

## DIGITIZATION AND PRESERVATION OF INDIAN MANUSCRIPTS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE: LIBRARY SERVICES DURING COVID -19 PANDEMIC PERIOD

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### Abstract :

*This paper aims to show the important of store an ancient knowledge to preserved our culture. The manuscripts reflect our Indian knowledge, but at ancient era it gets on a wall, palm leaf, bamboo leaf, singe and pictures reflect the social culture of that time. Digitization and preservation of this knowledge is more effective for future. TKDL (Traditional Knowledge and Digital Library) preserved the knowledge. In Pandemic period libraries give an online service to users as per demand, its useful for to gives a mental relief for users. Digitization and Preservation of Indian culture helps to enrich the knowledge.*

**Keywords :** TKDL, Digital Preservation, Manuscripts, Pandemic Period.

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### Introduction :

Libraries play a vital role of information era. The role of libraries is change according to a period of information services. In a digital age Information and Communication technology plays and important role in library services. Libraries give a various type of services; that's user can satisfied in it. Now a days Traditional Knowledge generally refers to the local knowledge that is unique to a culture and society. Traditional Knowledge expressed through stories, legends. Folkers, ritual etc. Libraries preserve this knowledge in form of books journals, magazine, in digital form like Institutional Repository, online database, e-resources. Users can be easily accessing this knowledge. Libraries move on traditional to digital base to easy for preserving all knowledge in online mode.

Now a days printed documents has transfer in a digital format, it's secured to unexpected emergency such as floods, insects, theft. If the document is out of print preservation is the only solution to put an end to deteriorations, which has provided means to access the users from any part of the world through the web.

Libraries store a unparallel resources for predicted the history and culture, containing the wealth of human knowledge. On the base of preserving knowledge useful to next research. Digitization and preservation of Indian Manuscript and cultural heritage is a big task for library. Libraires have an ancient data in four wall which is useful for all. In case of manuscript is a form of books, loose or bound pages. These pages and data are very rare and

not easy to handle. These documents are not handled anyone, because this literature is very unique. Now a days libraries has works to preserved this data digitally on website or institutional repository. Archives and Museums are engaged in providing library services to academics, common citizen to conserve and preserve the rare collection manuscripts and Indigenous Traditional Knowledge system in India.

### **What is Digital Preservation :**

In digital age Libraries becomes a traditional to digital. In digital libraries preserved a digital knowledge in website, institutional repositories, in form of Q.R code and all. In libraries preservation data in digital form has a bulk of digital resources increases with updated information in a variety of ways and fields. Digital preservation is set of activities, policies, and strategies needed to ensure digital information remains accessible and useable over time despite technological obsolescence physical loss for both “born -digital” materials and converted from analog formats. In library new technology facilitates to distant users poses challenges in preserving the rare documents such as manuscripts, paintings, historical records, rare books. India has about five million manuscripts, which is perhaps largest collection in the world are scattered across the country as private and institute’s collection. The only way to allow the documents to access the present as well as future users, is digitization (Chauhan, & Chopra, 2011).

### **Impact of Digital Library Resources on Services in Pandemic Period :**

Digitization is revaluation to processed, stored and dissemination access the information. Libraries already give traditional services such as Current Awareness service, Reference service, Book Bank service, issue return services, but effect of a technology libraries gives a online digital services to provide a quality learning space, creating meta data, virtual reference services, Institutional repositories, website, etc. At the time of Covid-19 only digital resources was used for providing a resource for prepared a mantel health of users and provide a study material to students.

Digital Library Services as follows:

1. Online service easy to access.
2. Preparation of Library Guides.
3. E-content Development for users.
4. Subscription to e-resources.
5. Digital newspaper services.
6. To provide web link of institutional repository.
7. 24/7 Worldwide accessibility available.
8. To make information services for longer duration.

### **Manuscript :**

A Manuscript is an original document as a past era which is handwritten document from the Latin language. It is a preliminary version of book or article, submitted for

publication or any text not to be printed. Before the invention of printing press, all books and documents were manuscripts. It is a historical document which is preserving digitally for future scope. Manuscripts show the wealth and heritage of our culture, history, pictures, stories, art, languages, literature etc. It could be the better source of knowledge. Manuscripts show our Indian culture, steps of the evaluation and history of ancient era. In 15<sup>th</sup> century handwritten text used to be written on palm leaf, bricks, walls, cloth, metal, or any other material that has significant scientific, historical or aesthetic value. Indian culture has fulfilled with various traditions, it's full to enrich of Vedas, Persian manuscripts, Dhavala manuscripts, Vedas, Hindu epics like Ramayana, are found. The Ministry of Tourism and Culture Government of India, established a project to preserve the manuscripts.

