Bibliophile

Newsletter from the Department of Library and Information Science
CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF TAMIL NADU

FOREWORD

It gives me great pleasure to bring the third edition of *Bibliophile* the e-Newsletter of the Department of Library and Information Science. The *Bibliophile* will be a compendium of the Department and its accomplishments. This issue recounts and highlights the events, Department profile and academic achievements during the COVID -19 Pandemic periods. The Bibliophile e-Newsletter will be an impetus and a platform to encourage all the stakeholders to express their creativity and latent talents. I heartily congratulate the Editorial team for bringing out the excellent third issue and also extend my appreciation to all contributors.

PROF.S.RAVI
HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT

தமிழ்நாடு மத்தியப் பல்கலைக்கழகம் | CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF TAMIL NADU | तमिलनाडु केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय

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From the Faculty Editor's Desk

I am delighted to present our new issue of the DLIS Newsletter **Bibliophile,** covering the Department happenings of past six months.

At the outset, I would like to appreciate our new Editorial team of students, who have been behind this particular issue, in the COVID-19 crisis. We continued our teaching and learning process in the virtual mode, in order to keep the students active with their academic activities. I am gladthat the students and researchers have been engaged and utilizing these digital classes and contents in this difficult time. The COVID- 19 pandemic has amplified the influence of technology in our lives, especially in the teaching-learning process. Meanwhile a substantial section of our population, including the student' community and those who are in the remote areas, find themselves marginalized and isolated because of their inability to navigate the digital space.
They find themselves unable to get access to the virtual learning process. It is a case in point of the digital divide.

National Education Policy 2020 advocated greater integration of technology. Staying connected online has become a necessity for us to survive in this pandemic. The post-COVID world will be more digitized than before. Those with the ability to navigate the digital land scape would get more opportunities and avenues than others. Therefore, it should be our priority to ensure basic digital literacy and internet connectivity for all as part of the 'Digital India' initiatives.

Courtesy: The Hindu daily

I would like to thank the Student Editor and the members of her team for bringing out this particular issue in an attractive form. The **Bibliophile** will continue to be a medium for promoting the activities of DLIS as well as the creativeness of the students and faculty.
Happy reading!

Dr. K.G. SUDHIER
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

DLIS CUTN NEWS

It is the official organ of the Department of Library and Information Science, Central University of Tamil Nadu. The purpose of DLIS CUTN NEWS is to disseminate the latest news, announcements, information, and development of the department to students, students, research scholars, faculties, and alumni of the department. The following is the link to the blog page- https://dliscutnnews.blogspot.com/

Message From the Student Editor

I would look up at the night sky in wonder and dream and imagine the limitless possibilities before me, my heart beating with excitement. But COVID-19 was beyond my imagination. All my plans went awry and I became alone. I looked up but couldn't see the stars at night. I felt hopeless. Everything fell apart.

I could only look outside my window, I could only go to my room. Just yesterday I was laughing and talking with my friends and now my world had shrunk to a room. Life became simple, maybe for the first time. It was a precious time, unwanted but welcome. Our lives are unpredictable. We don't know all the answers. I knew where I wanted to go, but not how I could get there. All I did to get here was trust myself and do my best and love what I do. I found again the people I love, my family, my friends, I found the music I love, the books I love and I found myself. Thinking about the future and trying hard are all important.

But cherishing yourself, encouraging yourself and keeping yourself happy is the most important thing. In a world of uncertainty, we must cherish the importance of "me", "you" and "us". We live in uncertainty, but really, nothing's changed. Our tomorrow may be dark, painful and difficult. We might stumble or fall down. But we should remember that stars shine the brightest when the night is the darkest. If the stars are hidden, we'll let moonlight guide us. If even the moon is dark, let our faces be the light that helps us find our way. Let's Reimagine our world. We're huddled together tired, but let's dream again. Let's dream about a future when our worlds can break out of our small rooms again. It might feel like it's always night and we'll always be alone, but the night is always darkest before the first light of dawn. Life goes on no matter what, so let's live on with a smile on our faces.

ELMA CATHERINE SHAJI
II M Lib I Sc

EDITORIAL TEAM

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EDITORIAL GUIDANCE

DR. K. G. SUDHIER
FACULTY EDITOR

ELMA CATHERINE SHAJI
STUDENT EDITOR

HARIPRIYA S
STUDENT EDITOR

RITTU ANILKUMAR
ART & DESIGN EDITOR

A 42 Years Journey to Celebrate My 43rd Birthday
Lockdown Memories

KIBROM YEMANE TEKESTE
II M Lib I Sc

I come from society were birthday celebrations aren't usual practice. They are celebrated just once in the first year. During that day, we celebrate by inviting family, relatives, and neighbours. Eldest members of the society are invited to formally pray and bless the child by breaking GoGo on his/her shoulder, praying for the child to be virtuous and for the prosperity of the parents while the baby is laid in the mother's lap.

GoGo is a special and unique traditional bread made of barley and is very strong. It was served as the daily diet to our ancestors, although presently, these are cooked for big family functions, cultural as well as national holidays as a symbol of unity and dignity of the society.

Hence, I have not had my birthday celebrated over the last 42 years, except at my birth, but I celebrate the birthdays of my kids, not to have them stand apart from the 21st century western culture imposition. The day was marked 9th of September, my birthday, as the classes continued till noon, after which my classmates arranged a meeting to discuss the newsletter to discover my friends casually chat. I was a bit overwhelmed about what was happening.

Abruptly, knocking on my door , my colleagues in the building came up with a candle-lit birthday cake, and there was my classmates celebrating my birthday over a video conference. Right then, another colleague came in handfuls of three biriyanis, receiving it, I was astonished to find that all of these were arranged by my little classmates, all at different parts, and from there homes. I was astound, I did not know a way to thank them. Although, my classmates, they are all the age of my daughters, but how mature are they. In my country, its said, "Call a kind person, not a grey -haired one", because kindness is not measured by a person's age.

I couldn't have appreciated them more to find out their efforts to make a classmate happy. Indians had always amazed me with their hospitality and kind gestures, adding to it , was my birthday surprise, a mesmerizing one.

Staying away from my family had been the most difficult to me during the lockdown. I could not appreciate them more to have identified themselves with me , and making my day hundreds of times better. Birthday celebrations, a practice, usually by the parents to celebrate their kids' birth, to me it came from from my classmates.

They have injected me with a clear image of India, and Indians into my blood. I am the ambassador of my country in India , particularly south India, and I find that my classmates, are the real patriots to imbibe their goodness and culture onto me. The collectiveness of the effort, the unity of all impresses me .

Having explained so, I invite everyone to devote yourselves to exposing the best of their nation in the hearts of the outsiders. After getting a degree we gain more knowledge but we master one. We study many subjects, but we specialize in one topic. The same is true now. To the minimum, I have learned this unforgettable lifelong lesson. I have countless achievements in the time I spent in India. But it won't be bigger than what I have learned from the marvelous hospitality and humanity of Indian society. So, thank GOD and my classmates for the special event I have enjoyed under the hardest situation COVID19.
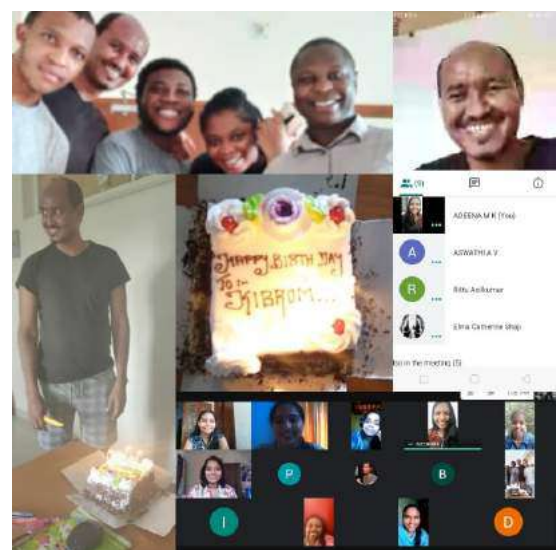
National Conference on Digital Scholarship NCDS-2020

Department of Library and Information Science, Central University of Tamil Nadu, organized a two-day National Conference on Digital Scholarship (NCDS-2020) on 12 th - 13 th March 2020.The conference received more than 100 articles and after review total 92 articles have been
selected for inclusion in the conference proceedings. There were 69 external participants including invited guests for the conference. Approximately 134 persons have attended the conference.

