



**Report of 65th Annual International
Conference of Indian Library Association**

Jointly Organized by
Maharashtra University and College Librarians
Association (MUCLA)

and
Indian Library Association (ILA)
on

**Digital Landscape- Reinvention and Re-
engineering of Libraries: Issues and Challenges**

Prepared by

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It gives me immense pleasure to submit the report of 65th Annual Conference of Indian Library Association on “Digital Landscape- Reinvention and Re-engineering of Libraries: Issues and Challenges” jointly organized by ILA & MUCLA. The report involves conclusive happenings and recitation of all three days of the international conference held through a virtual platform at Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University, Amravati. Various discussions about coping up with Covid-19 pandemic with technology, keeping knowledge management and delivery intact through was very fruitful and inspiring, aptly discussions have given better ideas to tackle the current situation, and with no doubt, it will be a remarkable event to help LIS professionals while doing Information delivery (Library Services & Products) at their own places. The theme and all the subthemes selected for the conference was very appropriable and apt to present situation and provided a very good platform for Library and Information Professionals to participate in discussions on various issues related to

Libraries and Information Services. Total Nine themes were identified on various issues related to Digital Library Applications, Reinvention, and Re-engineering of Libraries, Emerging and Innovative Technologies, Collection development to content management, Digital Library Services and Information Products, Open Technology, Social Networking, LIS Education, IPR & Professional Ethics in the digital environment, etc., Conference provided a wide platform to Library & Information Professionals to present their ideas and views. During three days of the virtual conference was revolving around these subthemes and evolved various new working ideas for the advancement of the LIS field. Although library professionals are aware of the trends and technologies along with its challenges in the digital era, the conference further emphasized the importance of digital libraries and their vital role to promote e-learning by LIS professionals in digital arena.

Day One (26th February 2021):

On day one of the conference Inauguration Program has been held and Technical Session One on Digital Landscape also conducted.

Inauguration:

On the first day i.e. 26th Feb 2021 afternoon conference Inauguration function of jointly organized conference by ILA & MUCLA done through virtual mode at Knowledge Resource Centre of Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University, Amravati. The program started with an Introductory and Welcome Speech by Dr. Mohan Kherde, President, MUCLA, given background about organization of conference. He also introduced MUCLA and information about its assistance through good practices to the LIS profession. He introduced the theme, subthemes, and 5 technical sessions. He stated the current situation of Academic arena due to Pandemic and the necessity to conduct the virtual conference and delivered a warm welcome through his speech. He emphasised that about after 1989 was the only ILA conference organized by MUCLA in Maharashtra.

The Inaugural speech was given by Hon. Dr. Rajesh Jaipurkar, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University, Amravati. He focussed upon the importance of ICT in the teaching-learning process and how libraries can be pillars to making it happen. He mentioned that Libraries are changing their dimensions from palm leaf to palmtop. He pointed out as there are many challenges and issues in the profession like plagiarism, IPR, copyright, finance management, and he also focused on inculcation of reading habits among students. He said these are burning topics for libraries but at the same time he has suggested remedy to attract the users towards libraries using tech-savvy ideas like the use of social media, access to e-resources, and digitization and should be done on high priority. He assumed that this conference will yield benefits for society by wishing grand success to the conference.

Conference Director, Dr. Suresh Jange, University Librarian, Gulbarga University delivered his dynamic and thoughtful speech to the virtual conference. He focussed on the arena of IT where digital applications play an important role, He was very sure and having faith that librarians have all capacity to fulfil the challenges of the digital age in a pandemic situation. He urged the LIS professionals to change the attitude with digital tools as well as humanity along with it. He boosted the morale of all librarians by his effective oratory and concluded with necessary ideas to implement by librarians in current situations like Covid-19 and by indicating that librarians are the teachers of teachers and libraries are temples of learning.

Professor Rajendra Kumbhar as Keynote addressee initially appreciated Librarians for providing digital library services during the pandemic period. He pointed out that digital technology has given tremendous opportunities to libraries to develop digitalization. With the help of technology, Librarians could reach out to users during pandemics also. He later explained Re-engineering of libraries is a must in this digital era because it's enabling our users to access the resources. He also focussed on the reading habits of users that we are fastly losing the habit of depth reading. The digital landscape is forcing us to recreate LIS products that will enable readers to back inflow to read and learn through. He suggested LIS professionals must acquire a knowledge of diverse subjects gradually than only become experts in the subject. He has given a success mantra that is to become a reading material expert by-knowing the best textbooks of your collection, knowing impact factors, h-index, altmetrics, reading

reviews, getting feedback from students, etc. He said if librarians would like to enjoy the status of librarianship, they should be able to provide reading advisory or consultancy services, provide subject gateways and become book talkers. He suggested a new idea to the designation of librarians that they should be called "Professors of reading material of specific branch or subject." He suggested another re-engineering in services i.e. Article search for every user. He also introduced the subject librarians' concept and given a tag line-: "we search, you study and teach." He pointed out that OCLC demanded 4th law of Library Science should be the 1st law of Library Science. He alerted librarians that if reading survives the libraries will survive. In conclusion, he stated LIS departments should also think about re-engineering about LIS curriculum as well as create their own brand.