### Types of Manuscripts :

- Bhoj Patra
- Banana Leaf
- Cloth
- Ivory
- Palm leaf
- Metal
- Parchment

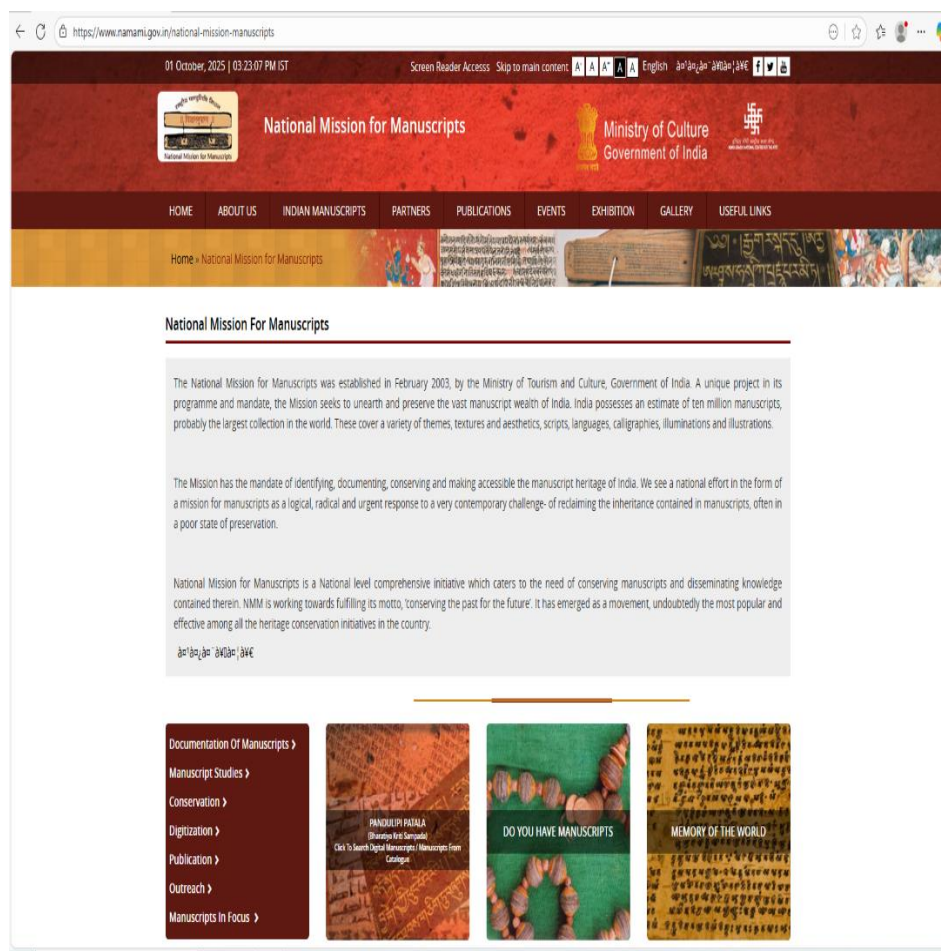
### Digitization and Preservation of Indian Manuscripts and Cultural Heritage :

Preservation of an ancient knowledge is a good process to save our Indian culture. It helps to keep affects to long lasting without damage and ensure the digital record. In digital era manuscripts help to digitize the knowledge and keep safe to preserve a long time. Government of India also gives an effort for digitize the ancient knowledge. To Digitize the information storage and retrieval systems that manipulates text, sound, image. Digitization manuscript is only way to preserved a cultural heritage to the communities. Through Information Technology by using Hardware and software helps to improve accessing, Preserving the damage caused by frequent handling. Preparing E-books, Online resource Sharing with other institutions. Digitization is easy process to store ancient knowledge in life time Govt. of India makes a website to preserve ancient knowledge. Some website of Manuscripts as follows.

#### 1. <https://www.namami.gov.in/> :

India's manuscripts have for centuries captured the imagination of the world. As early as the seventh century Chinese traveler Hiuen Tsang took back hundreds of manuscripts from India. Later in the late eighteenth century, the Nawab of Awadh gifted a superb illuminated manuscript of the Padshahnama to King George III of England. Today, it is considered one of the finest pieces in the Royal Collection. When the English East India Company first came to India, they acknowledged the sub-continent as the bearer of a great and rich civilization that abounded in intellectual and artistic endeavor. Several Company officers developed a

fascination with various aspects of Indian civilization including languages, philosophy, art and architecture. The early issues of the Royal Asiatic Journal in the early nineteenth century fully reflect this curiosity in all things Indian.