The first day of conference started with registration of participants followed by Inaugural Function. Prof. A. P. Dash, Vice Chancellor of Central University of Tamil Nadu, inaugurated the two days National Conference by lighting the lamp. The welcome address was delivered by Prof. S. Ravi, Dean, School of Communication and Head, Department of Library and Information Science, Central University of Tamil Nadu. Prof. Pravakar Rath, Senior Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Mizoram University and Guest of the Honour of inaugural function delivered his speech highlighting the concept of digital scholarship, open access and digital information. Presidential address was presented by the Prof. A. P. Dash, Honorable Vice Chancellor of Central University of Tamil Nadu. He discussed about the conference theme "Digital Scholarship" and the importance of the theme in his address. The formal vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Anila Sulochana, Assistant Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Central University of Tamil Nadu and Organizing Secretary of the Conference.

Keynote Address was given by Prof. Pravakar Rath, Mizoram University, Aizawl on the theme "Digital Scholarship: A Hub of Intellectual and Scholarly Publications" followed by the plenary talk on "Relevance of Ranganathan's Philosophy in Digital Scholarship: A Retrospection of Five Laws of Library Science" by Prof. Aditya Tripathi, Department of Library and Information Science, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. The 1st technical session commenced after the Plenary Talk and session was chaired by Dr. Moorttimattee Samantaray, Deputy Librarian, Library and Documentation Division, NCERT, New Delhi. During the session, Prof. S. Thanuskodi delivered his invited talk on the topic "Scholarly Communications" followed by other paper presenters.

The second Technical Session commenced after the lunch break and the session was chaired by Dr. V. K. Dhanyasree, Assistant Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Central University of Tamil Nadu. During the session, Dr. Moorttimatee Samantaray presented invited talk on "Open Access to Scholarly Content" followed by other presenters.

The 3rd Technical Session commenced after tea break and chaired by Prof. P. K. Panigrahi, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Calcutta, Kolkata. This session started with the invited talk of Prof. Aditya Tripathi on "Digital Archiving (Preservation Strategies)" followed by other paper presenters.

The second day of the conference and 4th Technical Session commenced at 10:00 AM and session was chaired by Prof. Pravakar Rath, Mizoram University, Aizawl. During the session, Prof. P. Ravichandran, Head, Department of Library and Information Science, Annamalai University, Chidambaram has delivered his invited talk on "Role of Library in Research Activities" followed by the other paper presenters. The 5th Technical Session was commenced under the chair of Dr. K. G. Sudhier, Assistant Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Central University of Tamil Nadu. During this Technical Session, Dr. R. Parameshwaran, Librarian, Central Library, Central University of Tamil Nadu delivered his invited talk on "Digital Resources and Libraries" followed by other paper presenters. The 6th and the last Technical Session of the conference was chaired by Dr. M. E. Kalyani, Assistant Librarian, Central Library, Central University of Tamil Nadu and during this session, Dr. S. Dhanavandan, Deputy Librarian, Central Library, Central University of Tamil Nadu delivered his invited talk on "Copyright Issues in Digital Environment" followed by other paper presenters.

The valedictory session of the conference started at 3:30 PM. The welcome address was proposed by Dr. Akhandanand Shukla, Associate Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Central University of Tamil Nadu. After the welcome address Dr. R.
Sevukan, Rapporteur General of the National Conference presented the detailed report of the conference. Feedback has been reported by some participants of the conference and raised some suggestions to make a fruitful resolution of the conference. After the feedback from the participants, valedictory address was proposed by Prof. P. K. Panigrahi where he made some propositions and recommendations and passed few resolutions.

The valedictory address was proposed by Prof. P. K. Panigrahi. He made certain propositions and recommendations. Those are as follows:

Proposition 1: (Scholarly Communication)
Considering scholarly communication as an important component of digital scholarship discussions were made on importance of collaborative research and development of infrastructure for research. Also challenges in using media by research scholars are need to be addressed. Role of librarians in research activities are one of the important issues of today's concern.
Recommendation 1: Recommended to cope with the digital environment, the librarian attached to the institutions of higher education to come forward to play proper role towards developing infrastructure to create research environment.
Recommendation 2: Recommended that the appropriate authorities of these higher education institutes be requested to extend all support from the libraries to facilitate scholars to cope with digital environment.

Proposition 2: (Digital Archiving)
Digital Archiving is one of the major issues, promotion of scholarly publication through Institutional digital repositories is considered for digital discussion.
Recommendation 3: Recommended that libraries played an important role in developing of digital repositories and data repositories. Libraries of such institute are needed to archive manuscripts for their greater visibility.

Proposition 3: (Research Ethics and Intellectual Property Rights)
Considering the importance of research ethics is an important issue. Plagiarism, copyright, reference management and citation are considered for discussion and also considering the UGC circular regarding plagiarism.
Recommendation 4: Recommended that libraries should be allowed by the authorities to produce anti-plagiarism software for promoting plagiarism free research/report. The corresponding authorities should frame a policy in which librarians may be the member of the committee.

Proposition 4: (Open Access to Scholarly Communication)
Considering the need of minimizing the barriers existing between the users and information, the open access movement came into existence. Issues and challenges of open access contents are considered.
Recommendation 5: While librarians are requested to promote open access movement, it is recommended that some policy documents be developed in individual libraries.

Proposition 5: (Public Libraries and Digital Scholarship)
Digital Scholarship is useful for academic/special libraries, even to public libraries of some kind and importance of digital scholarship.

Recommendation 6: Recommended that libraries should take initiative for adopting digital preservation policies.
Recommendation 7: Recommended that government should be approached to take actions towards unfit of rural libraries out of digital scholarship initiative.
Recommendation 8: UGC can be approached to start centers for digital scholarship in different universities.

The presidential address was delivered by Prof. Aditya Tripathi, Department of Library & Information Science, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi where he highlighted all the topics related to conference theme and raised important points related to the conference

Towards the end of the conference, a formal vote of thanks has been proposed by Dr. Taddi Murali, Assistant Professor, Department of Library & Information Science, Central University of Tamil Nadu. Dr. R. Sevukan, Associate Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Pondicherry University, Puducherry was the Rapporteur General of the 2 days National Conference on Digital Scholarship (NCDS 2020) .

STUDENT CORNER

When the World Turned Online

LAVANYA. K
IV M.Lib.I.Sc

Masks, sanitizers, and social distancing have been the go-to mantra for 2020. Since the past seven months, the populace has been going through a critical situation, as the world switched to the online mode. Something none of us ever expected. Everything has turned unusual. A lot of us suffering at the edges of economic loss, a lot of others suffering at the peaks of their breathe, the rest of them, just trying to lead their life. The COVID-19 affected each and everyone's life in the world and also made changes in each and everything around us. Today, everyone is busy with their online classes, work from home etc. Everything is getting done through online. An unexpected change from offline to online.

