*

Workshop on Library Website Design

A National Workshop on 'Design and Development of Library Website and Institutional Repositories Using Open Source Software' is being organized by the Resource Centre, National Institute of Fashion Technology, Navi Mumbai, during December 8-9, 2017. For details visit: *http://14.139.111.19/dspaceworkshop/*

Workshop on Building Digital Libraries

A National Workshop on 'Building Digital Libraries Using DSpace' (NWBDLUD) is being organized by Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University, Lucknow, during December 11-15, 2017. For details visit: *http://rmlnlu.ac.in/pdf/brochureworkshop_271017.pdf*

Training Programme on Sodhganga

An Advanced Training Programme on 'Shodhganga' will be held at INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, during December 13-15, 2017. For more details visit: *https://www.inflibnet.ac.in/*

iETD 2017 Conference

The 'National Conference iETD 2017' will be held at INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar, during December 13-14, 2017. The theme of the conference is 'Re-envisaging iETDs: Roles and Responsibilities'. For details visit: *https://www.inflibnet.ac.in/ietd2017/*

Conference on e-Information Resources

An International Conference on 'Transformation through Electronic Information Resources for Digital Society' (17th IKOL conference) of Library Professionals Association, New Delhi), is being organized by University of Goa, Panaji, during December 15-16, 2017. For details visit: *http://www.lpaindia.in/*

Seminar on Best Practices in Library Services

A UGC Sponsored National Seminar on 'Best Practices in Scholarly Communication & Library Services' is being organized by the Department of Library & Information Science, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, on December 22, 2017. For details email to: *ziarbu@gmail.com* or *sn2086@gmail.com*

Conference on LIS

A National Conference on Library and Information Science (NCLIS) is being organized by the Department Library & Information Science, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, on December 29, 2017, to commemorate the 125th Birth Anniversary of Dr. S R Ranganathan. For details visit: *http://nclis2017.000webhostapp.com*

Conference on Libraries and Transformation

The Department of Studies and Research in Library and Information Science, Tumkur University, is organizing a National Conference on 'Libraries and Transformation: Issues and Challenges' on December 30, 2017. For details visit: *http://bit.ly/libtrans*

Conference on Future of Public Library

The Department of Library and Information Science, Maharaja Bir Bikram University, Agartala, is organizing a National Conference on 'Future and Prospects of Public Library: Role of Information Communication and Technology' during January 4- 6, 2018. For details email to: *mbbu.dlis@gmail.com* or *sudipbht12@gmail*

Library Technology Conclave

Library Technology Conclave 2018 (LTC 2018), organized by Informatics, in partnership with Goa University Library, will be held during January 22 - 24, 2018. The organisers will confer two awards during the conclave, viz., the Best Koha Library Award and the Best Technology Enabled Award. For details visit: *http://ltc2018.informaticsglobal.com/*

Programme on Content Management

Information Resource Centre, INMANTEC Institutions, Ghaziabad, is going to organize a Librarian Development Programme on 'Content Management and Institutional Repository development through open source software Joomla and DSpace' during February 15 - 18, 2018. For details visit: *https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vuzgprMr4k7d2swpnCl5T2gw9fZg5cZx/view*

Conference on Libraries with no Boundaries

Department of PG Studies and Research in Library and Information Science, Kuvempu University, Shankaraghatta, Karnataka, in association with Karnataka State College Librarians Association (KSCLA), is going to organize a National Level Conference on 'Libraries with no boundaries' during February 16 - 17, 2018. For more information visit: *http://www.kuvempu.ac.in*

KHSLA Annual Conference

The 10th Annual Conference of Karnataka Health Sciences Library Association (KHSLA) 2018 will be hosted by Ramaiah Medical College, Bengaluru, during February 23 - 24, 2018. The theme of the conference is 'Library as an Information Service Platform'. For details email to: *siddahss@gmail.com* or *khsla2018@gmail.com*

Training on Library Automation

NISCAIR, New Delhi, is going to organize a training programme on 'Library Automation and Networking' during February 26 - March 9, 2018. For details visit: *http://www.niscair.res.in/*