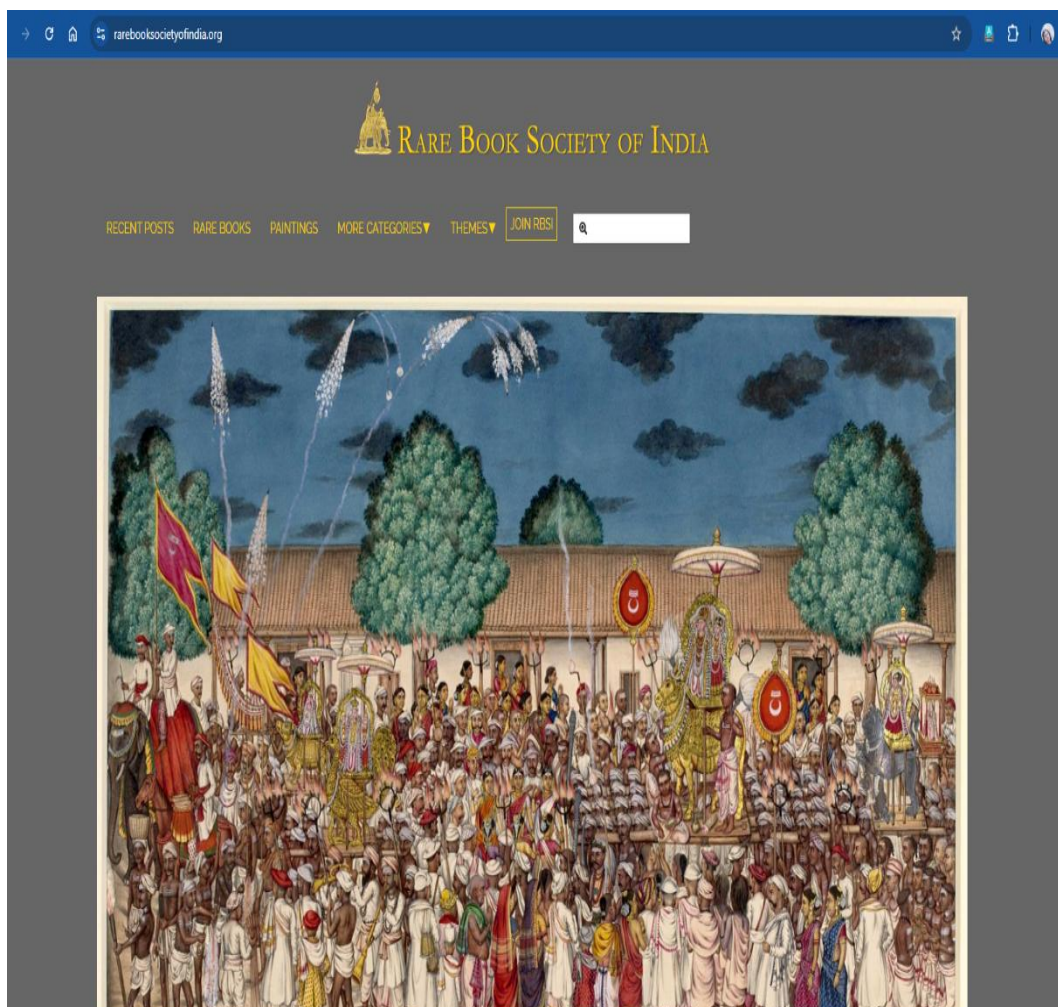


## 2. <https://rarebooksocietyofindia.org/> :

The Rare Book Society of India was the first of its kind when it was founded in October 2009. It is a virtual space for rare book collectors and history enthusiasts to read, discuss, rediscover and download lost books. Importantly, it aims to highlight the understanding that there is always more than one truth in history! Sourcing from digital libraries such as The Internet Archive, Google Books, Wikipedia and the online collections of various museums around the world, RBSI has curated these rare books and images, and presented them in a context that gives them relevance and shows each piece as a part of a grander whole. Despite being an ancient literary civilization and having one of the largest literary treasures of hand-written and printed material, India does not have a single Society for rare book collectors. This is an attempt to create a forum where those elusive connoisseurs come together to discuss and share their knowledge on Indian rare books. RBSI showcases rare Indian books, prints and art, that have been digitized, with the purpose of bringing these lost words to life. Through this open virtual platform, members of RBSI can create a digital collection of rare and valuable books by downloading the digitized books that are made