Being a part of such a change, I had never in my dreams, expected my Post Graduation (PG) to be completed through an online examination. I never thought that 13th March 2020 would be my last working day in CUTN. We had many plans to make our last days memorable there. But all the calculations were nullified by the sudden spread of the pandemic and we were forced to come back to our hometowns. When we left the hostel, we had a hope to

come back within a month to finish the course. But nonetheless, COVID-19 cases increased day by day and we were locked in leading to exams and dissertation viva being done online. It was a new experience for me. I attended many webinars conducted by organizations all over India which helped to increase my subject knowledge. Even my farewell was conducted through online mode. I did not in the least expect a farewell from my juniors in such a situation. But they took a great effort and they were successful in that. It was also a very different experience for me.

The technology is growing daily , opening new doors of opportunities. This was the journey from offline to online and it is just a beginning.

COVID MASK:AN INCOHERENT RANT

HRIDHYA H.J
II M Lib I Sc

Mask usage is a highlighted aspect that parallels the time of plagues. Social distancing is not manifested as rationally as in beer shops though less crowded. However masks ruffles across our media continually as memes, articles, public health campaign posters, human interest new stories or YouTube feed. Nowadays, it's a necessary piece of attire nearly shielding life - fact or hoax. Only God knows. While GDPs plummeted, burial grounds expanded, online classes haunted students and migrants flew, dragged, cycled, or walked back to their land, masks reined the mankind in 2020.

Social distancing with masks is quite difficult too- the yelling it needs for audibility, scarring of hospital staffs' face, spotting people in a crowd (unlock 5.0), the vapor inside the glasses, less scope of ogling. Irritability might have made some seem like wearing chin protectors. Wearing masks under a helmet on a sunny day is practicing how not to die suffocating. The salespeople might be having a hard time deciphering all-round facial expressions of target customers. But, mask haters are skeptics who think COVID is a conspiracy, causing government protestors or people with breathing problems.

Americans had tissue mania and they did hoard a lot of aerosol disinfectants, sanitizers, thermometers, along with masks. What all resourceful hunter gatherers do! Did you also feel like zoo animals, for us are equivalent to people inside houses for some fogging media and twisty political moves? COVID is a head start to some curious kids who are pursuing online courses, job aspirants, pregnant couples, or skill developing individuals judiciously using their time. Masks can be proposed for self-protection, protection of strangers or both wearer and stranger; it did not protect illiterates from bathing and drinking in cow urine or corporate from insidiously encroaching public sector. COVID couldn't mask endemic corruptions; the fascistic reach to amend environmental bills; centuries -old casteism simmering for normalising rape incidents; floods , wildfires and

and cyclones reaping lives; a massive 33,900sq ft hospital can be made in ten days or rise of webinars. Staying home with low network connectivity helped me empathize with people of Kashmir, not Anne Frank. The way money, power, love and COVID could reveal the society.

We are in a pandemic and not a masquerade ball, a sane mind is all we need to live through personal choices and survive the existential crises. As COVID paints the collective conscience of the PG students rotting in the house, I pray for COVID- stricken people who refuse to stay home. Apocalypse has not appeared faintly on the horizon. Anyhow, this too shall pass. Yeah, another semester!

Staying home with low network connectivity helped me empathize with people of Kashmir, not Anne Frank. The way money, power, love and covid could reveal the society.

Apoliticism: Still a Choice?

RITTU ANILKUMAR
II M Lib I Sc

Most of us turn a deaf era to heated political debates. "It's all politics, I do not care", " I don't really keep up with politics. It's just so stressful and a bandwagon of power, and negativity. I just avoid it , I'm happier that way". Turning familiar to these, ahs turned me to question apoliticism. Has it really come down to an era where claiming to be apolitical spurs in a brand of pride? Apoliticism brings in peace by not poking that thorny topic of biased politics, argues some. Not really. Being apolitical in itself is a political choice, of not taking a stance, of being indifferent to what's happening around one.

In times of such vague decryption of secularism and growing vulnerabilities of race, and casteism , vowing to silence speaks loud about one not wanting a resolution to such barbarianism. A rather out fetched preference to keep things the way they are, they refrain from holding an opinion against political narcissism. Apoliticism equates to being antipathic towards all political affiliations, but the throbbing argument of apoliticism being an unharmful political choice within the social climate we live in, seems to be handing the ball right into the courts of the harshness that comes along with it, a deliberate means to avoid political responsibilities. Further, it heightens the glimpse of privilege that, firstly allows one to have a choice to be apolitical. But, the rush of privilege must not
enhance one's lethargic attitude of failing to take a stand. Conversely, ,it gives one a way to act on it within their reach of expression.

> **In times of such vague decryption of secularism and growing vulnerabilities of race, and casteism, vowing to silence speaks loud about one not wanting a resolution to such barbarianism.**

Every conversation we hinge in , personal or familial has knots of political kinship involved, and every choice we make, affects the structure of rule. Being political , however, is never just indulging in partisan politics, but it denotes one being aware of her/his social environments, understanding the necessities, and wanting to do something to improve the lives of each other. It paves a way to give adequate recognition to power structures at place.

A world where democracy, and the inhabitant's right to live depends on the colour of their skin, and the religion they practice, where one does not feel home, a complacent attitude to decide the rights and wrongs in the doings, is playing a silent witness to these wretched acts. This in itself is perpetuating the act and makes the apolitic complicit in the dehumanization that others stand against.

So, to come out from indifference, is to be aware. To read and observe things happening around one, to broaden one's idea of what one's world is. To expand their hands to join with others. But one cannot be aware of everything, that's utopian, but one can try and not refrain from being sensitive to such issues. Talk about the drenching sexist society, question racism, speak about the unnatural burning of forests, moreover, talk about your representatives. Be aware of who you want as your representative, think about what you can do to make this world a better place to live. Check your privilege and question the dominant narrative, because "Ignorance is not Bliss".

A Peek into the Departmental Activities

Faculties' Activities

Dr. Akhandanand Shukla
Associate Professor

- Invited as a **Resource Person** to deliver a lecture on "Employment in LIS: Status, Skills and Competencies" on Know Your Career (Episode 5) series on the theme "Library and Information Science (LIS) Profession in India: Career Prospects - Part II" on 18th August, 2020. The program is organized by Center of Excellence for Career Counselling, FICCI-Model Career Center, Greater Noida in association with Gautam Buddha University, Greater Noida.

- Invited as a **Resource Person** to deliver a lecture on MOOCs on National Web Conference on "Future of Libraries in Digital Environment: Challenges and Opportunities for Librarianship in the Post COVID Era" during 12th-14th August, 2020. The program is organised by Chhattisgarh Library and Information Science Network (CLISNET).

- Department of Library and Information Science, Central University of Tamil Nadu and Bodhisattva Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Library, Gautam Buddha University, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh jointly organised a **webinar** on the theme of "Ethics in Education and Research" on 6th and 7th June 2020. The program was hosted by EBSCO Information Service and convened by Dr. Maya Devi, Deputy Librarian, Central Library, Gautam Buddha University, Greater Noida and Dr. Akhandanand Shukla, Associate Professor, Dept of Library & Information Science, Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvarur.

Dr. K. G. Sudhier
Assistant Professor

- Invited as a **Resource Person** to deliver a lecture on "Accessing Academic Library Resources: Leveraging Web Scale Delivery Services in the Digital Age" in 3rd National Virtual Conference on Reinventing Excellence in Librarianship (LISACON 2020), 27-30th August, 2020. The program was organised by LIS Academy, Bangalore in association with IGML Library, University of Hyderabad.

- Published a **news article** "Teachers Have a Great Role in Shaping the Minds of the Future" on EATMYNEWS on 12th July, 2020. The article discusses about the current education system of India and what prospective changes are afoot. The article is very interesting and must be read by everyone.

- Invited as a **Resource Person** in the Online Faculty Induction Programme during 30-09-2020 to 02-10-2020 for teachers being held by UGC-HRDC, Kannur University. He was engaged in two sessions on the topics- 'Open Access Resources' and 'Scholarly communication in Research' on 07-10-2020 and 08-10-2020.