Conference on Public Library Rejuvenation

The Department of Library & Information Science, Vidyasagar University, Medinipur, West Bengal, is going to organize a National Seminar on 'School Library and Public Library: Rejuvenation of People's University in Knowledge Society' during March 15 - 16, 2018. For details visit: *http://vidyasagar.ac.in/*

Conference on Modern Librarianship

A National Conference on 'Modern Librarianship: Opportunities and Challenges' is going to be organized by the Resource Centre, National Institute of Fashion Technology, Mumbai, and Bombay Science Librarians' Association, Mumbai, during June 8 - 9, 2018. For details visit: *https://bosla2013.wixsite.com/ncml2018*

International

Data Science Winter Institute

The iSchool Asia-Pacific Chapter and University of Hong Kong will be organizing a Data Science Winter Institute at University of Hong Kong during December 7-8, 2017. For details visit: *http://web.hku.hk/~samchu/*

Conference on Library Advocacy

The Annual Conference of the Serbian Library Association will be held during December 13 - 15, 2017 at the National Library of Serbia and University Library "Svetozar Marković", Belgrade. The theme of the conference is 'What I talk about when I talk about libraries: Advocacy, Promoting and Lobbying'. The Association will also celebrate its 70th Anniversary on December 14, 2017. For details visit: *https://slaconference2017.wordpress.com/*

Conference on Digital Humanities

The Department of Library & Information Science, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, is going to organize an International Conference on 'Digital Humanities and Digital Societies in the Contemporary World (DHDS 2018)' during January 18 - 19, 2018. For details visit: *https://sites.google.com/view/incon2018*

Conference on Internet of Things

An International Conference on 'Internet of Things and Current Trends in Libraries' will be held at Gujarat Power Engineering and Research Institute, Ahmedabad-Mehsana Expressway, Village - Mewad, Dist. Mehsana, Gujarat, during January 18-20, 2018. For details visit: *http://www.gperi.ac.in/ITCTL/index.html*

Conference on Knowledge Resources

Department of Library, DRBCCC Hindu College, Pattabiram, Chennai, is organizing an International Conference on 'Knowledge Resources and Technologies in Higher Education' (KRTHE 2018) during February 16-17, 2018. For details visit: *http://krthe 2018.weebly.com*

Seminar on Rejuvenating Public Library Services

The Department of Library & Information Science, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, is organizing an International Seminar on 'Rejuvenating Public Library Services through Digital Reference Sources' (IS-RPLS-DRS) during February 22 - 23, 2018. For details visit: *http://www.jaduniv.edu.in/new_upload/seminarlib 2017.pdf*

Information Behaviour Conference

The Information Behaviour Conference (ISIS 2018) will be held at Jgiellonian University, Karkow, Poland, during October 9 - 11, 2018. For details visit: *http://www.isic2018.com/*

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Library Map of World

IFLA has completed the first phase of data collection for its Library Map of the World project on October 31, 2017. With the help of data contributors from around the world, IFLA has been able to count more than two million libraries in 99 countries. The Library Map of the World is an ongoing activity. The data obtained in the first phase are now being analyzed and annual summary report will be available soon. Library Map of the World can be viewed at *librarymap.ifla.org.*

Manuscripts Mission facing web space crunch

Having digitised about 2.20 lakh manuscripts with 2.5 crore pages since its launch in 2003, the National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) is facing shortage of web space for its portal where it wants to upload these documents for public access, according to a *The Hindustan Times* report by Sanjeev K Ahuja. About 80,000 DVDs on which the NMM has stored the documents remain stashed in corrugated carton boxes and steel almirahs dumped in the corridors of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts. As against its requirement of one thousand terabytes (TB), the government-run National Informatic Centre has promised it a minuscule 50TB space. NMM is India's ambitious initiative that aims at documenting, digitising and preserving about 5 lakh decaying manuscripts. For details visit: *http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/facing-webspace-crunch-govt-s-digitised-manuscripts-languish-in-almirahs-boxes/story-vv7Yk2kVL3mgmXCi8X4VUI.html*