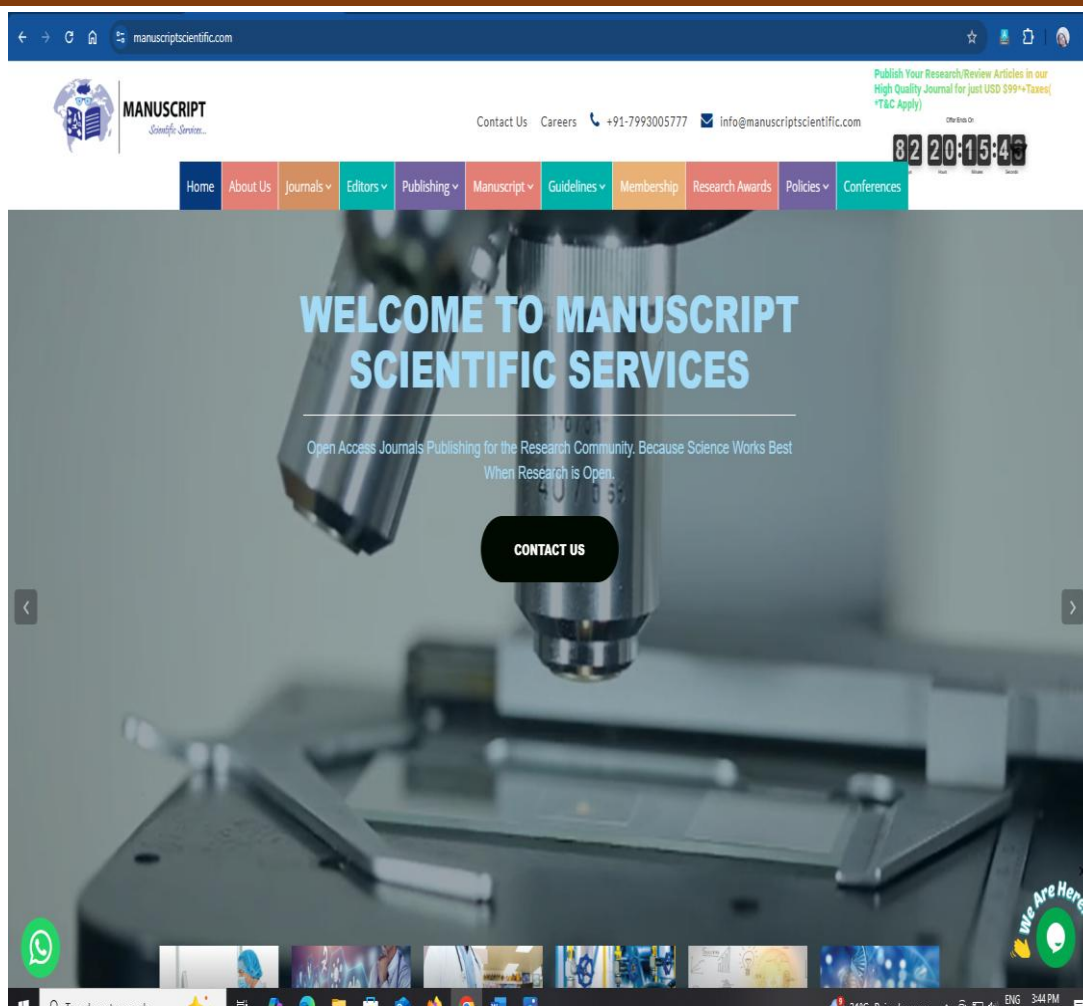


available here. What started off as a group for rare book collectors has now transformed into a forum for history enthusiasts, scholars and of course the silent curious. Discussions and comments range from sanguine to educative to irreverent, all providing for an interesting. Many of these books might be considered to be history, opinion or plain propaganda - but the aim is to show that there is no wasteful source in the study of history, and there is only an added perspective. More importantly, by reading more than one version of a historical event at this site we begin to understand that there is more than one truth in history, and that in order to learn history, one must also first learn to unlearn.



3. <https://manuscriptscientific.com/> :

Established in 2020, Manuscript Scientific's name was fast to become synonymous with collaboration, professionalism and innovation. Head-quartered in AGRA, Uttar Pradesh, and supported by a team of 50+ highly engaged professionals, Manuscript works closely with a vision of having over 100 clients world-wide from various types of organizations and government entities within the research and education sector to support their continued innovation and development. This is achieved by providing leading expertise, information resources and software solutions. Since its inception, Manuscript has prudently expanded its expertise, services and technology in line with its vision of developing 'a more knowledgeable world'.



## Conclusions :

History reflects the ancient knowledge; every digitization program of manuscripts should be feasible. Digitization is the process to preserve manuscripts. Govt. of India make efforts to digitized the ancient knowledge. Library has makes to try the preserved the manuscripts in Institutional Repositories and spread it globally. In pandemic time libraries helps tom provides a manuscript to users online. Online digital services make very easy to increase a reading culture and to motivate the society foe awareness of manuscripts. It's a big challenge for information technology can offer a solution not only for preservation but also enhancement for a world-wide access.

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