- Delivered an **invited talk** on 'Measuring Research Impact for Scholarly Communication' in the UGC sponsored Refresher Course in Library & Information Science held during 31-08-2020 to 12-09-2020, organized by the UGC-HRDC, Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University, Amravati on 11-10-2020.

Departmental Activities

Parents-Teachers Interface Meeting 2020
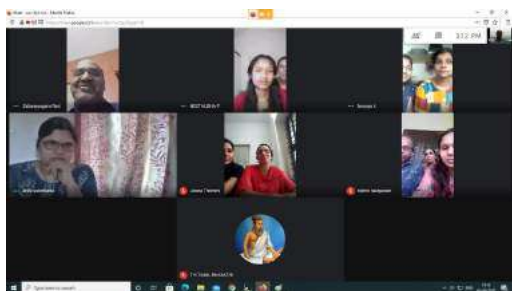
The Parent- Teacher Meetings for the 4rth and 3rd semester students were held on the 2nd and 3rd September 2020 through Google Meet respectively. Hosted by the Head of the Departments, along with other professors. The 4rth semester students and parents shared their experiences, and future plans for higher education. The professors discussed on various aspects of the curriculum and learning practices in the department.
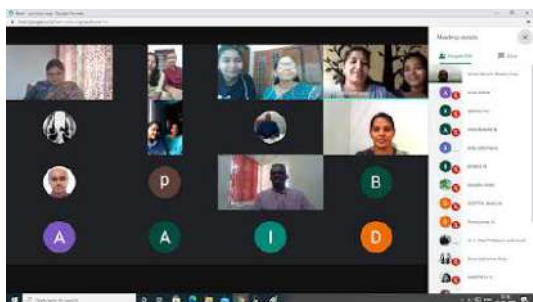
The 3rd semester students shared their opinion of the structure of online teaching-learning practice. The purpose of the interface was to inform about Department related curricular activities and facilities as well as to get the feedback to improve upon existing activities/facilities and initiation of new activities for the betterment of Department and students.

DLIS- CUTN Blog

This blog is the official department blog for information regarding the department, faculties, admissions, study materials, quizzes etc. Anything and everything about the department is uploaded here- https://dliscutn.blogspot.com/

Getting my way through MUN (Model United Nations)

HARIPRIYA S
 II M Lib I Sc

Scrolling through Instagram, one day, I saw a sponsored ad for IMUN (International Model United Nations) internship. I looked into their account and got to know about the program. I registered for the internship, becoming an Official Campus Ambassador at IMUN.I joined for an IMUN Conference where delegates from across the world took part. Although constructing and restricting a lot of new things, it was because of the pandemic spread, IMUN decided to conduct the conference online.

I was a lot nervous and excited at the same time as it was going to be my first international conference. All participants were added to a WhatsApp group to get to know each other and for further discussions regarding the conference. The conference was held on the 12th and 13th of September 2020. The session began with orientation. Later we were directed to our respective meeting rooms. There were 6-8 councils each consisting of 90 delegates and 2 chairs to moderate the discussion. Aaron Aquino (Philippines) & Pratham Golcha (India) were assigned to be the chairs of our council WHO (World Health Organization). The topic was "Prevention of HIV Aids", each delegate represented a particular country and had to speak about their allocated country's stance regarding the topic in parliamentary format. Me being a first timer watched all the processes going on.

The youngest delegate was 15 y/o and the oldest probably was me. I noticed how the current generation they at their young age takes the initiative to make change. I appreciate the efforts of conducting an international conference despite the pandemic and bringing together the youth across the globe whose thoughts are similar with one another. The conference is a platform where one could develop their personnel skills of communication, creativity, critical thinking, problem solving, also it is a place where one has the opportunity to speak and express their ideas. For everyone, looking forward to make a change can take part in their internships and conferences, providing one with insights and a step forward to achieving your dreams.

DLIS Students' Activity Club

Au Revoir 2020

The MLIS 3rd semester students conducted farewell, "Au Revoir 2020" for the passing out batch on the 29th of August, 2020. The event started by 10.30 am, inaugurated by Prof. S. Ravi, Head of Department, followed by cultural events by the 3rd semester students, games and fun. The event included experiences shared by the passing out batch, and blessings from the professors to their students, wishing them the best for their future endeavours. It was concluded by a vote of thanks by Kibrom Yemane Tekeste.

Student Seminar Series 2020

An initiative the Department of Library and Information Science. Students of the 3rd semester get to present a seminar based on pre-decided topics of relevance to the subject. The seminar helps in enhancing their presentation skills and in cultivating a research attitude in them probing them on extensive reading outside syllabus. The students are entitled to formal presentation with a PPT , ending which they are required to conduct a discussion the same where the audience gets to clarify their doubts, and pose questions and ideas adding to the topic on discussion. The seminars are conducted inviting everyone from the department, between 12.00pm to 1.00 pm every Friday.

Teacher's Day Celebration 2020

The 3rd semester students hosted a virtual Teacher's Day program on the September 5th, inviting all the professors in the department, inculcating videos and fun-filled games, along with the teachers sharing their views with students. The program was held online through Google Meet from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm. Revoking the blessings of the teachers, they were wished Happy Teacher's Day by all the students.

Student' Film Club

The student's activities club brings in the Film Club, including members from both batches of the department. They put up films of deeper understanding, build in morale and better understanding of life around them. The movie is screened in the seminar hall of the library. Students and faculties from all around the university is invited to watch the movies. So far two movies were screened- ***The Book Thief dir. Brian Percival*** and ***Green Book dir. Peter Farrelly.*** Book Thief is a war drama film, based on the 2005 novel of the same name by Markus Zusak and adapted by Michael Petroni. The film is about a young girl living with her adoptive German family during the Nazi era. Green Book is an American biographical comedy-drama road film, mirroring the social radicalities of racism.

GLAM

Amid the Pandemic

ADEENA M K
II M Lib I Sc

The COVID19 pandemic had crushed down the normalities of human lives around the world. It affected almost all the activities of our day to day life such as employment, education, cultural activities etc. Clear-cut changes are visible everywhere including the field of cultural heritage institutions such as Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums (GLAMs). The GLAM is a group of cultural institutions meant for preservation and dissemination of cultural heritage data. They have an overlapping set of functions and the advancements in internet and ICT technologies made them more open marking them realise that they should have a collaborative workspace. They are now striving for open cultural heritage. Especially in the pandemic circumstances where everything changed to virtual platforms, the mission of GLAMs to provide access to digital cultural heritage has a great significance.

The GLAMs are the oldest examples of knowledge organization. People have been depending on the cultural heritage institutions for preserving knowledge and culture since centuries. Although the functions they perform and the services they offer clearly cross over each other, due to the information revolution and human intelligence, they remained divergent and functioned separately. But with the emergence of the idea of open culture and open access and their influence on the modern information society, the cultural institutions also required a digital shift. Then they thought of convergence for their better future and sustenance in the digital environment. So now, the GLAMs are working in collaboration with each other with a mission to provide open cultural heritage data to the public and even amid this pandemic also they are able to extend their services to all of us through virtual operations.

Being a cultural institution, what the GLAMs should keep as their major priority is the interpretation of cultural heritage data to the public. For that, the GLAMs are opening up the collection and data held by them to the public with the help of digitization.They thinks that our culture and heritage should be open and free for everyone and thus are working together for the enrichment of public domain. GLAMs not only provide free access and enjoyment, but beyond that

they also helps the users to use the data in their creative projects. People can have the open collection for analysis, enrichment and visualization through GLAM digitization.