Presidential Address by Dr. B.D. Kumbhar was very much informative and enthusiastic at the conference for making it a great opportunity for library professionals. He also focused on how technology has changed the LIS profession. He explained the role of association (especially ILA) for the development of LIS profession. He traced upon ILA and how it's working hard for the development of all types of libraries. He appealed to the librarians to suggest corrections and amendment in Maharashtra Public Libraries Act. He has given word that ILA will organize many more workshops and training programs, capacity building programs in the near future in New ILA building. He also appreciated the ideas of the chief guest and keynote speaker about reading habits and article search for every user.

Dr. O. N. Choubey, General Secretary proposed a vote of thanks for the inaugural function. Dr. Revathi Khokade and Dr. Supriya Bejalwar compared the program.

Technical Session One:

Technical session one was held on first day (i.e. 26th Feb 2021) of the conference on topic: **Digital Landscape**. Chairman of the session was Dr. Mallikarjun Angadi (NIT Surathkal), Rapporteur of the technical session was Ms. Harsha Kamble. Total Papers received for presentation were 28, out of which 21 papers were presented by virtual mode. Out of total 21 presenters 11 were female and 10 male presenters.

Key topics of research communications presented in this session were: Library Services, Information Literacy and Digital Age, Public Libraries,

Management Skills in Academic Libraries, Information Seeking Behaviour, Role of Library, Digital Information Skill, Scientometrics, Grey Literature, ETDs, Webometrics, Research Data Management, User Satisfaction, Covid-19 Pandemic, etc.

Invited talk was given in this session by Dr. Vaishali Choukhande of SGBA University on Digital Landscape. She discussed about Digital aspects in context of library with participants. Extended with use of digital media tools for library marketing and outreach towards the users. She explained new data discovery tools and techniques in digital landscaped for information retrieval and delivery. She elaborated the discussion with ICT and its use for improvement of range of content delivery using advanced technologies. Also she covered various attributes of digital landscapes in LIS like: Data management and its curation, Digital Literacy of Information Managers and its user community, Collaborative work for Information Delivery Services and Interactive Information Delivery.

In the end of session Dr. Supriya Bejalwar expressed vote of thanks to participants and chair members. The session was compared by Dr. Supriya Bejalwar.

Day Two (27th February 2021)

On day two of the conference total three sessions were held. Technical Session Two on Digital Library Application and Services, Technical Session Three: Re-inventing, Re-engineering and Emerging Technology in Libraries and Technical Session Four: IPR and Social Networking.

Technical Session Two:

Technical session two was held on second day (i.e. 27th Feb 2021) of the conference on topic: Digital Library Applications and Services. Chairman of the session was beheld by Dr. D. K. Veer, Director, KRC, Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad, Rapporteur of the technical session was Dr. Sarika Sawant (SNDTWU). Total Papers received for presentation were 30, out of which 22 papers were presented by virtual mode. Out of total 22 presenters 09 were female and 13 male presenters.

Key topics of research communications presented in this session were: Digital Library services, Digital Literacy Skills, E-Resources, Changing role of info. Professionals, Koha Software, Challenges of Digital Libraries, Digital Reference Sources, Digital Preservations, MOOCs, Digitization, Digitalization,

Consortia, Web 2.0-4.0 tools, N-LIST, Digital Transformation, Ontology, etc.

Invited talk was given in this session by Dr. Gopakumar V, University Librarian of Goa University, Goa on topic Digital Library and Digitization. He discussed key concepts and aspects of Digital Library to participants on topics like: Digitization and Digitalization, Digital Literacy, Software requirements for digital library, ILM software and customized ILMs, Selection of Materials, Metadata Standards, Institutional Repositories (Its types and examples), Research Data Repositories, Online Archives, Structure and functions of digital library. At the end he showed Institutional Repository at Goa University for understanding working example of digital repository.

Technical Session Three:

Technical session three was held on second day (i.e. 27th Feb 2021) of the conference on topic: Reinventing, Re-engineering and Emerging Technology in Libraries.

Chairman of the session was beheld by Dr. Aakash Singh, Assistant Librarian, National Law University, Delhi. Rapporteur of the technical session was Dr. Aashish Raut. Total Papers received for presentation were 24, out of which 13 papers were presented by virtual mode. Out of total 13 presenters 06 were female and 07 male presenters.

Key topics of research communications presented in this session were: Smart Library, Modern Libraries, Institutional Repositories, Reading Habits, Digital Marketing, LMS-Moodle, Digitalization, Consortia, Innovative Mobile Apps, Library Security Systems, Medical Library, Google, QR Code, Digital Landscape, etc.