Standard for Standards

The National Information Standards Organization (NISO) has announced the publication of a new American National Standard, STS: Standards Tag Suite, ANSI/NISO Z39.102-2017, according to *librarytechnology.org* website. The purpose of this "standard for standards," which will be known as NISO STS, is to define a suite of XML elements and attributes that describes the full-text content and metadata of standards. NISO STS provides a common format that preserves intellectual content of standards independent of the form in which that content was originally delivered. This standard includes two implementations:

the Interchange Tag Set and the Extended Tag Set. These tag sets, built from the elements and attributes defined in the Suite, provide models for standards publishing and interoperability. NISO STS builds upon the existing, widely used standard for journal publishers, ANSI/NISO Z39.96-2015, JATS: Journal Article Tag Suite, and a variant of JATS, ISOSTS, the International Organization for Standardization's (ISO) version of STS created in 2011. NISO STS has benefited from this robust foundation and broad industry expertise. For details visit: *https://librarytechnology.org/news/pr.pl?id=22945*

Children back to library after fine relief

Over a million kids in New York City have public library cards. But about a fifth of them have blocked accounts due to fines, according to a story by Shumita Basu in *www.wnyc.org* website. It's not so hard to get blocked. Your card gets suspended if you hit $15 in fines. At the New York Public Library, children under 18 years old are fined 10 cents a day per book (that's a 25 cent fine for adults). And all media, like DVDs and tapes, will cost you $3 for every late day. For many kids, they're too intimidated to either talk to their parents or librarians about it, so they just stop going. New York Public Library President Tony Marx says library access should never be about who can afford to pay the fines. "We've heard stories of parents saying to their kids, 'We don't want you to borrow books because you might be late with them and then you'll have fines to worry about.' That's crazy!" said Marx. Marx is currently on the look-out for some creative ways to not fine kids, but still hold them accountable. One idea he's toying with: put a hold on a child's account until they simply return their overdue materials, no fines involved. Five years ago, Marx granted city-wide amnesty to children with fines, and he says they saw 80,000 kids return to the library over time. Now, he's trying to secure a $10 million endowment to get rid of fines in perpetuity. For details visit: *http://www.wnyc.org/story/better-way-get-kids-libraries-stop-fining-them/*

Sorry state of open access repositories

India may not have a national open access policy in place, but the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), the Department of Science & Technology (DST), the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), and the University Grants Commission (UGC) have open access policies that clearly mandate researchers to deposit their papers in institutional repositories. National institutes such as the IITs and IISc, too, have repositories and similar mandates. Yet, of the 69 Indian repositories listed in the Directory of Open Access Repositories (DOAR) and Registry of Open Access Repositories (ROAR), only 12 added "at least one item during a month" during the period July 2016 to June 2016, says a report by R Prasad published in *The Hindu*. Seventeen repositories did not add even a single item during the course of the year of study, while 40 were "irregular" in adding items to the repositories, says a correspondence published in *Current*

Science. Worse, some of them are not repositories in the strict sense they do not host research papers, pre-prints or post-prints. Instead, they have theses, dissertations, book chapters, patents, annual reports, technical reports and research proposals to name a few. For details visit: *http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/Open-access-The-sorry-state-of-Indian-repositories/article 17108642.ece*

Rickshaw Library

Bhadohi, near Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh, is famous for its carpet industry. A large contingent of women works in carpet making units in the area. Majority of these workers are illiterate. But about 200 of them have learnt how to read, write and calculate under Label STEP projects. In order to maintain their literacy and enable them to apply whatever they have learnt in everyday life reading materials are now being brought to their villages by a rickshaw. An additional rickshaw library as well as four stationary libraries will be installed in those regions where Label STEP has already run adult education courses. The stationary libraries, where books can also be ordered will receive a telephone connection each and thus become an information centre in the village. Ten other libraries are supposed to be set up in existing schools of partner organizations which are active in carpet weaving regions. For more details visit: *http://www.label-step.org/en/faircarpet-production/projects/empowerment/rickshawlibraries-india*