Earlier, only students, researchers, tourists etc used to visit the cultural institutions. But with the GLAM initiative, it is possible for everyone to access the collection of such institutions regardless of their designation or position. It helped to remove the exclusivity related to the cultural institutions and also changed the traditional culture of just 'seeing things' to more enhanced virtual experience at anywhere at anytime. As the collections are not restricted to any institution, it is easy for the users to make use of it without copyright claims. Through this, GLAMs are giving opportunities to the public for extending their knowledge and wisdom. People have access to culture and knowledge at their own convenient time.

GLAMs are giving opportunities to the public for extending their knowledge and wisdom.
People have access to culture and knowledge at their own convenient time. GLAMs also deals with the repackaging of history and preservation. The GLAMs are gateways to our history. The combined collections held by them would be over a hundred million. But we might not have access to all of them. Through the collaboration of GLAMs, they repackage the history to the public for their education. The GLAMs also help in the reconstruction of extinct cultural sites. Making use of old images of the site and advanced technologies, they virtually recreate the extinct cultural sites and preserve it for the future generations to explore.

For digitizing the collections and to provide enhanced virtual experience, GLAMs adopt technologies like Augmented Reality, Virtual Reality, Projection Displays, Multitouch 2D, Interactive 2D, Interactive 3D etc. They also offer Mobile Apps and Online Virtual Tours for the users to experience their collection. Also there are many popular initiatives around the world for propagating the idea of OpenGLAM and helping the cultural institutions with technical and digital support. Some of them are, initiative of Open Knowledge Foundation-OpenGLAM, initiative of Wikimedia Foundation-GLAMWiki, European Union Initiative-Europeana etc.

Since the aim of GLAM institutions is to provide open access to cultural heritage, it has got more importance in the pandemic and lockdown period. As every collection is put online, there are no barriers for the users to access them. People get everything on their fingertips from anywhere at any time. Their collaboration results in broader reach, higher visibility and increased number of collections which everyone could have a participation and access. The resources are pooled together which makes them easy to use and save the time of the users. The open platform facilitates educating and informing the public as well as increase the number of users and intense of collaboration.
The GLAMs are dealing with ethical treatment of our cultural heritage materials through open collaboration and are working beyond the conventional copyright laws for a rich public domain. The present situation also emphasizes the necessity of GLAM institutions and their new step towards the horizon of digital cultural heritage.

Strings in the Woods

ELMA CATHERINE SHAJI
II M Lib I Sc

A mountain lion, roar !
While the coyote howls
And we listen...
Light and majestic
A peacock's feathers float
So high in the sky...
Singing birds fly by
Bringing peace
to the garden
And the flowers
bloom...

Wait Until Everyone Dies

ABHIJITH B
RESEARCH SCHOLAR

Here, Nothing belongs to you.
This pen, this chair, this tiny little room, this land,
not even this country!!

They say you want to prove it.
They say you want to make them believe, that you belong here
Like an amphibian, you are in-between categories and ideologies.
If you can agree upon "some conditions",
They will let you stay.
Let you speak, live, eat, even breath.

But wait, you are a part of this culture, aren't you?
A culture that treats you as second class creature.
Not even as first class animals!!
Well, you are from the feet of "Viratpurusha",
aren't you?

They made you believe
That you are good for nothing.
And yet you don't see the discrimination.
You won't utter a word,
silenced by the history of torture.

"You dirty swine...go away.. Don't touch me. I will be polluted."
They killed your son, raped your daughter,
Chopped your faith, hope, your rainbow of happiness.
They buried those diamonds
Inside the coffins of casteism.

Yet you worship them.
You expect,
That one day, someone will come
Far from those mountains,
to save you all.
Wait for that day
Wait until every one of you fails to breathe
Wait until none is left in your clan
To smile, to cry or even to feel the numbness of silence.
If anyone left, wait.

Librarian's Day Celebration

The Department of Library and Information Science, of Central University of Tamil Nadu, celebrated the Librarian's Day on the 12th of August 2020, by conducting a webinar through YouTube Live. The webinar envisaged on the topic "What is living and dead of Ranganathan's Contributions". the key speaker of the webinar was Prof. A. R. D. Prasad, from the Documentation Research and Training Centre, Indian statistical Institute, Bengaluru.

The Librarian's Day , celebrated on 12th August every year acknowledges the birth anniversary of Padmasree Dr. S. R. Ranganathan. This year marked the 128th birth anniversary. This Indian Librarian and Mathematician , the Father of Library Science, had immense contributions to the development of the said discipline in Indian as well as world-wide education and research system. Ranganathan's activity level throughout his lifetime reflects a total, selfless commitment to library science.

His major contributions included Five Laws of Library Science (1931), "Colon Classification (1933), Prolegomena to Library Classification (1967), Classification and Communication (1951), Library Administration (1935), and many more. Ranganathan's Five Laws are of eternal relevance and can be considered as the sutras of Knowledge Management. Earlier majority of population were prevented from accessing knwoledge. The revolutionary laws he proposed, democratised access to knowledge.

Present ideas of Open data (information), Open Government (politics), Open Access (scientific research), Free culture (education and culture) from which the entire society is able to benefit is what Ranganathan envisioned in his five Laws which are based on his principles of non-discrimination. Even though he might not have envisioned the digital library of today, his work remains a beacon that guides librarians into a new world order. The fourth law, "save the time of the reader," captures the image and primary goal of the library of the future. As easily as we identified the his living contributions, Prof. A. R. D. Prasad rightly mentioned other dead concepts put forward by Dr. S. R. Ranganathan.

Prof. A. R. D. Prasad envisaged on an interactive session, apart from the topic at hand, put forward his concerns regarding the practical research outputs laying aside the survey oriented dissertations . The webinar started with a welcome address by Prof. S. Ravi, HOD , was organised by Dr. T. Murali, Dr. K. G. Sudhier, Dr. Anila Sulochana, and Dr. V. K. Dhanyasree (Assistant Professors of DLIS, CUTN). The webinar concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Akhandanand Shukla, Associate Professor, DLIS, CUTN.

Padmasree Dr. S. R. Ranganathan's 128th Birth Anniversary Celebration

WHAT IS LIVING AND WHAT IS DEAD OF RANGANATHAN'S CONTRIBUTIONS?

Organised by
Department of Library and Information Science
Central University of Tamil Nadu

12-08-2020
11:00 AM

Watch at YouTube Live: https://youtu.be/aWmOk_mjC2E

My Journey through the Lockdown

DAMALLA ROHINI
II M Lib I Sc

As a Postgraduate student, I would like to share my experience on the Covid-19 Lockdown which started on 22nd March 2020 which brought tremendous changes in the academic life of the student community. During this spread, a student encounters many advantages and disadvantages. Being a hosteler, it was a sudden shock for me to read the university circular which advised all the students to vacate the hostel and go back to their hometowns for ten days. Though, a little bit confused, I informed my parents, booked a reservation, packed the luggage and went back home. I was so happy about the temporary lockdown that was declared all over India. The main reason was that I can enjoy the holidays with my family chanting prayers, participating in Bible quizzes, listening to music and learning new songs from morning to night.

But, unlike how things I thought would go, the ten days' vacation longed to a three months lockdown, the country still is locked with the pandemic. The study materials sent by our faculties made our learning fruitful. In the months of April and May a clint of online exams were announced, but we were still confused of its procedure.

Our III semester classes commenced on 16th July 2020. Actually, online classes through Jitsi meet or Google meet were new to us. In the beginning I felt online classes better and attended them without fail. I also attended university webinars. I was satisfied with the result of the II semester exam published in August. But gradually I started feeling bored because I missed the classroom atmosphere, lovable environment, friends and faculties. I also realized that the threat of the virus is not a blessing to students; anyhow we have to live with coronavirus. No doubt the shift from offline to online makes the education system different. Maybe it is much useful for the professionals like software engineers who work from home.

