



## DIGITAL LIBRARY AND CHALLENGING ROLE OF LIBRARIAN

**Mr. Kamlesh S Shende**

G H Raisoni University(MP)

Contact No: 9021893363

Email: [kamlesh.shende@rediffmail.com](mailto:kamlesh.shende@rediffmail.com)

**Dr. Shashikant G. Rokade**

Sevadal Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Nagpur-24

Email: [drshashikkantrokade@gmail.com](mailto:drshashikkantrokade@gmail.com)

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### **Abstract:**

*Libraries are main source of educational institute and research. It covid pandemic digital libraries provided new opportunities for innovative educational practices. Digital library is also called the e-library in which the access, storage and dissemination of information is in the digitized form. Digital library follow Ranganathan law "Save the time of the reader". Progressively the cost of digitization is becoming less and online e-resource and publication is growing. Today need for users are shifting toward a different platform or environment. This paper discussed the role of libraries in a digital age. Concept advantage and focused on the challenges of digital libraries.*

**Keywords :** *Digital Library, e-resources*

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### **Digital Library:**

Nowadays, the use of computers is increasing in every field and libraries are no different from this, many libraries are being digitized through computers. A library is an e-library in which a large number of users can access the contents of a large and diverse store of e-resources. Digital library, also called as online library, internet library. A digital library, in contrast, is an arrangement collection of data, information, a concentrated collection of digital objects, including text, video and audio. The aim of digital library is to save the time of users. Digital library arrange systematized develop processes for collecting, storing information in digitalize form. The primary goals of digital libraries include improving access and also cost savings. At present, digital technology is more necessary for the library. With this, not only the library work can be completed quickly but also the best facilities can be provided to the readers. ([wikipedia.org/wiki/Digital\\_library#Institutional\\_repositories](https://www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Digital_library#Institutional_repositories)(13/12/2023))

### **Requirement for a digital library:**

1. Personal Computer
2. Application service provider software
3. Scanner machine or scanner software on mobile
4. Digital Camera or other device with camera

We use two types of software to develop digital libraries.

- a. **Commercial software:** Commercial software are paid software used for digitization of the Library resources. Very few libraries use this software because of its high installation and maintenance cost. (Seth, 2018)
- b. **Open Source Software:** Open source software uses the collaboration software. Open source software use for digital library software and the library database management. (Seth, 2018)

### Need for a Digital Library:

- a. Information services of digital libraries are user friendly.
- b. **Changing Trend:** New generation is more used to technology and uses information in digital form.(Tablets, Mobiles, Computers, Laptop, etc.)
- c. **Saving on Library expenses:** The cost of digital installation is very less compared to traditional library. A digital library costs very little to set up and maintain.
- d. **Information Explosion:** A digital library is capable of managing the problem of information explosion in abundance. A digital library is capable of handling large volumes of digital content by providing links.
- e. **Possibilities of Distance Learning:** Digital libraries also help to improve distance education or learning. Students sitting in different places of the world avail facility of digital library and complete their education through distance learning.
- f. **Multiple use of knowledge:** in digital library information can be easily used by different users at the same time. So this not only saves cost but also to spread the same information to different places

### Advantages of the Digital Library :

Digital library as means of accessing books and images of various types easily and quickly. storage and space are limited in traditional libraries but digital libraries can store much more information. Digital library requires very small space.

- Digital library no need for physical boundary users can access every ware in the same information.
- Digital libraries information can be accessed 24 hours a day.
- Users use multiple access. The same resources can be used at the same time by a number of users.
- Information retrieval is an advantage of digital libraries also Information acquisition is one of the advantages of a digital library.
- Preservation and conservation in a digital library is a huge advantage. an idol copy can be made may number of times without any loss in quality.
- Digital library requires very small space to contain them. When the library had no space for extension digitization is the solution
- Maintenance cost of digital library is very less compared to traditional library and storage space is unlimited in digital library as comparison traditional library
- . Non-print documents and rare documents are available to use
- Universal accessibility
- Easy reproduction
- Immediate access to resources

### Disadvantage of the Digital Library:

- Speed of access: Many computer are connected to the Internet its speed of access reasonably decreasing
- Preservation: day by day new technology is being developed and old technology is being outdated. Therefore, the data of digital library become out of date and also become inaccessible.
- Copyright: Digitization violates the copyright law because one author's content can be



freely transferred to another without giving him credit.

- Initial cost is high, band width, efficiency

### **Challenges faced in Digital Library:**

- Need of Technical experts.
- Funding problem faced in Digital Library project.
- Legal Aspect
- Constantly changing software and hardware
- Upgrading information technology
- Deterioration of digital media
- Inadequate technology infrastructures
- Digital preservation

### **Role of Librarian in Digital Environment:**

Every colleges and institution is trying to get national and international rankings and with the changed roles and services, the librarians are playing key role. how to develop human resources with different skill sets for maintaining the new system?. In a digital environment, librarians is managing e-resources, digital information, ensuring information accessibility. transition from Print to digital. Role of librarian are trying to replace reference librarians. (mamilwar, 2017) In the digital environment there has already been built a system where the information reaches the end user desk. In the digital environment also the librarian and information, for e-publishing for reference purpose, to advise the user about strategy to identify relevant e-sources etc. Thus the librarian will be more or less a hypertext engineer. In the new age everybody who has access to the digital libraries can be published by messages to an online discussion group or by other means. A Digital library is open for all in some cases, librarians have the opportunity to digitize library collection in libraries, which can accessible to users of the www at large. ([wikipedia.org/wiki/Digital\\_library#Institutional\\_repositories](https://www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Digital_library#Institutional_repositories)(13/12/2023))

### **Conclusion:**

It can be concluded that information and communication technology, everyone wants information on digital form. Digital libraries are not going to replace the traditional libraries but without but looking at the current trend and many demand of the users, putting digital libraries is needed increase. The cost of digitization is high but it consists of various e-resources and easily and rapidly accessing books and various types of material.

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