Bhandarkar Institute's e-library

Precious manuscripts in Sanksrit and its related languages, Pali and the Prakrits, are soon to be preserved for posterity with the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute (BORI) launching an e-library and commencing a major digitization process of its treasure trove in Indology, says a report by Shoumojit Banerjee published in *The Hindu*. Unperturbed by the tumult of Pune's dramatically changing landscape, the institute, named after legendary Indologist Ramkrishna Gopal Bhandarkar, was set up in 1917 and remains a fixture in the city's histo-cultural fabric as a veritable researchers' paradise. BORI's venerated walls house one of South Asia's largest and most invaluable agglomerations of rare manuscripts. "The move to digitize rare books began in earnest in September last year. The Institute has formed a three-member committee to examine its repository of 1.35 lakh books and 28,000 manuscripts", said Shreenand Bapat, Registrar and Curator-in-Charge of BORI. For details visit: *http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/bori-digitising-rare-manuscripts/article18035983.ece*

Internet freedom goes down

Although India overtook the US to become the world's second largest Internet consumer base behind China last year, Internet freedom declined slightly in the country, offsetting gains made in 2014 and 2015, a report has revealed. According to the "Freedom on the Net 2016" report by Freedom House, a US-based think tank, both government and non-governmental entities made efforts to bridge the digital divide in India. After effective digital

campaigning, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) introduced strong net neutrality protections in 2016, prohibiting differential pricing by service providers for different content or applications. "However, other developments undermined Internet freedom. Local authorities ordered service providers to temporarily shut down Internet access in at least 23 reported incidents in various states. In 2016, the Supreme Court dismissed a petition challenging the use of broad powers provided to state governments under the criminal procedure code to shut down Internet services," the report has stated. The Supreme Court also upheld laws criminalising defamation which apply to both online and offline speech. For more details visit: *http://indianexpress.com/article/technology/tech-news-technology/indias-internet-freedom-on-the-decline-report-4376241/*

Rome Library adds 2m records in WorldCat

The National Central Library of Rome (Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Roma) has loaded nearly 2 million records into WorldCat, a comprehensive database of information about library collections, to increase visibility of these Italian collections around the world, according to a press release by OCLC. The National Central Library of Rome holds a large number of special collections and print materials dating back to the 15th century with more than 7,000,000 printed volumes, 1,342,154 brochures, 25,000 cinquecentine (16th century books), 20,000 maps, 10,000 drawings, 8,000 manuscripts and 2,000 incunabula. Following the initial load of 2 million records, the National Central Library of Rome will continue to add records to WorldCat. For details visit: *http://www.oclc.org/*

Google Scholar indexes ProQuest Dissertations

Following the indexing of millions of scholarly articles in Google Scholar, ProQuest and Google are expanding their collaboration by indexing almost half a million full text dissertations from the ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global database (PQDT), the leading source of emerging research from the world's great universities, according to a recent post in *librarytechnology.org* website. Google Scholar users can now seamlessly discover and access this set of full text dissertations in their libraries' subscription collections. The user experience is improved and libraries benefit from increased usage for their content investment. "Dissertations are excellent sources for finding emerging research and new voices," said Allan Lu, Vice President, Research Tools, Services and Platforms. "ProQuest has curated this content over decades and we're continually looking for ways to simplify its discovery and access", he said. For details visit: *https://librarytechnology.org/news/pr.pl?id=22958*

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Google app to turn print into digital photos

Google has introduced a new PhotoScan app for iOS and Android that will turn old print photos into digital photos at no cost, says an article in *www.znet.com* website. PhotoScan detects edges, straightens the image, and rotates it to the correct orientation, and removes glare, claims Google. Users can simply launch the PhotoScan app and are guided to snap the print photo with four white dots acting as a guide. Scanned photos can be saved to your phone's internal storage, or Google Photos to be organized, searchable, and shared. Google Photos currently offers unlimited photo storage. PhotoScan doesn't automatically upload to Google Photos. "We all have those old albums and boxes of photos, but we don't take the time to digitize them because it's just too hard to get it right," said Jingyu Cui, software engineer at Google Photos. "We don't want to mail away our original copy, buying a scanner is costly and time consuming, and if you try to take a photo of a photo, you end up with crooked edges and glare", he said. For details visit: *http://www.zdnet.com/article/google-launches-photoscan-for-ios-android-to-turn-print-into-digital-photos/*