From the news, I came to know that the adaptation rate for online classes is around 50-60% whereas in the classroom it was around 80-90%. Personally, I do not have a laptop or desktop. So, I face a lot of difficulties preparing and submitting my assignments, seminars and practical work. So, I'm learning and using new apps to work on my 6.2 inches mobile phone. Sometimes I feel overburdened. Then I remember my HOD, Dr. Ravi Sir, who inspires us with his motivating words and always tries to fill us with positive thinking and determination.

unhomed.

RITTU ANILKUMAR
II M.Lib.I.Sc

The broken mug smelled the rotten coffee,
beads left aside the half embellished seater,
the last breathe of the house echoed round the
rocking chair, dilapidated like the sagging skin
of that old woman I saw in the train.
The door creaked,
the tainted glass of the windows shut out the
outside,
shuddered.
Years after , those footprints paced over the red
mosaic, a lot matured.
Footprints of the same person,
but different,
like that house which once was home.
Walls that once echoed her giggling,
cracked making homes for lizards and bugs.
The rooms that smelled sandal ,
now smelled of bats .
The edges were embellished carefully in
knitted cobwebs.
Kitchen, once adorned with baked flour,
now smelled of cinder.
as I stepped out of the house,
once again , like the previous time,
the home is unhomed,
reading eulogies on the alive.

Making Aware

HASBI ALIKUNJU
RESEARCH SCHOLAR

Globally, people are trying to overcome ongoing COVID 19 pandemic. Public engagements as well as private life of every single person has undergone a transition because of this tough situation. It is necessary to people, to get novel information and directions to involve and engage in different activities. Rules and regulations of this world undergo a paradigm shift due to pandemic. Every nation has been implementing and adopting their own rules and action plans to fight and defeat corona virus, sometimes to live within, such as quarantine periods, travel advisories, precaution measures, treatment procedures, patients and survivors, etc. Therefore, people should get timely updates related to COVID 19.

Government authorities are providing frequent information to keep people literate and take initiatives for implementing action plans to overcome the pandemic. Government of India has also adopted various implementations to make people aware about the pandemic, such as COVID 19 information portals, health applications, etc. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India disseminate a wide range of authentic data regarding COVID 19. The website exhibit the number and percentage of daily active COVID cases, discharged cases as well as death rates very clearly and status changes of each state. Travel advisories on the backdrop of COVID 19 pandemic such as Guidelines for international arrivals, guidelines for domestic travels, standard operating procedure for passenger movement etc. are made accessible to the public.

In addition, the mental health and wellbeing concerns were addressed through the audio-visual session for on "Mental Health Matters. Let's Talk", Yoga for Stress Management, meditation for stress management, Addressing psychosocial concerns of healthcare workers, etc. along with a helpline for the needy.

There was instructive information regarding use of Homemade Protective Cover for face & mouth, SOP on preventive measures in restaurants, shopping malls, hotels and other hospitality units to contain spread of COVID-19, guidelines related to dead body management, home quarantine instructions, guidelines for use of masks by public and mass gatherings etc. for the public.

The directions for hospitals related to COVID 19 outbreak include guidelines for safe ENT practice in COVID-19, guidelines for dental professionals in COVID 19 situation, guidelines issued by ICMR for rapid antibody test in hotspots, COVID-19 & pregnancy and labour management , advisory for voluntary blood donation during COVID- 19 scenario, videos on the use of PPE in different areas of the hospital, essential technical features for ventilator during COVID-19, doorstep delivery of drugs to consumers, telemedicine practice guidelines, etc. The training programs or webinars series on Obstetric Care during COVID-19, Mechanical Ventilation for physicians by AIIMS, New Delhi, COVID-19 and Management of Pregnancy, Epidemiology, Infection Control, Clinical Management and Nursing of COVID-19 by AIIMS New Delhi, etc. are useful for the hospitals to make necessary arrangements.

In addition to this, IGOT (Integrated Govt. Online Training) courses on DIKSHA platform on COVID-19 pandemic also conducted. There are numerous other awareness materials and guidelines prepared for public places such as hotels, offices, religious places, shopping malls, restaurants, etc. on preventive measures on contain spread of COVID 19. The thematic Bank of COVID19 creatives such as what is Corona Virus and how does it transmit, handwashing, COVID appropriate behaviours, home quarantine, myth busters, All India National Helpline 1075, no spitting, stigma and discrimination, etc. in addition, awareness material for front line workers of COVID-19 in the form cartoon video in various regional languages are also made available to the public.

The ministry of AYUSH has provided a toll-free number, helpline number and email for public. This service is exclusively for alternative treatment methods like instructions or guidelines for Naturopathy, Homeopathy, Siddha, Ayurveda, Unani.

and Yoga practitioners on the backdrop of COVID 19. They provide general measures on self-care based on Ayurvedic literature and scientific publications. They have also issued telemedicine practices guidelines by CCIM (Central Council of Indian Medicine) and CCH (Central Council of Homeopathy).

The state wise status of COVID 19, application details of movement pass during lockdown, helpline no. and updates & notifications are also made available to the public. Moreover, different activities, blogs, podcast, infographics/videos, etc. are there to make awareness about COIV19. This service is also connected to social media profiles like Facebook, Instagram, Telegram, WhatsApp, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, Platfor, Pinterest, Roposo etc. to empower the people in means.

Aarogya Setu App was launched by the Government of India, to create a connection between citizen and government in relation to various health issues, which also leverages the technology to combat COVID 19 and it provides essential information regarding COVID 19 pandemic. In addition to this, Central University of Punjab, Bathinda created a COVID 19 Information Portal, which acts as a single platform to compile the vast and scattered up-to-date relevant information for researchers, students, medical practitioners, administrators, media persons, bureaucrats, diplomats as well as public. They attempt to compile maximum information from various data sources in to an exclusive single portal to empower people.

Correspondingly, each state in India takes initiatives to deal with COVID 19 issue. For example, Government of Kerala GoK Dashboard (which includes daily reporting, quarantine report, test results, hotspots, psychological support, community kitchen, etc.) and COVID 19 JAGRATHA. The Government is keep trying to make aware the people to use hand sanitizers and masks, keep physical distancing, avoid mass gatherings, etc. State also conducted a campaign on COVID 19 precaution "stay home, stay safe". Likewise, other states are doing exemplary activities and initiatives to complete the mission.

Nations are responsible to make their citizens literate and aware in regard to the COVID 19 pandemic. Pre-COVID and post-COVID world are entirely different in many cases, therefore, instructions that is providing by various authority differ, such as travelling, mass gatherings, public engagements, etc. Government authorities provide authentic information to keep people literate and take initiatives for implementing action plans to overcome the pandemic.

There are various initiatives, official websites such as MoHFW, MHRD, Ministry of AYUSH, PMCARES, etc. to contribute valuable data, in which daily updates and diverse guidelines are available.

The Window of Isolation

RITTU ANILKUMAR
 II M Lib I Sc

To communicate, flows through the essence of being a social being. I was never good at it. Coming back home during lockdown seemed well for me. World seemed a little better standing six-feet apart. People seemed to appreciate space and silence. A possibility that they will now create a world, vastly different from what it was.

Today slips into tomorrow slips into the next day. Monday blues weren't blue anymore, no one looked forward to Fridays. Everyday just slipped by. The drama of everyday mundaneness cut down chaos. The squirrels and crows outside my window captured my attention like none other. The black of the crows reflects in the sun. That's a real beauty. Squirrels run through roof , hitting those layers, and making little squeaks with those nut-filled mouths. This visual narrative strives to connect some of the random musings that dot my mental landscape.

The outside world still seems to be on a big break. The mechanic smell in air vanished away, the steering sound of horns in a templated traffic whisked away. When I look out of my balcony, I see my shadow, nothing else, the shoes unworn has lost its way, the 4.30 rush of the kids to play gully cricket was now missed, the sun set with none admiring its beauty, sky turns purple, and blue, and white, and yellow and orange and red; and back to purple. And I sat down my chair, with an empty mug that still smelled coffee, on my writing desk, in the quest for a beginning to start a new chapter.

