

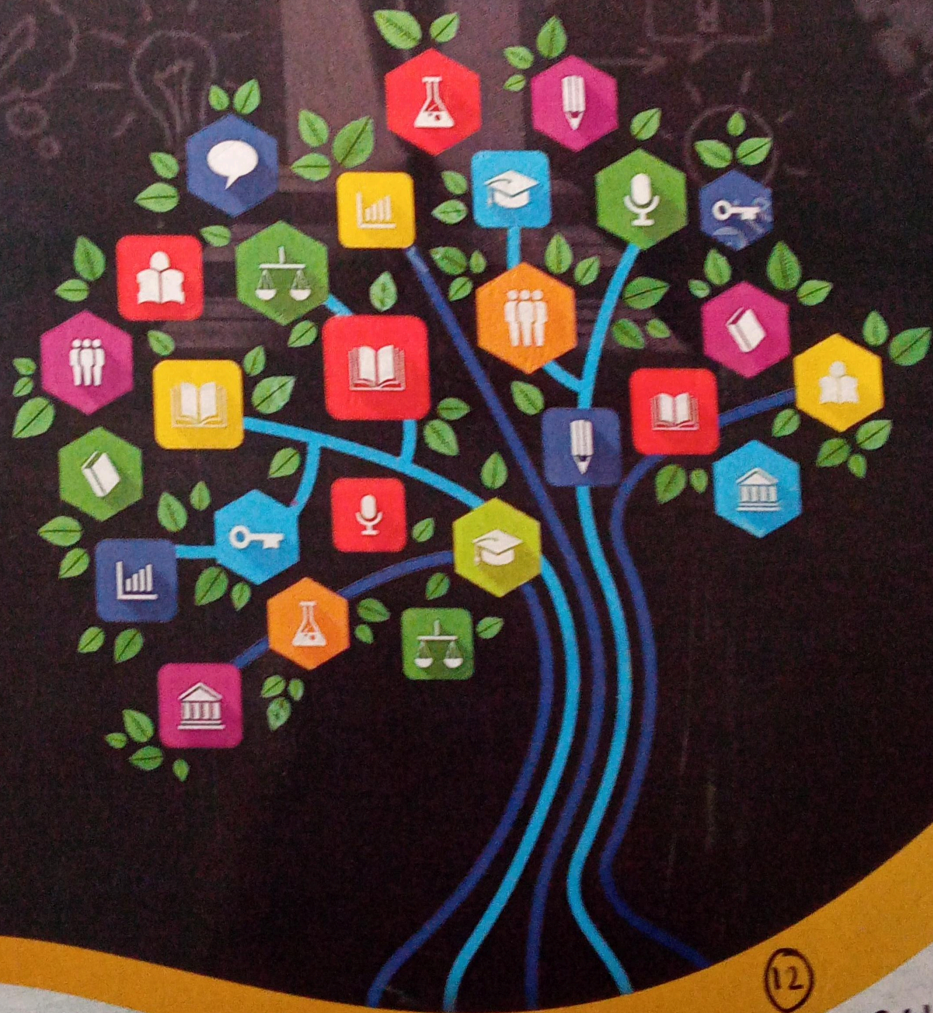


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12. Library Function in the Age of Technology

Prof. Dr. Gavhane M. P.

Librarian, Arts & Science College, Patoda, Dist - Beed.

Introduction

Due to Information explosion traditional Libraries find it increasingly difficult to cater to the demands of users. Therefore an increasing need is felt for the establishment of digital libraries. The explosive development of ICT in the form of internet and web and application in the library system has been changing the conventional library system to modern due to the demand of user needs. The Digital library depends upon the computers and Traditional library emphasis on the storage and Preservation of physical volumes, mainly books and periodicals.

There has been a dramatic change in the world of learning, scholarship business and governance brought about by ICT. The ways and means of creating accessing, distributing and managing information not only text other forms. Such as audio-Video and multimedia materials have undergone major changes. A Digital library has been the focus of research and discussion for nearly twenty years by various communities across the world. A library is a repository of culture Knowledge and wisdom. Traditional library emphasizes on the storage and preservation of physical volumes mainly books and periodicals.

The information is physically brought together in one place and the users have to go to the library to find out what is there and make use of it. Where as in a digital library, the emphasis is on access to digitized materials wherever they may be placed Nowadays users demand more accurate and to the point information retrieval which is easier in the case of digital libraries. Traditional libraries find it increasingly difficult to cater demand of the users. Librarians increasingly under pressure to digitize their collections. while are digitizing a library it is necessary to have a clear vision of the priorities and needs of the users of the library. The librarians should fulfil the physical roles of adviser interpreter and mediator for the user's information needs.

A digital library is not merely a collection of electronic information. It is an organised a digitized system of data that can serve as a rich resources for its user community. As a concept

Digital library has different professional it is a powerful tools and machanism for managing distriuted data bases.Digital Libraries physical are the loolcal extensions and augment anons of libraries in the electronic information socity. Extensions amplify existing resources and services and augmentations enable new kinds of human problem solving and expression. As such digital libraries offer new levels of access to broader audiences of users and new opportunities for the library and information service field to advance both theory and practice.

The Association of Research library (ARL) Point out that "Digital libraries can serve as a net wrok of links to other digital libraries.

According to tthe National Science foundation " A Digital Library ought to serve as an intellectual commons, where diverse members of the community may share their knowledge and practices.

Digital Libraries a Definition

A number of definitions have been offered by different agencies and group for example. The Association of Researh libraries difines a digital library as follow. (Waters 1998)

The libraries which emphasis on storege and preservation of physical item perticularly books and periodicals is called as traditional libranies.

Meaning of Digital Library

Lac of preservation of best is class "

Job loss for traditional publishers and libraries

Lack of screening or Validation.

cost are spread and many become hidden.Lock of constant and consistent power supply and internet facilities.

A traditional library is characterized by the following, emphasis on storage and preservation of physical items. particulaarly books and periodicals cataloging at a high level rather than on of detail. for example auther and subject indexes as opposed to full text browsing based on physical proximity of related materials . e.g. books on sociology are near one another on the shelves.

The shift from traditional libraries to the digital is not merely a technogical evaluation but requirs a changes in the paradigm by which people access and intenet with information.

Difference between the Traditional Libray and Digital Libran

	Libran	Digital Libran
1	Print Collechion	All resources in digital form.
2	Stable,with Slow evalution	Dynamic and emphemeral
3	individual objets not directly linked with each other.	Multi-media and fractal objects.
4	Flat struture with minimal contextual metadata	Scaffolding of data structures and richer contextual metadata
5	The physical and logical may	The Physical and logical organization be vitually
6	Slow Evolution and stable	Highly dynamic,emphemeral and Versioned.
7	content more scholarly and content outputs of vigorous scholarly vilidation process.	Not necessarily limited to scholarly ntent and may no have been throught the scientific Validation process.
8	organisation and structuring of content is flat and contextual metadata is minimal.	significant internal scaffolding of data structures and richer contextual metadata

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