In search of long lasting data storage

The history of civilization is really a tale of data storage. We've come up with an endless list of solutions for passing along culture and knowledge from cave paintings to hard drives. But each solution is imperfect: books can burn (though we have learned how to decode some charred scrolls), monuments weather away and even magnetic tape or discs will eventually fail. While DVDs seem like a long-lasting solution, they're not. And they can only hold a few terabytes of information, but the world's technology produces exabytes and zettabytes of data every year. That's the reason researchers are looking to the second (possibly third) hardest naturally occurring substance on earth to hold all of our info: diamonds. Data encoded in diamonds would not only last an indefinite amount of time, a tiny diamond half the size of rice grain could hold the amount of 100 DVDs, researchers Siddharth Dhomkar and Jacob Henshaw from the City College of New York write at *The Conversation*. In the future, this could jump to the equivalent of one million DVDs. For details visit: *http://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/researchers-use-diamonds-store-data-180960932/?no-ist*

SPECIAL FEATURE

Knowledge in Shackles!

Before the printing press made books cheap and easily available, books were incredibly scarce and precious. No technique of mass production being available, each book had to be carefully copied by hand that took thousands of hours of skilled work. Entire lives were dedicated to transcribing texts, handcrafting ornate covers, and illuminating pages with colourful details. During the later middle ages, when publicly accessible libraries came into being, books were often chained to the shelves allowing the public to read, while at the same time safe-guarding the library's valuable collection from potential

thieves. The chains were fitted to the corner or cover of the books through ringlets, and were long enough to allow the books to be taken from their shelves and read, but not removed from the library. Only the librarian could remove the books from the chain using a key. The books were typically shelved with their fore-edges facing the reader, rather than their spines. It was a wrong way of shelving as it made finding the right book more challenging. But it did allow the books to be lifted down and opened without needing to be turned around, thus avoiding tangling the chain. With the introduction of the printing press, duplicates became more readily available and the value of books dropped significantly. By the late 1800s, the practice of chaining books to the shelves died out.

Nay, it did not die down completely. Chained libraries are found even today when open access is the order of the day. The earliest example in England of a library to be endowed for use outside an institution, such as a school or college, was the Francis Trigge Chained Library in Grantham, Lincolnshire, established in 1598. The library still exists and can justifiably claim to be the forerunner of later public library systems.

The chained Library in Wimborne Minster is the second-largest chained library in the UK founded in 1686. The first donation to this library came from Rev. William Stone, who had seen many religious books like his being burnt by the authorities, and wanted to ensure that part of his collection would be kept safe in Wimborne. When another local donor, Roger Gillingham, gave another 90 books in 1695, he insisted that not only the books be chained up, but also that the Library should be opened, free, for the people of the town. The Library's collection includes early books on gardening, medicine, law, etiquette, and building, as well as Walton's great Polyglot Bible of 1657 (in nine languages). There is also an example of a chained library in UK in the Royal Grammar School, Guildford.

In Ireland, Marsh's Library in Dublin, built in 1701, is a non-institutional library, which is still housed in its original building. Interestingly, here it was not the books that were chained, but rather the readers were locked into cages to prevent rare volumes from 'wandering'.

Recently, there has been increased interest in reconstructing chained libraries. Worldwide, only five chained libraries have survived with their original furniture, chains, and books. This includes the library built in the Church of Saint Walpurga, located in the small town of Zutphen in the Netherlands. This library was built in 1564. The library is now part of a museum that allows visitors to tour and view the library's original books, furniture, and chains. Another chained library is the Malatestiana Library in Cesena near Bologna in Italy, dating back to the Italian Renaissance.

A lot of work has gone into rebuilding and preserving the chained libraries. For example, many workers had to toil hard for over a decade, and massive monetary donations were spent to restore the Mappa Mundiand Chained Library Museum located in Hereford, England. Built over 900 years ago, the library fell into disrepair and faced destruction. The oldest chained book found in the library is the Hereford Gospels. Written in the eighth century, it is one of 229 chained books located in this great library. The Hereford library is the largest surviving chained library with its chains and books intact. The library is now open to the public as a tourist attraction and museum.