The Uncanny Existence to Murakami's Ink

ELMA CATHERINE SHAJI
II M Lib I Sc

There are mornings when I open my eyes and for a moment it feels like a different sun has risen in the sky. It gleams behind the determinedly drawn curtains of my room. If I lie very still, it'll still be there. How wonderful it is, a new sun shining upon a world struck with disease. I tread carefully those days, trying very hard not to upset the new scheme of things. We have a new sun, everything is OKAY, do you know how rarely such miracles happen in real life? Very rarely it turns out, because just then, the doorbell screams an abuse and it's my cue to wake up. The real world, with its sad, sick sun waiting to melt everyone except the virus, awaits.

Physically, I am here. In october. Studying from home, sitting in front of a laptop all the time. Mentally, I am in March, standing outside my classroom, chatting with my friends waiting for the university bus to take me to my hostel. I can visualise it, the guesthouse building. I can see the trees around it, along the long roads that I used to walk through. But now, as I sit writing in my bedroom gazing out through the window, I am unable to recall the features of the buildings where I spent approximately 4800 hours of my life. It took me 30 seconds to recall everything, to get to it. This is what the pandemic is doing. No, it's not playing mind games, that's too clichéd and where's the fun in that. This is something different. This is a new kind of scary, mysterious

and exciting. A bit like living inside the pages of a Murakami novel which has a beginning but no end. Where time has stopped but you've aged a hundred years. It's like a rambling speech – stay home stay safe, wear a mask, carry a sanitiser – stuck inside your head like an annoying post-it.

The day I write this is exactly two weeks after the six-month anniversary of my life in lockdown. The days pass in flavourless haze and the nights are still restless. Sleep eludes me and I am tired. All the time. One would say humans are creatures of routine but not so much when a pandemic has struck, no. I wake up when I wake up, I sleep when I sleep. Everything in between, that's my routine. There must be a theory about adapting to things as they are, because in the beginning, it felt like it wasn't real. Back then, it was more like a time-out situation, uncertain, but tolerable. I remember the first experimental lockdown in mid-March, when the chirping of birds seemed all new. No one drove their bikes and cars by our house, no one honked. And then, just one day after, things got real. On 24 March 2020, the PM announced a 21-day nation-wide lockdown resulting in complete mayhem, the effects and consequences of which would cripple us for months. Slowly and unwillingly I adapt to the change. I can't deal with this anymore, I complain to my mother who checks on me every day. She tells me to be patient and encourages me to eat something nice to feel better. Being at home, all day every day. It's not easy. I am down and out but I have no choice. No one does, that's some solace. It can only get this worse, I think. I was wrong. I was very wrong.

Initially the pandemic was a new kid on the block, so most of my evenings were spent following the news. Italy, Spain, France, US, UK…and India, not far behind. And I even did a mini PhD in everything related to the novel coronavirus – symptoms, prevention, causes, immunity building foods, Homeopathy, Allopathy, Ayurveda, everything. Somewhere between this and obsessive bursts of cleaning out corners, realisation hit. I was spending every hour, minute and second inside my house.

One afternoon, I noticed a streak of light piercing through a half-open window. It had created a tranquil spot on the bedroom floor. It was a hot summer day and I had deadlines breathing down my neck, but all I wanted to do was wrap myself in that moment of calm, unmoved, unaffected by anything. That spot is now my new work space. The coolness of the marbled-floor pairs well with the mid-afternoon warmth pouring in. I spend five days a week sitting here and working; my favourite time of the day is somewhere between 5 pm and 6 pm, when everything's still and quiet, and it's just me alone with my thoughts, looking out the window.

Sometimes a dreary day turns golden when I spot a flutter of butterflies on my short walk outside my home. And then there's Instagram that throws random throwback pictures: your post from one year ago when you visited Pondicherry with your friends – wouldn't I like to repost it and make my other friends a little jealous ? Sure, why not: repost, hashtag throwback, good times, nostalgia, travel. The only difference is that now I am jealous of myself too, and there's nothing I can do about it.

And then there's the subject of reader's block. One would have thought it'd be easier to finish all the unfinished books now that there's so much free time. But no! This forced hibernation feels like a time-warp. The dust on my bookshelves has made itself at home. Seldom do I probe the shelves. They know I know they're there, and that's enough.

It's a strange feeling, these past six months. I want to meet people but then I don't want to meet people. I want to talk but I end up texting. The pandemic has physically distanced us from our near and dear ones. It's a mandate and therefore, we don't like it. Quite like the state of affairs in this country. But it has not in any way restricted communication, and yet I hesitate.

Communicating via WhatsApp stories seems easier. You see my story, I see yours. Occasionally I send you an emoji, it is my way of making up for the missed calls, that has somehow become the norm now.

I find that Haruki Murakami has written a new short story "The Kingdom That Failed". Is he unaffected by this fog of uncertainty ? I feel like he is not at all affected by this situation. I close my eyes and imagine him sitting at his desk at 4 am, writing his path-breaking pandemic novel in which miserable creatures like us feature as obscure characters. He's the master storyteller and he's made everyone a protagonist. "Pain is inevitable, suffering is optional," he wrote in What I Talk About when I Talk about Running –so we choose, either to stand at the shore of two parallel worlds, conscious and unconscious, reverberating with desires, or to give up and accept defeat.

Thankfully, from out of nowhere, the boy named Crow appears from Kafka on the Shore and whispers, "You'd better get some sleep...when you wake up, you'll be part of a brand new world," and eventually I fall asleep with hope in my heart even if the end to this nightmare, the pandemic life is nowhere near.

Tinytales

HARIPRIYA S
II M Lib I Sc

We lived in the Forbes street of Mumbai. As Appa got transferred to, our family shifted there. New school, living atmosphere, it was slightly difficult for me to get familiarised with that kind of lifestyle.
Back in Kerala I had enough time to go around & see as many friends as I wished. After moving to Mumbai, I had to face certain restrictions, which included I shouldn't go out far & shouldn't run around & talk to whomever I wanted to.

The first day at school wasn't bad. Everyone was quite friendly & helped me get notes as I joined a bit in the academic year. It was compulsory for each student to choose an extracurricular activity to be practiced after school teaming. As I had an interest in music from my childhood, I didn't have to give it a second thought. Enrolled my name. Weeks passed. Life became normal.

On a Sunday evening, I was standing on the balcony looking at those boys playing in the nearby ground. 'Isn't that a familiar face?' Something just flashed in my mind. The next day as I entered the music class, someone called me from behind "Nakshatra...". I turned and to my surprise it was him, I still don't know his name though we were in the same class. He introduced himself, Viren, he was 2 years senior to me. That evening I again saw him on the ground playing. We didn't talk much. Somebody from our class said that he joined in school that year & also lives in the same street that I was living.

Days passed, seasons changed. After I completed my 12th I joined the Berklee College of Music in Canada. Before leaving India I checked out for him once again. He had left the college a year before & leaving no trace. Now it's been two years since I left India. Home coming seemed grand. As I reached the airport, there was a crowd waiting to welcome me, after all I had become an iconic musician.

As I reached home (in Kerala) I couldn't stop thinking of him. I booked a flight ticket the next day & flew to Mumbai. The flat we lived in had been occupied by some other family. The owner was the same, so I asked him about Viren. He had no clue of where I could possibly find him, but gave me their old address. I returned back to Kerala. After all these years, I couldn't find the man for whom I worked this hard. It was he who had been my biggest support & suddenly he vanished. The most famous work of mine was our combined effort that we left unfinished before he vanished. Maybe he's living a new life. All I could hope is that someday he appears before me and I could fall into his arms...