Invited talk was given in this session by Dr. Pardeep Rai, Senior Vice-President of ILA on topic Status of Academic Libraries. He discussed various issues about current status of Academic Libraries like: Parity, status, problems in libraries and suggested ideas to overcome from these issues. He also discussed various library commissions like: Saddler Commission, Kothari Commission, Radhakrishnan Commission, Rangnathan Committee, Joys Committee, DU Exe. Council, Prof. RVR Chandrasekar Rao Committee, etc. He further extended his talk on various topics like: ACRL Standards, Role of Librarian, Coping up with advanced technology, Implementation and application of AI within libraries, Special Libraries: Law Library, Music Library, Application of expert

systems in reference service, Machine Learning, robotics, IOT. In conclusion he put an example of West Bengal Model for library development plan.

Technical Session Four:

Technical session four was held on second day (i.e. 27th Feb 2021) of the conference on topic: IPR, Professional Ethics and Social Networking.

Chairman of the session was beheld by Dr. Priya Rai, National Law University, Delhi Rapporteur of the technical session was Dr. Sangeeta Paliwal. Total Papers received for presentation were 21, out of which 17 papers were presented by virtual mode. Out of total 17 presenters 08 were female and 09 male presenters.

Key topics of research communications presented in this session were: Social Media, Human Resource Management, Plagiarism, Social Networks, NAAC Criteria, Plagiarism Compliance, Scientific Misconduct, Research Ethics Awareness, Web Discovery Tools, Social Media Networks, Patentable Matter, etc.

Invited talk was given in this session by Dr. Mangala A. Hirwade, Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur on topic Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). She discussed following elements with participants under IPR: Types of Intellectual Property, Industrial IPR, Copyright, Indian Patent Criteria's, Concept to designing patents, Various Non-patentable things, Guidelines to patent, GI, Trademark, Traditional Knowledge, Bio piracy, Traditional Knowledge Conservation, Fair Use, Digital Library and Do's and don'ts in IPR.

Day Three (28th February 2021)

On day three of the conference total two sessions were held that they are Technical Session Five on Collection Development and Open Technology Movement and Valedictory Program.

Technical Session Five:

Technical session five was held on third day (i.e. 28th Feb 2021) of the conference on topic: Collection Development and Open Technology Movement.

Chairman of the session was beheld by Prof. Ved Prakash Khare, Bundelkhand University, Janshi. Rapporteur of the technical session was Dr. Ravindra Mende. Total Papers received for presentation were 31, out of which 22 papers were presented by virtual mode. Out of total 22 presenters 07 were female and 15 male

presenters.

Key topics of research communications presented in this session were: E-resources, Open Educational Resources, OSS, Google Classroom, Collection development, LMS, Digital Archiving, E-content Management, Mobile Apps, etc.

Invited talk was given in this session by Prof. Rajendra Kumbhar on topic Collection Development and OA. In his talk he focussed on Misconception of OA material regarding collection development. He also discussed about the activities of collection development and their importance and dynamism. He urged that OA is not replacement for collection development, and Collection development policy should be Reader Centric. He suggested that Reading Advisory services should be made keeping user group in mind. In conclusion of his fruitful talk he advised LIS professionals that- quality in collection is must.

Research Communications:

Out of total 200 received research communications total 136 were accepted through peer-review process and 95 communications presented through virtual mode. The conference found great opportunity to researchers to express their research ideas and explorations through this nationwide platform of LIS profession.

Valedictory Program

On 28th Feb. 2021 the valedictory program was held. Dr. Mohan R. Kherde, President of Maharashtra University and College Librarians Association was the Chief Guest. Dr. B. D. Kumbhar, President, ILA was the Chairman of the function. Dr. Shalini Lihitkar presented the conference report. Being the Director of the conference Dr. Suresh Jange spoke on this occasion. Dr. O. N. Choube, General Secretary of ILA has announced various ILA awards. Dr. Rajesh Singh, University Librarian, Delhi University and Dr. Pardeep Rai, Senior Vice President, ILA was awarded the Deshpandey-Gidwani Best Academic Librarian Award 2019. Priya Rangara was awarded the best paper presentation award at the conference while Ramesh Pandita was awarded the best article award in the Journal of Indian Library Association.

Special Milestone in the conference:

In Conclusive remarks of report of three day International conference jointly held by ILA & MUCLA on 'Digital Landscape- Reinvention and Re-engineering of Libraries: Issues and Challenges' it has

found to be very bountiful of ideas and information has generated that can be much helpful for practicing and budding LIS professionals for heading towards digital landscapes through ICT. Various research communications presented in the conference and invited talks found much appreciable because its research approach and ideas that can be converted to

hands-on approach by librarians at their own workplace. In conclusion one can say that conference found grand success as it was aimed to defining the librarianship profession through the windows of digital landscapes for helping in knowledge dissemination with ease.