Efforts were also made to liberate the books from their shackles in some libraries. But, as Henry Petroski has written in his 2010 history of books and their shelves entitled 'The Book on the Bookshelf, when the books were removed from the shelves, it was a major hassle. The chains worked by connecting the books to a rod, to which several books could be attached at once. So, if the book had to go elsewhere, "the fixture holding the iron rod in place had to be unscrewed and all the chain rings removed until the one associated with the desired book was reached," he writes. "The book could then have been taken from the lectern, and all the other chain rings would have had to be replaced on the rod in their original order, lest there be tangled chains and confusion about a book's location", he explains.

It must be remembered that knowledge is for all and it should not be chained to deny people access the books containing knowledge. Libraries are democratic organizations and hence it cannot support chaining of books. Hence let all chained books, wherever they may exist, be liberated forthwith and chained libraries be transformed into public libraries in the true sense of the term.

[Sources: *Kaushik, The Last Surviving Chaind Libraries*, *http://www.amusingplanet.com/2015/04/the-last-surviving-chained-libraries.html*; *http://www.wimborneminster.org.uk/110/chained-library.html*; *http://www.viralnova.com/chained-libraries*; *https://en.wikipedia.org/wili/Chained_library*]

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. BALASUBRAMANIAN (P) and JOHN (Paul). Quality management in library and information science. 2016. Regal Publications, New Delhi. ISBN: 9788184845150.

2. DESHMUKH (Madhuri). Library online cataloguing systems. 2016. Yking Books, Jaipur. Rs. 1395. ISBN: 9789385528255

3. GOHEL (Nikhil Batukbhai). Role of university libraries in development of India. 2016. B R

Publishing Corporation, New Delhi. Rs. 1250. ISBN: 9789383784134

4. KHAN (N R). An introduction to library and information science. 2016. Chandralok Prakashan, Kanpur. Rs. 1250. ISBN: 9789382730347

5. KHAN (N R). Library and information technology system. 2016. Chandralok Prakashan, Kanpur. Rs. 1250. ISBN: 9789382730330

6. KHAN (N R). Library management and finance. 2016. Chandralok Prakashan, Kanpur. Rs. 1250. ISBN: 9789382730354

7. KHAN (N R). Library science and digital era. 2016. Chandralok Prakashan, Kanpur. Rs. 1250. ISBN: 9789382730361

8. KUMAR (P S G). Fundamentals of information science. 4th rev. ed. 4 v. 2016. B R Publishing Corporation, New Delhi.

9. MAURYA (R J), *Ed*. Academic libraries: issues and challenges. 2016. Pentagon Press, New Delhi. ISBN: 9788182748866

10. SINGH (B K) et al, *Ed*. Librarianship in digital environment (Essays in honour of A P Gakhar). 2016. New Delhi: Uppal Publishing House, New Delhi. ISBN: 9788176580854

11. SONWANE (Shashank). New paradigms in library management. 2016. Atharva Publications, Jalgaon. ISBN: 9789385026928.

12. SONWANE (Shashank) and VAISHNAV (Ashwini A), *Ed*. Towards digitization. 2016. B R Publishing Corporation, Delhi. ISBN: 9789350502983.

13. VERMA (Rekha) and VERMA (Shilpi). Acquiring collection in university libraries. 2016. Bio-Green Books, New Delhi. ISBN: 9789382120742

PERSONALIA

Prof. Juran Krishna Sarkhel of the University of Kalyani, Kalyani, West Bengal, was conferred *IATLIS - Motiwale Best LIS Teacher Award 2017* in recognition of his outstanding contributions to LIS education and research during the inaugural session of XXXIII IATLIS National Conference held on November 8, 2017 at Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University, Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab. The award and citation were presented to Prof. Sarkhel by Prof. Jagtar Singh, President of the Indian Association of Teachers in Library and Information Science (IATLIS) and Prof. S S Khehra, Vice-Chancllor, Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University. Prof. Sarkhel is the editor of *Indian Library Science Abstracts*. Hearty congratulations to Prof. Sarkhel from IASLIC.

BOOK POST

If undelivered please return to :

Indian Association of Special Libraries & Information Centres (IASLIC)
P-291, CIT Scheme No. 6M,
Kankurgachi, Kolkata 700 054

Phone: (033) 2362 9651
Email: iaslic.india@gmail.com
Website: http://www.iaslic1955.org.in