AI v/s IPR

PRASOON N. K
II M Lib I Sc

Artificial Intelligence is one among the fastest growing technology. New inventions and patents are being added day by day in the field of artificial intelligence and related fields. AI is generally considered to be a discipline of computer science that is aimed at developing machines and systems that can carry out tasks considered to require human intelligence. Machine learning and deep learning are two subsets of AI. The term Artificial Intelligence was coined by John McCarthy in 1956.In the near future itself, most of the day to day activities and trained professional jobs can be substituted by the artificial intelligence, simply said, robots.

Science fictions developed with robot-run world has always been appreciated since the start of industrial era, but the question is, is it really going to happen? Forget about fictions, it is a reality that artificial intelligence can replace most of the tasks that need trained work force within some decades. Apart from those conspiracies about robot's domination, there lies some serious issues like our current laws relating to patent mechanisms, are capable of accommodating the new era of inventions. Artificial intelligence has many application in areas such as expert systems, natural language processing, speech recognition, computer vision, robotics and automatic programming. In each of these areas' researches are going on and new achievements are being added day by day.

However, when it comes to intellectual property rights, AI seems to bring up a dilemma about the usage of such rights with regard to AI. The definition of IPR limits itself to the creation of human minds, whereas, on the other hand, our perception of the creation and inventions are tumultuous and the unanimous position of human beings as the creator of knowledge is itself being questioned by the development in the field of AI.

According to WIPO data, since the emergence of AI in the 1950s, innovators and researchers have filed applications for nearly 340,000 AI-related inventions and published over 1.6 million scientific publications. Machine learning is the dominant AI technique disclosed in patents covering 1/3rd of such identified inventions. The major dilemma in stand is who gets the rights in case of a software developed by a system of AI. Can it be recognized as the inventor? Sadly, most of the patent laws are outdated and need to be updated. While considering Artificial Intelligence as the copyright owner /patentee / author, there are a lot of discrepancies at hand. More than a legal issue, it has many ethical, commercial and industrial dimensions to it.
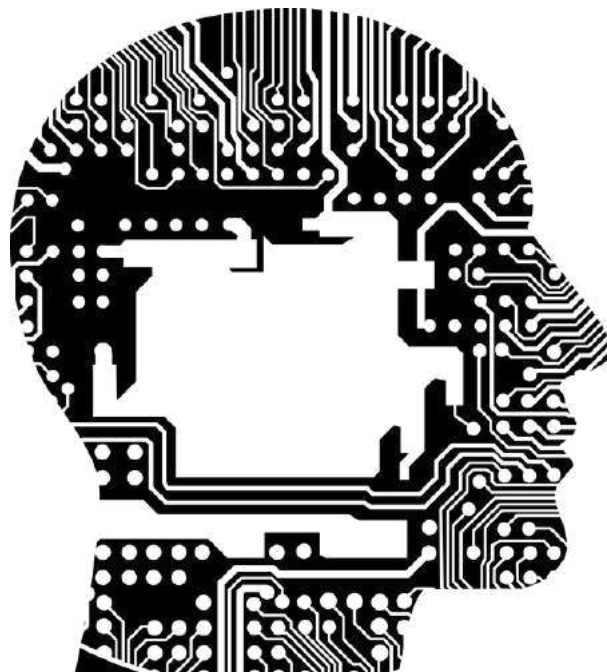
 Ethical issues such as when considering AI in the position of a human can call for violation of the Human rights. Other important issue is of commercializing the production of an AI generated product, who will take the responsibility of the commercialization and other legal matters relating to that particular product? A machine?

WIPO has addressed this question in several international conferences and they are seriously rethinking of revoking their IP Policies. But the discussions are continuing. But it is a fact that the concept of AI as the author or inventor cannot be ignored, within some decades there might arise inventions without human intervention, if those inventions are not addressed or inculcate under the laws that will inversely affect the researches in AI .

> Who gets the rights in case of a software developed by a system of AI. Can it be recognized as the inventor?

The Unprogressive Paradox

ASWATHI A.V
II M Lib I Sc

Quintessentially, the lifespan of a human, of an individual is tied down by strings of curtailment, more than freedom to live and what to dos. Further, when it comes down to restrictions, the word human could be outlooked to get to the female gender in the society. There are more strings attached to a woman, she is down sided with more restrictions. Their freedom is compacted as much as possible it could be for the mankind. When considered with greater depth, we discover this stance to be spiritually build in the politics of life.

Time has outlived our thoughts and ideals. Even as time, with years of evolution down the lane, could heal some of their domineering pastness of ideologies, a majority of us has continued to live in times of conditioned thinking. One has always passeddown the purviews of those that passed it down to them. A consequence of the barbaric thinking mentality stemming from a combination of dominance hierarchies and social competition. And us humans cling to such long lost bigotry culture with prestige, holding tight with the hard and fast rules of "the epithet of femineity"- not realizing the paradox.

They envisage the buttressed ideals of an "ideal" society. Such inheritance confides to be a constant reminder of the bygone ill-fettered culture. Such a sub structured dogma impediment the ascent of gender egalitarianism, more with women equality. Beyond the idea equality it suggests progress, and let the progress sow seeds from within family units. It should be reflected in even the most fundamental of things. To start with, such a progress initiates only when we learn to identify women as individuals. Such ingenuity coming up from families will mirror the edges of society, leading way to a better fraternity with finer values and better critical thinking and vision. Change is requisite to time, and change fashions from within us.

Lockdown Webinars

Since the lockdown, a lot of organizations conducted virtual conferences, webinars, and others. The students of the Department of Library Science has eagerly attended some of them, helping them understand the subject better, giving them widened subject areas to explore on. A jist of such online programs are listed below.

- **Delhi Library Association(DLA)** conducted a webinar series in collaboration with Refread on "21st century Information Skills" on 26th-29th May, 2020.
- **FICCI** conducted a YouTube live FICCI-COE Webinar Know Your Career(KYC) Episodes for Library and Information Science Profession in India: Career Prospects, on the 4rth of August, 2020.
- **Society for the Advancement of Library and Information Science(SALIS)** conducted a Webinar on "Joint Use Library Services: Way to Satisfy the User Community in the 21st Century" on 8th August, 2020.
- **Odisha Library Academy (OLA)** held a panel discussion on "Potency of Library: Past, Present, Future" on 9th August, 2020.
- **Ranganathan Society for Social Welfare and Library Development (RSSWLD)** conducted a webinar to celebrate "Dr. S. R. Ranganathan: A Librarian" on 12th August, 2020.
- **Chattisgarh Library and Information Science Network(CLISNET)** conducted National Web-conference on " Future of Libraries in Digital Environment- Challenges and Opportunities for Librarianship in the Post COVID Era during 12-14th of August, 2020.
- **Libraries of Bharatiya Mahavidyalaya, Amravati & Bharatiya Mahavidyalaya, Morshi** held a one day webinar on e-resources, research tools & career opportunities in Library and Information Science on 20th August, 2020.
- **National Library, Govt. of India, Kolkota** held a webinar on "Role of Library in Preserving Cultural Heritage of India: Indian Culture Portal, A Case Study" on 12th August, 2020.
- **Special Library Association(SLA)** conducted an SLA Asian Chapter Webinar on "Special Librarianship" on the 22nd of August, 2020, presented by Stephen Abraham , Jill strand and Abby Walters.
- **Sarada Ranganathan Endowment for Library Science(SRELS) and Informatics Group, Bangalore** conducted an Online Dialogue between LIS Teachers and Librarians on the 5th of September, 2020. It was structured to enable between twelve LIS professionals to raise the issues and challenges they encounter as questions/comments to the four eminent LIS teachers- Prof. K.P. Singh, Prof. Sarika Sawant, Prof. Swapna Banerjee, and Prof. B.T. Sampath Kumar.

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